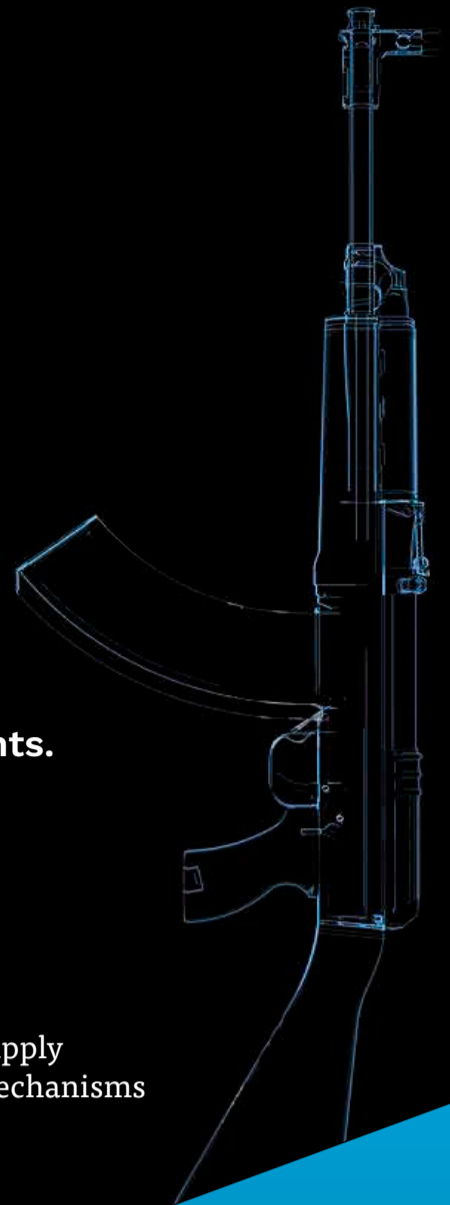
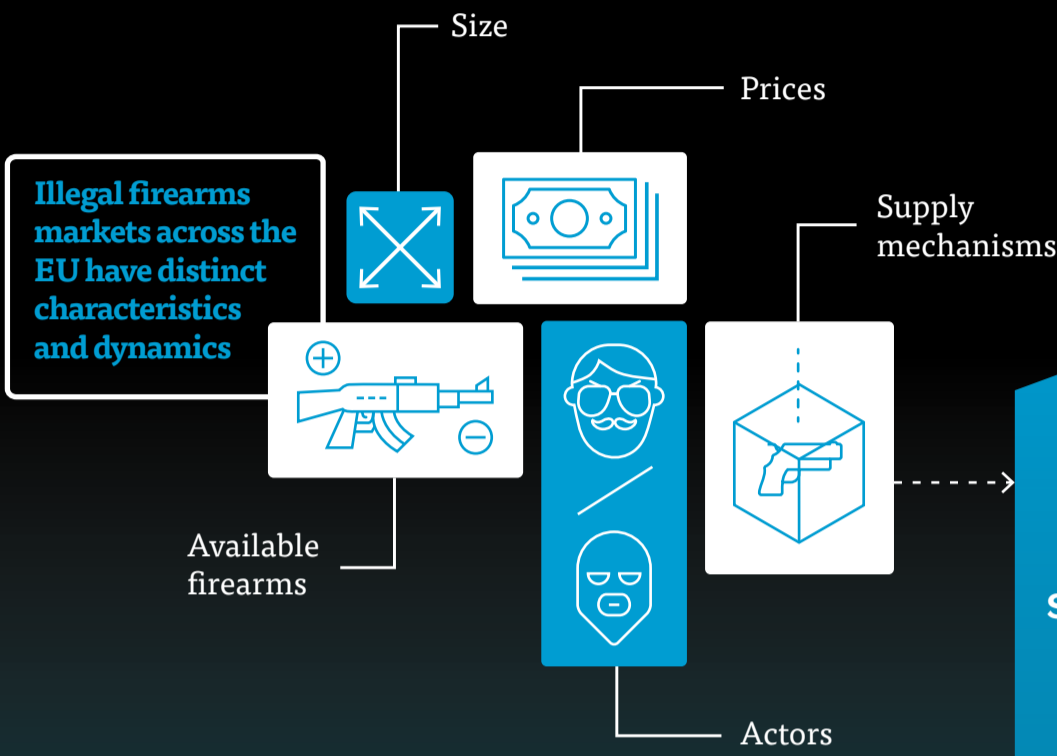


How do terrorists obtain firearms in Europe?



There is no such thing as one unified illegal firearms market in Europe. Instead, there are many regional variants.



Supply mechanisms: How do firearms end up on these markets?



Cross-border smuggling



Reactivation of deactivated firearms



Conversion of blank-firing guns



Internet



Theft



Illicit production

What do they have in common?

- Mostly handguns, military-grade guns are far less common.

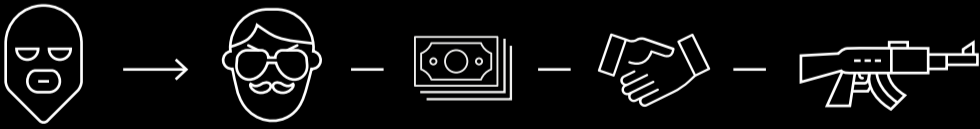


- Closed character: driven by criminals; trust and criminal connections are important.



How do terrorists acquire illegal firearms?

For terrorists too, having the right criminal connections is crucial to access these markets, especially for military-grade guns.



In the last few years, (military-grade) guns are increasingly available on Europe's illegal markets.

This is due to the increase in:

- 1 Smuggling
- 2 Conversion of blank-firing guns
- 3 Reactivation of deactivated firearms

This has been eroding the closed character of the illegal firearms market.

Military-grade firearms seem to be trickling down to lower segments of the criminal hierarchy.

It makes it easier for terrorists with the right criminal connections, to obtain these weapons.