

Can the EU SALW Strategy survive the Arms Trade Treaty?

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ATT and the EU SALW Strategy

Arms Trade Treaty

Common standards for regulating international trade in conventional arms, through:

- Export, import, transfer, transshipment controls
- Prevent diversion during international transits
- Keep national records of export authorizations

EU SALW Strategy

- Strengthen export controls
- Stockpile reduction
- Restructuring SALW production sites in SEE
- Strengthening rule of law in unstable countries
- Address the underlying factors to illegal demand for SALW

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EU SALW Strategy not enough to implement the ATT

- ATT covers all conventional arms, not just SALW
- ATT require exporting states to develop a risk assessment tool for gender-based violence, SALW Strategy does not mention gender
- ATT cover all countries in the world, especially exporting states, the SALW strategy target 'unstable' countries

ATT impact on SALW funding

- In 2010-13, 34 % of the CFSP budget allocated to SALW control went to ATT/arms export control specific projects
- Most other projects also included strong aspects of trade controls
- The new IcSP will primarily 'address the trans-regional dimensions of trafficking in SALW'. Maximum €103,2 million can be allocated to illicit trafficking (in humans, drugs, small arms, etc.) for the period 2014-20

‘Addressing the problem posed by uncontrolled SALW in a given country or region and its impact on their development **should primarily be supported under mainstream, geographical cooperation instruments** ... the added value of the IcSP in this area is addressing the trans-regional dimensions of trafficking in SALW’ (The IcSP Strategy paper for 2014-20)

EU Comprehensive approach to SALW – connecting the dots

- No reference to the SALW strategy in Council Decisions on ATT
- No mentioning of EDF, or other development or regional instruments in the SALW Strategy’s progress reports in recent years
- Unclear how DDR, SSR and community assistance/peace building activities complements EU SALW projects under CFSP/IcSP
- No comprehensive overview of EU MS ATT implementation assistance, current or planned

Steps toward a more comprehensive approach to SALW

- The EU could make a full inventory of its SALW assistance programmes using a comprehensive definition
- The EU could strengthen capacity building in EU delegations on the comprehensive approach and SALW
- The EU could ensure that all future SALW assistance programmes share the same strategic vision and understanding of the problem/solution

Steps toward a comprehensive approach to SALW

- The EU could look for synergies between international SALW instruments, including on implementation, implementation assistance and reporting
- The EU could ensure that technical assistance or strengthening of law enforcement capacities are balanced with support to justice reform
- The EU could look for ways to integrate concepts and regions left out of the 2005 SALW strategy

QUESTIONS?