

2019 **control**arms

ANNUAL REPORT



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Letter from the Chair

Dear Control Arms members and friends,

In 2014, governments and civil society organizations together celebrated the entry into force of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT). In an international climate rife with political challenges and little space for agreement, the ATT undoubtedly represented a deep commitment to take real measures to reduce human suffering resulting from armed violence.



During these first five years of growth, civil society participation remained a critical element in country reporting, treaty implementation, and the decision-making processes of the CSP. In a time where we bear witness to a declining faith in democracy and the closure of civic space, Control Arms would like to take this opportunity to recognize the diplomats, governments and institutions in the disarmament community that continue to support such open exchange and rigorous debate.

In 2019, with several Conferences of States Parties (CSP) held and new states pledging themselves every year to improve standards in the arms trade, it was also time for Control Arms to assess how it can better collaborate with the ATT mechanisms to move ahead together toward the realization of the Treaty's object and purpose.

In that sense, Control Arms is proud to acknowledge its evolution from its campaign beginnings in 2003, to the global organization it is today. More than just a unified voice representing civil society organizations from all over the world in conferences, this coalition and its secretariat have become active agents and advocates that advance the Treaty's implementation and universalization. Control Arms lends its expertise to government officials in trainings and workshops (ATT Academies, Gender-Based Violence Training); it gathers data and information to assess independently the impact of the ATT, both incrementally and inclusively (the ATT Monitor); and at the same time, it continues to galvanize civil society's energy from around the globe to focus on the importance of standing against illicit and irresponsible arms transfers (Advocacy and Campaigning).

In forging ahead, we inevitably recognize there is still much work to be done. As we welcomed Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Palau, Suriname, Lebanon, Botswana, Canada, and the Maldives as States Parties to the ATT in 2019, other crucial players in the arms trade have yet to ratify or accede to the treaty. Effective implementation and good practice building are also difficulties that need to be addressed. The proliferation of national campaigns and legal challenges led or supported by Control

Arms members and partners that involve a number of ATT States Parties and signatories -- including the UK, Italy, Germany, Belgium, France and Canada -- demonstrates the need for more transparency and accountability to ensure that arms transfers are in compliance with the Treaty's provisions.

To meet these challenges, both new and ongoing, the 158 Control Arms members across 85 countries resolved to redefine the Coalition's mission and vision. During this period of reflection, a process that started in 2019 and will continue through 2020, Control Arms already has made great strides in strengthening its mandate through effective dialogue, collaborative strategic reviews, and transformative shifts in leadership and governance. By the end of this process, we will be better adapted to grow with the Treaty, all while continuing to provide high-quality advocacy, research, insights and assistance to help to achieve effective implementation and full universalization of the ATT. Together, Control Arms will continue to amplify the voices of civil society to put a stop to irresponsible arms transfers that fuel conflict and inflict violence around the world.

As always, Control Arms could not achieve its successes without its network of international organizations, diplomats and government officials, funders, other campaigns, and especially its members. Nor would it be possible without a selfless and devoted Secretariat team, Interim Board and Consultation Working Group. For this, I thank their courage and commitment to believing in and creating a better world.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ivan Marques', is centered on the page.

Ivan Marques – Chair of the Board

ABOUT CONTROL ARMS

Vision: Fewer people suffer harm through armed violence and conflict.

Mission: To help reduce human suffering by stopping arms transfers that fuel poverty, conflict, and violations of international human rights and humanitarian law.

We work toward achieving our mission primarily by supporting universal membership to and effective implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty through three distinct workstreams:

1. Coordination of high quality and representative civil society engagement in the ATT CSP process;
2. Development and delivery of the ATT Academy and other technical training programs and learning opportunities specifically tailored by region, theme and level of implementation and designed for government officials responsible for arms transfer decisions;
3. Cutting-edge independent research and analysis provided by the ATT Monitor Project.

This Annual Report covers in detail the work of the Control Arms Secretariat in 2019, including the ATT Monitor Project. In the interest of transparency, we include initiatives both large and small in scale, some that involve a significant amount of work, funding, and staff time, and others that are less onerous in these respects. As might be expected, there is some overlap across the various strategic areas. Taken as a whole, this programme of work demonstrates considerable ambition and reflects a very high level of dedication and commitment on the part of the Control Arms Secretariat staff.



Control Arms delegation at the Fifth Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty (25 August 2019)

STATE OF THE ATT IN 2019

ATT Universalization

As of 31 December 2019, the ATT Secretariat listed 105 States Parties and 33 Signatories to the Arms Trade Treaty. Eight countries became States Parties to the ATT between 01 January 2019 and 31 December 2019 (Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Palau, Suriname, Lebanon, Botswana, Canada and Maldives), five of which deposited their ATT Instruments of ratification in 2019. This marks a 55 percent increase in new membership when compared to 2018. In 2019, the geographic spread of States Parties remained uneven. Africa (26 of 54 countries), Asia (eight of 14), and Oceania (five of 14) have fewer ATT States Parties, while Europe (39 of 43) and the Americas (27 of 35) are represented more broadly in the ATT membership.

ATT Implementation

Over the past five years, many ATT State Parties took concrete steps toward implementing the ATT's provisions by strengthening their national control systems, adopting national control lists, and updating their national legislation, policies, and procedures. These efforts served to both meet initial obligations and improve ongoing compliance with the provisions of the ATT.

