

Forum: Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC)

Issue #2: Measures to address the global proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW)

Student Officer: Juan Robledo Bohorquez, Emma Giannicchi

Position: Chair of the Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC)



("Increasing Safety of All Citizens - 1,839 Pieces of Small Arms and Light Weapons, and Components Smelted")

Introduction

Since its inception, the Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC) has put all of its effort into trying to uphold peace and stability worldwide by tackling emerging threats to international security. One of such threats that has emerged in recent years has proven to be one of the more pressing and dire ones, having a firm yet dangerous grip on many underdeveloped countries: The proliferation of Small Arms and

Light Weapons (SALW). These weapons don't require much experience from the owner to be utilized, containing 3 main categories: Small Arms (Such as Pistols, Assault Rifles, etc), weapons designed for individual use. Light Weapons (Such as Heavy Machine Guns, Anti-Tank Guns, etc), weapons designed to be operated by a small group. Lastly, Ammunition and Explosives (Such as Grenades, Shells, Cartridges for other weapons, etc), items designed to support said weaponry (SEESAC).

All together, these weapons are easy to both manufacture and utilize, posing a severe threat to national security if they become widespread within potentially harmful groups (Local Gangs, Terrorist Militias, etc). In fact, their proliferation often exacerbates conflict and potentially drives millions of people to become either refugees or victims of the SALW if less fortunate (US Department of State, 2006). Groups like the Somali Pirates or current conflicts like the Sudan Civil War can be attributed to being worsened by this ongoing issue.

It is imperative for the DISEC committee to properly stop the proliferation of the SALW to provide a safe and stable environment for countries to develop and nurture under. The business of SALW, even if some aspects illegal, is still a huge industry that rakes in large amounts of profit for countries like Russia or Brazil (Instituto Igarape, 2016), so stamping it out will proof troublesome; Especially when some countries do have legitimate concerns with security themselves, and see SALW as a way to secure inner sovereignty. Thus, tackling the complex and abstract ramifications that the SALW have over both business and national interests will be at the forefront of this discussion. That way, we can successfully guarantee a world free of such violence in the future without the proliferation of SALW.

Definition of Key Terms

Small Arms: Weapons designed to be carried and operated by a single individual. These weapons include handguns (revolvers and self-loading pistols), rifles, carbines, submachine guns, assault rifles, and light machine guns ("Small Arms and Light Weapons | EUR-Lex").

Light Weapons: Weapons designed for use by two or more people as a crew. These weapons include heavy machine guns, portable anti-aircraft guns, portable anti-tank guns, recoilless rifles, mortars, ammunition, shells, hand grenades, landmines, and explosives ("Small Arms and Light Weapons | EUR-Lex").

Ammunition and Explosives: Cartridges for small arms, shells and missiles for light weapons, anti-personnel and anti-tank grenades, landmines, and other explosives designed for use with small arms and light weapons ("Small Arms and Light Weapons | EUR-Lex").

Proliferation (of SALW): The rapid and uncontrolled spread of small arms and light weapons. This spread often results in increased violence, insecurity, and instability, especially in conflict-affected regions ("Proliferation") (UNREC).

Illicit Trafficking: The illegal trade, transfer, or movement of small arms and light weapons. It violates national or international laws and contributes to crime and armed conflict (United Nations) ("Definition of Illicit Trafficking").

Stockpile Management: The secure storage, monitoring, and disposal of weapons and ammunition to prevent theft, loss, or diversion to the illicit market ("Small Arms: Stockpile Management – UNODA").

Diversión: The transfer of weapons from legal markets or authorized users to unauthorized users or illicit channels. This often happens due to weak controls, corruption, or theft (Addressing Diversion of Conventional Arms).

Marking and Tracing: Marking weapons involves uniquely identifying them with specific information, while tracing weapons focuses on systematically tracking them from the point of manufacture, to their last legal title-holder, to determine when and where the weapons become illicit (Small Arms: Tracing – UNODA)

Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR): A process in post-conflict settings involving the collection of weapons from combatants (disarmament), breaking

up of armed groups (demobilization), and support for former fighters to return to civilian life (reintegration) (United Nations, "Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration")

Arms Embargo: A ban or restriction on the export, import, or transfer of arms to specific countries, groups, or regions. It is usually imposed by international bodies such as the United Nations (UN) to prevent the escalation of conflict ("Tools for Atrocity Prevention").

