



# Security Council (UNSC)



# Topic: Addressing Global Security Risks With High Rates of Firearm Ownership Worldwide



**Committee:** Security Council (SC)

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## **I. Quorum**

-Argentina	-Ireland	-South Africa
-Australia	-Israel	-South Korea
-Austria	-Italy	-Spain
-Brazil	-Japan	-Switzerland
-Canada	-Mexico	-Turkey
-Czech Republic	-Netherlands	-United Kingdom
-Finland	-New zealand	
-France	-Norway	
-Germany	-Philippines	
-India	-Russia	



## **II. Committee Background**

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) was established on 17 January 1946 in Westminster Abbey, London. Since its first meeting, the Security Council has held all meetings at the UN headquarters in New York. Maintain international peace and security, establish friendly relations between countries, cooperate to solve international problems, and ensure human rights. The Committee has achieved significant results, such as peace -approval in conflict areas to maintain peaceful tasks, sanctions against North Korea and Iran, and to introduce solutions to global issues such as terrorism and humanitarian crises. Initially, the Security Council consisted of 11 member states, of which the five permanent members were China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

And six nonpermanent members elected by the UN General Assembly for two-year terms. An amendment to the UN Charter in 1965 increased council membership to 15, including the original five permanent members and 10 nonpermanent members. he non permanent members are generally chosen to achieve equitable representation among geographic regions, with five members coming from Africa or

Asia, one from Eastern Europe, two from Latin America, and two from Western Europe or other areas.

The security council is also very aware of current issues, especially issues that concern addressing global security or the lack of security at all Therefore, the Security Council has passed 2752 resolutions with the aim of achieving this goal.



### III. History of Topic

The Small Arms Survey estimates that of the one billion firearms in global circulation as of 2017, 857 million 85% are in civilian hands, 133 million 13% are in military arsenals, and 23 million 2% are owned by law enforcement agencies. This study

suggests that the global reserve has increased over the past decade, largely due to civilian holdings, which grew from 650 million in 2006 to 857 million in 2017.

Practically all countries show higher numbers, although national ownership rates vary widely, reflecting factors such as national legislation, a country's gun culture, historical, and other factors. While some of the increase reflects improved data and research methods, much is due to the actual growth of civilian ownership

Civilian gun possession varies all around the globe. With more than 175 globally recognized countries allowing their citizens to own firearms, though of these countries, most have specific regulations on ownership, such as banning certain types of firearms.

Mexico, Guatemala, and the United States have gone one step further into gun ownership and have made gun ownership a constitutional right. Even though gun ownership is a right, those countries may place specific limits on certain types of firearms, such as when the U.S. Supreme Court upheld a temporary ban on certain assault rifles and high-capacity magazines from 1994 to 2004. On the other hand, some countries like North Korea completely ban the possession of firearms by civilians.

Some of the countries with the most restrictive firearm laws are China, India, Japan, Singapore, and Vietnam. Taiwan and Indonesia have the lowest gun ownership rates possible, with zero civilian firearms per 100 people. Guns, however, are not banned in either of these countries.



#### **IV. Topic Information**

In 2024, the United States remains the nation with the highest civilian gun ownership at 120.5 guns per 100 civilians, more than double the second highest rate in the Falkland Islands, which is 62.1 per 100 civilians. This means the US has more guns than people because of constitutional rights and a strong gun culture. Other top-ranking countries include Yemen, New Caledonia, and Serbia, each influenced by different cultural or security factors.

As of 2024, gun ownership remains banned in North Korea and Eritrea, while countries like Japan and Singapore maintain very strict gun laws that keep ownership rates low. Taiwan and Indonesia allow limited gun ownership, but with strict regulations requiring background checks and licenses. The report reflects differences in gun policy around the world, with cultural norms, safety concerns and government regulations shaping each country's stance on civilian firearms.

#### **V. Current Issues**

##### **USA:**

The US gun culture is a unique presence that owes much of its cultural roots to early historical events and legal foundations. Thanks to the Second Amendment of the U.S.A.. The Second Amendment to the Constitution grants the right for civilians to own firearms, making gun ownership a symbol of personal freedom for many Americans.

This historical connection has resulted in high levels of civilian gun ownership, with more than 400 million guns currently in circulation. The United States has one of the most accessible gun ownership laws in the world, making firearms available for stuff like self-defense and hunting.



### **Yemen:**

Yemen's gun laws are very are cataloged as weak, and gun ownership is considered a right, not a privilege. This right does not require a license or permit, and the carrying of firearms is largely permitted, especially in rural areas where the vast majority of the population lives. Although Yemen's people prefer traditional weapons, nowadays, weapons have become more known since the second half of the 20th century.

The government tried to control weapons through laws in 1992, allowing citizens to preserve weapons for self-defense only. Yemen is currently the second most heavily

armed country in the world after the United States, with an estimated 62 guns per 100 people.

### **Switzerland:**

Switzerland's attitude towards gun ownership is closely related to its unique defense system. Unlike many other countries where military service is voluntary, Switzerland requires most able-bodied men to undergo military training and join the national militia. After this training, they are often permitted to keep their service rifles at home, creating a culture where guns are more tied to a sense of national duty than personal defense. Despite this, Swiss gun laws are quite strict. Although citizens can hold service rifles, they must comply with strict rules of storage and cannot own ammunition for these firearms without a separate permit.

## **VI. UN actions**

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) has taken action to address issues related to firearms, focusing on reducing their misuse and preventing their contribution to global violence and conflict. Its efforts are primarily aimed at controlling the illegal trade and accumulation of small arms and light weapons, which are often used in armed conflicts and worsen instability in vulnerable regions. Through measures such as imposing arms restrictions on specific countries.




As a general fact, the UNSC aims to restrict the obtainance of firearms to groups that may cause any disturbance with them. Additionally, the Security Council encourages committee member states to establish international frameworks like the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), which regulates the global trade of conventional weapons to prevent unauthorized use of the following.

These efforts are complemented by resolutions such as Resolution 2117, which emphasizes the need for strengthened national and international measures to monitor arms transfers and reduce their illegal proliferation.

## **VII. Conclusion**

As a closing statement, the (UNSC) Security Council has approved a considerable number of resolutions with the main goal of solving issues regarding the Global security risks with rates of firearms ownership globally. The Small Arms Survey, which aims to calculate the number of firearms per capita worldwide, estimated that of the 1 billion firearms in circulation worldwide in 2017, 857 million were owned by civilians, 133 million 13% were military weapons, and 23 million 2% of the guns Worldwide are owned by law enforcement companies.

This study shows that global firearms ownership has increased significantly over the past decade, largely due to civilian acquisition, which grew from 650 million firearms in 2006 to 857 million in 2017. Taking this into consideration, the committee is expecting delegates to find creative solutions that could help solve these current issues.







## VIII. Guiding Questions

1. What are the key factors influencing global differences in firearms ownership laws?
2. How do varying rates of civilian firearms ownership affect societal safety and public perception of security?
3. What models of firearms ownership regulation have been effective in balancing individual rights and public safety?
4. What solutions has my country implemented to regulate civilian firearms ownership and ensure responsible use?
5. What is the average guns-per-capita in my country, and how does it reflect societal attitudes toward firearms?
6. How do my country's firearms ownership laws compare to those of neighboring or similar countries?

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