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**REPORTING FORMS
PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 10, PARAGRAPH 2 (b) OF THE PROTOCOL AND THE
DECISION OF THE FIRST CONFERENCE OF THE HIGH CONTRACTING
PARTIES TO PROTOCOL V**

(As adopted by the First Conference at its second plenary meeting on 5 November 2007)

HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

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DATE OF SUBMISSION: 16 April 2018

(dd/mm/yyyy)

This information can be available to other interested parties and relevant organizations

YES

NO

Partially, only the following forms:

A B C D E F G H I

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FORM A: Steps taken to implement Article 3 of the Protocol: Clearance, removal or destruction of explosive remnants of war

High Contracting Party: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2017 to 31/12/2017
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 3:

Through 73 preliminary demining projects, mine threat has been removed from an area that amounts to 29.885.067 m² while additional 6.600.192 m² was reduced through technical and non-technical survey activities. All these activities resulted in the total decrease of the suspected hazardous area in Croatia in the amount of 36.5 km². (+ 481.900 m² demined territory of MoD) Suspected hazardous area in the Republic of Croatia on December 31, 2017 totalled 411,5 km².

In 2017 the largest share in demined area is area planned for different economic activities like forest area and especially agricultural land which the local and regional governments have stated as their priority crucial for start of agricultural production and the other activities. During the mine clearance activities a total number of 1.808 mines and UXOs was found and destroyed, out of which, 1.289 mines and 519 UXOs.

Table 2: Number of mines and UXO destroyed in the period 01/01/2017 – 31/12/2017

Year	Anti-personnel Mines	Anti-vehicle Mines	UXO
2017.	1.271 (+ 122 by MoD and MoI)	18 (+ 22 by MoD and MoI)	519 (+ 3900 by MoD and MoI)

Any other relevant information:

During the implementation of quality control, the CROMAC quality control supervisors and QC staff, in 42 cases found that mine clearance operations did not meet the prescribed quality requirements and have ordered repetition of demining activities in an area of 84,905 m². Moreover, during the implementation of the final quality control, in 29 cases, the Commission for the final QC has established that demining activities have not been performed in accordance with the regulations and it was ordered to repeat the activities in these areas amounting to 41,559 m² in size.

Mine clearance capacities include a complete equipment of 40 demining companies that were authorized by the Ministry of Interior to perform demining activities in 2017.

All the employees that work in mine clearance are wearing protective equipment that consists of flack jacket with protection for groins and helmets with visors. For special cases of UXO demolition, companies use ballistic suits. Following equipment is in usage for humanitarian demining activities: metal detectors, demining machines of all types (medium, light and heavy), excavators, machines for vegetation clearing and mine detection dogs. In Croatia, mine clearance actions are mostly performed as a combination of mechanical demining, manual detection and mine-searching dogs. CROMAC's Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) also prescribe the entire methodology of humanitarian demining activities. Frequent use of demining machines puts Croatia among the leading states with mechanical mine clearance.

Certain amount of the Croatian military facilities including barracks, air bases, training areas, radar stations and storage sites are still partially contaminated by land mines, cluster munitions remnants and other UXO's. The Demining battalion of the Engineering regiment is responsible for clearance of all military facilities.

During the year 2017, an area of 481.900 m² was searched and cleared, 279 pieces of UXOs were discovered and destroyed; AP and AV landmines were not discovered during the process. MoI collected 122 pieces of AP and 22 pieces of AV landmines and 3621 pieces of UXO's. This amount was destroyed too.

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FORM B: Steps taken to implement Article 4 of the Protocol: Recording, retaining and transmission of information

High Contracting Party: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2017 to 31/12/2017
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 4 and the Technical Annex:

At the beginning of 2017, 65 towns and municipalities in 9 out of 21 counties were affected by mine problem. Total mine suspected area of the Republic of Croatia at the beginning of the 2017 amounted to 446,6 km², with approx. 40.000 mines and UXOs that still have to be found and destroyed.

On December 31, 2017 the total suspected hazardous area was marked with 13.563 mine danger signs that are one of the basic elements of the Mine Information System (MIS) that is shown on the maps given to the local authorities, police administration and individuals that have requested maps on SHA situation.

Annual Mine Action Plan is based on priorities and requests of counties that are compliant to their development programs, programs of reconstruction and return of displaced people, needs and requests of public companies and other demining beneficiaries, defined mined and mine suspected area and financial means secured. The Plan is approved by the Croatian Government and Annual Report is adopted by the Croatian Parliament.