End-User Certificate (EUC): An official document used in international transactions, in this case for weapons and ammunition, to certify that the buyer is the final recipient, intended to prevent diversion to unauthorized actors (Bernsen).

Arms Control Treaty: A formal international agreement to regulate, limit, or prohibit certain weapons or their transfers, such as the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) (Thompson).

General Overview

Security and Humanitarian Impact of SALW Proliferation

The most urgent concern in debates on SALW proliferation is the devastating human toll. Millions of people have died due to intentional homicides globally. According to IPIS, "In July 2023 UN Secretary General reported that: "From 2015 to 2021, an estimated 3.1 million people lost their lives as a result of intentional homicides, a shocking figure which dwarfs that of the estimated 700,000 people who died in armed conflicts during the period,"" and also stated in 2023, "According to the latest figures, 260,000 people were killed by small arms in 2021 alone, amounting to 45 per cent of all violent deaths — more than 700 people daily, or one person dying from small arms every two minutes"("Human, Economic and Social Costs of Small Arms and Light Weapons Violence: Selected Global Data"). Beyond fatalities, many more suffer injuries, disabilities, and psychological trauma. The presence of SALW also leads to forced displacement, disrupts communities, and undermines social unity and public institutions. These weapons exacerbate hunger and poverty by destabilizing societies and economies ("Critical Issues").

Illicit Trafficking and Diversion

A major challenge is the illegal trade and diversion of SALW from legal stockpiles to unauthorized users, including criminal groups and non-state armed actors. Weak national controls, corruption, and porous borders facilitate illicit trafficking. Such actions fuel violence and insecurity globally. Effective marking, tracing, and stockpile management are critical tools to combat diversion. However, many countries struggle with implementation due to three main reasons: sheer scale and profitability, weak national controls and enforcement, and lack of political will. First, the sheer scale and profitability of the illicit arms trade make it very resilient. The global black market for SALW makes a lot of money, attracting organized crime, corrupt officials, and even some state actors. Second, weak national controls and enforcement are a problem, especially in countries with limited resources or ongoing conflict. Many states lack the technical capacity, trained personnel, or infrastructure needed to enforce regulations, conduct inspections, or secure stockpiles. Third and lastly, political will is often lacking. Some states prioritize national security, economic interests, or sovereignty over strict arms control. (Vecchioni and Hofmann).

Impact on Conflict and Peacebuilding

SALW proliferation directly fuels and prolongs armed conflicts by providing easy access to weapons for both state and non-state actors. UN experts estimated that there were over 600 million SALW in circulation globally as of 2016, with civilian-held firearms being approximately 875 million and increasing to over one billion by 2018 ("Critical Issues"). Therefore, the widespread availability is what escalates conflicts, making violence more intense. Additionally, SALW are often the primary weapons used in both inter-state and intra-state conflicts. A study by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) found that SALW were the weapons of choice or the only weapons used in 101 conflict studies, contributing to an estimated 3.2 million deaths in internal armed conflicts between 1990 and 1995 alone (Arms Availability and the Situation of Civilians in Armed Conflict: A Study Presented by the ICRC Complete Text). Thus, the accessibility of SALW encourages armed groups to resort to force rather than political solutions. As a result, the presence of SALW complicates peacekeeping and post-conflict recovery efforts. Disarmament, Demobilization, and Registration (DDR) programs are essential in collecting weapons and supporting former combatants' transition to civilian life. These

programs reduce the circulation of SALW, making them essential. However, the success of DDR initiatives depends heavily on adequate resources and sustained political commitment ("Rapid Spread of Small Arms, Light Weapons Still Threatening World Peace, Exacerbating Plight of Civilians in Conflict Zones, Disarmament Chief Tells Security Council | UN Press").

Economic Costs and Development Implications

The economic consequences of SALW-related violence are profound. Armed violence disrupts economies by destroying infrastructure, displacing populations, and deterring investment. The global cost of violence, linked to SALW, has grown by over a trillion dollars in recent years. This cycle of violence and underdevelopment increases insecurity and demand for weapons. This creates a feedback loop that hinders sustainable development and peace. To further understand the economic implications, addressing supply and demand dynamics is crucial. To address SALW proliferation, it is necessary to tackle both supply-side factors, such as production, export controls, and trafficking, and demand-side drivers, including insecurity, weak governance, and social factors (United Nations, "Small Arms and Light Weapons – UNODA")(IANSA and International Peace Information Service (IPIS) Briefing Paper Small Arms and Light Weapons Proliferation and Violence: Estimating Its Scale and Forms. Small Arms and Light Weapons Proliferation and Violence: Estimating Its Scale and Forms.

