



FFI Norwegian Defence
Research Establishment

Acceptable risk from ammunition storage

Knut B. Holm (Norwegian Defence Research Establishment)
Hans Øiom (Norwegian Defence Materiel Agency)

Acceptable risk from ammunition storage

Background of current Norwegian criteria

Svein Rollvik (1983):

- Method for establishing criteria for acceptable societal risk and individual risk for third parties
- Estimation of the probability of event

Hans Øiom (1993):

- Further development of criteria for group risk for all parties and individual risk for involved persons

Acceptable risk from ammunition storage

Background of proposed new Norwegian criteria

Svein Rollvik (1983):

- Method for establishing criteria for acceptable societal risk and individual risk for third parties
- Estimation of the probability of event

Hans Øiom (1993):

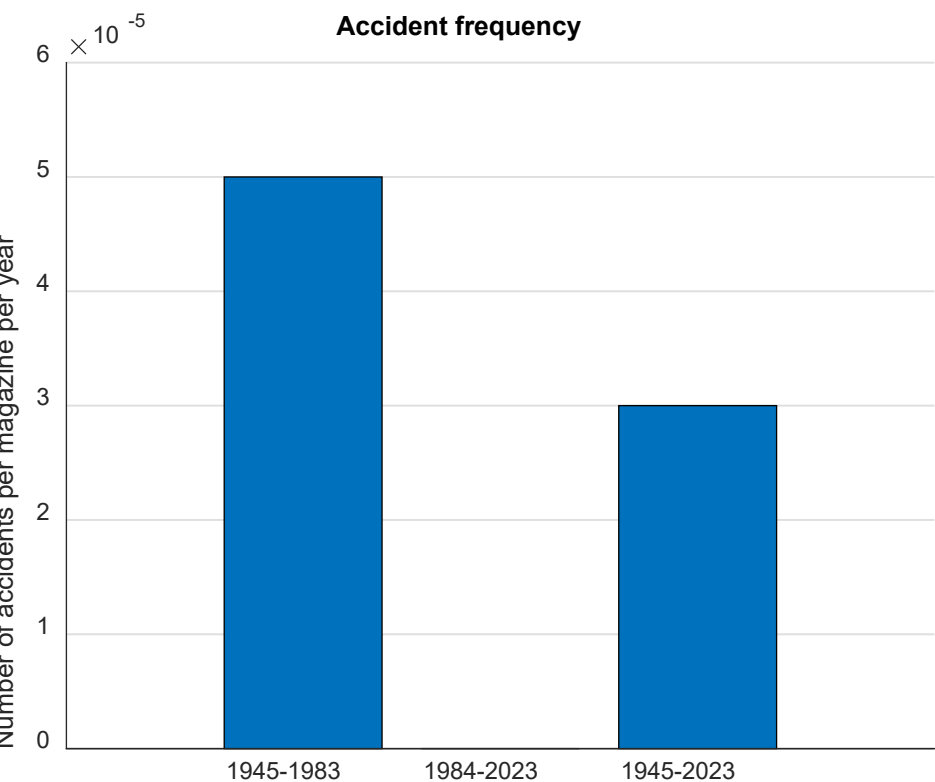
- Further development of criteria for group risk for all parties and individual risk for involved persons

2025

- Updated statistics and methods

Probability of event (P_E)

