About the Small Arms Survey

About the project
The Small Arms Survey is an independent research project located at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, Switzerland. Established in 1999, the project is supported by the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and current or recent contributions from the Governments of Australia, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Germany, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, the United Kingdom, and the United States, as well as from the European Union. The Survey is grateful for past support received from the Governments of Canada, France, Spain, and Sweden. The Survey also wishes to acknowledge the financial assistance it has received over the years from foundations and many bodies within the UN system.

The Survey sponsors field research and information-gathering efforts, especially in affected states and regions. The project has an international staff with expertise in security studies, political science, law, economics, development studies, sociology, and criminology, and collaborates with a network of researchers, partner institutions, non-governmental organizations, and governments in more than 50 countries.

Project objectives
The objectives of the Small Arms Survey are to:

- be the principal international source of impartial and public information on all aspects of small arms and armed violence;
- serve as a resource centre for governments, policy-makers, researchers, and activists;
- monitor national and international initiatives (governmental and non-governmental) on small arms;
- support efforts to address the effects of small arms proliferation and misuse; and
- act as a clearinghouse for the sharing of information and the dissemination of best practices.

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