Major Parties Involved and Their Views

United States of America

The United States of America (USA) has taken many actions to combat the illicit trade of SALW, although only truly outside its borders. They have consistently assisted in regulating and limiting illicit SALW proliferation within other states, Somalia being one big example of this in fact (US Department of the Treasury, 2023). Moreover, despite the USA being the world's biggest arms exporter, it has plenty of regulations and restrictions over them; To a certain extent, that is. For instance, they ratified the ATT in 2013 (US Department of State, 2013), but did not incorporate it into their actual state. They even left the ATT signatories in 2019, showing clear reluctance to fully regulate the SALW, at least within their borders (Arms Control Association, 2019).

Russia

Russia has maintained a rather amicable relationship with SALW weaponry, given that it is in fact one of its biggest exporters; Accounting for over 27% of all arms exports in 2009 - 2013 alone (Arms Control Association, 2014), and is still the second largest exporter of SALW to this day. Furthermore, it is one of the few remaining countries that have not yet signed the ATT, citing how they saw no positive or negative reasons for the treaty, and thus no signature from them (Arms Control Association, 2014).

Somalia

Somalia has been consistently a victim of SALW proliferation within its borders for years on end, despite its best efforts to combat them. The Somali Pirates constantly harass and plunder ships that have passed through the Suez Canal for goods, and the Al-Shabaab terrorist militant group has undermined true peace within the region thanks to the supply of SALW from abroad. It has even reached the UN Security Council (UNSC) ears, which have fought against said groups by banning SALW imports among other things to Somalia (UN, 2025). The Somali government has shown its approval and efforts to undermine SALW proliferation within its borders, even joining the East African Community (EAC) in 2024, which provides proper frameworks and support over SALW proliferation (EAC, 2024).

Sudan

Sudan, like Somalia, has been a victim of SALW proliferation within its borders throughout countless years, Fueling several wars throughout its history and still to this day, with the current Sudanese Civil War still ongoing. With said war as an example, the current distribution of SALW weaponry in the country has enabled large infighting between the Sudan Armed Forces and Rapid Support Forces, with 16,650 civilians dead as of April 2023, thanks to this infighting (Amnesty, 2024). Sudan has taken clear and decisive action against the proliferation of SALW within its country, implementing a myriad of treaties such as Nairobi Declaration against SALW in 2000 and Arms, Ammunition and Explosives Act in 1993 (Governance and Social Development Research Center, 2004), and the ATT in 2013 as well (Ratifying it on 2018). Nevertheless, Sudan has been incapable of properly implementing said initiatives within its own

borders, given how unstable and battered it currently is.

Yemen

Yemen, like Somalia and Sudan, is another core victim of the illicit proliferation of SALW, with its current civil war being fed by them and turning it into a SALW trading center. It consistently obtains SALW from neighbouring nations (More specifically Iran) with the Houthis rebel militant group being one of the core enablers and receptors of them, enabling them to continue their armed conflicts within the Yemen region (MENA Peace and Security Project, 2020). Their defense directorate has actually let the Houthis ignore current UN sanctions and blockades, letting even more SALW into the region (UN Office on Drugs and Crime, 2024). With the Yemeni government unable to properly regulate the Houthis' actions, it has let the state fall victim to the conflict it enables.

Timeline of Events, Relevant Resolutions, Treaties, and Events

Date	Description of Event
February 1991	The Gulf War ends for Iraq, totalling a death toll of 60,000+ civilians at their hands via the use of SALW; Showcasing the full extent of their deadly nature to the world. (Small Arms Survey, 2004)
August 1997	The 1997 UN Report of the Panel of Governmental Experts on Small Arms was released by the UN, establishing the modern definition of SALW that's recognized worldwide. (Peacebuilding Initiative, 2008)
December 1999	The UN adopts Resolution 54/54V, marking the UN's first formal recognition of illicit SALW trade as a global issue, and also having the first formal global conference about it. (UN, 2001)
May 2001	The UN adopts the Firearms Protocol, becoming the first legally binding treaty to tackle SALW and its proliferation. (UNODC, 2023).
July 2001	The UN adopts a Program of Action aimed at tackling SALW proliferation directly and effectively.
July 2005	The Firearms Protocol enters full force, now legally forcing states to illegalize illicit SALW manufacturing and production, strengthen borders, and implement more methods aimed at regulating it (UNODC, 2023).
December 2006	The Al-Shabaab militant group first appeared in Somalia after Ethiopia