CROMAC created the Mine Action 2017 Plan with the consent of the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Finances, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Maritime Affairs, Transport and Infrastructure, Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Environment and Nature Protection, Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Construction and environmental planning, Ministry of agriculture, Ministry of Business and trade, the National Protection and Rescue Directorate and all mine contaminated counties in the Republic of Croatia.

Any other relevant information:

Current National Mine Action Strategy of the Republic of Croatia was approved by Croatian Parliament in mid-September 2009 and it consists of all relevant information on mine action since 1991, current status of mine suspected area (size, positioning, structure and impact on society and economy), a description of available capacities for mine action execution and their performance and basic goals to be achieved in the period 2009 to 2019, with an established method and preconditions for their realization.

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FORM C: Steps taken to implement Article 5 of the Protocol: Other precautions for the protection of the civilian population, individual civilians and civilian objects from the risks and effects of explosive remnants of war

High Contracting Party: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2017 to 31/12/2017
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 5 and the Technical Annex:

In 2017, the CROMAC coordinated a large number of activities related to informing about mine danger. Through 77 lectures and presentations, more than 27.890 citizens were educated, with majority being kindergarten and elementary school children. Special education was given to the members of hunting associations, Croatian mountain rescue service, hikers, farmers and tourists. Education was provided in Capital of Zagreb and 14 other counties.

The largest number of activities related to the education about dangers of mines and UXO were done in cooperation with the Ministry of Interior and the relevant police departments through the "Less arms, less tragedy" campaign where more than 26.800 people were educated as a part of 66 organized lectures. The cooperation was also achieved with: Croatian Hunting Federation, Croatian Red Cross, Lions Club Beli Manastir, Disability Volleyball Club Zagreb, county, city and municipal governments and other non-governmental organizations and associations.

"Together for Croatia without Mines" campaign has been implemented by the Disability Volleyball Club "Zagreb"-operation with Croatia without Mines Trust Fund, Government Office for Mine Action and Mine Association. Also national day of Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action, was held in April in the Town of Glina during which intensified media activities have been organised with a goal to educate the citizens about mine dangers.

Any other relevant information:

The Republic of Croatia has well-developed legal framework relating to the persons with disabilities in realizing their legitimate rights and status. The status and various forms of rights are being realized through over 200 different laws and by-laws. There are 4 basic forms of mine victim assistance the ministries, different institutions, non-governmental sector, a number of organizations and individual initiatives take part in-medical care, physical rehabilitation, psychological help and social reintegration and professional and economic rehabilitation.

In 2017, there were no mine incidents / accidents or related casualties in the Republic of Croatia.

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FORM D: Steps taken to implement Article 6 of the Protocol: Provisions for the protection of humanitarian missions and organizations from the effects of explosive remnants of war

High Contracting Party: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2017 to 31/12/2017
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 6:

Every humanitarian mission or organization that is coming to Croatia with goal to help or to get involved in demining action in Croatia can get all relevant information in the CROMAC. CROMAC will provide information about ERW, mine suspected area, priorities and all other topics that could be point of interest of those organizations. That is one of the CROMAC's main tasks.

CROMAC tasks are as follows:

- Collecting and processing data about the SHA and database management,
- Planning of demining operations and organizing public tenders for awarding demining operations,
- SHA marking,
- Drafting of demining and technical survey projects,
- Quality assurance and quality control over demining operations,
- Issuance of demining certificates,
- Co-ordination of MRE activities,
- International co-operation.

Any other relevant information:

N/A

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FORM E: Steps taken to implement Article 7 of the Protocol: Assistance with respect to existing explosive remnants of war

High Contracting Party: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2017 to 31/12/2017
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 7:

The Republic of Croatia confirmed its resoluteness in solving the mine problem by passing the Law on Humanitarian Demining in 1996, establishing the Croatian Mine Action Centre in 1998, fulfilling the commitments undertaken by joining the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction as well as providing for permanent and stable sources of financing in the State budget, in the World Bank loans and from public companies in the Republic of Croatia. Croatia ratified the Convention on 28 May 1998 and submitted its initial transparency report, on 3 September 1999, providing information on areas that contain or are suspected to contain anti-personnel mines.

Croatia has, together with another 14 countries, successfully presented the Request for the extension of Article 5 deadline at the 9th Meeting of the State Parties held in Geneva from November 24-28, 2008. Deadline extension was granted to Croatia until year 2019.