At the same time, arms transfers that contribute to violations of International Humanitarian law (IHL) and International Human Rights Law (IHRL) continued in 2019. The unchecked flow of arms into conflict and other situations with high levels of armed violence resulted in civilian casualties, widespread displacement and human suffering on a large scale. In particular, States Parties to the ATT, including the UK, France and Italy, continued to transfer arms to the warring parties in Yemen, despite extensive documentation by the UN, international research organizations, and civil society of the connection between arms transfers and IHL and IHRL violations. The legality of several of these arms transfer decisions was placed under review at the international and national levels, including in:

- Germany, where the government established in February 2019 a temporary moratorium on arms exports to Saudi Arabia that extended into September 2019;
- The UK, where the Court of Appeal concluded in June 2019 that decisions to authorise arms transfers to Saudi Arabia for use in Yemen were “irrational, and therefore unlawful”; and
- the Belgian region of Wallonia, where in June 2019, the State Council cancelled pre-existing licenses for transfers to Saudi Arabia.

Additionally, Control Arms members Mwatana Organization for Human Rights, Rete Italiana per il Disarmo and Amnesty International contributed to a communication submitted on 11 December 2019 to the Office of the Prosecutor (OTP) of the International Criminal Court (ICC) by the European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights (ECCHR) concerning the situation in Yemen and the responsibility of European corporate and government actors in contributing to the commission of alleged international crimes by supplying weapons, ammunition and logistical support.

Transparency and Reporting in the ATT

Transparency in arms transfers is a central component of the ATT and fundamental to achieving the Treaty's goals and objectives. Article 13 mandates that every State Party submit an Initial Report, within the first year after entry into force of the ATT for that State Party, that describes the measures the state has taken to implement the Treaty, and an Annual Report detailing their annual national arms exports and imports. These reports can contribute to greater transparency of the global arms trade and facilitate confidence-building, responsibility and accountability in national arms transfer decisions.

1. Initial Reports

ATT Monitor analysis of the 2019 reporting cycle (May 31, 2018 - May 31, 2019) showed that the number of Initial Reports submitted has slowed at a rate proportional to the fewer numbers of new States Parties per year:

- Seventy of the 94 Initial Reports expected were submitted by the end of the 2019 reporting cycle (74 percent). Twelve reports have been kept confidential (17 percent).
- Three States Parties submitted their Initial Reports during the 2019 reporting cycle (Kazakhstan, State of Palestine and Tuvalu). All three reports were kept confidential.
- Japan and Sweden were the first ever ATT States Parties to provide the ATT Secretariat with updates to their Initial Reports, which are meant to include - on an ongoing basis - relevant updates or changes to national arms transfer control systems.

2. Annual Reports

ATT Monitor analysis of the 2019 reporting cycle (May 31, 2018 - May 31, 2019) showed that States Parties' 2018 Annual Reports (detailing imports and exports in the 2018 calendar year) were disappointing in both quantity and quality. While several states demonstrated strong commitments to comprehensive, timely and public reporting, there is an opportunity for States Parties to make significant improvements in order to achieve greater levels of transparency:

- Forty-five of the 92 Annual Reports expected were submitted within one week of the legal deadline (59 percent). This marked a nine percent increase in on-time reporting from the previous year.
- Of those who submitted reports on time, six states chose to keep their reports confidential (Honduras, Liberia, Lithuania, Madagascar, Mauritius and Senegal) (13 percent). This marked a 54 percent increase in on-time confidential reports from the previous year.

ATT Conference of States Parties Process

In January and again in April 2019, the ATT Secretariat convened informal preparatory meetings to plan for the Fifth Conference of States Parties (CSP5). The CSP5 took place on 26-30 August 2019 in Geneva, Switzerland and was well-attended by delegates from 86 States Parties, 17 signatories, and three observer states, along with other stakeholders from national governments, regional and

international organizations, and civil society. Ambassador Jānis Kārklīņš of Latvia, President to CSP5, selected gender and gender-based violence (GBV) as the theme of his presidency and approached the issue from three angles: gender balance in representation; the gendered impact of armed violence; and the GBV risk assessment contained in the ATT.

- The Working Group on Effective Treaty Implementation (WGETI) continued to address the implementation of specific ATT articles in dedicated sub-working groups on Article 5 (general implementation), Articles 6 and 7 (prohibitions and export assessment), and Article 11 (diversion) with the aim of developing good practices in the establishment of national control systems.
- The sub-working group on Article 5 completed its mandate, with CSP5's endorsement of the Voluntary Basic Guide to Establishing a National Control System, which seeks to assist States Parties that wish to establish or strengthen their national control system. Upon the close of the Article 5 sub-working group, the WGETI initiated an Article 9 sub-working group, focusing on transit and transshipment.
- The sub-working group on Articles 6 and 7 discussed Article 7(4) relating to serious acts of GBV, and agreed to advance work on GBV and arms transfers.
- The CSP5 also welcomed a multi-year work plan developed by the Article 11 (Diversion) sub-working group.
- Improving the quality and frequency of ATT reporting remained a key priority for the Working Group on Transparency and Reporting (WGTR), which discussed methods to address these challenges.

The CSP5 elected Ambassador Carlos Foradori of Argentina as President of CSP6, which will be held in Geneva from 17-21 August 2020.

