The Global Arms Trade 2004: The Year in Pictures

Getting and Spending:
Conventional weapons transfers among Russia, China and India
The top five arms supplying nations alone exported nearly $13.5 billion worth of weapons in 2004. Russian exports continue a five-year growth trend, with strong sales in aviation, mostly to India and China. Shipyards also saw significant increases, delivering Kilo class submarines and frigates. Russia is anticipating penetrating new markets: 2005 will see deliveries to Morocco, Malaysia, and Saudi Arabia. Strategic shifts and realignments in the Islamic world post-September 11, 2001 make it likely that Russian sales to Arab countries and Northern Africa will continue to increase.

NATO allies round out the top five arms exporters. The US did a particularly brisk trade in 2004, selling to Egypt, Kuwait, Pakistan, the Phillipines, Saudia Arabia, the UAE, and Uzbekistan, and continuing its long-standing practice of selling to countries in active conflict.

### Russian Arms Transfers

<table>
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<th>Armaments</th>
<th>Recipients</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jet fighters</td>
<td>China, Vietnam, India, Uzbekistan</td>
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<td>Kilo-class submarines</td>
<td>China</td>
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<td>Frigate</td>
<td>India</td>
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<td>Air defense ships (?)</td>
<td>India</td>
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<tr>
<td>Air defense systems (?)</td>
<td>UAE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surface-to-air missile systems</td>
<td>China</td>
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<td>Armored infantry vehicles</td>
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<td>Anti-tank guided missiles</td>
<td>South Korea</td>
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<td>Main battle tanks</td>
<td>India</td>
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</tbody>
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### Top Five Arms Supplying Nations, 2000 - 2004

- **Russia**
- **US**
- **France**
- **Germany**
- **UK**

In millions of US dollars at constant 1990 prices.


### Top Ten Arms Recipient Nations, 2000 - 2004

- **Pakistan**
- **Australia**
- **UAE**
- **South Korea**
- **Egypt**
- **Turkey**
- **UK**
- **Greece**
- **India**
- **China**

In millions of US dollars at constant 1990 prices.

Small Arms and Light Weapons
The world spends heavily on its major conventional weapons, but most of the killing continues to be done with small arms and light weapons. There are over 600 million small arms and light weapons (SALW) in circulation worldwide. Of 49 major conflicts in the 1990s, 47 were waged with small arms as the weapons of choice. SALW contribute to the deaths of about 500,000 people a year, 200,000 in non-conflict situations. In 2001 alone, the G8 countries sold nearly $1.45 billion worth of small arms, light weapons, and ammunition.

The United States remains the biggest supplier of ammunition worldwide. Global efforts to reduce the sale and proliferation of SALW have been seriously hampered by the efforts of the National Rifle Association (www.nra.org), which, like Economists for Peace and Security, is an NGO in special consultative status to the UN’s Economic and Social Council. The NRA’s million-plus members and strong funding base can overwhelm the efforts of smaller NGOs.

Guns and Bullets

International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA)
IANSA is the global network of civil society organisations working to stop the proliferation and misuse of SALW. Their website, www.iansa.org, is an excellent resource for those wishing to get involved in this issue.

Guns vs. People
Firearms deaths (nonconflict) across region, per 100,000 people. Source: Small Arms Survey 2005.