Republic of Croatia was one of the first to ratify the Convention on Cluster Munitions in the first trimester of 2009. Accordingly, the CROMAC has developed SOPs that regulate the marking of the areas in which there is the danger of cluster munitions, and made signs indicating the dangers of unexploded ordnance and cluster munitions.

The Republic of Croatia and all institutions and organizations involved in mine action are, in frame of our law competence, ready and open for cooperation and consulting with other parties to solve any problem that may arise in interpretation and applying method of this Protocol provisions.

In the year 2017, CROMAC continued all activities towards fulfilling the obligations from the signed conventions and protocols. In March 2018 Croatia submitted the Second Request for the extension of Article 5 deadline of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction. This request will be discussed at the next Meeting of the State Parties in 2018.

First deadline extension was granted to Croatia until March, 2019.

Any other relevant information:

N/A

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FORM F: Steps taken to implement Article 8 of the Protocol: Co-operation and assistance

High Contracting Party: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2017 to 31/12/2017
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 8:

Technical cooperation:

- In November, 2017 – beginning of the project entitled “Biological Methods (Bees) for Explosive Detection” financed by the NATO Science for Peace and Security Programme. The participants of the project are: HCR-CTRO d.o.o., project coordinator, Faculty of Transport and Traffic Sciences from the University of Zagreb, University from Banja Luka and University from St. Andrews. Duration of the project is three years, and its goal is to develop innovative methods and technologies for landmine detection through the advancement and integration of current state of the art techniques – honeybees in combination with explosive vapour sensors and advanced imaging techniques.

Testing and certification:

At the HCR-CTRO test sites in Cerovac / Benkovac:

- In May, 2017 - At the HCR-CTRO d.o.o. Benkovac testing polygon, a research team from the University of Manchester conducted a trial of experimental detection equipment. The aim of the project is to help counter the problems of discrimination of targets in uncooperative (highly mineralised) soils and to research more advanced electromagnetic detectors to the benefit of the international mine action community. The trial is financed by the British charity Find a Better Way.
- During September, 2017 - HCR-CTRO d.o.o. provided testing of a Zone Depollution System (SDZ) machine owned by a French company CEFA. The test took four weeks and was conducted in accordance with the IMAS Test and Evaluation Protocol for machines (CWA 15044).

Training:

One of the main fields of expertise of HCR-CTRO d.o.o. is training. Training courses are conducted in accordance with IMAS and Testing and Evaluation Protocols. In 2017, the following training courses were conducted for international partners:

- During October, 2017 - HCR-CTRO d.o.o. conducted training for 18 employees of the Russian company EMERCOM DEMINING on the subject of mine clearance management. EMERCOM DEMINING employees gained qualifications for project managers, site managers, group leaders and internal control inspectors.

Conferences and workshops:

- Croatian Mine Action Centre, HCR-CTRO d.o.o. and Government Office for Mine Action were the co-organizers of the 14th International Symposium "MINE ACTION 2017" which was held in the Town of Biograd in April 2017. The Symposium has become a global umbrella gathering of mine action experts and practitioners. Some 150 participants from more than 30 countries attended the Symposium, during which different plenary sessions, a field demonstration of demining and detection equipment, a demonstration of technical survey activities, as well as workshops and working meetings of IARP (International Advanced Robotic Programme) and SEEMACC (South East Europe Mine Action Coordination Council) were held.
- During March and April, 2017 - Regional Senior Managers' Course in ERW and Mine Action was held in Croatia, organised jointly by the Center for International Stabilization and Recovery at James Madison University

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(JMU) USA, the Government Office for Mine Action of the Republic of Croatia and Croatian Mine Action Centre - Centre for Testing, Development and Training, funded by the Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement in the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Political- Military Affairs. The Course gathered more than 20 participants, attending from CWD programs in Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Georgia, Kosovo, Serbia, Slovenia, Turkey and Ukraine. Three participants from Colombia also joined the course to take advantage of the excellent working relationship already established between the Croatian and Colombian mine action authorities and to learn from the programs in Europe and Eurasia. This course strengthened regional partnerships and collaboration and focused on issues critical to the region, including program sustainability, small arms and light weapons, physical security and stockpile management, and managing programs through transitional phases.

Cooperation on international level required close cooperation between CROMAC and Croatian Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Croatian diplomatic missions throughout the world and Croatian Ministry of Defense. Apart from fulfilment of the commitments undertaken by Croatia signing the Ottawa Treaty, international cooperation activities have mostly consisted of raising demining funds, capacity building, mine victims assistance and mine risk education. International cooperation also included taking part in different conferences at regional and international level that enabled us to promote and present achievements of Croatian mine action system.

