

**THE NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR THE NON-PROLIFERATION OF WEAPONS
OF MASS DESTRUCTION**

1. INTRODUCTION

The National Strategy for the Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction (hereinafter: Strategy) defines the general framework of actions of the Republic of Croatia pertaining to the suppression of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and provides guidelines for improvement of the existing and development of new measures, mechanisms and instruments for the prevention and suppression of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

The Strategy provides guidelines for strengthening coordination and integration of activities of state and public authorities and other legal entities in the Republic of Croatia, and cooperation with bodies of other states and international organisations.

The Strategy is an integral part of the entire national crisis management system.

For the Republic of Croatia, the term “weapons of mass destruction” (hereinafter: WMD) means chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (hereinafter: CBRN) weapons, as defined by international treaties, conventions, agreements and protocols.

For the Republic of Croatia, the term “proliferation of weapons of mass destruction” means development, procurement, manufacture and use of WMD, dual-use and military-use items and technologies by authoritarian regimes, criminal and terrorist groups with the aim of causing casualties and material destruction.

Protection against threats imposed by WMD and their proliferation is an obligation of states in their basic function of providing conditions for a peaceful and safe life of all their citizens, free of violence and fear, democratic, tolerant, creative and prosperous, respecting law and order. The Republic of Croatia believes that WMD proliferation presents one of the biggest threats to security in general, both nowadays and in the foreseeable future, which calls for comprehensive and aligned national and international responses. Any occurrence of WMD proliferation presents a threat to the national security.

The Republic of Croatia neither possesses nor develops WMD. In line with the principles of achieving national security, the Republic of Croatia contributes to thorough implementation of the existing key international mechanisms and to the development of an efficient national system for supervision of development, manufacture, export, transit, import, mediation and transport especially of sensitive technologies and dual-use and military-use items which may be used for production of WMD and means of their transport.

2. PREMISES OF THE STRATEGY

The Republic of Croatia belongs to the Central Europe, Mediterranean and South-Eastern Europe. The geopolitical position of the Republic of Croatia is defined by the length and complexity of its state border (on the land, sea and rivers) and by its location at the crossroads of transport routes which connect the Western Europe with the Mediterranean area and the south-eastern part of Europe. The Republic of Croatia has rich maritime orientation, with

more than a thousand islands, islets and rocks located along one of the most-indented coasts in Europe.

The Republic of Croatia is also located in the area intersected by smuggling routes from Asia, Africa and Eastern Europe leading towards the Western Europe, which makes it particularly sensitive to this kind of threats to its security.

The neighbouring countries of the Republic of Croatia have also signed basic global agreements on non-proliferation of WMD and, in line with the assumed commitments, they do not develop WMD. At the same time, the Republic of Croatia is partially surrounded by countries in transition, which opens a possibility of destabilisation, strengthening of criminal organisations in terms of their cross-border connections, and brimming of other security-related issues over the border.

The Republic of Croatia, as a responsible member of the United Nations, contributes to the fundamental principles for maintaining peace and security in the world.

The Republic of Croatia, as a NATO member, on the basis of the principle that security of one state is inseparable from security of other states, contributes to the overall security also by suppressing proliferation of WMD, which NATO considers one of the most serious threats to security.

The Republic of Croatia, as a future EU Member State, accepts the rights and obligations arising from this membership, taking into account that, according to the European security strategy, five key threats to the European security are: terrorism, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, conflicts, state failure – states with an unstable social and political organisation, and organised crime.

As a future EU Member State, the Republic of Croatia will become a part of the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) which is an integral part of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) of the EU. By accessing the Schengen implementation agreement, the Republic of Croatia will take over the control of external EU borders, in accordance with standards and good practice of the EU in this area.

3. LEGAL FRAMEWORK

The Republic of Croatia is adopting the Strategy for the Non-Proliferation of WMD in line with internationally assumed commitments and on the basis of legal regulations. The Republic of Croatia has taken an active and responsible approach to international cooperation related to non-proliferation of WMD, as a state which is a party to all global treaties on non-proliferation of WMD, by fulfilling its obligations pertaining to the implementation of the UN Security Council resolution, by harmonisation with corresponding NATO and EU rules and standards, and by participating in non-proliferation regimes and initiatives.

The Republic of Croatia fulfils entirely its obligations concerning implementation of the *United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004)*, which calls upon all states to, in accordance with their national legislation and consistent with international law, take cooperative action to prevent proliferation of WMD, their delivery system and related materials, and to respect relevant international legal instruments.

