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Proliferation Awareness Seminar-Albania and Montenegro

Albania and Montenegro pose substantial proliferation risks due to their location along major commercial trade and smuggling routes, the presence of transnational and organized crime groups, and significant indigenous arms manufacturing and/or trade, sometimes involving actors and destinations of proliferation concern. While both countries have instituted strategic trade control systems, deficiencies persist that can and are being exploited by willful proliferants. Gaps in laws and regulations and weaknesses in the implementation of licensing restrictions, customs and border controls, and industry outreach diminish the efficacy of nonproliferation efforts in both Albania and Montenegro.

It is important for the GOA and GOM to gain greater awareness of proliferation threats and understand how to establish and implement effective controls over trade in strategic commodities consistent with U.S., EU, and international standards and best practices. GOA and GOM officials would benefit in particular from instructional and interactive exercises that emphasize practical solutions to the specific types of real-world challenges that they are likely to face. This is particularly the case with officials who have just assumed their responsibilities but have little knowledge of or experience with strategic trade control and nonproliferation concepts. These individuals require sufficient knowledge so that they can administer their duties effectively and take the necessary steps to address and close remaining gaps in their governments' controls.