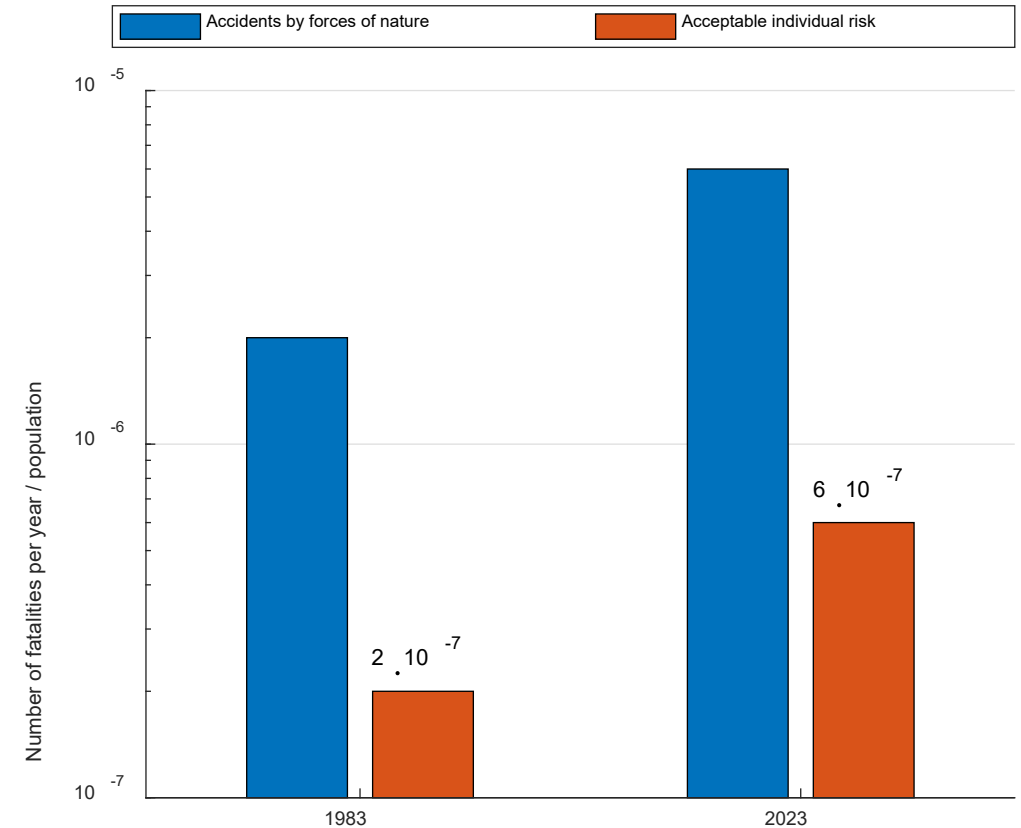
Estimated by the frequency of accidents in Norway:



	1983	2023
Estimated P_E	$5.0 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$3.0 \cdot 10^{-5}$

Acceptable individual risk to third parties

- Acceptable individual risk, R_i :
< 1/10 of the risk from exposure to forces of nature
- Higher risk from forces of nature in 2023 than in 1983



Acceptable individual risk to first parties

Current criterion

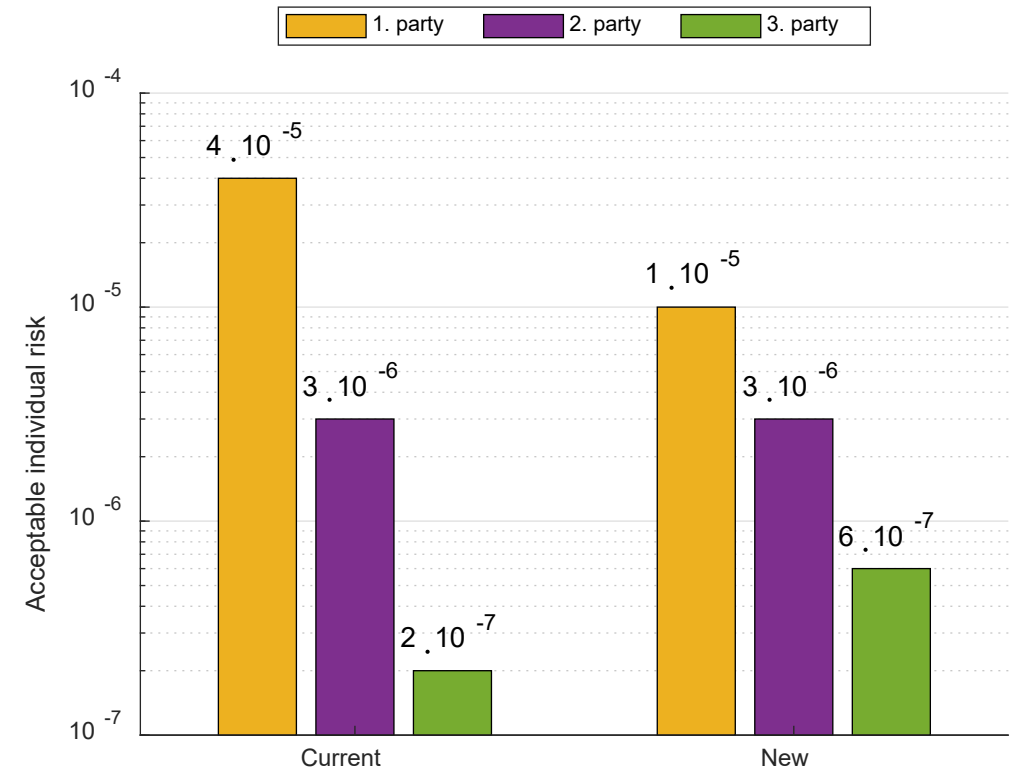
- Frequency of work accidents (1990-1991):
 $4.3 \cdot 10^{-5}$ fatalities per worker per year
- Acceptable individual risk: $4 \cdot 10^{-5}$