It implements consistently the UN Security Council resolutions on international sanctions against states, entities, natural and legal persons, and the measures of exerting pressure against all those who violate binding UN resolutions, thus threatening the global peace and security.

The Republic of Croatia is a party to and an active participant of all the major international agreements and conventions on non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction:

- *Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons* – NPT (entered into force in 1970);
- *Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction* – CWC (entered into force in 1997);
- *Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on their Destruction* – BTWC (entered into force in 1975);
- *Geneva Protocol of 1925*;
- *Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material* – CPPNM, together with its Amendment of 2005 (entered into force in 1987);
- Additional Protocol to the Agreement between the Republic of Croatia and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the application of safeguards in connection with the Treaty for the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (signed by the Republic of Croatia in 1994);
- *International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism* (ratified by the Republic of Croatia in 2007);
- *Council of Europe Convention on Cybercrime* (ratified by the Republic of Croatia in 2002);
- *Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty* – CBTB (the Treaty has not entered into force yet; the Republic of Croatia ratified it in 2001).

Croatia is a member of key international and regional organisations which deal with issues of peace and security, the UN, NATO, OSCE, IAEA, OPCW, RCC, RACVIAC, and whose programmes include the issue of non-proliferation of WMD.

The Republic of Croatia has joined the following international regimes and arrangements:

- Wassenaar Arrangement – WA (the Republic of Croatia became its participant in 2005);
- Nuclear Suppliers Group – NSG (the Republic of Croatia became its participant in 2005);
- Zangger Committee – ZC (the Republic of Croatia became its participant in 2006);
- Australian Group – AG (the Republic of Croatia became its participant in 2007);
- Proliferation Security Initiative – PSI (in 2004, the Republic of Croatia gave its public support to the Initiative, within whose framework the bilateral Ship Boarding Agreement between the Republic of Croatia and the USA was signed);
- Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism – GI (the Republic of Croatia gave its public support in 2007).

The Republic of Croatia is continuously dedicated to the aim of joining the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR).

It is a signatory of bilateral agreements on mutual assistance in combating WMD proliferation and it creates additional prerequisites for responding to threats of WMD proliferation within the framework of bilateral and regional cooperation of individual sectors.

At the national level, the Strategy is based on principles and objectives contained in the Constitution of the Republic of Croatia, the National Security Strategy of the Republic of Croatia, the Defence Strategy of the Republic of Croatia, and the National Anti-Terrorism Strategy.

The existing legal framework for the drawing up of the Strategy is contained in numerous laws and subordinate regulations, and the following ones are of special significance:

- Act on the Export of Dual-Use Items
- Act on the Export and Import of Military-Use Items and Non-Military Lethal Devices
- Act on the International Restrictive Measures
- Customs Service Act
- Criminal Code
- Criminal Procedure Act
- Defence Act
- Act on the Security and Intelligence System of the Republic of Croatia
- Act on the Police Affairs and Authorities
- Protection and Rescue Act
- Radiological and Nuclear Safety Act
- Act on the Transport of Hazardous Substances
- State Border Protection Act
- Coast Guard Act
- Act on the Production, Overhaul and Movement of Arms and Military Equipment
- Anti-Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Act
- Data Secrecy Act
- Information Security Act
- Maritime Code.

4. GOALS OF THE STRATEGY

General goals of the Strategy are as follows:

- protection of national security by preventing that the Republic of Croatia becomes a source, a place of manufacture, an area of transit of illicit trade in WMD, dual-use or military-use items, or a potential target of attacks by WMD;
- disabling development, procurement, manufacture, transit and use of WMD, dual-use and military-use items and technologies by authoritarian regimes, criminal and terrorist groups, with the aim of causing casualties, material destruction and other threats;
- strengthening the national prevention system and ensuring conditions to achieve the highest possible level of efficiency of the Croatian national model of suppressing WMD proliferation;
- getting ready for a quick and efficient response to potential crises caused by WMD, by creating conditions for continuous improvement of the national system;
- providing further active contribution to efforts of the international community related to non-proliferation of WMD.

Measures to achieve the general goals of the Strategy are as follows:

- implementation of laws and regulations and further alignment of the national legislation with NATO and EU standards;
- improvement of coordination of the existing systems for suppression of WMD proliferation;
- further strengthening of capacities of state administration bodies, with a view to enhancing the crisis management system;
- strengthening of capacities for the collection, exchange and analysis of intelligence data necessary to detect, identify and monitor threats caused by WMD and associated dual-use and military-use items.