- In November, 2017 - CROMAC and HCR-CTRO d.o.o. hosted a delegation of the Saudi Arabia which included representatives from the Engineering Command, Infantry Command, Armed Forces Command, Office of the Chief of Staff and the Navy Command of the Ministry of Defence of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Guests were presented with the activities of all Mine Action authorities in the Republic of Croatia, with a special emphasis on a system of the airborne non-technical survey from a drone, training courses and quality management.
- In December, 2017 - CROMAC and HCR-CTRO d.o.o. delegation visited Ukraine. The visit was organized under the auspices of the Working Group on cooperation between Croatia and Ukraine on the exchange of experiences in demining and their adaptation/implementation in Ukraine.

Any other relevant information:

CROMAC can offer the following forms of assistance to the international mine action community:

- Establishment of the National mine action centre,
- Legal, sub legal and normative regulations,
- Establishment of mine information system and geo-information system,
- Planning system – production of National strategies, annual and operative activity plans,
- Education of executors of humanitarian demining operations (deminers, auxiliary workers and management) and mine risk education,
- General survey, definition of suspected hazardous area and education of survey teams,
- Protective equipment and demining machines produced in the Republic of Croatia,
- Capacities and know-how of the Croatian demining companies,
- Capacities for testing demining machines, equipment and devices as well as new technologies of mine and UXO detection.

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FORM F(a): Steps taken by States which have ERW victims to implement the relevant provisions of Article 8(2): Victim Assistance

High Contracting Party: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2017 to 31/12/2017
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

Steps taken to implement the relevant provisions of Article 8(2):

During 2017, the advisory assistance to persons affected by mines, and their families continued to be provided by the NGO Mine Aid. The largest number of activities related to the education about dangers of mines and UXO were done in cooperation with the Ministry of Interior and the relevant police departments thorough the "Less arms, less tragedy" campaign. The cooperation was also achieved with: Croatian Hunting Federation, Croatian Red Cross, "Lions club" Beli Manastir, Disability Volleyball Club Zagreb, county, city and municipal governments and other non-governmental organizations and associations especially Association "Croatia helps".
All actions and activities in Mine Action in Croatia and worldwide were presented on web pages of CROMAC and the Government Office for Mine Action.
Central ceremony for the April 4, International day of Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action was held in the Town of Glina in co-organisation of Government Office for Mine Action and CROMAC.

Other relevant information, guided by the Plan of Action on Victim Assistance:

N/A

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FORM G: Steps taken to implement Article 9 of the Protocol: Generic preventive measures

High Contracting Party: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2017 to 31/12/2017
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 9 and the Technical Annex:

a.) Munitions manufacturing management

Production of all types of arms and military equipment in the Republic of Croatia is regulated by the Law on the Production, Overhaul and Trade in Arms and Military Equipment, adopted on 25 March 2002 (Official Gazette 33/2002). The law regulates safety and protection of methods of producing and refitting arms and military equipment.

b.) Munitions management

In order to ensure the best possible long-term reliability of explosive ordnance, Republic Croatia applies best practices and operating procedures with respect to its storage, transport, field storage and handling in accordance with the following:

Explosive ordnance is stored in 26 secured facilities that are well-guarded and protected against fires and thunders.

Explosive ordnance is stored and sorted in accordance with its condition. Out of date and faulty explosive ordnance is sorted out and stored separately. For explosive ordnance warehousing, tracking and testing procedures have been put in place in order to maintain its reliability.

All facilities are made of concrete and with insulation in order to maintain temperatures under 50C and humidity under not more than 75 %. Personnel working and handling explosive ordnance must be well pyrotechnically educated and certified in order to perform their duties.

Storage and handling, transport, supply and maintenance, laboratory testing and observing Life Cycle Management of explosive ordnance in Armed Forces is regulated by Ministry of Defence and General Staff of Armed Forces of Republic of Croatia with;

- Directive on storage protection and handling of explosive ordnance, MoD Zagreb dated 1998
- Decree on transport of explosive ordnance, MoD dated 2006
- Directive on chemical balance of gunpowder dated 2000
- Directive on explosive ordnance quality control in MoD and AF dated 2005
- Directive on maintaining of explosive ordnance in AF dated 2004
- Directive on record keeping of out of date and faulty explosive ordnance dated 2005
- Directive on managing with the existing quantities of explosive ordnance in AF dated 1997
- Directive on extension of rocket ammo lifetime in AF dated 2007.