New criterion

- Frequency of work accidents (2019-2023):
 $1.3 \cdot 10^{-5}$ fatalities per worker per year
- Acceptable individual risk: $1 \cdot 10^{-5}$

Acceptable individual risk to second parties

Current and proposed new criterion for
2. party: $3 \cdot 10^{-6}$



Acceptable societal risk

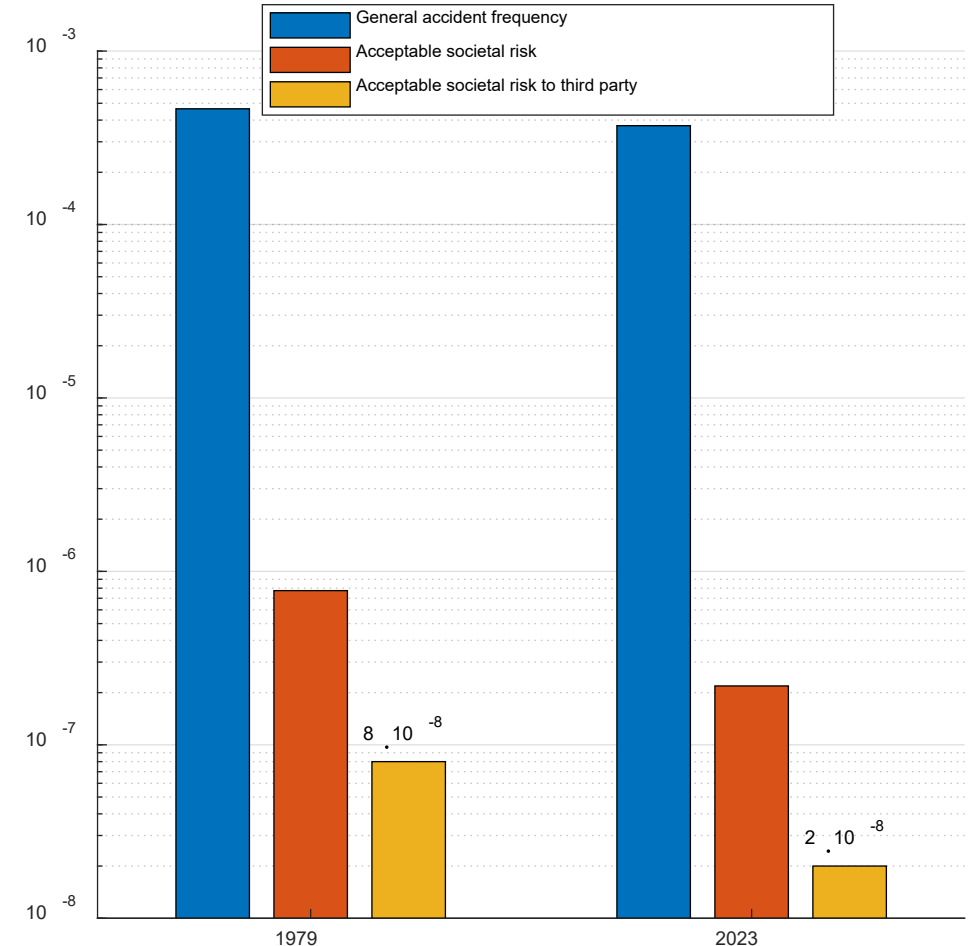
Acceptable societal risk to all persons =

$$\text{General societal risk} \cdot \frac{\text{Costs of ammunition storage}}{\text{Gross domestic product (GDP)}}$$

