

Export Control Determination Tool

This document provides comprehensive information about the Export Control Determination Tool, a web-based application designed to assist users in navigating the complexities of export control regulations, specifically focusing on the Export Administration Regulations (EAR).

1. Introduction

The Export Control Determination Tool is a simple, interactive web application that guides users through two distinct decision-making workflows: the "Export Control Decision Tree" and the "EAR Determination" process. It aims to simplify the initial assessment of whether an item or activity is subject to the EAR, requires a license, or qualifies for an exception, based on a series of structured questions derived from relevant regulations.

2. Features

- **Dual Workflows:** Offers two distinct, guided processes for export control analysis:
 - **Export Control Decision Tree:** Helps determine licensing requirements (e.g., No License Required (NLR), License Exception, or License Application).
 - **EAR Determination:** Assists in determining if an item or activity is subject to the Export Administration Regulations.
- **Interactive Interface:** Presents questions one by one, with "Yes" and "No" buttons to guide the user through the decision logic.
- **Contextual Information:** Provides relevant regulatory citations (e.g., "See § 734.2 - 5") for each question, allowing users to refer to the official regulations for detailed understanding.
- **Clear Results:** Displays a clear determination at the end of each workflow (e.g., "SUBJECT TO THE EAR", "No License Required (NLR)").
- **Navigation:** Allows users to restart a workflow, return to the home screen, or make a donation.
- **Responsive Design:** Adapts to various screen sizes, ensuring usability on desktop, tablet, and mobile devices.
- **Self-Contained:** The entire application is contained within a single HTML file, making it easy to deploy and use.

3. How to Use

To use the Export Control Determination Tool, simply open the index.html file in any

modern web browser.

1. **Start the Application:** The application will load on a home screen with two primary options:
 - **Export Control Decision Tree:** Click this button to begin the general export control determination process.
 - **EAR Determination:** Click this button to specifically determine if an item or activity falls under the EAR.
2. **Navigate Through Questions:**
 - For each question, read the question and any accompanying subtext (regulatory citations).
 - Click the "Yes" or "No" button that corresponds to your answer.
 - Some steps might be "info" steps, which simply display information. Click "Next Step" to proceed.
3. **View Results:**
 - Upon reaching a final determination in either workflow, the application will display the result (e.g., "No License Required (NLR)", "SUBJECT TO THE EAR").
 - From the result screen, you can:
 - **Start Over:** Return to the initial home screen.
 - **[Workflow Name] (e.g., EAR Determination):** Restart the current workflow from the beginning.
 - **Donation:** Open a new tab to the donation URL provided (currently <https://surajitroy.gumroad.com/coffee>).
4. **Error Handling:** If an unexpected error occurs (e.g., a missing next step in the logic), an error message will be displayed, and you will be given options to start over or make a donation.

4. Technical Overview

The tool is built using standard web technologies: HTML, JavaScript, and Tailwind CSS. It's designed as a single-page application (SPA) where content is dynamically rendered by JavaScript.

4.1. File Structure

The entire application is contained within a single HTML file. This file includes:

- **Meta Tags:** For viewport configuration.
- **Tailwind CSS CDN:** Links to the Tailwind CSS library for styling.
- **Main div Container:** An outer div element acts as the "body" for styling purposes, centering the content and providing a background.

- **app-container div:** The central div where all dynamic content (questions, results, buttons) is injected by JavaScript.
- **JavaScript Logic:** All application logic, including data structures for workflows, rendering functions, and event handlers, is embedded within a <script> tag.

4.2. Core Logic (JavaScript)

The JavaScript code manages the application's state and dynamically updates the app-container's HTML.