	invaded it, becoming a much more dangerous terrorist group as the years go by (National Counterterrorism Center, 2013).
March 2011	The Syrian Civil War starts, marking one of the first modern conflicts with an abundance of SALW within each side; The Rebels had plenty of supply, most of it illicitly traded from other countries like Libya (AOAV, 2013).
October 2011	The Al-Shabaab escalates its attacks within Somalia, enforcing their control over their regions crucial to trade via the use of SALW despite external attempts at intervention (BBC Mundo, 2017)
April 2013	The UN adopts the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), the biggest treaty to date that tackles the illicit trade of SALW directly. Most countries adopted it soon afterwards. (Casey-Maslen, 2013)
September 2013	The UN adopts resolution 2117, a resolution fully dedicated to tackling SALW; It covered areas of concern such as gender-based SALW violence, weapon embargos, etc. (SEESAC, 2013)
December 2013	The South Sudan Civil War starts, with major sources of SALW entering the country through various external parties such as Israel (With over \$150 Million worth of SALW given) (Times of Israel, 2018).
September 2014	The Yemen Civil War starts, another of the major modern conflicts riddling SALW on every side. External factions (Such as Iran) give an illicit supply of SALW to Houthi groups within it.
September 2018	The South Sudan Civil War slows down, as a peace deal between both warring sides is signed (Council on Foreign Relations, 2025).
February 2020	The South Sudan Civil War officially ended with the newly established government finally taking power.
May 2024	The EU adopts the Western Balkans Control Act, which covers the restoration of the region, as well as heightened regulation concerning Illicit SALW trading ongoing within the region.
May 2025	A report is released which showcases how the Taliban have continuously sold SALW to the Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan within Pakistan during 2022-2024.

United Nations Involvement

Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (PoA) Framework

The United Nations (UN) has played a crucial role in addressing the global proliferation of SALW. In 2001, the UN adopted the Programme of Action (PoA), which has remained the foundation of international efforts to prevent, combat, and eliminate the illicit trade in SALW. The PoA outlines that governments agreed to improve national legislation, strengthen border controls, enhance stockpile management, and promote international cooperation and information exchange. It also encourages states to mark and trace weapons to prevent their diversion to unauthorized users. Within the PoA framework, the International Tracing Instrument (ITI) was adopted in 2005. As predicted from the title, the ITI focuses on cooperation in weapons tracing. This framework enables states to identify and trace illicit weapons in a timely and reliable manner. This instrument is vital for investigating arms trafficking and supporting law enforcement efforts globally. "Together, both instruments constitute the normative framework on small arms and light weapons, which all UN Member States have agreed upon" (United Nations, "Small Arms and Light Weapons – UNODA"). Lastly, the PoA and ITI are reviewed regularly, where states report the implementation of such a framework and assess progress and adapt to emerging challenges. These reports are done through meetings that occur every two years and review conferences (United Nations, "Small Arms and Light Weapons – UNODA"). To summarize, while the PoA and ITI have created a valuable international framework and contributed to progress in global standards and cooperation, regular review and accountability, and capacity building, their overall effectiveness is limited by uneven implementation and persistent challenges in enforcement. These limitations happen because many countries, especially those affected by conflict or with limited resources, struggle to enforce the PoA's provisions due to weak institutions, lack of funding, or insufficient technical capacity. Therefore, continued political commitment, resource allocation, and international cooperation are essential to fully realize their goals and address the evolving threat of SALW proliferation.

Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), 2013

"The global framework of treaties and instruments related to these types of weapons

also includes the Arms Trade Treaty" (United Nations, "Small Arms and Light Weapons – UNODA"). The Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), which entered into force in 2014, is the first legally binding international agreement to regulate the international trade in regular arms, including SALW. "The Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) is an international treaty that regulates the international trade in conventional arms and seeks to prevent and eradicate illicit trade and diversion of conventional arms by establishing international standards governing arms transfers" ("The Arms Trade Treaty | Home Page"). While it is widely supported, some major arms exporters and importers have not ratified the treaty, limiting its global impact. You can see the limits of such global impact since major arms exporters such as the United States, Russia, and China are not State Parties, albeit there are 115 other States Parties and 29 signatories as of 2024 ("The Arms Trade Treaty | Home Page"). Thus, the ATT has increased transparency and accountability in the global arms trade. Nonetheless, illicit trafficking and diversion remain significant challenges.

