



EU Key Messages

Working Group on Treaty Universalisation Arms Trade Treaty

Geneva, 22 February 2024

Mr. Chair,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.

The candidate countries North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Albania¹, Republic of Moldova and Georgia as well as the EFTA countries Iceland and Norway, members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this statement.

The EU remains convinced that we must redouble our efforts to promote Treaty universalization and is actively engaged in this regard. Currently, the EU is funding an outreach program focusing on universalization, covering Latin America, Africa, South-East Asia and Central Asia, implemented by German agency BAFA and French agency Expertise France. Towards the end of 2024, we are embarking on the programming for its next multi-annual phase.

One of main points of focus is to promote synergies among our own activities, to further advance a regional approach, optimize cost-effective relationships, and to engage effectively with other bilateral and multilateral outreach initiatives to support ATT universalization and effective implementation.

In parallel to the EU's own internal evaluation, the CSP10 working cycle should serve as an opportunity for feedback and exchange of experiences among all stakeholders, in particular assistance providers and recipients. We encourage an open and fruitful debate.

Successful Treaty universalization does not only mean formal accession or ratification, but also effective Treaty implementation and compliance with all legal obligations of a State Party. Therefore, outreach and assistance tools should interlock to cover all aspects of ATT membership. The WGTU and WGETI inter-relationship should be duly appreciated.

¹ North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.