

How can I bring my own firearm into Hungary for the competition if I am not an EU citizen?

You are not a citizen of the European Union and want to compete in the IPSC EHC with your own firearm and ammunition? We have a short guide to help you make it as easy as possible.

#1 When you cross the Hungarian border, you must go to the customs office at (or near) the border crossing point, where you must present the EHC invitation to the customs officer – this will prove the real purpose of importing the firearm. As a main rule, of course, you must also present your firearm and its ammunition. (Note: at the airport you must choose the red corridor.)

#2 You must present a firearms license issued by the competent authority in your own country. This proves that you are legally in possession of the firearm and its ammunition. The license must clearly indicate to the customs authority that the firearms license is in your name and applies to the weapon you are currently having with you. An English translation is recommended; certification of the translation (e.g. at the Hungarian embassy in your country) may be an advantage, and the customs authority may also require this.

#3 You must fill out a strictly registered Hungarian form on the spot, which certifies to the Hungarian authorities that you have legally imported and are keeping the firearm in Hungary. (See explanatory diagram.) The form must be kept in its original form, intact and undamaged, and must be handed over to the customs officer upon exit, i.e. when the firearm and the remaining ammunition are exported from Hungary. The described method entitles you to a maximum of 90 days of continuous stay (and training, and competition) with your firearm, but nothing else.

#4 For all of this, You must pay a processing fee, in Hungarian forints. We recommend bank transfer. (Bank account number: IBAN HU 48 10032000 00289933 00000000, SWIFT/BIC HUSTHUHB; Account holder name: Nemzeti Ado-es Vamhivatal; Amount in Hungarian forints: 4050; Notice: lofegyver behozatal ig. szolg. dij+ Your name). You must prove the fact of the transfer to the customs officer, too.

And that's it, you can move on...

Important remarks:

- If you arrive in Hungary via another European Union country, you must also comply with the rules of the country of entry and any transit countries, this is your responsibility. If you arrive from within the Schengen area, you must still visit the customs office closest to the Hungarian state border for the purposes of the procedures described above.

- Administration is done in Hungarian and English. If you're lucky, also in the language of the country neighboring the border crossing. There will be someone who understands you, even if you have to wait a little while for them to arrive.

- Regarding other critical goods (e.g. alcohol, tobacco, etc.), see: https://nav.gov.hu/en/intormation_on_customs_matters/General_Customs_Information/Information_for_travellers_2022. Note: fees are higher since then! Compliance with what is described there is in your own well-understood interest!