Currently in the Croatian Armed Forces, process of implementation of NATO norms and standards in the area of explosive ordnance safekeeping is going on. Explosive ordnance experts from the Croatian Armed Forces are currently involved in work of NATO Committee AC/326 "CNAD Ammunition Safety group" responsible for development and improvement of norms and standards in the area of safe storage, transport and use of explosive ordnance.

Decision of the Defence Minister for the planning period to year 2018 defined:

- Types and quantities of usable explosive ordnance, their storage and maintenance;
- Types and quantities of usable and perspective classical rocket ammo that could be used for live-firing, quality control, life cycle oversight and its extension;
- Types and quantities of explosive ordnance that are not longer usable and needs to be removed by delaboration and destruction

c.) Training

Training:

One of the main fields of expertise of CROMAC-CTDT is training. Training courses are conducted in accordance with IMAS and Testing and Evaluation Protocols. In 2017, the following training courses were conducted for international partners:

- training for 18 employees of the Russian company EMERCOM DEMINING on the subject of mine clearance management. EMERCOM DEMINING employees gained qualifications for project managers, site managers, group

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leaders and internal control inspectors

Any other relevant information:

N/A

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FORM H: Steps taken to implement Article 11 of the Protocol: Compliance

High Contracting Party: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2017 to 31/12/2017
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

Steps taken to implement the provisions of Article 11:

For the purpose of precise definition of the actual suspected hazardous area, the CROMAC developed its own model of organization and operative handling of humanitarian demining process with guidelines and contents of the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) built in.

CROMAC's SOPs were passed in order to realize the tasks set in a rational manner and speed up the process of defining suspected hazardous area all the way to the handover of areas cleared from mines and UXO to the final beneficiaries. CROMAC SOPs define the survey of suspected hazardous area and/or facility (general survey, SHA marking, technical survey and area reduction), project designing, competence assessment of authorised legal entities for the conduct of humanitarian demining operations, quality assurance and quality control (quality assurance and quality control over mine search and/or demining, sampling-sampling for inspection and control of soil treatment depth while using demining machines, sampling-sampling for inspection and control of demined and searched area) and medical support.

Procedures for conducting surveys, implementation of procedures, responsibilities as well as control and verification of survey operations carried out, all in order to define suspected hazardous area (SHA) were described in detail.

Any other relevant information:

The Croatian SOPs in mine action are as follows (all available on CROMAC web site www.hcr.hr):

SURVEY OF MINE SUSPECTED AREA AND/OR BUILDINGS

- 01.01 - General Survey
- 01.01.01 - Appendix to the SOP 01.01 "General Survey"
- 01.02 - Marking of Mine Suspected Area
- 01.02.01 - Marking of Areas of Potential Unexploded Ordnance
- 01.03 - Technical Survey
- 01.04 - Reduction of Areas in the MSA

DESIGNING - ELABORATION OF DESIGNING DOCUMENTATION

- 02. Designing - Elaboration Of Designing Documentation

STANDARDIZATION AND ACCREDITATION

- 03.02 - Accreditation

QUALITY ASSURANCE AND QUALITY CONTROL

- 04.01 - Quality Assurance and Quality Control of Mine Search and/or Demining
- 04.02 – Sampling - Sampling for Inspection and Control of the Soil Treatment depth during Demining Machine Usage
- 04.03 – Sampling - Sampling for Inspection and Control of Demined and Searched Area

MEDICAL SUPPORT

- 05.01 – Medical Support And Evacuation

DESTRUCTION OF MINES AND UNEXPLODED ORDINANCES

- 06.01 – Destruction of Mines and Unexploded Ordnances -

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FORM I: Other relevant matters

High Contracting Party: THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Reporting for time period from: 01/01/2017 to 31/12/2017
[dd/mm/yyyy] [dd/mm/yyyy]

Any other relevant information:

The Croatian Police department and the CROMAC are continuing the "Less arms, less tragedies" campaign in partnership with the Red Cross. The citizens are being educated and encouraged to turn in their weapons and ordnance leftover from the Homeland War. The Police department also reacts on basis of citizen's telephone calls and sometimes finds large quantities of weapons within their investigations of various criminal activities. Among large arsenals of W and other weapons, during 2017 the Police Department collected 122 pieces of AP and 22 pieces of AV landmines.

Police department is determined to continue these programs and activities in the future. The weapons collected by the Police department are transported and destroyed at Croatia's military facilities.