- **appContainer and supportUrl:** Global constants for the main content area and the donation link.
- **renderHome():** Displays the initial welcome screen with options to start either workflow.
- **exportControlDecisionTree Array:** An array of objects defining the steps for the Export Control Decision Tree. Each object can represent a question (question, subtext, yes, no properties) or an informational step (type: 'info', question, subtext, next properties). The yes/no/next properties refer to the id of the next step or a final result key.
- **exportControlResults Object:** An object mapping final result IDs to their display titles and subtexts.
- **currentExportControlStepIndex:** A variable tracking the current position in the exportControlDecisionTree workflow.
- **startExportControlDecisionTree():** Initializes the Export Control Decision Tree workflow.
- **renderExportControlStep():** Renders the current question or info step for the Export Control Decision Tree based on currentExportControlStepIndex.
- **handleExportControlAnswer(answer):** Processes the user's "Yes" or "No" answer for the Export Control Decision Tree, determining the next step or final result.
- **handleExportControlNext(nextStepId):** Handles navigation for informational steps in the Export Control Decision Tree.
- **renderExportControlResult(result):** Displays the final result of the Export Control Decision Tree.
- **earDeterminationSteps Array:** Similar to exportControlDecisionTree, this array defines the steps for the EAR Determination workflow.
- **currentEARStepIndex:** A variable tracking the current position in the earDeterminationSteps workflow.
- **startEARDetermination():** Initializes the EAR Determination workflow.
- **renderEARStep():** Renders the current question for the EAR Determination.
- **handleEARAnswer(answer):** Processes the user's "Yes" or "No" answer for the

EAR Determination, leading to a final result or the next step.

- **renderEARResult(resultText, colorClass):** Displays the final result of the EAR Determination.
- **renderError():** Displays a generic error message.
- **window.onload = renderHome;** Ensures the home screen is rendered when the page finishes loading.

4.3. Styling (Tailwind CSS)

The application uses Tailwind CSS for all its styling. All CSS rules are applied directly as utility classes within the HTML elements. This approach ensures a consistent and responsive design without the need for a separate stylesheet.

Key Tailwind classes used:

- **Layout & Positioning:** flex, justify-center, items-center, min-h-screen, p-5, box-border, flex-col, gap-5, flex-wrap, sm:flex-col.
- **Backgrounds & Shadows:** bg-blue-50, bg-white, shadow-2xl, shadow-md, hover:shadow-lg.
- **Typography:** font-sans, text-4xl, text-gray-900, font-bold, sm:text-3xl, text-base, text-gray-700, text-3xl, text-gray-800, font-semibold, sm:text-2xl, text-red-500, text-green-500.
- **Spacing:** mb-2, mb-5, mt-5, p-8, px-6, py-3, gap-4.
- **Borders & Corners:** rounded-xl, rounded-lg, border-none.
- **Responsiveness:** Tailwind's responsive prefixes (sm:) are used to adjust styles for smaller screens (e.g., sm:text-3xl, sm:flex-col for stacking buttons), and padding for mobile devices.
- **Interactive Elements:** transition-all, duration-300, ease-in-out, hover:-translate-y-0.5, cursor-pointer.
- **Colors:** bg-blue-500, text-white, hover:bg-blue-600, bg-green-500, hover:bg-green-600, bg-red-500, hover:bg-red-600, bg-gray-600, hover:bg-gray-700, bg-purple-600, hover:bg-purple-700.

4.4. Responsiveness

The application is designed to be fully responsive.

- The main container uses flex and justify-center/items-center to center content vertically and horizontally.
- min-h-screen ensures the background covers the entire viewport.
- max-w-2xl and w-full on the app-container ensure it doesn't become too wide on large screens but takes full width on smaller ones.
- Tailwind's sm: breakpoint prefix is used extensively to adjust font sizes, button

layouts (sm:flex-col for stacking buttons), and padding for mobile devices.

5. Workflows Explained

5.1. Export Control Decision Tree

This workflow guides the user through a series of questions to determine the export control status of an item.

