

SECOND SUPPLEMENT TO THE GIBRALTAR GAZETTE

No. 5326 GIBRALTAR Tuesday 14th July 2026

LEGAL NOTICE NO. 214 OF 2026

TREATY ON GIBRALTAR AND THE EUROPEAN UNION ACT 2026

TGEU IMPLEMENTATION (ALARM AND SIGNAL WEAPONS) (TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS) REGULATIONS 2026

In exercise of the powers conferred on the Government by section 13(1) of the Treaty on Gibraltar and the European Union Act 2026, and all other enabling powers, and for the purposes of implementing, in part, Article 63 and Annex 9, paragraph 3, to the Agreement in respect of Gibraltar between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community of the one part and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland of the other; and for connected purposes, the Government has made the following Regulations—

Title.

1. These Regulations may be cited as the TGEU Implementation (Alarm and Signal Weapons) (Technical Specifications) Regulations 2026.

Commencement.

2. These Regulations come into operation on the Implementation Date.

Interpretation.

3. In these Regulations-

“alarm and signal weapon” means a device with a cartridge holder which is designed to fire only blanks, irritants, other active substances or pyrotechnic signalling rounds and which is not capable of being converted to expel a shot, bullet or projectile by the action of a combustible propellant;

“the Commission Implementing Directive” means Commission Implementing Directive (EU) 2019/69 of 16 January 2019 laying down the technical specifications for alarm and signal weapons under Council Directive 91/477/EEC on control of the acquisition and possession of weapons;

“designated authority” means-

- (a) for Gibraltar, as set out in regulation 8;

- (b) for Member States, the national focal point or competent authority designated by the relevant Member States in accordance with Article 3 of the Commission Implementing Directive;

“device” means an object presented, possessed, imported, manufactured or otherwise held as an alarm and signal weapon or suspected of being an alarm and signal weapon.

Alarm and signal weapons.

4. For the purposes of the Firearms Act or any other enactment concerning firearms, a device shall not be treated as a firearm where it is an alarm and signal weapon which complies with the technical specifications set out in the Schedule.

Inspection of devices.

5.(1) A police officer may inspect a device for the purpose of determining whether-

- (a) it is an alarm and signal weapon which complies with the technical specifications set out in the Schedule;
- (b) it is not an alarm and signal weapon because it does not comply with the technical specifications set out in the Schedule.

(2) Where a police officer determines that a device is an alarm and signal weapon, he may further examine that device to ascertain the information referred to in regulation 7(1) and regulation 7(2).

(3) Where a police officer determines that a device is not an alarm and signal weapon, he may further examine that device to ascertain the information referred to in regulation 7(1) and regulation 7(3).

(4) Where a police officer determines that a device does not meet the technical specifications referred to in the Schedule and is capable of being converted, it shall be treated as a firearm for the purposes of the Firearms Act and any other enactment concerning firearms.

Establishing and maintaining a database.

6.(1) The Commissioner of Police shall establish and maintain a database for the purpose of recording-

- (a) the information referred to in regulation 7 where a device has been inspected in accordance with regulation 5;
- (b) any information received from a designated authority of a Member State in accordance with regulation 9.

(2) The database referred to in subregulation (1) may be established and maintained in electronic or other form.

(3) Nothing in these Regulations requires the Commissioner of Police to retain any information if the retention would contravene the data protection legislation (but, in determining whether the retention would contravene that legislation, the duty imposed by this regulation is to be taken into account).

Recording information in the database.

7.(1) Where a police officer inspects a device in accordance with regulation 5, he shall enter, or cause to be entered, the following information in the database established in accordance with regulation 6 as soon as practicable after inspection-

- (a) the date on which the police officer inspected the device concerned;
- (b) whether the device is or is not an alarm and signal weapon; and
- (c) the additional information referred to in subregulation (2) or subregulation (3), whichever is applicable.

(2) Where a police officer determines that the device is an alarm and signal weapon, he shall include the following additional information, where available-

- (a) its type;
- (b) the name of its manufacturer or brand;
- (c) its model;
- (d) its serial number; and
- (e) the country of its manufacture.

(3) Where a police officer determines that the device is not an alarm and signal weapon, he shall include-

- (a) the reason for his determination that the device is not an alarm and signal weapon; and
- (b) the following additional information, where available-
 - (i) its type;
 - (ii) the name of its manufacturer or brand;
 - (iii) its model;
 - (iv) its serial number; and

- (v) the country of its manufacture.

