

DEFINITIONS

Categories of equipment: 7+1

Annually, Member States are requested to supply data to UNROCA on their international transfers of the previous calendar year in the following seven categories of weapons and weapon systems:¹



Category I Battle tanks

Tracked or wheeled self-propelled armored fighting vehicles with high cross-country mobility and a high level of self-protection, weighing at least 16.5 metric tons unladen weight, with a high muzzle velocity direct fire main gun of at least 75 millimeters caliber.



Category II Armored combat vehicles

Tracked, semi-tracked or wheeled self-propelled vehicles, with armored protection and cross-country capability, either: (a) designed and equipped to transport a squad of four or more infantrymen, or (b) armed with an integral or organic weapon of at least 12.5 millimeters caliber or a missile launcher.



Category III Large-caliber artillery systems

Guns, howitzers, artillery pieces, combining the characteristics of a gun or a howitzer, mortars or multiple-launch rocket systems, capable of engaging surface targets by delivering primarily indirect fire, with a caliber of 75 millimeters and above.



Category IV Combat aircraft and unmanned combat aerial vehicles (UCAV)

Includes fixed-wing or variable-geometry wing aerial vehicles as defined below:

(a) Manned fixed-wing or variable-geometry wing aircraft, designed, equipped or modified to engage targets by employing guided missiles, unguided rockets, bombs, guns, cannons or other weapons of destruction, including versions of these aircraft that perform specialized electronic warfare, suppression of air defence or reconnaissance missions.

(b) Unmanned fixed-wing or variable-geometry wing aircraft, designed, equipped or modified to engage targets by employing guided missiles, unguided rockets, bombs, guns, cannons or other weapons of destruction.



Category V Attack helicopters and rotary-wing unmanned combat aerial vehicles

(a) Manned rotary-wing aircraft designed, equipped or modified to engage targets by employing guided or unguided anti-armor, air-to-surface, air-to-subsurface, or air-to-air weapons and equipped with an integrated fire control and aiming system for these weapons, including versions of these aircraft which perform specialized reconnaissance or electronic warfare missions.

(b) Unmanned rotary-wing aircraft designed, equipped or modified to engage targets by employing guided or unguided anti-armor, air-to-surface, air-to-subsurface, or air-to-air weapons and equipped with an



Category VI Warships

Vessels or submarines armed and equipped for military use with a standard displacement of 500 metric tons or above, and those with a standard displacement of less than 500 metric tons, equipped for launching missiles with a range of at least 25 kilometers or torpedoes with similar range.

¹ The scope of UNROCA was defined by the General Assembly in its resolution [46/36 L](#) of 9 December 1991 (annex, para. 2 (a)) and has been subject to periodic review by groups of governmental experts, which in some instances resulted in amendments to the descriptions of the categories.



Category VII Missiles/missile launchers

- (a) Guided or unguided rockets, ballistic or cruise missiles capable of delivering a warhead or weapon of destruction to a range of at least 25 kilometers and means designed or modified specifically for launching such missiles or rockets, if not covered by categories I through VI. For the purpose of the Register, this subcategory includes remotely piloted vehicles with the characteristics for missiles as defined above but does not include ground-to-air missiles.
- (b) Man-portable air defence systems (MANPADS).

In line with the “7+1 formula” adopted in 2016,² States should report international transfers of small arms and light weapons (SALW) in parallel with the seven categories of UNROCA, using the online reporting tool or the standardized form for reporting the international transfer of small arms and light weapons.³

In 2022, the Group of Governmental Experts put forth the following description of **small arms and light weapons**:

Small arms and light weapons are any man-portable lethal weapons that expel or launch, are designed to expel or launch, or may be readily converted to expel or launch, a shot, bullet or projectile by the action of an explosive, excluding antique small arms and light weapons or their replicas. Antique small arms and light weapons and their replicas will be defined in accordance with domestic law. In no case will antique small arms and light weapons include those manufactured after 1899.

(a) “Small arms” are, in a broad sense, weapons designed for individual use. They include, inter alia, revolvers and self-loading pistols, rifles and carbines, sub-machine guns, assault rifles and light machine guns;

(b) “Light weapons” are, generally, weapons intended for use by two or three people in a crew, although some may be carried and used by one person. They include, inter alia, heavy machine guns, handheld under-barrel and mounted grenade launchers, portable anti-aircraft guns, portable anti-tank guns, recoilless rifles, portable launchers of anti-tank missile and rocket systems, portable launchers of anti-aircraft missile systems, and mortars of a calibre of less than 75 mm.

The standardized form also allows States to report international transfers of other types of SALW under the lines labelled “Other”.

² See A/71/259, para. 75.

³ See A/77/126, annex IV.