



# 8<sup>a</sup> Meeting of the UNODC Working Group on Illicit Arms Trafficking

Directorate of Criminal Investigation and INTERPOL

**Mayor José Luís Cabrera Pérez**

Head of the Anti-Terrorism and CBRNE Incident Response Area

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# Current situation of firearms trafficking in Colombia



## OVERVIEW OF ARMS TRAFFICKING

The trafficking of firearms directed to structures involved in drug trafficking, Organized Armed Groups (GAO), Residual Organized Armed Groups (GAOR), Organized Criminal Groups (GDO) and other criminal groups, is a permanent historical practice due to the current situation of the country, which facilitates the commission of crimes that impact the coexistence and citizen security.

Colombia as it is located in the northwestern corner of South America with five land borders of 6,342 linear km (Brazil, Ecuador, Panama, Peru and Venezuela) and 339,200 km<sup>2</sup> of total maritime platform area bordering 9 countries (Costa Rica, Ecuador, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Panama, Dominican Republic, Nicaragua and Venezuela), characteristics that give different criminal actors special conditions that favor the illegal trafficking of firearms and ammunition.



# Current situation of arms trafficking in Colombia

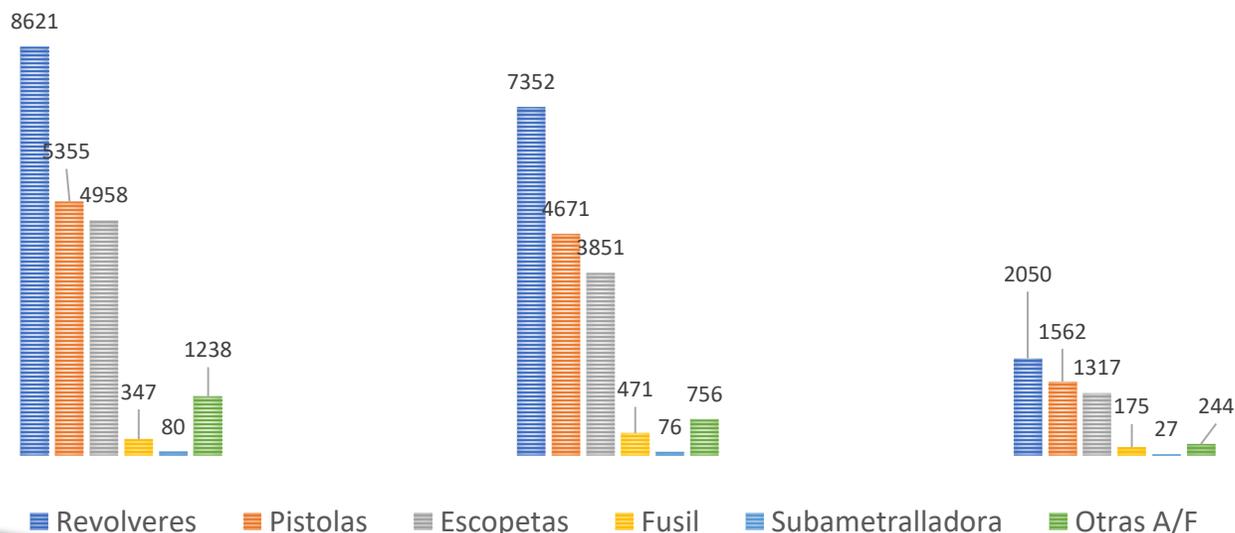


## Firearms seizure statistics in Colombia<sup>1</sup>

Firearms							
Year	Revolvers	Pistols	Shotguns	Rifle	Submachine gun	Others	Total
2019	8.621	5.355	4.958	347	80	1.238	20.599
2020	7.352	4.671	3.851	471	76	756	17.177
2021	2.050	1.562	1.317	175	27	244	5.375
<b>Total arma seized</b>							<b>43.151</b>



### COMPARATIVE YEARS 2019-2021



The seizure of firearms at the national level, with a decrease trend during the 2020, it was due to the mandatory isolation as a preventive measure that the national government decreed, to avoid the spread of the COVID-virus. SARS 2, parallel to the start of the pandemic, in mid-March.

1. Information extracted from the SIEDCO National Police Criminal, Contraventional and Operational Statistical Information System, with cut-off date 03-23-2021

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## GENERALITIES OF ARMS TRAFFICKING

Arms trafficking at land borders tends to be tolerable, since the circulation of arms towards the interior of the country occurs in minimal quantities, due to the existing controls at the border crossings, this forces traffickers to use routes through illegal crossings in the border area with Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela, these go to the criminal groups in main cities.



