



21 August 2023

President,

I am here today speaking at the request of the National Association for Gun Rights, a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) based in the United States of America.

The National Association for Gun Rights' mission is to protect the right of law-abiding citizens of the United States to keep-and-bear arms, which is a natural right recognized and protected by the Second Amendment of the Constitution of the United States.

The National Association for Gun Rights is deeply concerned with the United Nations Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) and has been the leading domestic advocate in the US against the ATT's ratification.

N.A.G.R. sees Article 2.1 Section H of the treaty – which extends the scope of treaty to “Small Arms and Light Weapons” - as a threat to the Second Amendment rights of United States Citizens, as well as a threat to the God-given right to self-defense of all peoples.

N.A.G.R is concerned with treaty language and yesterday's discussion about “national gun registries”. The keeping of a national gun registry is prohibited under US domestic law. N.A.G.R opposes gun registration, as it is a first step toward confiscating firearms.

N.A.G.R is also concerned with United Nations' disarmament efforts like the Programme of Action to Irradiate Small Arms and Light Weapons (POA), therefore deeply distrusts efforts to universalize the ATT.

When governments don't trust law-abiding citizens with firearms, they disarm them, and disarming ordinary and vulnerable populations allows them to be oppressed by governments, criminals, terrorists, and violent rogue actors.

Despite not being party to this treaty, the United States resumed contributing funds to the ATT in 2021, and has allowed diplomats to attend, participate, and boast US compliance with a treaty that it is not a party to. N.A.G.R. believes these actions need to stop.

Respectfully, the National Association for Gun Rights will continue to oppose ratification of the ATT in the United States so long as the treaty covers “Small Arms and Light Weapons” and so long as the ATT remains open to amendment by a three quarters majority vote of the States Parties present and voting at the meeting of the Conference of States Parties without the consent of all member states.

Thank you President