Assumption: Accidents at ammunition storage facilities mainly affect third parties.

Acceptable societal risk to third parties, R_s =

$0.1 \cdot \text{Acceptable societal risk to all parties}$



Acceptable group risk to third parties

Group risk = risk from one PES

Average group risk:

$$R_g = R_s \frac{N}{n_m}$$

N = number of Norwegians

n_m = number of stores

Group risk corresponds to a consequence:

$$R_g = P_E \cdot C_E$$

C_E = consequence = expected number of fatalities

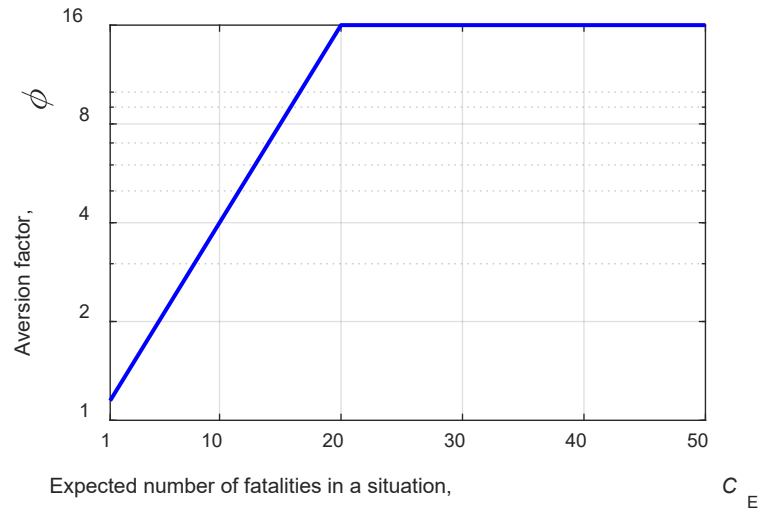
	Current	New
Acceptable group risk to third parties	$1 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$7 \cdot 10^{-5}$

Perceived group risk

Acceptable group risk applies to the perceived group risk:

$$R_{g, \text{perceived}} = P_E \cdot \phi \cdot C_E$$

$\phi = \phi(C_E)$ = aversion factor



Acceptable group risk to involved persons

Current criteria

- Acceptable $C_E = 5$ as in the Norwegian explosives industry
- Acceptable $R_g = P_E \cdot C_E = 2.5 \cdot 10^{-4}$
- Criterion for all parties: $3 \cdot 10^{-4}$
- Criterion for 2. and 3. party: $2 \cdot 10^{-4}$

Acceptable group risk to involved persons

Current criteria

- Acceptable $C_E = 5$ as in the Norwegian explosives industry
- Acceptable $R_g = P_E \cdot C_E = 2.5 \cdot 10^{-4}$
- Criterion for all parties: $3 \cdot 10^{-4}$
- Criterion for 2. and 3. party: $2 \cdot 10^{-4}$

New criteria

- Explosives industry: $P_E = 0.001$
Acceptable $C_E = 5$, $\phi = 2$
 $R_g = P_E \cdot \phi \cdot C_E = 0.01$
- Acceptable group risk for 1. party: 0.01
- 2. party: $R_g = R_{g, 1. party} \cdot \frac{R_{i, 2. party}}{R_{i, 1. party}}$
 $= 3 \cdot 10^{-3}$

Criteria for acceptable group risk

Current		New	
All parties	$3 \cdot 10^{-4}$	1. party	0.01
2. and 3. party	$2 \cdot 10^{-4}$	2. party	$3 \cdot 10^{-3}$
3. party	$1 \cdot 10^{-4}$	3. party	$7 \cdot 10^{-5}$

