Economic and Political root Causes and impact of the Global Arms trade

Trade and transparency: towards responsible and effective controls

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Small Arms Survey

- Independent research institute based in Geneva
- Mandated to investigate all aspects of small arms and armed violence
- Provides reliable and impartial policy analysis
- Works with global network of partners
Defining Small Arms and Light Weapons

Small arms: handguns, rifles and carbines, sub-machine guns, assault rifles, light machine guns

Light weapons: heavy machine guns, grenade launchers, anti-tank and anti-aircraft guns, AT/AA missile and rocket launchers, light mortars

Source: UN Panel of Governmental Experts, 1997 (A/52/298)
Global SALW Stockpiles

875 million weapons held worldwide

More than two-thirds are in civilian hands

About one-quarter with the armed forces

Relatively few with the police

...and less than one per cent with armed groups

Source: Small Arms Survey Yearbook 2010, p. 103
SALW Trade and Production

- Authorized trade is greater than $8 billion per year.
- More than 1,130 companies in 98 countries have been involved in some aspect of production.
- Exports: more than 40 countries have conducted authorized trade in small arms and light weapons of more than 10 million USD in a single year.

Source: Small Arms Survey Yearbook 2012, p. 242
Top exporters

Annual exports ≥ USD 100 million in 2009

- United States
- Italy
- Germany
- Brazil
- Austria
- Japan
- Switzerland
- Russian Federation
- France
- South Korea
- Belgium
- Spain
Top importers

Annual imports ≥ USD 100 million in 2009

- United States
- United Kingdom
- Saudi Arabia
- Australia
- Canada
- Germany
- France
| Country       | Total (25.00 max) | Export report/* / EU Annual Report*** | UN Comtrade™ | UN Register || Timeliness (1.50 max) | Access and consistency (2.00 max) | Clarity (5.00 max) | Comprehensiveness (6.50 max) | Deliveries (4.00 max) | Licences granted (4.00 max) | Licences refused (2.00 max) |
|--------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------|------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Switzerland  | 21.00             | X                                    | X            | X            | 1.50                 | 1.50                   | 4.00                | 5.25                        | 3.00                 | 4.00                     | 1.75                     |
| United Kingdom | 19.75          | X / EU Report                        | X            | X            | 1.50                 | 2.00                   | 3.75                | 5.25                        | 3.50                 | 2.50                     | 1.25                     |
| Romania      | 19.00             | X / EU Report                        | -            | X            | 1.50                 | 2.00                   | 2.50                | 4.50                        | 3.00                 | 3.00                     | 2.00                     |
| Serbia       | 18.75             | X (09)                               | X            | X            | 1.50                 | 1.00                   | 3.25                | 5.00                        | 3.50                 | 2.50                     | 2.00                     |
| Germany      | 18.50             | X / EU Report                        | X            | X            | 1.50                 | 1.50                   | 3.75                | 4.25                        | 2.50                 | 3.00                     | 1.50                     |
| Netherlands  | 18.50             | X / EU Report                        | X            | X            | 1.50                 | 2.00                   | 4.25                | 4.75                        | 2.50                 | 2.50                     | 1.00                     |
| Belgium      | 17.00             | X / EU Report                        | X            | X            | 1.50                 | 2.00                   | 3.00                | 3.00                        | 3.00                 | 2.50                     | 2.00                     |
| Denmark      | 16.50             | X / EU Report                        | X            | X (09)       | 1.50                 | 1.50                   | 4.75                | 3.25                        | 2.50                 | 2.00                     | 1.00                     |
| Italy        | 16.00             | X / EU Report                        | X            | X (09)       | 1.50                 | 1.50                   | 3.25                | 5.00                        | 2.50                 | 2.00                     | 0.25                     |
| Spain        | 15.75             | X / EU Report                        | X            | X (09)       | 1.50                 | 2.00                   | 2.25                | 4.00                        | 3.50                 | 1.50                     | 1.00                     |
| Slovakia     | 15.50             | X / EU Report                        | X            | X            | 1.50                 | 1.50                   | 2.50                | 3.50                        | 2.50                 | 2.00                     | 2.00                     |
| Norway       | 15.25             | X / EU Report                        | X            | X            | 1.50                 | 1.50                   | 3.75                | 3.00                        | 3.00                 | 2.50                     | 0.00                     |
| Sweden       | 15.25             | X / EU Report                        | X            | X (09)       | 1.50                 | 2.00                   | 3.50                | 4.00                        | 2.50                 | 1.50                     | 0.25                     |
| United States | 15.00            | X / EU Report                        | X            | X            | 1.50                 | 1.50                   | 2.75                | 4.25                        | 3.00                 | 2.00                     | 0.00                     |
| Croatia      | 14.75             | X / EU Report                        | X            | X            | 1.50                 | 1.00                   | 3.00                | 3.25                        | 3.00                 | 3.00                     | 0.00                     |
| Montenegro   | 14.50             | X (09)                               | X            | -            | 1.50                 | 0.50                   | 3.00                | 5.00                        | 2.50                 | 2.00                     | 0.00                     |
| Finland      | 14.25             | X / EU Report                        | X            | X            | 1.50                 | 1.50                   | 3.25                | 3.25                        | 2.50                 | 2.00                     | 0.25                     |
| Czech Republic | 14.00             | X / EU Report                        | X            | X            | 1.50                 | 1.50                   | 2.50                | 3.25                        | 3.00                 | 1.50                     | 0.75                     |
| France       | 14.00             | X / EU Report                        | X            | -            | 1.50                 | 1.50                   | 4.00                | 2.75                        | 2.50                 | 1.50                     | 0.25                     |
| Austria      | 13.75             | X (09) / EU Report                   | X            | X            | 1.50                 | 1.50                   | 2.25                | 3.75                        | 3.00                 | 1.50                     | 0.25                     |
| Poland       | 12.75             | X / EU Report                        | X            | -            | 1.50                 | 1.00                   | 2.00                | 3.75                        | 3.00                 | 1.50                     | 0.00                     |
| Hungary      | 12.50             | X / EU Report                        | X            | X            | 1.50                 | 1.00                   | 3.00                | 2.75                        | 2.50                 | 1.50                     | 0.25                     |
| Canada       | 12.25             | X (07-09)                            | X            | X            | 1.50                 | 1.00                   | 2.75                | 4.00                        | 3.00                 | 0.00                     | 0.00                     |
| Greece       | 12.00             | EU Report                            | X            | X            | 1.50                 | 0.50                   | 2.00                | 3.25                        | 3.00                 | 1.50                     | 0.25                     |
| Portugal     | 11.75             | X (08) / EU Report                   | X            | X            | 1.50                 | 1.50                   | 2.00                | 2.25                        | 2.50                 | 2.00                     | 0.00                     |
Irresponsible Transfers

