



Kingdom of the Netherlands

**Statement of the Netherlands**

**as delivered by**

**H.E Robert in den Bosch**

**at**

**Working Group on Effective Treaty Implementation**

**Sub-working group on Current and Emerging Implementation  
Issues**

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## Impact of arms transfers on the Israel – Palestine conflict

Thank you chair for giving me the floor. With regard to the general arms export policy of the Netherlands in respect to Israel: as with any other arms export license request, requests for export to Israel are assessed in the light of the specific circumstances of that application, on a case-by-case basis.

NL arms export policy for Israel (ISR) takes into account the ISR-PAL conflict and human rights situation in the PAL territories. At the same time, the Netherlands recognizes ISR right to self-defence in line with the UN Charter, given the instability in the region, while ISR has to respect conditions imposed by IHL.

Individual licenses can be granted as long as there is no “overriding risk” that military goods may be misused by the end user, in line with the requirements of the EU Common Position on arms export and the ATT, specifically articles 6 and 7. In the past years, application requests for Israel have been granted in certain cases and denied in other cases where there was deemed such an overriding risk.

Let me conclude by stating the following, the Netherlands continues to call for an immediate temporary humanitarian ceasefire, and for as much humanitarian aid as possible to reach the suffering people of Gaza. The situation is extremely serious. It is clear that international humanitarian law applies in full and Israel must abide by it.