Evaluation of Previous Attempts to Resolve the Issue

There have been several attempts at resolving the issue of illicit SALW trade, and most of them have seen some degree of success. The guidelines have been stable and adequate, but have only fallen flat when faced with country compliance. Some states don't have the capability to properly enforce their rules, or the rules contradict their own national interests. Here are some of the solutions that have been put in place

Arms Trade Treaty (ATT)

The ATT, as mentioned previously, was the first legally binding treaty to attempt to regulate the illicit trade of SALW. States that ratified it had the obligation to comply with all of its terms, some of them including: Establishing transparent national control systems over SALW and other arms, forcing them to conduct risk-assessments before gun exports, and preventing transfers that could facilitate human rights abuses, among others (Arms Control Association, 2023). The treaty is largely successful within the countries that ratified it, although some states do feel like it conflicts with their national interests and thus have not ratified it (China, Russia) or left it outright (USA) (Arms Control Association, 2019). The fact that states of such power have consistently backed out of

the treaty showcases its proper inability to be a global SALW regulation system worldwide, and highlights the issues of compliance within said treaties.

ECOWAS Convention on Small Arms

This is a regional treaty established by the member states of the ECOWAS Organization (Otherwise known as the Economic Community of West African States). It provides certain guidelines aimed at stopping the illicit trade of SALW within each member state's borders that potentially exacerbate conflicts, with methods such as outright destroying vast stockpiles of SALW within states in order to prevent their spread (National Commission on Small Arms, 2022). While crude, such methods have proved somewhat successful, reducing cross-border trafficking by 40% between the years of 2006 - 2015 alone (UNREC, 2024). However, it only appears to work in stable contexts/areas, as SALW still runs rampant in regions where the governments aren't able to properly enforce their restrictions. Funding also corroborates this issue, as the lack of it often can lead to the lack of government enforcement mentioned above. Niger for instance still has around 300,000 SALW in circulation alone (UNREC, 2024). This treaty does have promise and overall has some successes, but given the lack of proper enforcement and power that the governments it is beholden to hold, it hasn't shown its true potential/power.

Possible Solutions

Strengthening and Coordinating National Legislation With Existing Agreements

A potential solution to addressing the proliferation of SALW is for countries to strengthen and coordinate their national legislation with existing international agreements, such as the UN Programme of Action and the Arms Trade Treaty. Many states currently have different standards for licensing, registration, and export controls. These differences create loopholes, which then traffickers and unauthorized users make the most of. By aligning national laws and enforcement mechanisms, countries can more effectively prevent the diversion and illicit trade of SALW. Additionally, reviewing and updating national legislation could help make sure that law enforcement agencies have the authority and resources needed to combat illegal possession and trafficking.

Improving Stockpile Management and Security Protocols

Moreover, another promising approach is improving stockpile management and security protocols. Poorly managed or secured stockpiles are a significant source of illicit SALW. This source often results in weapons being stolen or diverted to unauthorized groups. The reason this happens is that poorly managed or secured stockpiles create the possibility for theft, loss, and corruption. Weak physical security, such as scarce locks or surveillance, makes it easier for unauthorized individuals to access weapons. Additionally, a lack of proper record-keeping or regular inventory checks means missing weapons may go unnoticed. In some cases, insiders may intentionally divert weapons for profit or to supply armed groups. During times of conflict, stockpiles may be abandoned or overrun. All these factors contribute to weapons from legal stockpiles ending up illicit and in the wrong hands. For that reason, the potential benefits of implementing standardized procedures for secure storage, regular inventory checks, and the destruction of surplus arms should be considered. By focusing on stockpile management, states could reduce the risk of weapons being traded to the wrong groups or people. This would thereby decrease the overall availability of illicit SALW and contribute to greater regional and global security.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

SDG 16, Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions

The Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16, Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions, is a goal that aims to promote all of the aforementioned societal concerns and more. At its core, it directs all nations to strive for peaceful societies amongst all people, with strong foundations for justice and safety (UN). The global issue of illicit SALW trade falls under its umbrella, given how widespread conflict its very existence and proliferation worldwide. They account for up to 45% of violence-related deaths globally, with a mere 700 people getting killed by them daily (UNDP, 2024). Such numbers and violence are a threat to global stability and peace, enforcing the notion that illicit SALW trade is an issue that must be addressed if we are to strive for a truly peaceful and cooperative world, aligning with SDG 16's goals.