ACTIVITIES REPORT

1. Coordination, Representation and Support in the ATT Process

1.1 NGO Coordination and Representation at ATT-related Meetings

Advocacy and policy input to the Fifth Conference of States Parties (CSP5) and intersessional meetings

The ATT CSP process provides a critical opportunity for Control Arms - as a civil society coalition - to:

- Provide constructive input into the discussions and outputs of ATT Working Groups and decisions taken by ATT States Parties at the annual Conference of States Parties (CSP);
- Advocate for high standards in ATT implementation;
- Raise evidence-based treaty compliance concerns to maintain accountability, and;
- Share perspectives of those affected by conflict and armed violence fueled by irresponsible arms transfers.

In early 2019, Control Arms' members and partners held two rounds of consultations to develop policy recommendations on the three priority areas selected by Ambassador Kārklīņš as the focus of his 2018-19 ATT Presidency: gender representation, the gendered impact of arms and the implementation of the GBV criteria in the ATT. Outcomes from this consultation process formed the basis of Control Arms' substantive interventions during the Working Group on Effective Treaty Implementation (WGETI) and the two CSP5 Preparatory Meetings and supported the development and production of a Factsheet on Gender in the ATT, in partnership with the International Gender Champions Disarmament Impact Group.

Control Arms Sponsorship Programme and Coordination of Civil Society

In 2019, as in each year since the ATT's entry into force, Control Arms coordinated the participation of civil society in all official ATT meetings. Throughout the year, Control Arms coordinated the participation of 104 civil society representatives at four international meetings in 2019 and sponsored 31 of these representatives through its Sponsorship Program.

- **First ATT Working Group Meetings and Preparatory Meeting for CSP5 (29 January – 01 February 2019)** - Three sponsored participants were selected from 44 applications. In total, Control Arms coordinated the participation of 20 civil society participants. For the first time, Control Arms published a [Sponsorship Booklet](#), which succeeded in drawing the attention of governments to the unique value of the Sponsorship Programme.
- **Second ATT Working Group Meetings and Preparatory Meeting for CSP5 (02 – 05 April 2019)** - Four sponsored participants were selected from 38 applications. In total, Control Arms coordinated the participation of 16 civil society participants.
- **CSP5 (26-30 August 2019)** - 17 sponsored participants were selected from 63 applications. In total, Control Arms coordinated the participation of 61 civil society participants from 34 countries.

- [74th UNGA First Committee \(07 October–08 November 2019\)](#) - Six sponsored participants were selected from 31 applications. In total, Control Arms coordinated the participation of 7 civil society participants from 6 countries.

Coordination efforts also included logistical support, briefing materials, and the facilitation of meetings with delegates in Geneva and New York in advance of each set of meetings.

To ensure diversity at each meeting, the Control Arms delegation comprised a range of organizations representative of North America, Latin America and the Caribbean, Europe, Asia, Africa, and MENA and four of the UN languages (English, French, Spanish and Arabic).

Coordination of Regional Advocacy and Outreach

In advance of each official ATT meeting, Control Arms drafted and distributed to coalition members advocacy briefs in English, French, and Spanish that enabled civil society participants to identify, develop and tailor advocacy messages. Using these resources, Control Arms members urged governments to register for and actively participate in CSP5 and its intersessional meetings. At CSP5, Control Arms members reached over 85 governments through regional and bilateral meetings. In advance of and during the UNGA First Committee, Control Arms members met with over 135 governments and secured a very high level of support for the ATT resolutions, including 97 co-sponsors. Control Arms members also gathered updated information and useful feedback on the status of ATT universalization and implementation across regions.

Civil Society Briefing Days

Control Arms held half-day briefing meetings for all civil society participants in advance of each set of ATT Working Group Meetings and a full briefing day on 25 August 2019 in advance of CSP5. The CSP5 briefing day provided almost 60 civil society attendees with:

- updates on the Treaty's universalization and implementation and an overview of the main decisions taken by the two sets of ATT Working Groups Meetings;
- an overview of the CSP5 agenda and scheduled side events;
- information about the media and social media strategy for the week and logistical details concerning planned campaign actions;
- an opportunity to engage with Ambassador Kārklīņš, President of CSP5, to learn more about the President's Working Paper on Gender and GBV and his goals for a successful CSP session; and
- an opportunity to discuss common advocacy messages and coordinate regional or thematic issues to raise in meetings with government delegations.

In further support of effective civil society engagement, Control Arms held daily CSP5 morning coordination briefings that averaged 35 participants and facilitated the sharing of updates and relevant information among civil society representatives. These briefings also provided space to prepare for regional and bilateral meetings with government delegations.

Organization and Delivery of Side Events

Control Arms organized 10 side events across all official ATT meetings and UNGA First Committee:

First and Second ATT Working Group and Prepcoms

- 29 January 2019 - [The Gendered Impact of Explosive Weapons Used in Populated Areas in Yemen](#)
- 30 January 2019 - [ATT Implementation and Universalization in the MENA Region](#)
- 28 January 2019 - [Lessons Learned from ATT Reporting](#)
- 02 April 2019 - [Gender-based Violence and the Arms Trade Treaty: A Legal Perspective](#)

CSP5

- 26 August 2019 - [Launch of the ATT Monitor Report 2019](#)
- 28 August 2019 - [Report-back: ATT Gender-based Violence Regional Implementation Training](#)
- 29 August 2019 - [Legal Review: The Arms Trade Treaty and Yemen](#)

At CSP5, Control Arms campaigners served as panelists in nine of the 18 side events that took place that week.

