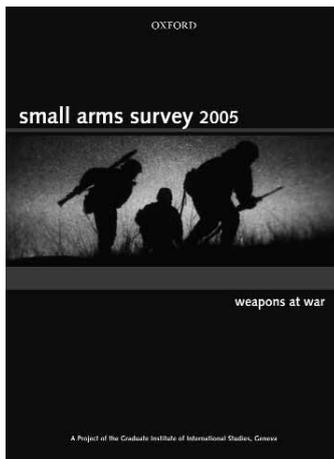


Small Arms Survey 2005: Weapons at War



The *Small Arms Survey 2005: Weapons at War* is dedicated to exploring issues surrounding armed conflict, including the sourcing of weapons to conflict areas, weapons use, conflict deaths, and post-conflict disarmament initiatives. This edition also provides an overview of small arms ammunition issues as well as new and updated information on small arms production, stockpiles, transfers, and international measures. It also presents two case studies: one exploring the concept of 'gun culture'

in Kosovo, the other focusing on the Central African Republic. In addition, this volume surveys representations of small arms and armed violence in contemporary art.

The *Small Arms Survey* is produced annually by a team of researchers based in Geneva, Switzerland, and a worldwide network of local researchers. Its blend of information and analysis makes it an indispensable resource for diplomats, policy-makers, and non-governmental organizations.

Praise for the Survey from **Gareth Evans**, President and CEO of the International Crisis Group:

'The *Small Arms Survey 2005: Weapons at War* provides a detailed account of small arms in conflicts, including their production, transfer to war zones, use in conflicts, and efforts to reduce stockpiles and civilian possession when peace seems within reach. It is an invaluable resource for states and international organizations working to prevent suffering, encourage development, and improve human security.'

Key Findings

- The total number of direct conflict deaths was probably between 80,000 and 108,000 in 2003.
- Small arms and light weapons are responsible for the majority—between 60 and 90 per cent—of all direct conflict deaths depending on the nature of fighting.
- In some countries considered 'post-conflict', levels of firearm violence are often higher than they were before, or even during, the armed conflict.
- The top small arms exporters in 2002 are the United States, Italy, Brazil, Germany, Belgium, the Russian Federation, and China.
- The Small Arms Trade Transparency Barometer indicates that among the major exporters of small arms and light weapons, the most transparent are the United States, Germany, and the United Kingdom. The least transparent is Israel.
- North-east Asia is home to combined military and police arsenals of at least 22 to 42 million firearms. The people of the Middle East appear to own 45 million to 90 million firearms.
- Transfers to conflict zones include an important 'ant trade', a small but steady trickle of weapons that can produce large accumulations over time.
- The general small arms instruments create a relatively broad, and in some cases dense, web of regulation that applies to light weapons as well as small arms.
- Although most international and regional instruments cover ammunition in their definitions, their operational provisions often ignore ammunition. The UN *Programme of Action* is no exception.

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