Appendix

This appendix provides concise descriptions and direct links to key organizations, treaties, and resources relevant to the issue of SALW proliferation. These sources offer essential background, data, and policy frameworks that can support research, position papers, and draft resolutions. Delegates are encouraged to look at these materials to deepen their understanding of the topic.

<https://www.seesac.org/>

Source A: South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SEESAC) is a regional initiative that works to strengthen the capacities of national and regional stakeholders to control and reduce the proliferation and misuse of SALW. SEESAC provides research, technical assistance, policy guidance, including marking and tracing, and stockpile management of SALW.

<https://disarmament.unoda.org/convarms/salw/>

Source B: The UNODA leads global efforts to address SALW proliferation through policy development, technical support, and the implementation of relevant treaties and programs. These include the Programme of Action (PoA) and the International Tracing Instrument (ITI).

<https://thearmstradetreaty.org/>

Source C: The Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) is an international agreement that regulates the international trade in conventional arms, including SALW, with the aim of preventing and eradicating illicit trade and diversion of arms. The ATT establishes common standards for arms transfers and promotes transparency and accountability among states parties.

<https://www.smallarmssurvey.org/>

Source D: Small Arms Survey is an independent research project that provides data, analysis, and policy recommendations on SALW proliferation, impacts, and control measures worldwide. Its reports are used by many policymakers, researchers, and international organizations.

<https://iansa.org/>

Source E: International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA) is a global network of civil society organizations working to reduce gun violence and promote effective SALW control. IANSA advocates and researches to support international policy processes and national implementation.

<https://disarmament.unoda.org/convarms/salw/programme-of-action/>

Source F: The UN PoA is an international agreement adopted in 2001. It provides a comprehensive framework for states to prevent, combat, and eradicate illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects. PoA covers national legislation, stockpile management, marking and tracing, as well as international cooperation. This agreement is a central reference for policymakers and negotiators addressing SALW proliferation.

Bibliography

- Abramson, Jeff, and Greg Webb. "U.S. To Quit Arms Trade Treaty | Arms Control Association." *Www.armscontrol.org*, May 2019, www.armscontrol.org/act/2019-05/news/us-quit-arms-trade-treaty.
- Action Summary INSTRUMENT for PRE-ACCESSION ASSISTANCE (IPA II) MULTI-COUNTRY*. 2014, enlargement.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2020-09/ipa_2020-042-350.05-mc-eu4security.pdf. Accessed 24 June 2025.
- Addressing Diversion of Conventional Arms*. 2018, www.thearmstradetreaty.org/hyper-images/file/Working_Paper_-_Japan_-_Addressing_Diversion_in_Conventional_Arms_25_May_2018/Working_Paper_-_Japan_-_Addressing_Diversion_in_Conventional_Arms_25_May_2018.pdf. Accessed 18 May 2025.
- Alaraby, Muhammad, and Alexander Müller. *COUNTERING ILLICIT ARMS TRANSFERS in the MENA REGION: THE CASE of YEMEN and LIBYA*. 2020, library.fes.de/pdf-files/iez/16657.pdf.
- Amnesty International. "New Weapons Fuelling the Sudan Conflict." *Amnesty International*, 24 July 2024, www.amnesty.org/en/latest/research/2024/07/new-weapons-fuelling-the-sudan-conflict/.
- AOAV. "Beyond the Dirty Dozen: The Other Killing Tools of Syria's Civil War - AOAV." AOAV, 23 Sept. 2013, aoav.org.uk/2013/beyond-dirty-dozen-killing-tools-syria/.
- Arms Availability and the Situation of Civilians in Armed Conflict: A Study Presented by the ICRC Complete Text*.

www.icrc.org/sites/default/files/external/doc/en/assets/files/other/icrc_002_0734_arms_availability.pdf.

"Arms Trade Treaty." *2009-2017.State.gov*,
2009-2017.state.gov/t/isn/armstradetreaty/index.htm.

Bernsen, Lindsay. "What Are End-User Certificates and When Do You Need One?" *Shippingsolutions.com*, Shipping Solutions, 11 Dec. 2024,
www.shippingsolutions.com/blog/what-are-end-user-certificates-and-when-do-you-need-one.

Center for Preventive Action. "Instability in South Sudan." *Global Conflict Tracker*, 11 July 2024, www.cfr.org/global-conflict-tracker/conflict/civil-war-south-sudan.