UNGA First Committee

- 22 October 2019 - [Living up to the Arms Trade Treaty's promise: The role of the ATT in addressing Gender-Based Violence](#)
- 24 October 2019 - [Presentation of the ATT Monitor Annual Report 2019 and Launch of Stimson's ATT-BAP report 'The Known Unknowns: Examining the 2018 ATT Annual Reports'](#)
- 25 October 2019 - [Report from the ATT Fifth Conference of States Parties \(CSP5\) and Prospects for CSP6 annual side event](#)



Campaigns and Social Media

In July 2019, in line with the CSP5 thematic focus on gender and GBV, Control Arms launched a 10-day countdown campaign using the hashtag [#STOPGBV](#). The campaign included a series of social media posts and infographics that highlighted 10 reasons why GBV must be tackled in the context of the arms trade and reached over 31,300 people on Twitter and over 13,300 people on Facebook.

On the morning of 26 August 2019, before the opening of CSP5, Control Arms campaigners from around the world gathered in front of the Palais des Nations in Geneva to raise awareness about the importance of addressing GBV and violence against women and children. In front

of the iconic statue of a small boy, campaigners highlighted the impact that irresponsible arms transfers have on children and the importance of implementing Article 7.4 of the ATT to reduce that impact. This campaign action reached over 10,000 people on Facebook and Twitter.

1.2 Coordination and Support of Control Arms Coalition Members

Managing Coalition Membership and Outreach

In 2019, Control Arms welcomed four new coalition [members](#): Sierra Leone Action Network on Small Arms (SLANSA); Center for International Security and Policy, based in Kazakhstan; the Forum on Disarmament and Development (FDD) based in Sri Lanka; and Save the Children, based in the United Kingdom. Control Arms also undertook a thorough review of its membership database and executed a comprehensive outreach plan to update its membership records. As of December 31, 2019, Control Arms has 158 members in more than 80 countries.

Support for Member Activities and Efforts in Support of the ATT

Over the course of 2019, Control Arms worked with members in over 35 countries including Cameroon, Kenya, Democratic Republic of Congo, Namibia, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Jamaica, Mexico, Peru, Lebanon and Mali to provide technical briefings and advocacy materials, draft official letters and develop presentations and messaging, for government officials working in the arms control sector. Control Arms staff also provided several coalition members with drafting support for fundraising applications, including for the ATT Voluntary Trust Fund (VTF) and the UN Trust Facility Supporting Cooperation on Arms Regulation (UNSCAR) fund.

1.3 Engagement with Key ATT Stakeholders

Outreach to Missions and Engagement with ATT Stakeholders

In advance of CSP5, Control Arms hosted three regional roundtables for Geneva-based delegates and government officials in advance of CSP5:

- A regional briefing meeting for African states on 06 August, which brought together 15 Geneva-based delegates;
- A regional briefing meeting for Pacific Asian states on 07 August, which was attended by 25 Geneva-based delegates;
- A regional briefing meeting for Latin American states on 07 August, which was attended by 10 Geneva-based delegates.

In each of these meetings, Control Arms provided an update on the developments of the ATT Working Groups and Preparatory Meetings held in 2019 and an analysis of the gender and GBV theme of CSP5. Each group also explored region-specific interests, including diversion and universalisation, discussed goals and expectations for CSP5 and identified ways to encourage participation and engagement from all states.

Throughout the year, Control Arms staff also held bilateral meetings with delegates from Mexico, Peru, Chile, Paraguay, and other regional stakeholders to support efforts focused on tackling diversion and advance the Treaty's effective implementation in the region.

On 03-04 July 2019, UNRCPD invited Control Arms staff to attend and provide two expert presentations at the ATT Universalization and Implementation Workshop for Central Asia and Mongolia, organized by Kazakhstan and UNRCPD.

Maintaining Relationships with Key NGO Partners

In 2019, Control Arms prioritized strengthening relationships with key arms control organizations including the Geneva Centre for Security Policy, Small Arms Survey, Geneva Disarmament Platform, Quaker United Nations Office, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), International Campaign to Ban Landmines, and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research. These efforts enabled Control Arms to deepen existing relationships and develop new partnerships to advance a series of initiatives focused on reducing arms diversion in the context of the ATT, strengthening the network of Geneva-based disarmament NGOs, engaging industry in the ATT process, and advancing discussions on gender and GBV across multilateral instruments. These exchanges resulted in closer coordination of current and future projects, thereby preventing duplication of efforts and building stronger collaborations toward the Treaty's universalization and implementation.

In April 2019, the Control Arms Geneva-based representative attended and provided an expert presentation on "Arms Trade Control: The Role of Civil Society" at a conference hosted by the Geneva Centre for Security Policy titled "Building Capacities for Effective Implementation of the ATT." The conference (attended by representatives from states including Libya, Iraq, Uganda, Ivory Coast, Ukraine, UAE, Cameroon, Thailand, France, Germany, and Nigeria) offered a valuable opportunity to speak with representatives from a wide range of countries that are at different stages in their engagement with the ATT.

On 23 August 2019, in advance of CSP5, Control Arms' Programme Manager participated as an expert speaker at the "[Gender and gender-based violence in relation to the ATT](#)," a one day workshop organized by the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations in Geneva and WILPF. Control Arms presented the [Control Arms ATT GBV Practical Guide](#) and shared its findings and recommendations from its Central and Eastern European Regional Training on the GBV Criterion in the ATT (see Section 2.1) on how to assess the risk of GBV in the context of arms export decisions.