Special goals of the Strategy are as follows:

- expansion and development of existing capacities and programmes for the suppression of WMD proliferation and development of new ones;
- setting up of a central body for planning and coordination of activities pertaining to the suppression of WMD proliferation;
- establishment of a mechanism for assessment of capabilities of the existing national system for non-proliferation of WMD;
- further strengthening of international cooperation in the suppression of WMD proliferation;
- enhancement of the mechanism for assessment of threats;
- disruption of activities of WMD proliferation and institution of legal proceedings against perpetrators;
- identification of WMD materials subject to WMD proliferation activities;
- protection of the critical national infrastructure and population against crises caused by WMD;
- quick and efficient response, damage repair and recovery measures in case of a crisis caused by WMD;
- improvement of the public relations system;
- development of the national system of response to cybercrime which has effect on WMD.

The measures for achievement of the Strategy goals are elaborated in the Action Plan.

5. FUNCTIONAL AREAS

Activities within the functional areas are carried out by means of systematic, continuous and integrated conduct of all components of the functional areas.

5.1. Prevention

Prevention is the basic form of resistance against threats caused by WMD. Prevention of WMD proliferation implies all activities and measures which reduce the possibility of creating conditions for proliferation, development, manufacture and use of WMD.

For the Republic of Croatia, security threats caused by WMD proliferation may be imposed by a number of entities: individuals, groups, legal persons and states which do not accept international mechanisms/regimes for the control of armament and dual-use items and prevention of WMD proliferation. WMD-related threats for the Republic of Croatia will be increased if there are security risks (illicit procurement, transit) which partially or completely affect the territory of the Republic of Croatia, its institutions, citizens or other entities.

Special attention will be paid to a new form of asymmetric threat – cyber attack with a potential WMD effect on the critical national infrastructure and population. With a view to preventing the above mentioned threat, awareness of potential threat and its effects will be raised and development of a response concept will be stimulated.

Following the above mentioned, the Republic of Croatia will continue developing its national mechanisms and international cooperation.

At the national level:

When indentifying and estimating potential security threats, efficient coordination of all competent bodies is crucial. The Republic of Croatia will continue developing its efficient national system and international cooperation.

The national system will be improved by the following actions:

- coordination of all national bodies and their activities;
- inclusion of scientific research and professional activities in non-proliferation programmes;
- training of all participants regarding activities of suppression of WMD proliferation;
- raising public awareness of the nature and seriousness of this kind of threats;
- development of an efficient information exchange method;
- continuous improvement of procedures and rules of conduct aiming at the protection of population and preservation of environment in case of a CBRN-related threat;
- strengthening supervision of security measures related to high-risk CBRN materials and places where they are stored;
- strengthening of measures for supervision of immaterial transfer of technology.

An efficient response to threats related to WMD proliferation is not possible without close cooperation of the state and private sector. Therefore, promotion and proactive cooperation with the academic community, domestic industry sector and financial institutions will be continued, with the aim of creating partnership relations among state, public and private entities when it comes to suppression of WMD proliferation.

At the international level, the Republic of Croatia will:

- continuously maintain international cooperation with partner countries by means of exchange of relevant information and coordination of activities so as to strengthen global efforts invested into suppression of WMD proliferation;
- support regional initiatives in this area, believing that all South-eastern European countries must be involved in regional efforts;
- with the aim of disrupting all criminal and terrorist activities, promote standardisation of laws at the regional level and procedures and rules of conduct in the area of non-proliferation of WMD.

5.2. Detection

Detection implies a group of measures and activities leading to timely identification of potential or existing threats related to WMD proliferation.

With a view to detecting illicit activities, priorities are set, which primarily encompass the following:

- drawing up of assessments of threats;
- drawing up of intelligence and security assessments;
- use of all institutional and administrative capacities for the detection of materials suitable for WMD development;
- use of all institutional and administrative capacities for the detection of networks for WMD proliferation;

- supervision of transport of dual-use and military-use items and technologies, financial flows and business mediation activities which indicate WMD proliferation;
- use of resources and programmes of international organisations dealing with detection of WMD and other forms of international cooperation.

5.3. Response to threats

Response to threats comprises a group of measures and activities taken in order to prevent and eliminate potential consequences of WMD proliferation.

With regard to crisis management, the Government of the Republic of Croatia ensures central guidance, planning, supervision and coordination of the crisis management system.

