

**SIDE EVENT: ARMS TRADE TREATY CONFERENCE OF STATE PARTIES 10**

# THE RIGHT OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND ARMS TRANSFERS: PREVENTING LETHAL SECRECY

In times of increasing opacity in arms transfers around the world, the latest OHCHR report (A/HRC/56/42) addresses the role of access to information in preventing, mitigating and addressing the adverse human rights impacts of arms transfers. The right of access to information is enshrined in several human rights treaties, and is also an enabler for the enjoyment of many other human rights. It is a precondition for accountability and effective oversight, and improves the quality of decision-making, which is crucial to prevent violations of international law resulting from arms transfers. The effective implementation of the right is therefore key in working towards the ATT's purpose of reducing human suffering and contributing to peace, security and stability.

Speakers will examine States' and arms industry's obligations and responsibilities respectively under international law to respect and ensure the right of access to information on arms transfers, highlight salient challenges when it comes to reporting practices on arms transfers, and the consequences these challenges have for accountability and oversight. The panellists will suggest recommendations to improve transparency and access to information to strengthen the prevention of and accountability for the negative human rights impacts of arms transfers.

## **SPEAKERS AND MODERATOR:**

- Chatrina Schumacher, Programme Officer Peace and Disarmament, QUNO
- Daniel Moegster, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
- Hiruni Alwishewa, Arms Trade Researcher and Consultant
- Mark Bromley, Senior Researcher, SIPRI
- Carina Solmirano, ATT Monitor Project Lead, Control Arms
- Frank Slijper, Project Leader, Arms Trade, PAX
- Laura Varella, Coordinator, Reaching Critical Will – WILPF (Moderator)

**23  
AUG  
2024**

**1:15-  
2:45  
PM**

**ROOM B,  
CICG**

*Refreshments and snacks  
will be offered from 12:45*

