



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.

The Arms Trade Treaty at 10

Parliamentary engagement for a world free from armed violence

Webinar organised by the Inter-Parliamentary Union for the universalization of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) on the 10th Anniversary of its entry into force

Online – 10 December 2024

Session 1: Timed for the Asia/Pacific region – 7:00 – 8:30 CET

Session 2: Timed for Africa, Europe and the Americas – 17:00 – 18:30 CET

Background:

The Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) is an international agreement that regulates the international trade in conventional weapons, including small arms, light weapons, and ammunitions. The ATT entered into force in 2014, and currently has 116 State Parties. The treaty has the potential to considerably alleviate human suffering by preventing the illicit flows of weapons, where they fuel violence and human rights abuses. However, the universalization of the ATT has been slow, with many countries yet to sign or ratify the treaty, especially in regions most impacted by illicit flows of Small Arms and Light Weapons. In addition, there are still many myths and misconceptions surrounding the treaty that have hindered its implementation and effectiveness.

Parliamentarians are the first in line to address the human suffering caused by illicit arms flows and, in such a situation, they have an important role to play in promoting the ATT and ensuring its effective implementation. In so doing, they can use their legislative, budget setting and oversight powers to promote the treaty, ensure its effective implementation, and hold their governments accountable for their commitments under the treaty. This webinar will feature a panel discussion with experts and keynote speeches, and an interactive segment for discussions and questions. It is designed to engage parliamentarians with the ATT in anticipation to future efforts seeking to assist parliamentarians with concrete actions to promote the ATT and champion its ratification.

This webinar seeks to bring together parliamentarians from around the world to discuss their role in promoting the ATT and shaping the way towards universalization and effective implementation.

Objectives:

- Address the myths and misconceptions surrounding the ATT and highlight the importance of the treaty for fostering international and regional peace, security and stability, reducing human suffering, and promoting cooperation, transparency and responsible action.
- Identify opportunities and challenges for parliaments in promoting the ATT and shaping the way towards universalization.
- Share good practices and experiences of parliaments in promoting the ATT and ensuring its effective implementation.
- Develop concrete actions for parliaments to promote the ATT and ensure its effective implementation.

Expected Outcomes:

- Increased awareness and understanding of the ATT among parliamentarians and parliamentary staff.
- Increased engagement of parliaments in promoting the ATT and ensuring its effective implementation.
- Enhanced cooperation and coordination among parliaments and civil society organizations working on arms control and disarmament issues.
- Concrete actions and recommendations for parliaments to promote the ATT and ensure its effective implementation.

The webinar will take place online. Session 1 will take place in English only and Session 2 in English, French, Arabic and Spanish via simultaneous interpretation. You may register via the following links:

Session 1: <https://us06web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZcvfuyprjMtGterfM13WdC1qoPmNpGkaAA8>

Session 2: <https://us06web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZEsdOigrT8iHdWJL8KzMpiceJCJCF1qMxFP>