When responding to threats, resources are primarily directed towards disruption of all activities which serve the function of WMD proliferation and which are related to the following:

- development, procurement, manufacture and use;
- traffic and transport of goods and materials;
- immaterial transport of technologies and know-how;
- cash flow and flow of other financial means;
- abuse of international scientific cooperation.

5.4. Informing the public

Informing the public and raising awareness of the WMD issue is an inseparable part of efficient prevention. By informing the public, conditions for strengthening confidence between the public on one side and the state and public administration on the other side are created, and the risk that a legal or natural person will participate in WMD proliferation is diminished.

Provision of information to professional and general public is carried out by the institutions competent for the Strategy implementation, in various forms – by means of seminars, workshops, conferences, outreach programmes. At the national and international level, additional training for a wide circle of stakeholders is conducted. This Strategy recognises the role of the media and supports their additional training pertaining to the WMD issue.

When it comes to crisis management, the Government of the Republic of Croatia also provides information to the public, within the framework of its central guidance.

Taking into consideration continuous increase in the number of users of the Internet, which has also become a significant medium for spreading information, one should take care of the protection of information sources at the Internet (web sites of relevant services). These sources are subject to attacks which may cause inaccessibility or change of information with the purpose of disinformation.

6. STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION, COMPETENT AUTHORITIES, PARTICIPANTS AND MANAGEMENT MECHANISM

With the aim of achieving efficient implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan, coordination of activities of the authorities involved in the suppression of WMD proliferation is necessary.

For the purpose of coordination of activities, the Government of the Republic of Croatia will set up the National Commission for the Suppression of WMD Proliferation (hereinafter: Commission).

The work of the Commission will enable better cooperation and information exchange among all the authorities involved in the Strategy implementation and among other working bodies of the Government of the Republic of Croatia which deal with various aspects of suppression of WMD proliferation.

The Commission will be comprised of representatives of the following authorities:

- Office of the President of the Republic of Croatia
- Government of the Republic of Croatia
- Office of the National Security Council
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration – chairperson of the Commission
- Ministry of Defence
- Ministry of the Interior
- Ministry of the Economy, Labour and Entrepreneurship
- Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of Health and Social Welfare
- Ministry of the Sea, Transport and Infrastructure
- Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development
- Ministry of Finance – Customs Administration and Office for Money Laundering Prevention
- State Attorney's Office of the Republic of Croatia
- Security and Intelligence Agency
- Military Security and Intelligence Agency
- General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Croatia
- Coast Guard of the Republic of Croatia
- State Office for Radiological and Nuclear Safety
- National Protection and Rescue Directorate
- National CERT
- Information Systems Security Bureau

The National Commission will be in charge of the following:

- monitoring the Strategy implementation,
- monitoring the Action Plan implementation,
- interdepartmental informing,
- drawing up a proposal for the establishment of an interdepartmental, protected communication system and a data transfer system
- exchange of relevant data
- analysis of trends

- proposing and supporting training activities related to the topic of WMD non-proliferation
- proposing and supporting organisation of workshops, exercises, seminars, conferences
- improvement of conduct in crisis situations
- adoption of a proposal for the improvement of the WMD suppression system and its forwarding to the Government of the Republic of Croatia
- adoption of a proposal for sharing information with the public as part of the improvement of the WMD suppression system and its forwarding to the Government of the Republic of Croatia
- submitting reports to the Government of the Republic of Croatia at least on an annual basis.

The Commission may, where the need arises, include representatives of other bodies and institutions of the Republic of Croatia, as well as natural and legal persons, in its work.

When the Government of the Republic of Croatia, in the case of a crises caused by WMD, activates the crisis management coordination mechanism, the National Commission, as a body which continuously contributes to enhancement of the WMD suppression system, will act as the expert body of the Government's crisis management mechanism.

Operational activities aimed at the suppression of WMD proliferation and crisis detection are carried out by the competent authorities, in line with their normatively determined scope of work and powers.

The competent authority must, in line with the legally stipulated reporting procedure by way of its representative in the Commission, submit a report on the established crisis situation to the chairperson of the Commission, who will inform all the members of the Commission thereof and call an extraordinary meeting of the Commission.