• Irresponsible transfers are transfers that may have been authorized by a government despite a significant risk of misuse or diversion

Source: Small Arms Survey Yearbook 2007, p. 74
Irresponsible Transfers and Stockpile Diversions

- Many pathways
- Fuels crime, insurgency and terrorism
- Mostly stems from negligence

Figure 2.1 Avenues of diversion from national and civilian stockpiles

Source: Small Arms Survey Yearbook 2008, p. 44
Illicit SALW in Afghanistan, Iraq and Somalia

80,000 weapons, >1,500 caches/ transfers
Examples of SALW misuse and diversion

• Exports to countries where armed conflict and human rights violations are common and often conducted in contravention of UN arms embargoes

• For example export to a country which includes problematic areas to which arms embargo is applied

• Selling weapons to such states is likely to contravene national / international export laws and has the potential to destabilize neighbouring countries.
In summary…

• The majority of transfers are legal
• Thorough marking, recordkeeping and tracing of SALW and ammunition is crucial
• The role of ATT is important, but it is necessary to address many gaps and make risks more visible
• Transparency counts
How does the ATT help?

- Reinforces and enhances certain commitments
- Helps create benchmarks
- Fills some gaps
- Clarifies some ambiguities
- Takes us forward re EXPORTS
Overlap - Scope: measures

PoA
- Manufacture (regulation)
- Stockpile management
- Surplus identification and disposal
- Public awareness
- Weapons collection
- Disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration
- Criminalization (stockpiling, possession)

ATT
- International transfers (export, import, transit, brokering)
- Record-keeping (transfers)

ITI
- Marking
- Record-keeping (all)
- Tracing
- Manufacture (marking, record-keeping)

Confiscation, seizure, and disposal
- Deactivation
- Criminalization (tampering with markings)

Firearms Protocol
any questions?

www.smallarmssurvey.org