

**Coalition for Gun Control/Coalition pour le controle des armes au feu**

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**Organization's mandate/goals:**

The Coalition for Gun Control is a national, non-profit organization working to reduce firearm death, injury and crime. The Coalition was founded in the wake of the tragedy at l'École Polytechnique and its position is endorsed by over 350 organizations, including: the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police, the Canadian Public Health Association, the Canadian Bar Association, the Canadian Criminal Justice Association, the YWCA of Canada, the Church Council of Justice and Corrections, Victims of Violence International, the Canadian Jewish Congress; and many other policing, health, women's, victims, and community organizations across Canada.

The Coalition for Gun Control advocates strict domestic legislation including licensing for all gun owners, a cost-effective system to register all guns, a total ban on civilian possession of military assault weapons and large capacity magazines, controls on the sale of ammunition and tougher restrictions on handguns. In addition the Coalition promotes strict safe storage requirements, education countering the romance of guns and the myth of arming for self-protection, a ban on replica firearms, effective implementation of the law, deterrence and prevention in the justice system. The main elements of the Coalition's position are now law and they are currently focusing on effective implementation of the law, research and education, improving measures to combat smuggling and the illegal gun trade and protecting the legislation from legal challenges and attacks by the gun lobby. The Coalition for Gun Control has been active both through the UN Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Commission as well as the UN's 2001 Conference on the illicit trade in small arms in all its aspects. It also participated in the development of the OAS agreement.

The Coalition's particular areas of expertise are related to the development and implementation of legislation to reduce the misuse and illicit trade in small arms as well as the development and mobilization of cross sectoral coalitions. The Coalition for Gun Control's models have been employed in diverse contexts including South Africa. The Coalition has worked with NGOs worldwide including Northern Ireland, South Africa, Turkey, the USA, Australia, Brazil and Austria to share expertise and best practices. The Coalition for Gun Control is a founding member of IANSA and currently serves on the Facilitations Committee.

**Areas of expertise relevant to 2001 UN Conference on Small Arms:**

**Stockpile Security and Management --*Laws, regulations and administrative procedures to ensure control over national inventories***

The Coalition has expertise in the development of fact-based measures to improve controls. It has been active in developing laws, regulations and administrative procedures to ensure control over national inventories; physical security measures/safe storage.

**Export Controls and Enforcement**

The Coalition has been involved in developing measures to control borders.

**Collecting and Destroying Excess Weapons and Ammunition**

The Coalition has participated in developing implementing voluntary surrender and amnesty programs.

**Illicit Trafficking / Brokerage**

It has conducted research on organized crime and illicit trafficking.

**Marking, Record Keeping and Tracing**