



CALL TO INCLUDE GENDER IN THE ARMS TRADE TREATY CRITERIA

We, advocates from all regions of the world, call for the inclusion of a criterion on gender-based violence in the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), as outlined in the *Joint Policy Paper on Gender and the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT)* by Amnesty International, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, the IANSA Women's Network and Religions for Peace (June 2012).

Irresponsible transfers of weaponry, munitions, armaments and related equipment across borders have resulted in the loss of millions of lives and livelihoods and the violation of fundamental human rights. In particular, the widespread availability of small arms and light weapons increases the risk to both men and women's security, and impedes their enjoyment of their civil, political, social and economic rights in different ways. There is a gender dimension to the trade whereby women are disproportionately affected by armed gender-based violence.

This July 2012 presents a historic opportunity as Member States of the United Nations (UN) gather to negotiate an Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) meant to establish common international standards for the import, export and transfer of conventional arms. Achieving an effective ATT is an urgent necessity. The ATT will require States to authorise international transfers of conventional arms in conformity with an agreed list of clear criteria that assess a range of potential risks stemming from such transfers.

If the ATT is to be an effective legal instrument in regulating the international arms trade, recognition of the potential gendered impacts of international transfers must also be included.

Accordingly, there should be strong references to gender in the treaty text and the criteria in the treaty should address risks of gender-based armed violence.

The criteria of an Arms Trade Treaty should require States not to authorise an international transfer of conventional arms where there is a substantial risk that the arms under consideration are likely to be used to perpetrate or facilitate acts of gender-based violence, including rape and other forms of sexual violence.

Support a strong Arms Trade Treaty that will help prevent gender-based violence – now!

Signatories

Organisations

1. Acronym Institute for Disarmament Diplomacy
2. Action Sécurité Ethique Républicaine (ASER), France
3. Actions des Femmes pour les Droits et le Développement, DR Congo
4. The African Women's Development and Communication Network
5. Amnesty International
6. The Arab Network for Tolerance
7. Asia Pacific Centre on the Responsibility to Protect
8. Asia Pacific Council of AIDS Service Organizations (APCASO)
9. Asociación Mujeres Trabajando, Argentina
10. Association Baho Missions, Rwanda
11. Association des Femmes pour les Initiatives de Paix (AFIP), Mali
12. Association pour la Défense des Droits de la Femmes (ADDF), DR Congo
13. Bonne Génération du Burundi/Good Generation of Burundi
14. Breaking the Wall of Silence, Namibia
15. CEPALC
16. Center for Peace Education, Philippines
17. Centre d'études sur la Justice et la Résolution 1325 (CJR1325), DR Congo
18. Centre pour la Justice et la Réconciliation (C.J.R.), DR Congo
19. Centro de Información y Desarrollo de la Mujer, Bolivia
20. Coalition pour le Développement et la Réhabilitation Sociale (CODR-UBUNTU), Burundi
21. Colectivo Mujeres Pazificas, Colombia
22. Control Arms Foundation of India
23. Cri de Secours contre la Prolifération des Armes Légères (CRISPAL-Afrique), DRC
24. Eastern African sub Regional Support Initiative for Advancement of Women (EASSI), Uganda
25. Encadrement des Femmes Indigènes et des Ménages Vulnérables (EFIM), DR Congo
26. Enlace Continental de Mujeres Indígenas de las Américas / Continental Network of Indigenous Women of the Americas
27. Feministas en Acción, Argentina
28. FemLINKPacific
29. Femmes Africa Solidarité (FAS)
30. Femmes des Médias pour la Justice au Congo (FMJC), DR Congo
31. FOKUS - Forum for Women and Development, Norway
32. FOLECO/Gender (Kisangani), DR Congo
33. Fond pour Les Femmes Congolaises, DR Congo
34. Foro de Mujeres por la Igualdad de Oportunidades, Argentina
35. Forum for Environment and Development (ForUM), Norway
36. Fund "Sukhumi", Georgia
37. Fundación Mujeres en Igualdad, Argentina
38. Fundación para Estudio e Investigación de la Mujer (FEIM), Argentina
39. GESTOS- HIV+, Communication and Gender, Brazil
40. Global Action to Prevent War
41. Global Justice Center
42. Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP)

43. Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC)
44. Gun Free South Africa
45. Gun Free Kitchen Tables, Israel
46. Guyana Human Rights Association (GHRA)
47. IANSA Women's Network Nigeria
48. Impunity Watch, The Netherlands
49. Initiatives for International Dialogue, Philippines
50. Instituto Promundo, Brazil
51. International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA)
52. International Alliance of Women
53. International AIDS Women Caucus (IAWC)
54. International Civil Society Action Network
55. International Peace Bureau
56. International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW)
57. Iowa United Nations Association, USA
58. The Latin American and Caribbean Committee for the Defense of Women's Rights (CLADEM)
59. Latin American and Caribbean Council of AIDS Service Organizations (LACCASO)
60. Latin American and Caribbean Women's Health Network (LACWHN)
61. Manipur Women Gun Survivors Network, India
62. The MENA Coalition for Child Soldiers
63. Middle East and North Africa Partnership for Preventing Armed Conflict (MENAPPAC)
64. Middle East and North Africa Action Network on Small Arms (MENAANSA)
65. MONA Magyarországi Női Alapítvány / MONA Hungarian Women's Fund, Hungary
66. Mujer Y Salud en Uruguay (Women and Health in Uruguay)
67. NANGOF Trust, Namibia
68. New Profile, Israel
69. NGO Committee on Disarmament, Peace and Security
70. The Non-Violence Network in the Arab Countries
71. Norwegian Church Aid, Norway
72. Observatory on Gender and Armed Violence (OGAV/CES), Portugal
73. Oxfam GB
74. Pacific Foundation for the Advancement of Women
75. Paghiliusa sa Paghidaet-Negros, Philippines
76. Peace Action New York State
77. Peacebuilding Academy
78. Permanent Peace Movement, Lebanon
79. Project Ploughshares, Canada
80. RASALAO-Cote d'Ivoire
81. Red de Mujeres Afrolatinoamericanas, Afrocaribeñas y de la Diaspora, Dominican Republic
82. Red Mujer y Hábitat de América Latina
83. Refugees International
84. Religions for Peace
85. Sierra Leone Action Network on Small Arms (SLANSA), Sierra Leone

86. Sisterhood Is Global Institute (SIGI), Jordan
87. Sokka Gakkai International
88. Sudanese Women's Voice for Peace (SWVP), Sudan
89. Umut Foundation, Turkey
90. United Network of Young Peacebuilders
91. West Africa Action Network on Small Arms (WAANSA)/Réseau d'Action sur les Armes Légères en Afrique de l'Ouest (RASALAO)
92. WILPF Aotearoa
93. WILPF DRC
94. WILPF UK
95. Women4NonViolence in Peace+Conflict Zones, Norway
96. Women Engaged in Action on 1325 (WE Act 1325), Philippines
97. Women for Peace and Democracy (WPD), Nepal
98. Women Graduates-USA
99. Women in Alternative Action, Cameroon
100. Women in Black, UK
101. Women Initiatives for Peace and Governance (WIPGG), Nigeria
102. Women's Institute for Alternative Development (WINAD), Trinidad and Tobago
103. Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)
104. Women's Right to Education Programme (WREP), Nigeria
105. "Women Won't Wait. End HIV & Violence against Women. NOW", International Campaign
106. Women Worldwide Advancing Freedom & Equality (WWAFE), Australia and the United Kingdom

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37. Moi Lee, Malaysia
38. Elba Muler, Argentina
39. Eva Gamboa, Venezuela
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42. Guerda Benjamin, Haiti