Designated authority.

8.(1) The Commissioner of Police is appointed as the designated authority for the purposes of the exchange of information with Member States in accordance with regulation 9.

(2) The Commissioner of Police may discharge his responsibilities under these Regulations through any officer under his command.

Exchange of information with Member States.

9.(1) The Commissioner of Police may submit a request to a designated authority of a Member State for information on a particular device.

(2) Where-

- (a) a Member State requests, in accordance with Article 3 of the Commission Implementing Directive, information from the Commissioner of Police relating to a particular device; and
- (b) that information has been recorded in the database established and maintained in accordance with regulation 6,

the Commissioner of Police shall, subject to any applicable requirement under the data protection legislation, provide the requesting Member State with the information so entered as soon as practicable after the request is made.

SCHEDULE

Regulations 4 and 5

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

1. The devices are such that they meet the following requirements:
 - (a) they are capable of shooting pyrotechnic signalling rounds only if an adaptor at the muzzle is attached;
 - (b) they have a durable device within the device that prevents the firing of cartridges loaded with single or multiple solid shots, solid bullets or solid projectiles;
 - (c) they are designed for a cartridge listed in, and complying with the dimensions and other standards referred to in, Table VIII of the Tables of Dimensions of Cartridges and Chambers (TDCC) established by the Permanent International Commission for the Proof of Small Arms (C.I.P.), as that Table applies in the version in effect on 16 January 2019.
2. The devices are not capable of being modified through the use of ordinary tools to expel, or to become capable of being converted to expel, a shot, bullet or projectile by the action of a combustible propellant.
3. All essential components of the devices are such that they cannot be fitted or used as essential components of firearms.
4. Barrels of the devices are not capable of being removed or modified without significantly damaging or destroying the device.
5. In the case of devices with a barrel not exceeding 30 centimetres or whose overall length does not exceed 60 centimetres, the device incorporates irremovable barriers along the full length of the barrel such that a shot, bullet or projectile is not able to pass through the barrel by the action of a combustible propellant, and such that any free space left at the muzzle is no more than 1 cm in length.
6. In the case of devices not falling within point 5, the device incorporates irremovable barriers on at least one third of the barrel length such that a shot, bullet or projectile is not able to pass through the barrel by the action of a combustible propellant, and such that any free space left at the muzzle is no more than 1 cm in length.
7. In all cases, whether the device falls within point 5 or point 6, the first barrier in the barrel is placed as close as possible after the chamber of the device while allowing the expulsion of gases through exit holes.
8. For devices designed to fire only blanks, the barriers referred to in point 5 or point 6 wholly block the barrel apart from one or more exit holes for gas pressure. In addition, the barriers wholly block the barrel in such a way that no gas can be fired from the front of the device.

9. All barriers are permanent and incapable of being knocked out without destroying the chamber or barrel of the device.

For devices designed to fire only blanks, the barriers are wholly made of a material which is resistant to being cut, drilled, bored or ground (or any similar process) and which has a minimum hardness of 700 HV 30 (according to the Vickers hardness test).

For devices not covered by the second subparagraph of this point, the barriers are made of a material which is resistant to being cut, drilled, bored or ground (or any similar process) and which has a minimum hardness of 610 HV 30. The barrel may have a channel along its axis to enable the irritants or other active substances to be expelled from the device.

In either case, the barriers are such that they prevent occurrence of the following:

- (a) creation or enlargement of a hole in the barrel along its axis;
- (b) removal of the barrel, except where the frame and chamber area of the device is rendered useless as a result of the removal, or where the integrity of the device is so compromised that it cannot be used to form the basis of a firearm without significant repair or addition.

10. The cartridge chamber and barrel are both offset or tilted or staggered in such a way as to prevent ammunition from being loaded in and fired from the device. In addition, in the case of revolver-type devices:

- (a) the cylinder chamber front openings are narrowed to ensure that bullets are blocked in the chamber;
- (b) those openings are offset to the chamber.

Dated: 14th July 2026.

N. FEETHAM KC,
Minister with responsibility for Justice,
For the Government.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

These Regulations implement, in part, Article 63 and paragraph 3 of Annex 9 to the Agreement in respect of Gibraltar between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community of the one part and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland of the other.

