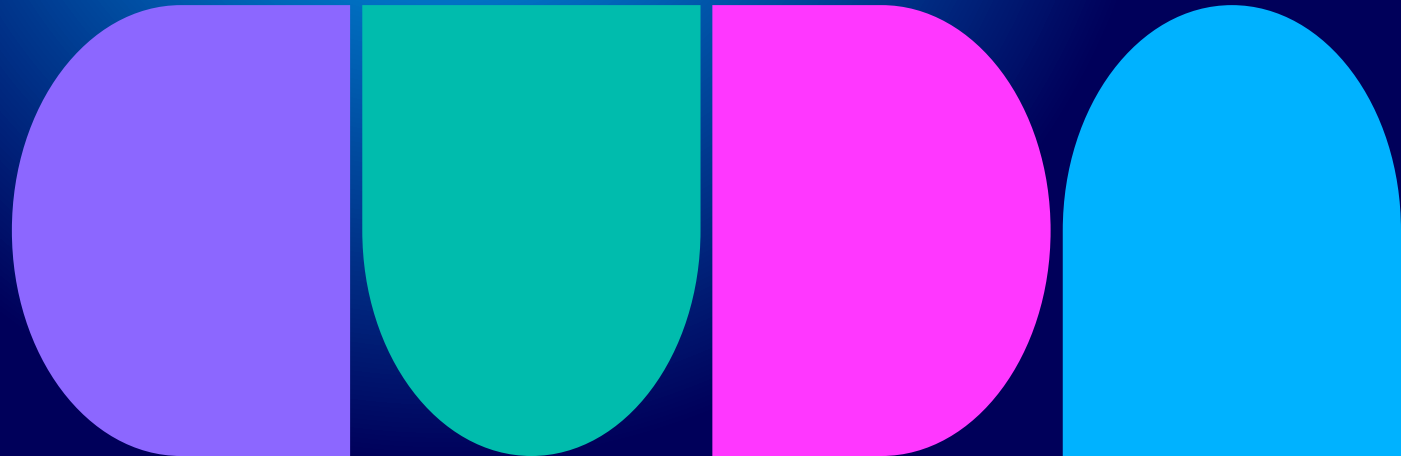


European Conference on Drug-Related Violence

This presentation was delivered at the European Conference on Drug-Related Violence on 26-27 November 2024 in Brussels. The views expressed herein can in no way be taken to reflect the official opinion of the European Union.

26-27
November
2024



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Drug- and gun violence in the EU

Presentation:
Astrid De Schutter

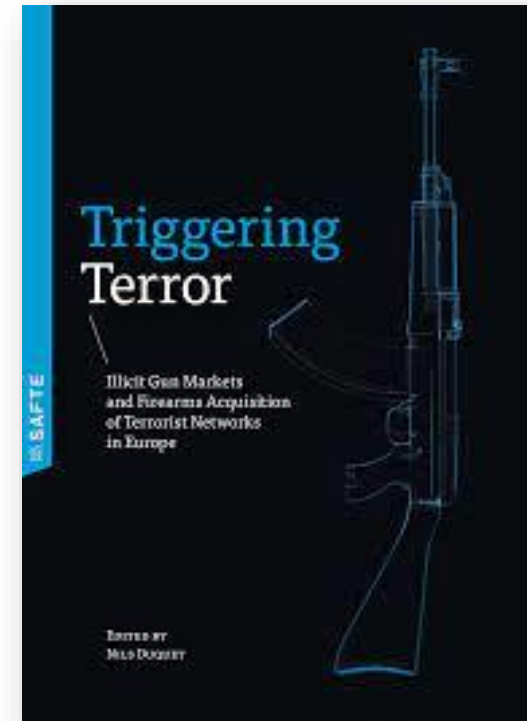
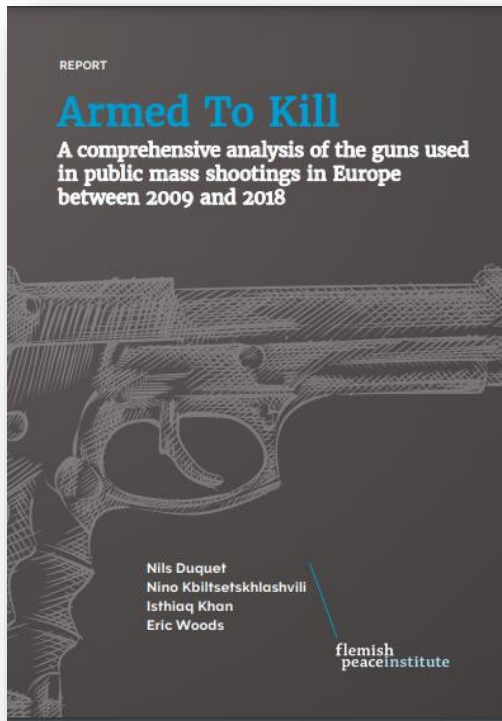
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Teodora Groshkova (EUDA)

