

FULFILLING THE TRANSPARENCY AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE TREATY

The ATT Monitor considers an annual report to include the minimum information needed in order to contribute to the aims and objectives of the ATT in Article 1¹ if a:

1. Report is submitted and made publicly available on the ATT Secretariat website
2. Report indicates that commercially sensitive or national security information was or was not withheld
3. Report provides information that is disaggregated by weapon type
4. Report provides information that is disaggregated by importer/exporter
5. Report indicates whether transfer data concerns authorizations or actual transfers (or both)
6. Report provides the number of units or financial value (or both) for each weapon type
7. Report clearly includes 'nil' reports on exports and imports, in the case one or more 'nil' reports were submitted

These criteria established by the ATT Monitor go beyond the minimum information provided by the reporting templates.



¹ Article 1 of the ATT states that the object of the Treaty is to: (i) establish the highest possible common international standards for regulating or improving the regulation of the international trade in conventional arms; (ii) Prevent and eradicate the illicit trade in conventional arms and prevent their diversion; for the purpose of contributing to international and regional peace, security and stability; reducing human suffering; and promoting cooperation, transparency and responsible action by States Parties in the international trade in conventional arms, thereby building confidence among States Parties.

There has been a consistent decline in the percentage of reports that provide the minimum information needed in order to achieve the aims and objectives of the ATT. Over the 2015-2019 period, the percentage of reports due to be submitted that were meaningfully transparent fell from 46 per cent to 30 per cent.

However, the number of publicly available reports that are meaningfully transparent has remained relatively static.

When looking at whether States Parties that are in full compliance with Article 13.3 reporting requirements and also submit reports that fulfill the transparency aims and objectives of the Treaty, the percentage of publicly available reports that that comply with Article 13.3 reporting requirements and also provide the minimum information needed in order to achieve the aims and objectives has fluctuated but has remained between 40 and 50 per cent in all years.

Table 1 – Number and percentage of publicly available reports that are meaningfully transparent

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Number of publicly available reports	48	50	55	52	49
Number of meaningfully transparent reports	28	30	32	32	29
Per cent of meaningfully transparent reports	58	60	58	62	59

Table 2 – Number and percentage of publicly submitted reports that comply with Article 13 and are meaningfully transparent

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Number of publicly available reports	48	50	55	52	49
Number of reports that comply with Article 13.3 and are meaningfully transparent	21	23	22	26	20
Per cent of reports comply with Article 13.3 and are meaningfully transparent	44	46	40	50	41

KEY FINDINGS

- Only 12 States Parties submitted a report that fulfilled their legal reporting requirements and commitments to transparency for every year that they were due to report.
- Only 11 per cent of States Parties have consistently fulfilled their reporting obligations and commitments to transparency.

² Percentage based on 105 States Parties as of June 2021.