In November 2019, Control Arms' Geneva-based representative, in connection with the Geneva Disarmament Platform, conducted an interactive workshop for a class of high school students on the issue of the arms trade to raise awareness and encourage youth engagement in disarmament.

2. Support for Effective ATT implementation

2.1 Training, Capacity-building and Awareness-raising

The delivery of training programmes for government officials and civil society representatives at the global, regional and national level is a key area of work for the Control Arms Secretariat. Control Arms training programmes bring a new approach to learning about the ATT and its implementation by developing a series of tailored in-depth and interactive learning opportunities for select participants, all of whom engage directly with the ATT in their work as government officials or as part of civil society movements.

[Central and Eastern European Regional Training on the GBV Criterion in the ATT](#)

Control Arms hosted the first-ever training focused exclusively on the development and implementation of the ATT GBV criterion on 14-16 May 2019, in Riga, Latvia. This training brought together almost 30 government representatives from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Czech Republic, Georgia, Latvia, Lithuania, Montenegro, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Slovenia to learn more about the link between GBV and arms transfer decisions. As a result, participants were able to identify practical ways to apply the ATT risk-assessment criteria in their national contexts to take into account more fully the risks of GBV.

[ATT Academy in Southern Africa](#)

In 2019, the ATT Academy program brought together 20 national representatives (two government and one civil society representatives per country) from Southern Africa, each of whom was in a position to advance the ATT ratification and accession. Following the ATT Academy model first created and designed by Control Arms in 2017, the ATT Academy in Southern Africa consists of two one-week in-person trainings along with six months of online one-on-one support to government officials between the training sessions. The first in-person session held in December 2019 provided detailed article-by-article training on the ATT and explored relevant thematic issues for the Southern African Development Community (SADC) sub-region. The second in-person session, scheduled to take place in 2020, will explore and tackle issues identified by the participants themselves during the interim period and will explore the practical application of the ATT to region-specific challenges.

[Thematic Roundtables and Workshops](#)

Control Arms held a roundtable meeting on 04 June 2019 in Geneva, where participants moved forward discussions concerning arms diversion in the context of the ATT. With the engagement of representatives from ATT States Parties including Argentina, France, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Switzerland, and organizations such as Small Arms Survey, UNIDIR, Conflict Armament Research, Stimson Center and Saferworld, the participants together agreed on the objective, structure and content for a one-day diversion workshop, which Control Arms successfully delivered in February 2020. This roundtable also helped to maintain momentum and engagement relating to the CSP4 theme of arms diversion.

2.2 Research and Other Publications

In 2019, as a complement to the gender and arms-related GBV theme of CSP5, Control Arms and its partners undertook a variety of research projects to support the effective implementation of the GBV provisions in the ATT. The CSP5 focus on gender allowed Control Arms to engage in deeper analysis of the links between the conventional arms categories covered by the ATT and GBV. With its partners, Control Arms produced the following publications:

1. [Q&A Answer Sheet - Serious Human Rights Violations and Gender-Based Violence and the ATT](#), researched and written by the International Human Rights Clinic (IHRC) at Harvard Law School and Control Arms

Building on the Control Arms' 2018 publication [How to use the ATT to Address Gender-based Violence: A Practical Guide for Risk Assessment](#), this resource provides guidance on what constitutes a serious violation of international human rights law and how GBV relates to the risk assessment obligations in the ATT. This paper was circulated during the first ATT Working Group Meetings and CSP5 Preparatory Meeting (January 2019).

2. [Interpreting the ATT: International Human Rights Law and Gender-Based Violence in Article 7 Risk Assessments](#), researched and written by the International Human Rights Clinic (IHRC) at Harvard Law School and Control Arms

Building on the Q&A Answer Sheet described above, this resource provides interpretive guidance on key terms that appear in Article 7, including “serious violation of international human rights law,” “serious acts of GBV,” and “overriding risk.” It also examines how gender and risks of GBV are relevant to each part of the Article 7 risk assessment, particularly with respect to serious violations of international human rights law. Control Arms launched this paper at a [side event](#) during the second ATT Working Group Meetings and CSP5 Preparatory Meeting (April 2019) and it became a key component of the curriculum for the Central and Eastern European Regional Training on the GBV Criteria in the ATT (14 - 16 May 2019 Riga, Latvia).

3. [Factsheet of Gender in the ATT](#), researched and written by International Gender Champions Disarmament Impact Group and Control Arms

This resource provides ATT stakeholders a quick-reference guide to the gendered impact of armed violence and conflict in the context of the ATT, the ATT GBV risk assessment criteria, and gender equality in the ATT review process. Along with relevant facts and statistics, this resource sets out suggested action for ATT States Parties and the ATT Secretariat to address gender and GBV issues. Control Arms circulated this factsheet during the first ATT Working Group Meetings and CSP5 Preparatory Meeting (January 2019).

3. Monitoring ATT Implementation, Transparency and Reporting

The ATT Monitor, an independent project of Control Arms, is the de facto international monitoring mechanism for the ATT and serves as a source of information on the implementation of, and

compliance with, the Treaty. Its research and analysis serves to strengthen Treaty implementation efforts and improve the transparency of the conventional arms trade.

The ATT Monitor produces independent research for its key audiences: government policymakers, export officials, civil society, and international organizations, as well as the media and the general public.

