

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL MEDIA ADVISORY

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Women and the irresponsible global arms trade

That women and girls are singled out during armed conflicts is well documented – what is less well known is that once hostilities cease, the undeclared war on women and girls can continue for years on end.

This year's International Women's Day (8 March) comes just before states meet at the United Nations to iron out the final text of a historic treaty to regulate the global trade in conventional arms.

Women and girls around the world suffer different and serious violations due to the proliferation and misuse of arms and the long-lasting effects of armed conflict. But governments who put profits and narrow national interests ahead of human security are blocking the path to peace and security and respect for human rights offered by a strong Arms Trade Treaty.

The following Amnesty International spokespeople are available to comment on these and related issues ahead of International Women's Day:

- Widney Brown, Senior Director, International Law and Policy
- Madhu Malhotra, Director, Gender, Sexuality and Identity Programme
- Helen Hughes, arms control researcher
- Ara Marcen Naval, arms control campaign coordinator

We can put you in contact with women who have survived the impact of the irresponsible global arms trade, as well as women activists who are advocating to bring it under control.

Amnesty International will be sending a delegation to the final talks on the global Arms Trade Treaty at the United Nations in New York from 18-28 March.

For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact: Conor Fortune, +44 207 413 5817, conor.fortune@amnesty.org