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WEAPON TRAFFICKING

A threat to the safety of citizens in any country, the criminal misuse of firearms also poses a wider threat to global security, peace, stability and development. Firearms are easy to conceal and transport, and offer lucrative profits to criminals trafficking in illicit small arms and light weapons. No country is unaffected by firearms violence. Each year, firearms are used in more than 245,000 homicides worldwide (excluding war-torn countries). This is only a small percentage of all crimes committed with firearms, which are widely used to threaten and support other criminal acts. But today there is no clear international legislation that would regulate the arms trade. National, regional and international actions to identify and eradicate firearm-related crime rely upon the prompt and timely communication of relevant information by law enforcement agencies and, in particular, effective international firearm tracing. These activities require close cooperation between a broad range of organizations such as police, customs, border protection agencies and regulatory services.

The scandals associated with the illicit trade in arms, have recently been involved almost all the major players in this market: the USA, United Kingdom, Russia and China. British and US governments exported weapons in Sudan, Colombia and Uzbekistan and were used against civilians.

Russia was accused of supplying weapons to Iran, Syria and other countries in respect of which the United Nations has declared an embargo. In turn, Russia accused Ukraine, Poland and other

Western countries in the illegal supply of arms to Georgia, which had been used in the military conflict in South Ossetia.

Over the past few years, a worrisome trend of problems in reporting for military spending and the global arms trade and, consequently, reduced transparency has been observed by the team of researchers of Stockholm International Peace Research Institute in charge of maintaining the databases and present global trends.

However to prove anything and especially to attract the state of the illicit arms trade is virtually impossible. Arms Trade agreement is out of date so that exports of military shoes governed better than the export of lethal weapons. This is not surprising, as the main players in that market are the United States, Canada, India, China and Russia which play an essential role in the adoption of UN decisions and they are not interested to lose enormous profits that bring the arms trade.

At present there is no common to all arms control law or an international court, which would consider the complaint and the case on this occasion.

Therefore some states contrary to humanitarian considerations and decisions in the United Nations actively continue to supply arms to the military conflict zones.

Attempts to establish the mandatory international standards and definitions in the regulation of arms trafficking started since 1970. Already at that time the governments of many European countries officially recognize the danger the increasing use of firearms in the commission of crimes.

The main issue that concerns the state members of the UN is the problem of illegal and the rapid spread of firearms in the world.

Tightening of armed conflict entails a growing need for additional quantities of weapons and ammunition. We are talking about weapons for personal use.

In local wars and conflicts the weapons are in the greatest demand. The reason for this popularity is the following:

- Firearms have a relatively low price;
- It is convenient to transport, easy to conceal;
- Can be used for a long period of time;
- Easy to use.

This trade by small arms is a large and profitable business. It does not pay any tax or duty, and the gross profit is enormous. The threat of proliferation of weapons reinforces the fact that the increased supply is a steady decline in prices for service. In some parts of the world an AK-47 can be purchased for \$ 20-30 US.

The illicit arms trade can be divided into black and gray exports.

Black export is a supply of arms which carried out in violation of international or national law without the approval of government agencies. Black export mainly engaged group of individuals, who sometimes create for this purpose special company. The organizers of the export of black may be for example business entities and units. The essential feature of the black supplies is the enrichment of individuals. Black export virtually identical smuggling. It breaks primarily domestic law of the exporting country.

Grey exports is a supply of arms, military equipment and technologies for their production, as well as dual-use products, which provides the state or its individual institutions, in violation of international law, and sometimes national law, but with the condition of compulsory participation in the transaction state apparatus. The grey export is more popular in that countries, which have war conflict. For example: Syria, Ukraine, Iraq and Iran. Deliveries are grey arms are possible if the exporting country violates its international obligations and international law.

Firearms became a major problem for the international community and security in the world due to its excessive proliferation in all regions of the globe.

Список використаних джерел:

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