

reducing arms sales. However, several modifications must be made to the Register for it to succeed: first, it must be universal to inspire confidence in the regime; second, it should be expanded to include weapons components, technical support, and training arrangements; and, finally, its information must be made public and not restricted to governments. Despite these uncertainties, the UN Register could become a valuable confidence-building measure in several regions. However, Pierre maintains that the P5 talks hold more promise.

322. Regehr, Ernie. "The United Nations Arms Register." In *The Arms Trade Today: Arms Transfers and Proliferation: A CCLA Consultation, January 1993*, ed. Roger Williamson, Geneva: World Council of Churches, 1993, pp. 143-157.

Regehr argues that the UN Register of Conventional Arms was created, in the wake of the Gulf War, to prevent future excessive and destabilizing accumulations of arms. He maintains, that the Register is a good solution, but to a different problem. To begin with, the Gulf War was not a result of an unanticipated accumulation of arms. Moreover, the Register is not an early warning system; rather, it is designed to be a record of weapons transfers already completed.

He posits four ways in which the Register will contribute to global institution building: first, international confidence will be enhanced by the giving of information voluntarily to other states; second, the security debate will be democratized with each state made more accountable to its own people; third, non-discrimination and full disclosure will be achieved with the integration of categories for military holdings and procurement through national production; and, finally, the global security interest will be addressed by providing the international community with a seat at the arms trade table, albeit with observer status.

Three ways in which the Church could promote the Register are listed. One proposal would have it support improvements in the scope and operation of the Register (i.e. military holdings and procurement through national production). Another would have the Church promote compliance with the Register. Finally, the Church could encourage security discussions based on the information supplied to the Register.

323. Shoukry, Sameh. "Transparency in Armaments and the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms." In *Disarmament Topical Papers 15: Transparency in Armaments: The Mediterranean Region*, New York: United Nations Office of Disarmament Affairs, 1993, pp. 56-60.

Shoukry maintains that the UN Register of Conventional Arms will help to promote general and complete disarmament. If it hopes to be truly effective, it must meet the following criteria: first, it should be a universal, comprehensive and non-discriminatory confidence-building measure; second, it should be based on rights and obligations for all states; third, it should not infringe on each state's right to prepare for self-defense; and,