This information is used to:

- advance the ATT's universalisation and implementation;
- identify key challenges in advancing global acceptance of the ATT's norms and its full implementation and propose steps to address these challenges;
- develop recommendations for government policy planning and decision-making, and;
- provide a research-based tool for civil society to reference in advocacy efforts and use to support capacity building and training programs.

ATT Monitor Annual Reports, the flagship publication of the project launched each year at CSP, take stock of existing practice, create greater transparency in how the ATT is implemented, inform the work of the CSPs and intersessional meetings, and ensure accountability for Treaty commitments.

ATT Monitor Independent Advisory Bodies

The ATT Monitor is guided and supported by two independent advisory bodies:

- **The Editorial Team** is responsible for ensuring that ATT Monitor Annual Reports contain high-quality research and analysis by defining areas of focus, providing general guidance on research questions, and engaging in the ATT Monitor's peer review process. It is composed of international non-governmental organizations such as Amnesty International and Saferworld, and regional research organizations and independent consultants, all with in-depth knowledge and experience with the ATT.
- **The International Reference Group** provides strategic advice to the Editorial Team and ATT Monitor staff on current issues and themes related to the arms trade and contributes content to ATT Monitor Annual Reports. It is composed of individuals with expertise in key areas of research and experience in documentation and research methodologies.

ATT Monitor Annual Report and 2019 Activities

At different events throughout 2019, ATT Monitor staff continued to present findings from the 2018 fourth edition of the [ATT Monitor Annual Report](#). For example, at the First ATT Working Groups and Informal Preparatory Meetings for CSP5, the ATT Monitor Researcher presented findings of the ATT Monitor's discrepancy analysis at a side event [Lessons Learned from ATT Reporting](#). Additionally, ATT Monitor staff presented an overview of the project and its key outputs at the University of Sussex in Brighton, United Kingdom.

In August 2019 at CSP5 in Geneva, the ATT Monitor launched its fifth edition of the [ATT Monitor Annual Report](#). In addition to its in-depth analysis of States Parties' reporting compliance and commitments to transparency, the report included a special section on gender, GBV and the ATT to complement the CSP President's chosen priority theme. The report gives an overview of gender representation in the ATT process, discusses challenges around the identification of the problem of GBV, examines the specific GBV provisions in the ATT and explores how States Parties can effectively operationalize them. The report also illustrates existing practice by States Parties based on interviews with licensing officials from Australia, France, Germany, Ireland, the Netherlands, Poland and Sweden.

As in previous editions, the fifth edition of the [ATT Monitor Annual Report](#) includes Country Profiles that provide easily comparable and nationally relevant findings to help inform future state practice, as well as information used by civil society to identify problematic transfer patterns and push for States Parties' implementation of ATT obligations. The Country Profiles published each year are a key resource for all ATT stakeholders and are often cited by government officials and civil society members as helpful in supporting their respective work toward Treaty implementation.

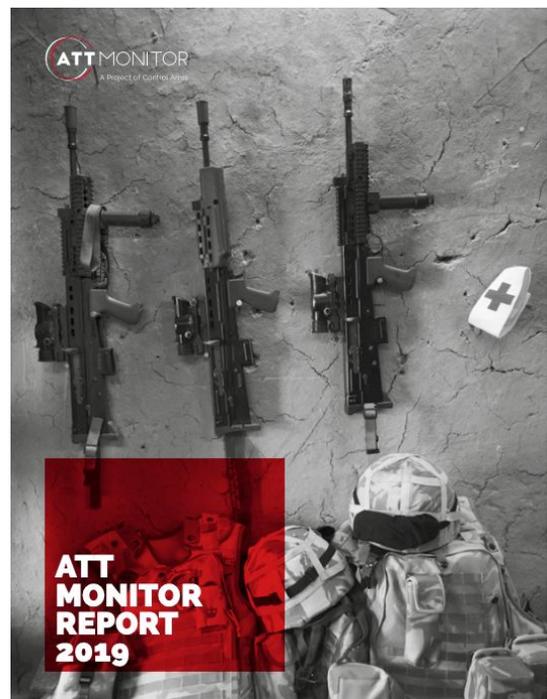
The CSP5 [launch](#) event for the fifth edition of the ATT Monitor Annual Report in August 2019 was co-sponsored by the governments of Australia and the Netherlands, with participation by the government of Latvia and the Stimson Center. Over 50 expert stakeholders, including representatives from more than 25 governments and 24 civil society and international organizations attended the event.

The event Chairperson, Ambassador Robert Gabriëlse of the Netherlands spoke of the important role of the ATT Monitor project in filling a critical gap in providing in-depth analysis of reporting. In October 2019, ATT Monitor staff [presented](#) the report during the UN General Assembly First Committee meeting in New York at an event co-sponsored again by the governments of Australia and the Netherlands, with participation by the government of Germany and the Stimson Center.

In total, the ATT Monitor distributed more than 500 copies of the report at these events in 2019 – in English, French, and Spanish. The report was also launched online in all three languages and viewed/downloaded over 500 times in 2019. The [ATT Monitor website](#), which serves as a resource on the implementation of the ATT, also received a total of 8,340 visits from 121 countries.

4. ATT Universalisation

Supporting and encouraging ATT universalization remains a key priority for Control Arms. Control Arms employs a comprehensive approach that includes advocacy and outreach in New York, Geneva and in



capitals, capacity-building and technical support in preparation for ratification/accession to the ATT, and awareness-raising campaigns at the national and international levels. In 2019, following consultations with members and governments, Control Arms adapted its universalization strategy to take into account identified gaps as well as the differing challenges and assistance needs between States.

