

**Statement of Romania**  
**at the Tenth Conference**  
**of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty**

(Geneva, 19 – 23 August 2024)

- **General Debate** -

Mr. President,

We were deeply saddened to hear of Stefan Ott's tragic and untimely passing. Our thoughts are with Stefan's family as they navigate through these difficult times, as well as with the ATT Secretariat for the loss of their colleague and friend.

I would like to join previous speakers in expressing our sincere gratitude to the Government of Switzerland for hosting the Tenth Conference of States Parties. We also wish to extend our appreciation to the members of the Bureau, and to the office holders for their commitment to ensuring continued progress within the ATT framework. We would also like to thank the ATT Secretariat for their efforts and hard work in preparing the Conference. A special word of appreciation to Mr. Dumisani Dladla for his able leadership and professionalism during his years of service.

Romania aligns itself with the statement of the European Union and we would like to make the following remarks in national capacity.

As the first binding multilateral instrument for regulating the international trade of conventional arms, the Arms Trade Treaty was created to play a pivotal role in promoting global peace and security and reducing human suffering. The state of the world today shows

however that much work remains to be done to reach this common purpose. Unauthorized or illicit arms transfers and arms diversion, in disregard of international sanctions and in breach of international law continue to lead to human suffering. Women, children, and other vulnerable communities are still disproportionately affected by armed violence, including through gender-based violence, exploitation, and abuse. This is why all States' commitment to the universalization and full and effective implementation of the ATT is instrumental in ensuring that the Treaty leaves up to its purpose.

Against this backdrop, Romania is pleased to see that the ATT community continues to grow and warmly welcomes The Gambia and Malawi's recent accession and ratification, respectively. We encourage all signatory States, as well as all other States to join the Treaty. We strongly believe that the universalization of the Arms Trade Treaty can be achieved through the consistent efforts and cooperation of all stakeholders.

Over the past year the tenth anniversary of the Arms Trade Treaty has triggered a deep reflection and stock-taking process on our achievements and the way our work ensures that the Treaty fulfills its purpose. Romania welcomes the United Kingdom's initiative to develop a Political Declaration that would encapsulate the collective commitment to fulfilling the object and purpose of the ATT. We look forward to working with all stakeholders to identify the actions and measures to be taken during the next decade in order to achieve our shared vision of an effective Arms Trade Treaty.

Against this background, one of the priorities of the RO Presidency during the CSP10 cycle was to facilitate concrete discussions on practical aspects of implementation, and to foster an environment of transparency and cooperation between States. In the same vein, the thematic discussion on the *Role of Inter-agency cooperation in the effective implementation of Arms Trade Treaty provisions* is aimed at contributing to address challenges faced and sharing

national practices and experiences. In this regard, I would like to extend our thanks to all delegations for their inputs and support for the recommendations made.

Mr. President,

We genuinely believe that a collaborative and practical approach is essential for advancing Treaty implementation of the ATT in the years to come, and we acknowledge its reflection in the new multi-year workplans of the working groups which we fully support for adoption by the Conference.

At the same time, transparency is fundamental for the full and effective implementation of the ATT, it leads to confidence building among States and is an expression of States' engagement under the Treaty.

We also recognize the essential role of the Diversion Information Exchange Forum to facilitate international cooperation in addressing the ATT's object to eradicate the illicit trade in conventional arms and prevent their diversion.

Romania supports a gender-sensitive approach in the work of the ATT, as well as continuing discussions and sharing practices on the application of article 7.4. Romania therefore endorses the Joint Statement on *Gender Mainstreaming and Addressing Gender-Based Violence under the Arms Trade Treaty* promoted by Mexico and the Small Arms Survey.

Moreover, I want to emphasize the significant role played by regional organizations and civil society in the work of the Arms Trade Treaty. Their sustained efforts are a vital part of our collective endeavor to promote universalization and to strengthen the implementation of the Treaty.

Mr. President,

Let me conclude by reiterating Romania's unwavering commitment to the universalization and the full and effective implementation of the ATT. To this end, Romania continues to stand ready to support States in their accession process and in the implementation of the Treaty's provisions, both through our national efforts and as an active participant to the European Union's ATT outreach program.