EUDA conference on drug violence, 19 November 2024

Flemish Peace Institute

- Independent peace research institute affiliated to the Flemish Parliament
- Policy and practice-oriented research
- Three research clusters:
 - Arms trade and use
 - Violence and conflict in society
 - Foreign Peace Policy

Research on arms trade and use





European Monitoring Centre
for Drugs and Drug Addiction

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The nexus between drug markets and gun violence in the European Union

Background paper commissioned by the EMCDDA

Authors
Astrid De Schutter and Nils Duquet
October 2023



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Firearms and Drugs: Partners in Transnational Crime

Joint Issue Paper
UNODC – Flemish Peace Institute



Firearms and Drugs Partners in Transnational Crime

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Drug-related gun violence in the European Union

➤ Aim:

- A general overview of drug related gun violence in the EU

➤ Research Questions:

- What is the nexus between firearms trafficking and drug trafficking in the EU?
- What are the scope and characteristics of drug-related gun violence in the EU?
 - Production and wholesale
 - Local consumer market
- How does this violence impact society?

Trafficking

- Criminal supply and demand
 - Instrumental use of firearms
- Firearms and drugs are often trafficked together
 - Same routes and criminal networks
 - Firearms subsidiary to drug trafficking
 - New types of firearms trafficking (exploiting legislative loopholes)
- Increased availability of firearms
- Increase in drug-related gun violence
- Use of violence depends on phase of the distribution chain

Wholesale

- Strategic use of violence
- Most of the violence related to cocaine market
 - Lucrative business attracts more actors
 - Long chain of distribution
- Large ports as main entrance point: Antwerp and Rotterdam
- Market dynamics:
 - Large criminal organisations replaced by smaller, more flexible networks
 - (almost) everybody can be replaced
 - Cultural differences
- Singular events:
 - Loss or theft of drugs
 - Law enforcement interventions (e.g. SkyECC)

The local consumer market

- Open drug markets generate the most (visible) violence
- Violence for status and intimidation
- Socially disadvantaged or vulnerable areas
- Near-repeat shootings
- Very young criminals
- Cycle of violence and trafficking

Societal impact

- Direct:
 - Threatening and extortion of strategically placed persons
 - Mistaken identity
 - Spill-over
- Indirect:
 - Social, emotional and physical trauma
 - Decline of trust in policing and judicial system
 - High social cost
- Terrorism
 - Use of criminal (drug) connections to get access to firearms for terror activities

2024-10-18 • BE • BE • Belgium • Antwerp • DRUGS

★★★★★   86%

Ook drie mannen die gewond raakten bij schietpartij in Antwerpen aangehouden

[EN] Three men were injured in a shooting during a criminal meeting in Antwerp. Two suspects were arrested, and the motive is believed to be drug-related.

- De feiten speelden zich woensdagnamiddag af in een @appartement in de Jezusstraat in hartje Antwerpen. Twee Albanezen hadden daar afgesproken met een groepje mannen ♂ uit het Brusselse. Een **criminele** ontmoeting, zeggen verschillende bronnen. Maar waarover het juist...
- De toegesnelde hulpdiensten vonden in het @appartement één **zwaargewonde** man ♂, in een @parkeergarage in de buurt lagen nog **twee slachtoffers**. De drie mannen ♂ hadden allemaal **schotwonden**. In de nabije omgeving werden kort na de feiten **twee verdachten** in de boeien...
- Gewonden **S.P.♂** (38) en **A.D.♂** (23) van de 'Brusselse groep' en **E.G.♂** (32), de tweede Albanees, liggen nog in het @ziekenhuis en konden nog niet **verhoord** worden. "Ook zij werden **aangehouden op verdenking van poging tot moord**", bevestigt Kristof Aerts, woordvoerder van... nieuwsblad.be



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★★★★★   81%

Drie gewonden bij schietpartij Jezusstraat nu ook aangehouden door onderzoeksrechter

[EN] Three men were injured in a shooting incident in Antwerp during a criminal meeting related

PERPETRATORS

29_M 26_M

VICTIMS

38_M 23_M 32_M

LOCATION

PLACE.HOME

CONTEXT

CRIME.DRUGS

shots fired

3 injured

5 arrested

WEAPON

INCIDENT

Three men were injured in a shooting incident in Antwerp during a criminal meeting related to drugs or prostitution. Five individuals have been arrested in connection with the case. HAPPENED 2024-10-16



Want to know more?

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