In January 2019, Control Arms, in partnership with Latvia as President of CSP5 and Japan, organized a celebratory reception at the First ATT Working Groups and Informal Preparatory Meetings for CSP5 to welcome Mozambique's ratification as the 100th ATT State Party and encourage other states to join the Treaty. Control Arms presented a [video](#) during the celebratory remarks, highlighting the outpouring of support from coalition members and governmental officials who shared their #100ReasonsWhy the ATT matters.

Throughout the year, the Control Arms Secretariat consulted regularly with members and partners around the world to track new developments on ATT universalization. In 2019, Control Arms designated as priority states for ATT accession: Andorra, Botswana, Bangladesh, Canada, Colombia, Ethiopia, Eswatini, Gabon, Haiti, Kenya, Kiribati, Lebanon, Maldives, Malawi, Malaysia, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Vanuatu and Tanzania. Of these priority states, four countries became States Parties to the ATT in 2019 (Botswana, Canada, Lebanon, and the Maldives) and several others have made significant progress toward this goal.

5. Control Arms Governance Structure and Funding Sources

5.1 Focus on Institutional Development

2019 marked five years since the entry-into-force of the ATT. This was also an important milestone for the Control Arms coalition and provided an opportunity to assess the Coalition's progress and to review its vision and strategy going forward.

In August 2019, Control Arms initiated a year-long internal Review Process. To lead the transition, the coalition inaugurated two provisional governance bodies to take the process forward: the Interim Board and the Consulting Working Group (CWG).

The **Interim Board** has the responsibility to conduct the Review Process and is the Coalition's highest decision-making body during the transitional period. It also assists the Secretariat in continuing to deliver effective programming, supports administrative and fundraising decisions, and leads the recruitment process for leadership positions. The Coalition membership elected seven interim board members who will fulfill their mandates by the end of the Review Process.

The **CWG** consists of 16 elected representatives of member organizations based in all regions as well as from key international organizations. The CWG's mandate is to make recommendations to the Interim Board concerning:

- Mission, vision and objectives of Control Arms
- Governance, procedures and internal policies
- Transparency and accountability

The review process is expected to be finalized by the end of 2020.

2019 was also a year marked by several structural changes in terms of Control Arms' operations:

- Relocating the Control Arms Geneva office from Impact Hub to a space within the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) at Rue de Varembe 3, 1202 Geneva, allowing for enhanced meeting facilitation with ATT stakeholders and closer collaboration with other NGOs.
- Downsizing the Control Arms New York office at 205 E. 42nd Street from a six-person office to a two-person office, while maintaining access to conference space and close proximity to UN Headquarters
- Initiating a comprehensive financial management review to improve systems for book-keeping, accounting, and provision of budget statements and forecasts.

Nonviolence International continued in its role as fiscal sponsor for Control Arms, which includes overseeing the employment of Control Arms staff based in the United States and providing operational, grant and administrative support.

5.2 Funding Support

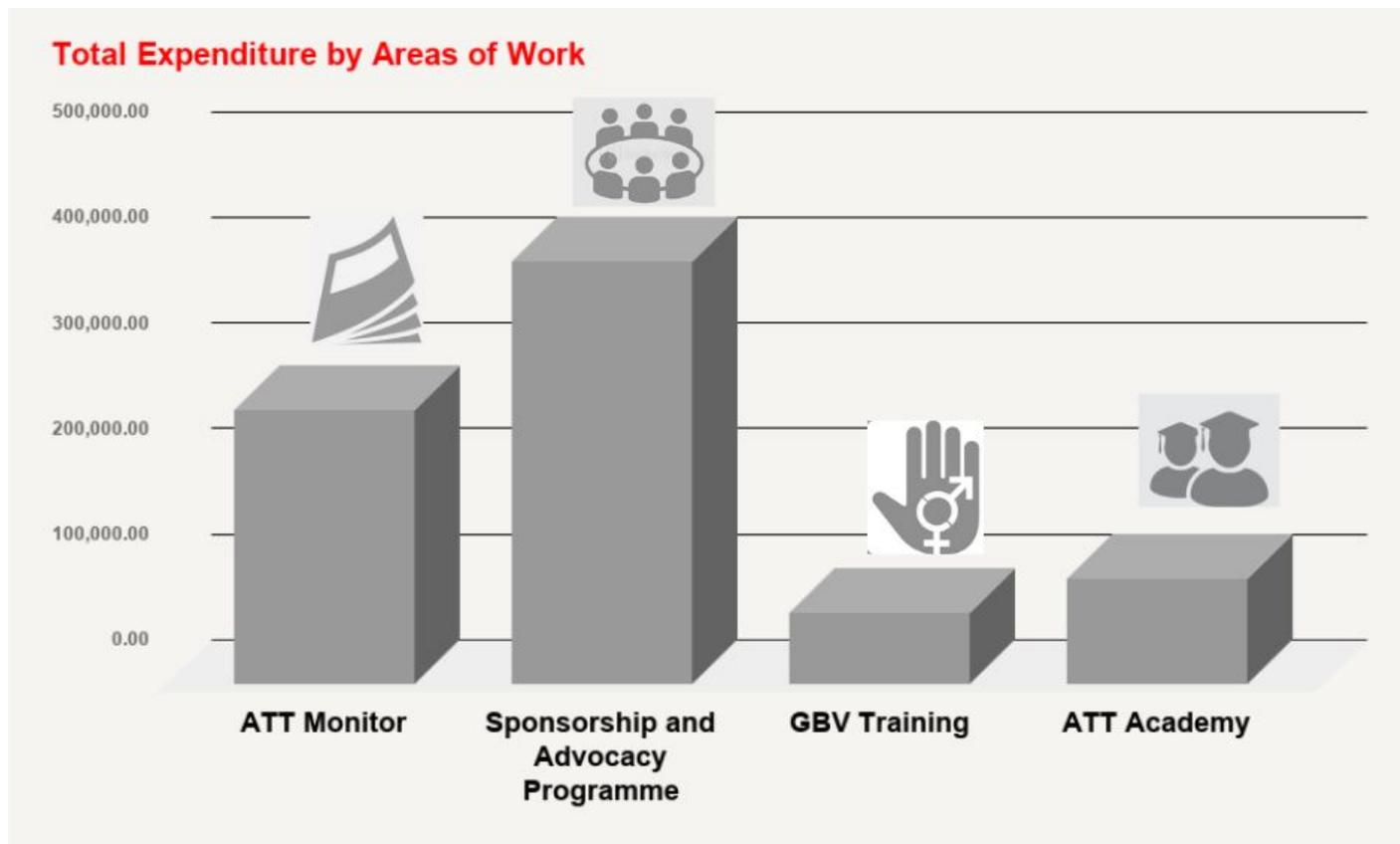
Fundraising was a key priority for Control Arms in 2019, particularly with respect to the continued operation of the Sponsorship Fund. This workstream included timely donor reporting and ongoing fundraising efforts.

