



THE EU ATT OUTREACH PROJECT

EU ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
ARMS TRADE TREATY



This project is
funded by the EU



Federal Foreign Office

This project is funded
by the German
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and BAFA



The Arms Trade Treaty was approved by the UN General Assembly on 2 April 2013

INTRODUCTION

This publication provides an overview of the European Union's support of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) through its ATT Outreach Project (ATT-OP) established by EU Council Decision 2013/768/CFSP and co-financed by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany. It outlines the scope of the cooperation offered in support of the implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty.

The EU ATT Outreach Project will be implemented between April 2014 and April 2017.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The goal of the ATT-OP is to support the early entry into force and effective implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty. Upon request, the EU project will support a number of States in strengthening their arms transfer control systems with a view to being able to implement the Arms Trade Treaty.

The project also aims to increase awareness and ownership of the ATT at national and regional levels and therein contribute to its universalisation.





- Promoting an early entry into force
- Supporting effective implementation
- Working towards universalisation

Provisions of the treaty encourage international cooperation and assistance to support the development of effective national regulatory systems.

The ATT covers a broad scope of conventional weapons including, among others, combat aircraft, warships, battle tanks and small arms and light weapons.

THE ARMS TRADE TREATY

On 2 April 2013, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted the Arms Trade Treaty. This landmark treaty is the first legally binding instrument designed to regulate the international trade in conventional arms.

Through setting binding common standards, the ATT aims to foster international and regional peace, security and stability and reduce human suffering caused by irresponsible and illicit arms trade.

The treaty was opened for signature on 3 June 2013 and will enter into force 90 days after the 50th ratification.





PROJECT ACTIVITIES

The EU ATT Outreach Project entails different components. It offers dedicated national assistance programmes that can provide a long-term partnership to address multiple national implementation priorities through tailored assistance activities.

In addition to these comprehensive partnerships, ad-hoc assistance activities allow a flexible and quick response to individual requests for support. Finally, five regional seminars provide a platform to share best practice models, involve civil society actors and foster regional cooperation.

- Tailored national assistance programmes
- Ad-hoc activities
- Regional seminars





THE PROJECT IS INTENDED TO:

- Assist partner countries in drafting, updating, and implementing, as appropriate, relevant legislative and administrative measures necessary for an effective system of arms transfer control in line with the requirements of the ATT;
- Strengthen the expertise and capacities of the partner countries' authorities through best practices sharing, training and access to relevant information sources in support of adequate implementation and enforcement of arms transfer controls;
- Promote transparency in international arms trade building on the transparency requirements of the ATT;
- Promote sustained adherence to the ATT by the partner countries in involving relevant national and regional stakeholders such as national parliaments, competent regional organisations, industry and civil society representatives;
- Promote wider interest in the ATT by engaging with countries that have not yet taken steps towards ATT signature and ratification or accession in order to support its universalization.



PROJECT ACTIVITIES

TAILORED NATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMMES

Dedicated assistance programmes are specially designed to suit the ATT implementation priorities of partner countries. National assistance programmes are developed in close cooperation with partner countries and are initiated upon their request. Key elements of national assistance programmes are:

An initial needs assessment visit to determine what is required to implement the ATT taking into account already existing resources of the partner country that can be of relevance to arms transfer control.

An inclusive roadmap development to tailor assistance to national priorities and needs.

Follow-up activities to provide tailored practical support. Such workshops can include 'train-the-trainer' support for customs or licensing officers, legal workshops to review current or draft legislation, awareness raising activities for industry and academia, etc.



AD-HOC ACTIVITIES

Ad-hoc activities are designed as a flexible and quick response to individual requests for assistance. Ad-hoc individual assistance activities aim at supporting partner countries in aligning elements of their arms transfer control systems with ATT requirements in a targeted and relevant manner.

REGIONAL SEMINARS

Regional seminars aim at fostering cooperation among States and supporting the universalisation of the Treaty. With participants from various fields including technical and law-enforcement personnel from countries in the region, civil society, representatives of regional and international organizations, military/defence personnel and national and international technical experts on arms transfer control, the seminars aim to showcase regional best practice models, foster regional cooperation and strengthen regional arms transfer control structures.





MAIN PRINCIPLE:

ASSISTANCE

UPON REQUEST

Ratification and implementation of the ATT pose a number of new challenges individual to each country's arms transfer control system. The EU ATT Outreach Project will provide a number of tools and implementation best practices that can assist countries – **upon their request** – in developing the necessary measures to effectively implement the ATT.

The assistance provided for the implementation of the ATT is without prejudice to national decisions made on arms transfers that remain the sole responsibility of each individual State.

ABOUT THE EXPERTS

The German Federal Office for Economic Affairs and Export Control (BAFA) has been entrusted by the Council of the EU with the technical implementation of the EU ATT Outreach Project.

The project team is composed of international experts offering a unique range of different approaches. Technical expertise is provided from the perspective of practitioners representing all areas of arms transfer control including legal, licensing, enforcement (customs, judicial) and outreach to industry.

Through this international network of experts, the EU ATT Outreach Project is able to provide peer-to-peer assistance in the development of legal frameworks and institutional capacities for the establishment and enforcement of effective arms transfer controls.



The European Union is made up of 28 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining

cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms.

The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders.

For further information
please see the website at

<https://export-control.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>.

We also invite you to sign
up to the newsletter
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