



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 25 June 2012**

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From: Council

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On: 25 June 2012

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Subject: Council conclusions on the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT)  
- Adoption

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Delegations will find attached the Council conclusions on the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), as adopted by the Council on 25 June 2012.

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**COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS ON THE ARMS TRADE TREATY**

1. The Council firmly expresses its strongest commitment to the success of the negotiation of the Arms Trade Treaty. This new legally binding international instrument should establish the highest possible common international standards to regulate legal trade in conventional weapons. The Council considers that the Arms Trade Treaty will make trade in arms more responsible and transparent, thus contributing to reinforcing peace and security, regional stability and sustainable social and economic development.
2. The Council looks forward to contributing to the success of the UN Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty, to be held in New York on 2-27 July 2012. The Council welcomes the results achieved by the Preparatory Committee to the Conference that developed concrete and comprehensive recommendations as reflected in the Chairman's draft paper of 14 July 2011.
3. The Council will exert every effort to ensure that the UN Conference will agree on a robust and strong Arms Trade Treaty, which should be relevant to all UN Member States and can therefore be universal. To this end, the Council calls on all UN Member States to fully engage in the negotiation of the Treaty and to commit to its success.
4. The Council strongly supports an Arms Trade Treaty that will include in its scope all military conventional weapons and systems, including small arms and light weapons, munitions, related technology, and parts and components. The Treaty should require controls on transfers and brokering of conventional weapons covered by the scope of the Treaty. Different control provisions for different types of transfers should be foreseen.

5. The Council calls for an Arms Trade Treaty that contains clear and strong parameters, against which arms exports and brokering should be assessed. The need for strong parameters is particularly relevant to ensure that arms would not be transferred if there is a substantial risk that they might be used to violate human rights or international humanitarian law.
  6. The Council stresses that the implementation of transfer controls in accordance with an Arms Trade Treaty should be a national responsibility. States Parties shall establish a legal and administrative system that would ensure they could exercise control, as required by the Treaty, over transfers of items covered by the scope of an ATT. States Parties should also ensure that infractions of their national control systems are effectively prohibited and associated with sanctions as appropriate.
  7. The Council maintains that in order to make global trade in arms more responsible, the Treaty should contain credible and effective transparency provisions. States Parties should report on transfers authorized to an appropriate level of detail, as required by the Treaty.
  8. The Council fully recognizes that assistance should be provided to facilitate the full implementation of the Treaty. The Council recalls its Decisions 2010/336/CFSP and 2009/42/CFSP, implemented in cooperation with the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, to support the negotiation and future implementation of an Arms Trade Treaty. The Council confirms its readiness to continue to contribute, as appropriate, to UN Member States' efforts to ensure full implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty, once it has been adopted.
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