"Critical Issues." *Reachingcriticalwill.org*, 2016,
www.reachingcriticalwill.org/resources/fact-sheets/critical-issues/5450-small-arms-and-light-weapons-salw.

"Definition of Illicit Trafficking." *Collinsdictionary.com*, HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, 30 Dec. 2024, www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/illicit-trafficking.

Department Of State. The Office of Electronic Information, Bureau of Public Affairs. "Actions by the United States to Stem the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons." *2001-2009.State.gov*, 2001-2009.state.gov/t/pm/rls/fs/67700.htm.

"Human, Economic and Social Costs of Small Arms and Light Weapons Violence: Selected Global Data." *IPIS*, 30 May 2024,
ipisresearch.be/publication/human-economic-and-social-costs-of-small-arms-and-light-weapons-violence-selected-global-data/. Accessed 18 May 2025.

IANSA and International Peace Information Service (IPIS) Briefing Paper Small Arms and Light Weapons Proliferation and Violence: Estimating Its Scale and Forms . Small

Arms and Light Weapons Proliferation and Violence: Estimating Its Scale and Forms. 2022,

iansa.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/IANSA-AND-IPIS_Small-Arms-and-Light-Weapons-Proliferation-and-Violence-Estimating-its-Scale-and-Forms-June-2022-1.pdf.

ILLICIT WEAPONS TRAFFICKING in the Gulf of Aden and the Red Sea Global Maritime Crime Programme.

www.unodc.org/documents/CRIMJUST/Yemen_Booklet_Online.pdf.

"Increasing Safety of All Citizens - 1,839 Pieces of Small Arms and Light Weapons, and Components Smelted." [Seesac.org](https://seesac.org), 2016, www.seesac.org/News-SALW/BiH-1839-pieces-salw/. Accessed 26 May 2025.

Lafta, Riyadh, et al. *The Role of Small Arms during the 2003-2004 Conflict in Iraq Author Affiliations Summary Background.* 2003, www.smallarmssurvey.org/sites/default/files/resources/SAS-WP1-Iraq.pdf.

National Centre for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons. "Synergies and Complementarities between the Arms Trade Treaty and the ECOWAS Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons." NCCSALW, June 2022, nccsalw.gov.ng/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Synergies-and-Complementarities_ATT-and-ECOWAS-Convention.pdf.

National Counterterrorism Center. "National Counterterrorism Center | Groups." [Www.dni.gov](http://www.dni.gov), 29 Aug. 2015, www.dni.gov/nctc/groups/al_shabaab.html.

OUPblog. "The Arms Trade Treaty: A Major Achievement." *OUPblog*, 8 Apr. 2013, blog.oup.com/2013/04/un-arms-trade-treaty-pil/. Accessed 24 June 2025.

"Peace Building Initiative - SALW & Peacebuilding Processes."

Peacebuildinginitiative.org, 2025,

www.peacebuildinginitiative.org/indexda34.html?pagelid=1862. Accessed 24 June 2025.

"Proliferation." *Dictionary.cambridge.org*,
dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/proliferation.

"Rapid Spread of Small Arms, Light Weapons Still Threatening World Peace, Exacerbating Plight of Civilians in Conflict Zones, Disarmament Chief Tells Security Council | UN Press." *Press.un.org*, 6 Oct. 2021, press.un.org/en/2021/sc14656.doc.htm.

Redacción. "Por Qué Somalia Es El 'Estado Más Fallido de África' Y Qué Le Impide Dejar de Serlo." *BBC News Mundo*, BBC News Mundo, 25 Oct. 2017, www.bbc.com/mundo/noticias-internacional-41652407.

"Regional Peace and Security Project." *Mena.fes.de*, 2025, mena.fes.de/topics/regional-peace-and-security-project.html. Accessed 24 June 2025.

"Russia Undecided on Arms Trade Treaty | Arms Control Association." *Www.armscontrol.org*,
www.armscontrol.org/act/2014-06/news-briefs/russia-undecided-arms-trade-treaty.

SALW Definitions A. INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORK I. United Nations (UN) Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, Supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UN Firearms Protocol) (2001); International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and

Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (A/60/88) (2005).

www.seesac.org/f/docs/2nd_SALW_Commissions_Meeting-Jahorina/7.SALW_Definitions.pdf.

