



Working Group on Effective Treaty Implementation

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Geneva

Delivered by: Cesar Jaramillo, Project Ploughshares

Thank you, Mr. Facilitator.

We welcome the level of engagement and discussion prompted by this item.

Control Arms would like to draw greater attention to the issue of facilitation, which also features in our practical guide.

Given that facilitation appears several times in Article 7, including in Article 7(4), it clearly broadens the scope of the risk assessment. The question then is “how”? We have some examples of what we would consider to be instances of facilitation, the first two of which can be seen as relating specifically to GBV.

- Armoured vehicles used to transport women as part of a programme of enforced prostitution—as mentioned earlier by Verity
- Small arms used by personnel to guard a facility where torture including the use of rape is taking place

There are other examples that are less gender specific, but also illustrate the issue of facilitation:

- Refuelling aircraft that are being used to support fighter aircraft being used to commit serious violations of IHL (where these aircraft are included in the national control list to which the exporting state is applying the ATT)
- Naval vessels that are being used to enforce an illegal blockade

We would be interested to see if States Parties agree with us, and why or why not.

Thank you.