

Societatea pe Acțiuni
„CARTUȘ”



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mun. Chișinău

To Mr. Andrew Rettman,
EUobserver journalist
203 Rue Belliard 1040 Brussels
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Dear Sir Andrew Rettman,

We apologize and regret that we have taken Your message late.

Below, we present answers to Your questions.

1. Our company has never brokered any deliveries of weapons or ammunition from EU companies to Belarus or Russia.

2. The "Cartus" JSC has an official distributor contract for the Ceska Zbrojovka company's products on the market of the Republic of Moldova for several years. In all the years of activity, the "Cartus" company operated with the goods of these companies only on the domestic market of Moldova and did not perform exports or re-exports of the company's goods to other countries, except for one thing. In 2019 and 2020, two small batches of CZ Shadow - 2 sports pistols were delivered to the company "Alians" LTD from S. Peterburg, which in turn transmitted them to a sports club for use in national and international competitions.

In solving this delivery of sports pistols, the Ceska Zbrojovka company left it to the discretion of the "Cartus" company to decide depending on the attitude of our national bodies. Examining in detail the request of the "Cartus" company, including the End User Certificate, the competent bodies allowed as an exception the export of the mentioned pistols for strictly sports purposes. I want to emphasize that this was the only exception for our company, which has not made other exports in its history.

3. We had only one contract with the XX Europe Slovakia company, based on which they were going to deliver 100,000 rifle cartridges for hunting and sports purposes, but due to logistical problems they sent this batch of ammunition to the "De Fango" Hungarian company, which shipped them to our company. This batch of ammunition is located in the Republic of Moldova. In connection with the Belarusian sports club, we inform you that we do not know such a club. On the

contrary, we had a contract with the Belarusian private company "Outdoor Team" LTD for the delivery of a batch of ammunition for hunting and sports, but our competent authorities did not accept this transaction due to the EU embargo on Belarus and consequently, we terminated this contract.

4. Regarding the question in point 4, I will inform you how to proceed in my country regarding the EU embargo on countries with restrictions. These subjects are regulated by the Law no. 25 of 04.03.2016 concerning the application of international restrictive measures, according to which the authorities of our country adopt decisions to align with some or other international restrictions.

Notwithstanding the fact that my country has not officially taken decisions in support of the embargo on Russia and Belarus in terms of arms and ammunition, this embargo is strictly observed. There have been various requests from different contractors to export arms and ammunition to embargoed countries, but the competent authorities reject them each time. Moreover, here I will repeat about the only small exception in the case of sports pistols.

In conclusion, we firmly inform you that the "Cartus" company did not export any weapons or ammunition to the Republic of Belarus and in Russia, except for those sports pistols that we mentioned before.

Currently, our company is preparing a request to the competent bodies for the investigation of counterfeits spread in the media, which have affected the image of the "Cartus" company, but also of my country, externally.

I respectfully ask you, Sir Andrew Rettman, to report to the public this truthful information, which will allow our company to further develop its trade relationships with European manufacturers, and the image of my country is not affected because of this fake news.

Respectfully,

Vasile Gondiu



Acting CEO of the "Cartus" JSC