"Security Council Reauthorizes Maritime Interdiction Provisions of Arms Embargo on Somalia, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2775 (2025) | Meetings Coverage and Press Releases." *Un.org*, 28 Feb. 2025, press.un.org/en/2025/sc16010.doc.htm. Accessed 24 June 2025.

"Silencing Guns to Focus on Development." *UNDP*, 2024, www.undp.org/news/silencing-guns-focus-development.

"Small Arms and Light Weapons | EUR-Lex." *Europa.eu*, 2017, eur-lex.europa.eu/EN/legal-content/summary/small-arms-and-light-weapons.html?fromSummary=25. Accessed 18 May 2025.

"SMALL ARMS CONFERENCE CONCLUDES HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT with CALLS for ACTION on SUPPLY, DEMAND SIDES of PROLIFERATION ISSUE | Meetings Coverage and Press Releases." *Un.org*, 13 July 2001, press.un.org/en/2001/dc2791.doc.htm. Accessed 24 June 2025.

"Small Arms: Stockpile Management – UNODA." *Unoda.org*, 2024, disarmament.unoda.org/convarms/small-arms-stockpile-management/.

Small Arms: Tracing – UNODA. disarmament.unoda.org/convarms/small-arms-tracing/.

"Somalia to Deposit Her Instrument of Ratification on the Treaty of Accession to the EAC Today." *Eac.int*, 4 Mar. 2024, www.eac.int/press-releases/3046-somalia-to-deposit-her-instrument-of-ratification-on-the-treaty-of-accession-to-the-eac-today. Accessed 24 June 2025.

Storm Design. "The Trouble with Brazil's Expanding Arms Trade - Instituto Igarapé."

- Instituto Igarapé*, 18 Apr. 2017, igarape.org.br/trouble-brazils-expanding-arms-trade/. Accessed 24 June 2025.
- "Sudan: Türk Decries Catastrophic Cost of Inaction as Conflict Approaches Third Year." *OHCHR*, 2025, www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2025/04/sudan-turk-decries-catastrophic-cost-inaction-conflict-approaches-third-year. Accessed 24 June 2025.
- "The Arms Trade Treaty | Home Page." *Thearmstradetreaty.org*, thearmstradetreaty.org/#.
- "The Arms Trade Treaty at a Glance | Arms Control Association." *Armscontrol.org*, 2023, www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/arms-trade-treaty-glance.
- Thompson, Kenneth W. "Arms Control." *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 5 Feb. 2024, www.britannica.com/topic/arms-control.
- "Tools for Atrocity Prevention." *Ushmm.org*, 2017, preventiontools.ushmm.org/arms-embargoes/.
- "Treasury Designates Terror Operatives and Illicit Charcoal Smugglers in Somalia." *U.S. Department of the Treasury*, 3 May 2024, home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/jy1499.
- "UN PoA - Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons." *Un-Arm.org*, 2025, smallarms.un-arm.org/country-profiles/RUS. Accessed 24 June 2025.
- United Nations. "Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration." *United Nations Peacekeeping*, 2017, peacekeeping.un.org/en/disarmament-demobilization-and-reintegration.
- . "Goal 16 | Department of Economic and Social Affairs." *Sdgs.un.org*, United Nations, 2025, sdgs.un.org/goals/goal16.

---. "Small Arms and Light Weapons – UNODA." *United Nations*,
disarmament.unoda.org/convarms/salw/.

UNREC. "UN PoA - Office for Disarmament Affairs." *Office for Disarmament Affairs*, 12
Dec. 2024, www.unrec.org/2024/12/12/un-poa/. Accessed 18 May 2025.

"UNSC Adopts First-Ever Resolution Dedicated to Question of SALW." *Seesac.org*, 2025,
www.seesac.org/News_1/UNSC-Adopts-First-Ever-Resolution-Dedicated-to-Questi
on-of-SALW/%E2%80%8B. Accessed 24 June 2025.

"US Sanctions Ex-Israeli General for \$150 Million in Arms Sales to South Sudan."
Timesofisrael.com, 2018,
www.timesofisrael.com/us-sanctions-ex-israeli-general-for-150-million-in-arms-sale
s-to-south-sudan/. Accessed 24 June 2025.

Vecchioni, Matilde, and Ursign Hofmann. "Small Arms Control and Prevention: Back
Together Again or a Flash in the Pan?" *UNIDIR → Building a More Secure World.*,
29 Oct. 2024,
unidir.org/small-arms-control-and-prevention-back-together-again-or-a-flash-in-t
he-pan/.