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**REPORT OF EL SALVADOR TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL ON THE IMPACT OF ARMS TRANSFERS ON HUMAN RIGHTS**

**Questionnaire for Member States for the OHCHR Report**

**1. Please identify the ways that arms transfers impact on the enjoyment of human rights. Are there rights that are particularly affected? Are there groups of right‑olders which are particularly affected?**

It is important to highlight that the main purpose of legal arms transfers, under the respective arms control established in national and international law, is to protect national sovereignty and provide public security; however, when there are illegal arms transfers or the use of these arms are not under the established legal controls, it may affect the enjoyment of basic human rights of every person, such as the right to life, personal integrity, liberty, personal security, etc. Also, all human beings can be affected by the illegal use of arms and weapons, but vulnerable groups like children, women and older persons are particularly affected.

**2. If your Government undertakes arms transfers, please indicate whether your Government’s assesses the impact that each arms transfer may have on the enjoyment of human rights. What considerations are taken into account when making these assessments, including national procedures and/or laws and international obligations and standards? On what information and/or sources of information does your Government base its assessments?**

It does not apply; El Salvador does not produce or distribute small arms and light weapons, it only imports weapons for national defence and internal security.

**3. If your Government does not undertake arms transfers, what considerations should be taken into account by others when assessing the impact an arms transfer may have on human rights, including national procedures and/or laws and international obligations and standards? On what information and/or sources of information should such assessment be based?**

Governments that undertake arms transfers should establish a national authority in arms control, which would be responsible for evaluating if the arms transfer to determined countries or territories is applicable. This national authority shall not authorize any transfer of arms, if there is any knowledge that the arms would be used in the commission of violations to human rights, genocide, crimes against humanity, attacks directed against civilian objects or civilians protected, war crimes, etc., as defined by international agreements like the Article 6 of the Arms Trade Treaty. Also, the information in assessing the impact of arms transfer should be based in international reports, data and information provided by international organizations and national entities, such as ministries of foreign affairs, economy, defence, security, etc.

**4. If your Government undertakes arms transfers, has your Government in the past refused to authorise a proposed arms transfer or arms transfers on the basis that the arms transfer would impact on the enjoyment of human rights? If so, please identify the factors that were taken into consideration in making this decision, and the nature of the human rights that would have been impacted by such the proposed transfer?**

It does not apply.

**5. If your Government undertakes arms transfers, has your Government in the past refused to authorise a proposed arms transfer or arms transfers on the grounds of the risk of the diversion of the arms?**

It does not apply.