**Policía descubre nueva modalidad para transportar armas de fuego**



Trafficking does not only occur at the terrestrial level, it has shown traffickers using international airports, through which they have introduced short and long-range firearms (disassembled), the latest generation of the Kalashnikov family, caliber 7.62 x 39mm, with accessories such as red dot sights, telescopic sights, flashlights and laser designators; rifles of the M16 family, caliber 5.56 x 45 mm, as well as small calibers firearms, .380 auto and 9 x 19 mm, recently bought in stores in foreign countries.

# Current affairs of arms trafficking in Colombia



## GENERALITIES OF ARMS TRAFFICKING

- ❑ Part of the black market is fed by sending mails, packages of tools, spare parts and electrical appliances, where they hide firearms; using airports and seaports of country.
- ❑ Traffickers continue to introduce Five Seven pistols, modern weapons with a high stopping power caliber, caliber 5.7 x 28 mm, cases occurred at the airport in the country's capital. Under the mode of concealment in spare parts of different types, electrical appliances and in parcel boxes. Recent cases known by Customs Police.
- ❑ We cannot forget the presence in some of the cases, of foreigners in transit in our country carrying weapons manufactured in other countries.



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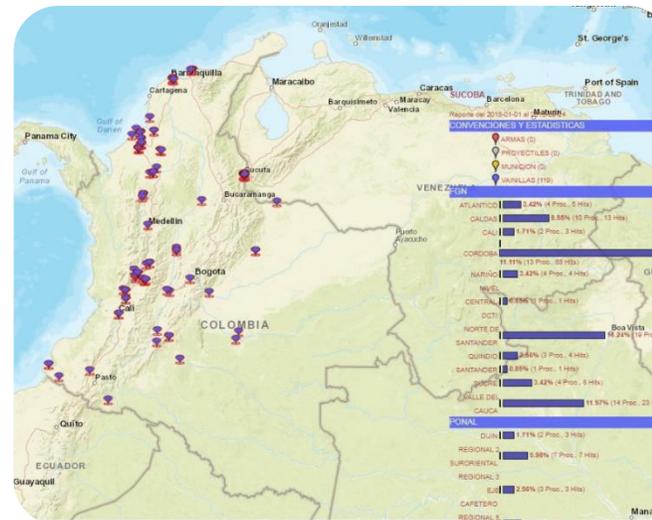
## SUCOBA (Unique Ballistic Comparison System)

It is a technological tool developed by engineers from the Attorney General's Office, to supply the need of a database that allow the association of cases through Elements of Physical Evidence from ballistic origin. This platform is designed under the model of a centralized client-server network, based on a structured database that organizes, classifies and purifies the different digital signatures extracted from digitized ballistic surfaces, by Leica apochromatic optical stations, arranged to national level using the inter-institutional networks of POLIRED and FISCALNET, currently has 22 stations nationwide, managed by the Attorney General's Office.

Linking missionary and georeferencing systems such as the SPOA (Digital Platform of the Accusatory Criminal System) and the ArcGIS platform (Georeferencing System)



Estación de Captura de vainillas y proyectiles

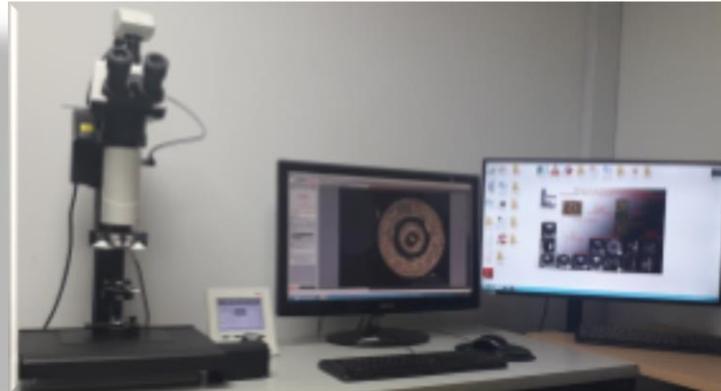


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## SUCOBA (Unique Ballistic Comparison System)

The system has reduced costs between 70 - 80% compared to other ballistic identification systems available on the market worldwide. The information with which it is fed belongs to us and is available to any of the entities.





# Thanks

[Dijin.acrim-ciara@policia.gov.co](mailto:Dijin.acrim-ciara@policia.gov.co)  
Directorate of Criminal Investigation and INTERPOL