



Tobacco Control
Data Initiative



DEVELOPMENT
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TCDI



WHO FCTC

SUMMARY OF KEY DEFINITIONS FROM THE FRAMEWORK CONVENTION FOR TOBACCO CONTROL

Article 1 of the WHO FCTC defines key terms used throughout the convention

Key Term	Definition
Tobacco control	Actions to reduce tobacco use and protect people from its harms (e.g., laws, education, smoke-free zones, help to quit).
Tobacco products	Any product made from tobacco meant to be smoked, chewed, sucked, or snuffed (e.g., cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco).
Tobacco industry	All people or companies involved in growing, making, promoting, or selling tobacco products.
Tobacco advertising, promotion & sponsorship (TAPS)	All ways tobacco companies try to market their products. FCTC calls for bans on these activities.
Illicit trade in tobacco products	Illegal production, smuggling, or sale of tobacco products. It weakens tobacco control efforts and reduces tax income.
Tobacco control	Strategies designed to reduce the demand for, supply of, and harm caused by tobacco products. The goal is to protect public health by reducing tobacco use and exposure to tobacco smoke
Regional economic integration	A group of countries that have agreed to work together on certain matters and have given the group the power to make decisions that are legally binding for all member states

Source: World Health Organization. (2003). WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. Geneva: World Health Organization.[cited 2025 March 21].

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