1. **Subject to the EAR?**
 - Yes → Is your item classified under an ECCN on the CCL?
 - No → **Result: Exit the EAR**
2. **Is your item classified under an ECCN on the CCL?**
 - Yes → **Info: ECCN** → Do General Prohibitions 4-10 apply?
 - No → **Info: EAR99** → Do General Prohibitions 4-10 apply?
3. **Do General Prohibitions 4-10 apply? (for EAR99)**
 - Yes → **Result: Submit an application for license**
 - No → **Result: No License Required (NLR)**
4. **Do General Prohibitions 4-10 apply? (for ECCN)**
 - Yes → **Result: Submit an application for license**
 - No → Is there an “X” in the box?
5. **Is there an “X” in the box?**
 - Yes → Is a License Exception Available?
 - No → **Result: No License Required (NLR)**
6. **Is a License Exception Available?**
 - Yes → **Result: Use License Exception**
 - No → **Result: Submit an application for license**

5.2. EAR Determination

This workflow helps determine if an item or activity is subject to the Export Administration Regulations.

1. **Am I involved in an activity described in 734.5 (proliferation, biological weapons, missile technology, etc.) or an activity subject to an order issued under the EAR?**
 - Yes → **Result: SUBJECT TO THE EAR**
 - No → Is the item I am planning to export, reexport, or transfer (in-country) exempt from the jurisdiction of another U.S. Government Federal Department or Agency?
2. **Is the item I am planning to export, reexport, or transfer (in-country) exempt from the jurisdiction of another U.S. Government Federal Department or Agency?**

- Yes → **Result: NOT SUBJECT TO THE EAR**
- No → Does my export, reexport, or transfer (in-country) consist of items specified (e.g., encryption code in electronic form, prerecorded phonograph records, printed books, pamphlets, miscellaneous publications)?
- 3. **Does my export, reexport, or transfer (in-country) consist of items specified (e.g., encryption code in electronic form, prerecorded phonograph records, printed books, pamphlets, miscellaneous publications)?**
 - Yes → **Result: NOT SUBJECT TO THE EAR**
 - No → Is the technology or software I am planning to export, reexport, or transfer (in-country) publicly available?
- 4. **Is the technology or software I am planning to export, reexport, or transfer (in-country) publicly available?**
 - Yes → **Result: NOT SUBJECT TO THE EAR**
 - No → Is the item in the United States?
- 5. **Is the item in the United States?**
 - Yes → **Result: SUBJECT TO THE EAR**
 - No → Is the item outside the U.S., but of U.S. origin?
- 6. **Is the item outside the U.S., but of U.S. origin?**
 - Yes → **Result: SUBJECT TO THE EAR**
 - No → Does my foreign-produced item incorporate controlled U.S.-origin items (as described in Section 734.4 or Supp. No. 2 to part 734 of the EAR, or is ineligible for de minimis)?
- 7. **Does my foreign-produced item incorporate controlled U.S.-origin items (as described in Section 734.4 or Supp. No. 2 to part 734 of the EAR, or is ineligible for de minimis)?**
 - Yes → **Result: SUBJECT TO THE EAR**
 - No → Does the foreign-produced item meet the conditions for exclusion from product pursuant to 736.2(b)(3)?
- 8. **Does the foreign-produced item meet the conditions for exclusion from product pursuant to 736.2(b)(3)?**
 - Yes → **Result: SUBJECT TO THE EAR**
 - No → **Result: NOT SUBJECT TO THE EAR**

6. Customization

Since the entire application is in a single HTML file, customization is straightforward:

- **Content Modification:** Edit the question and subtext properties within the exportControlDecisionTree and earDeterminationSteps arrays to update the questions and regulatory citations.

- **Workflow Logic:** Modify the yes, no, and next properties in the workflow arrays to change the decision paths. Ensure that id values are unique and correctly referenced.
- **Results:** Adjust the title and subtext in the exportControlResults object to change the final determination messages.
- **Styling:** Directly edit the Tailwind CSS classes within the HTML elements to change the appearance. You can also add more custom classes if needed, adhering to Tailwind's utility-first approach.
- **Donation URL:** Update the supportUrl constant to point to a different donation page or resource.

7. Donation

If you find this tool helpful and would like to support its development, please consider making a donation at: <https://surajitroy.gumroad.com/coffee>.