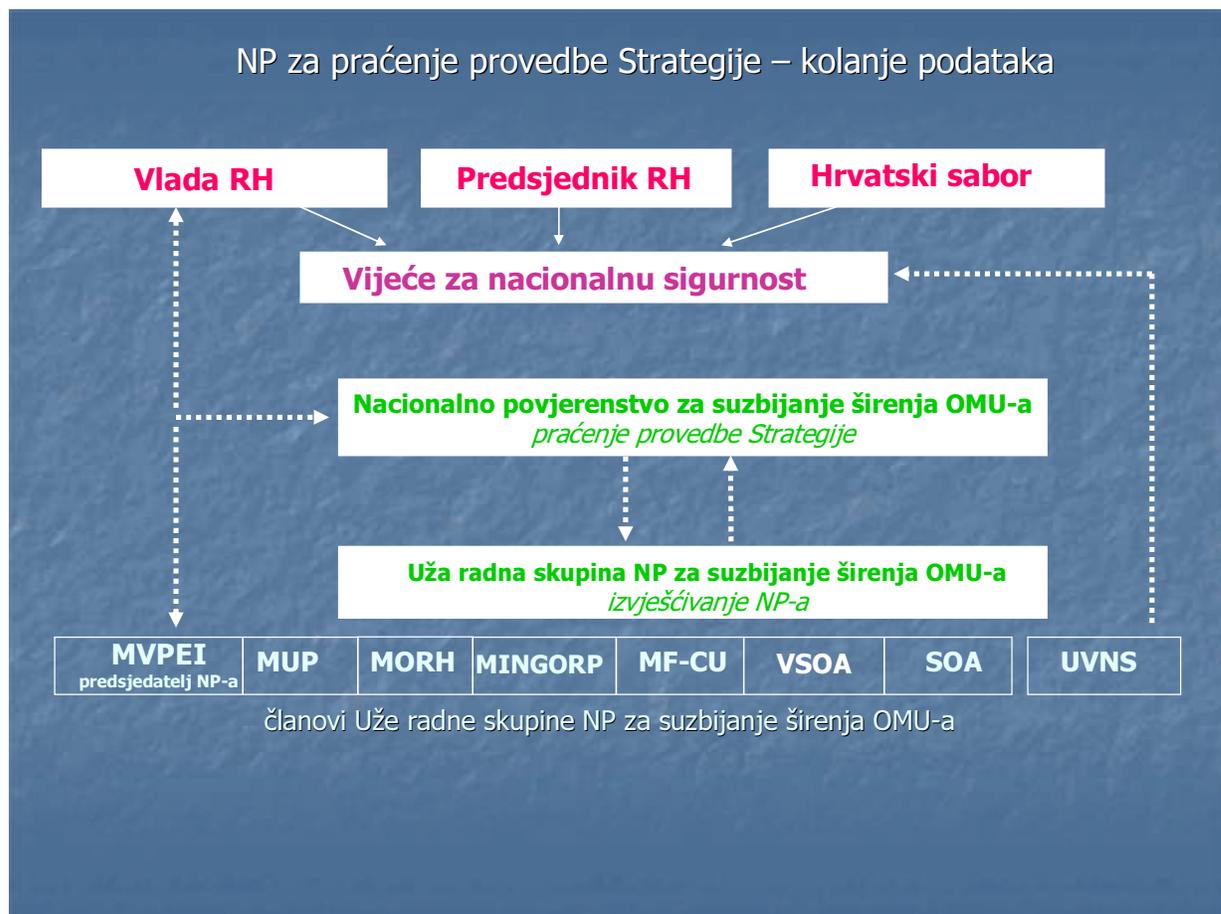
Within the framework of the Commission, a Focus Task Force will be set up, made up of representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of the Economy, Labour and Entrepreneurship, Ministry of Finance – Customs Administration, Office of the National Security Council, Security and Intelligence Agency, Military Security and Intelligence Agency and Ministry of Defence. Where necessary, other members of the Commission may participate in the work of the Focus Task Force as well.

The Focus Task Force will be in charge of the following:

- monitoring the Strategy implementation and reporting to the Commission
- analysing the situation and reporting to the Commission
- submitting proposals pertaining to system improvement to the Commission
- preparation of training activities
- drawing up of reports on activities and submitting those reports to the Commission
- special tasks during crisis.

The Commission and the Focus Task Force will perform their activities in accordance with the rules of procedure adopted by the Commission.

Graphs – Crisis management scheme in case of a crisis caused by WMD



Role of the National Commission in the management of a crisis caused by WMD

Government of the Republic of Croatia

Government's mechanism for strategic and operational crisis management

National Commission for the Suppression of WMD Proliferation
expert body supporting the Government's crisis management mechanism

Focus Task Force of the National Commission for the Suppression of WMD Proliferation
special tasks during crisis

