



Amnesty International statement at the 12th Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty

August 2026

Madame President,

Amnesty International strongly supports the Arms Trade Treaty, its purpose of reducing human suffering and the preventive measures it mandates – particularly in Articles 6 and 7.

The situation in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territory remains of critical concern with an ongoing genocide against Palestinians in the Gaza Strip. As of 1 July 2026, according to the Palestinian Ministry of Health in Gaza, more than 73,000 Palestinians have been killed, the vast majority of whom were civilians, with more than 173,500 others injured. Israel has been enabled to carry out crimes of this magnitude by an almost uninterrupted supply of weapons and munitions.

States Parties to the ATT, contrary to obligations under Article 6, have directly or indirectly facilitated this supply. Many European States Parties continue to allow the transit of arms to Israel through their territories, including territorial waters and airspace.

Activists, dockworkers, and grassroots movements have engaged in collective action, including strikes, port blockades, litigation, and other forms of non-violent resistance to stop the transfer of military goods to Israel. In some cases, States Parties have not only failed to take effective action to halt the unlawful transit of arms through their territories but have also responded by criminalizing, or otherwise repressing, non-violent actions of individuals and groups seeking to challenge these transfers.

States Parties must be proactive in their efforts to block the transit of shipments of arms bound for Israel. Greater transparency, more information sharing and tighter customs controls are urgently needed. They must also respect civil society and dock workers' rights to mobilize against these unlawful transfers, cease efforts to sanction their actions and instead work with them to ensure full implementation of the ATT.

Latest research from Amnesty International highlights the strong and growing supply of military equipment, parts and components from India to Israel, including over 390,000 military small arms parts; 564,000 parts of explosive ordnance; and 298 components of military vehicles to large Israeli companies that supply the Israeli armed forces. States Parties must ensure that no shipments of military goods from India to Israel transit through their territories and encourage India to join the ATT.

Amnesty International reiterates its concerns regarding conflicts in Sudan and Myanmar. ATT signatories and States Parties must ensure that they are in no way involved – whether directly or indirectly - in the transfer of arms to these conflicts. They must also support efforts to impose and implement effective, comprehensive UN Security Council arms embargoes on both Sudan and Myanmar.