2019 FINANCIAL REPORT

In 2019, Control Arms received a total of \$827,724.88 from the following donors:

- The Government of Australia
- The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany
- The Government of the Netherlands
- The Government of Sweden
- The Government of Switzerland
- The ATT Voluntary Trust Fund (VTF)
- United Nations Trust Facility Supporting Cooperation on Arms Regulation (UNSCAR)

These funds were used to support the core areas of work described above, as follows:



Control Arms Governance and Leadership

Control Arms Interim Board (*starting November 2019*)

- Ivan Marques (Chairperson), Independent arms control expert and former Executive Director of Sou da Paz Institute, Brazil
- Michael Beer, Executive Director of Nonviolence International, USA
- Maria Pia Devoto, Director of Association Para Politicas Publicas, Argentina
- Ben Donaldson, Head of Campaigns at United Nations Association, UK
- Geoffrey Duke, Head of the Secretariat for the South Sudan Action Network on Small Arms, South Sudan
- Roy Isbister, Head of Arms Unit at Saferworld, UK
- Syed Tamjid Rahman, Chief Executive Officer at Changemaker Bangladesh, Bangladesh

Control Arms Secretariat

- Anna Macdonald, Director (*until June 2019*)
- Verity Coyle, ATT Monitor Coordinator (*until September 2019*)
- Zoya Craig, Finance and Operations Manager (*until June 2019*)
- Aaron Lainé, Geneva Policy and Government Liaison Officer (*starting March 2019*)
- Raluca Muresan, Program Manager
- Katherine Young, ATT Monitor Researcher

Consultants:

- Paula Cella, Bookkeeper (*starting August 2019*)
- Cindy Ebbs, Senior Policy Advisor (*starting September 2019*)
- Daniel Mack, ATT Monitor Consultant (*starting October 2019*)
- Joe Rolston, Accountant (*starting June 2019*)

Interns

- Brittany Banna, University of Oregon (*August - November 2019*)
- Silvia Dominguez, Pace University (*June - August 2019*)
- Aidan Vandenburg, Northwestern University (*December - June 2019*)

ATT Monitor Editorial Team

- Deepayan Basu Ray, Centre for Armed Violence Reduction
- Martin Butcher, Oxfam International
- Kenneth Epps, Project Ploughshares
- Roy Isbister, Saferworld
- Elizabeth Kirkham, Saferworld
- Daniel Mack, Independent Consultant
- Stephen Mwachofi Singo, Security Research & Information Centre (SRIC)
- Yannick Quéau, Group for Research Information on Peace and Security (GRIP)
- Patrick Wilcken, Amnesty International

Control Arms Consultation Working Group (CWG)

African Group (4)

- Mimidoo Achapka, Women's Right to Education Programme
- Joseph Dube, IANSA Southern Africa
- Singo Mwachofi, Security Research and Information Centre
- Eugene Ngalim, Central Africa Action Network on Small Arms (RASALAC)

Asia-Pacific Group (3)

- Vidya Abhayagunawardena, Forum on Disarmament and Development
- Shobha Shrestha, Women for Peace and Democracy Nepal
- Ema Tagicakibau, Pacific Small Arms Action Group

GRULAC (3)

- Ana Yancy Espinoza, Arias Foundation
- Ansel Lee, Kingston and St. Andrew Action Forum
- Sara San Martin, Centro de Estudios Ecuménicos

WEOG (3)

- Helen Close, Omega Research Foundation
- Frank Slijper, PAX
- Anna Stavrianakis, University of Sussex

Middle East (1)

- Shirine El Jurdi, Permanent Peace Movement

International (2)

- Martin Butcher, Oxfam
- Patrick Wilcken, Amnesty International