



## TIPS: Risks stemming from violations of agreements relating to the export of weapons and military equipment, 10 April 2023

Malta Statement delivered by Darren Camilleri, Political Coordinator,  
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Thank you President, and I also thank you High Representative Nakamitsu for your insightful briefing.

Malta strongly supports export control mechanisms and agreements. These are crucial tools in preventing sensitive materials, technology, and equipment from falling into the wrong hands, contributing to the implementation of treaty obligations on non-proliferation, and facilitating peaceful uses by enabling the secure transfer of dual-use technology.

Malta is a committed member of the Australia Group, the Nuclear Supplier Group, and the Wassenaar Arrangement, and strictly implements the European Dual Use Export Control Regulations and the relevant annexes. These export control groups are voluntary arrangements comprising of States from all regions that seek to prevent the uncontrolled proliferation of certain dangerous weapons, materials, and technologies, including to non-State actors and terrorists.



Malta signed the Arms Trade Treaty as soon as it opened for signature in 2013, and has been a State Party since 2014. The Treaty regulates the international trade in conventional arms and seeks to prevent and eradicate illicit trade and diversion of conventional arms by establishing the highest possible common international standards governing arms transfers.

Malta places a high priority on the universalisation and full implementation of the ATT. The Treaty has a wide membership of 112 States Parties, and we encourage all remaining States to sign and ratify the Treaty without further delay.

## President

The European Union has some of the highest standards of export controls in the world. It has adopted a uniform approach to the export of small arms and light weapons and their ammunition, and established a set of common features that end-user certificates will have to respect to diminish the risk of diversion to illicit or unintended users.

EU Member States have committed to prevent and curb the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons and their ammunition through the 2018 EU Strategy.

Malta's Sanctions Monitoring Board adopts a rigorous approach towards implementing arms embargos, as their circumvention directly undermines regional and international peace, security and stability.



Malta fully supports the UN Programme of Action to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects and welcomes the consensus outcome reached by all Member States during the BMS8 last summer.

Malta is also a firm supporter of the African Union's Agenda for Silencing the Guns. This is underpinned by our determination to break the cycle of violence and conflict in Africa through the effective implementation of agreements on landmines and the non-proliferation of small arms and light weapons in the continent. Challenges that lead to marginalised communities acquiring weapons, such as poverty and unemployment, should be addressed simultaneously, to ensure a holistic approach to tackling the conflict cycle in a sustainable manner.

We have consistently supported the International Tracing Instrument, which requires States to ensure that weapons are properly marked and that records are kept and advocated for the ITI's adaption to new technological developments in order to remain effective.

I conclude by expressing Malta's concern regarding the many different conflicts that countries around the world are having to deal with. We firmly believe that any provision of arms to state or non-state actors that violates UN Security Council resolutions is an affront to the authority and integrity of the Security Council itself.



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As such, all such violations must be investigated and, when necessary, addressed, in order to ensure accountability.

I thank you.