Comparison with other nations

	Individual risk			Group risk		
	1. party	2. party	3. party	1. party	2. party	3. party
Canada	10^{-4}		10^{-6}	$10^{-3‡}$		$10^{-5‡}$
Netherlands			10^{-5*}			
Norway	10^{-5}	$3 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$6 \cdot 10^{-7}$	10^{-2}	$3 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$7 \cdot 10^{-5}$
Switzerland	$3 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$1.5 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$3 \cdot 10^{-6}$	Criteria for marginal cost per life saved		
Sweden			10^{-6}			10^{-4}
UK	$10^{-3†}$		$10^{-4†}$			
USA	10^{-4}		10^{-6}	10^{-3}		10^{-5}

Values from AASTP-4

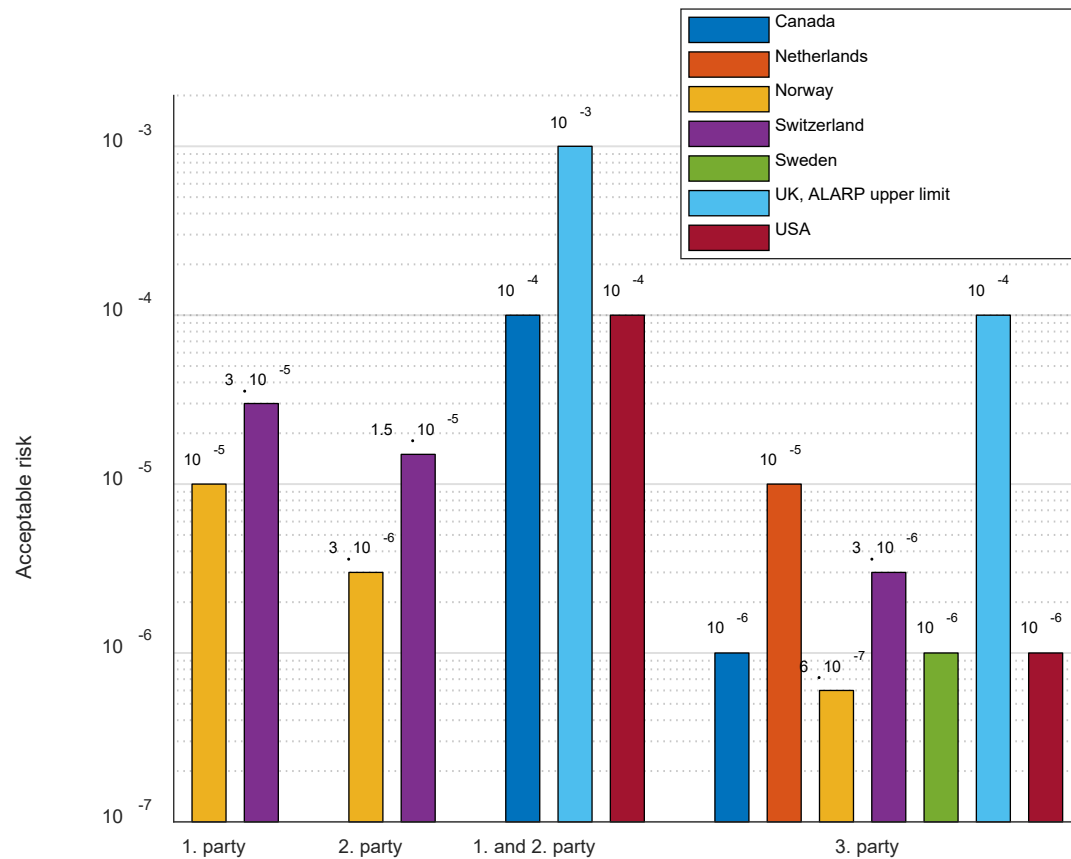
* Continuous presence of one unprotected person

† ALARP, upper limit

‡ ALARP, lower limit

Comparison with other nations

Individual risk



Group risk

