

203. Lamb, John M. and Jennifer L. Moher. *Conventional Arms Transfers: Approaches to Multilateral Control in the 1990s (Aurora Papers 13)*. Research Report Prepared for the Canadian Centre for Arms Control and Disarmament. Ottawa: Canadian Centre for Arms Control and Disarmament, September 1992.

Lamb and Moher examine the nature of the arms market in the post-Cold War world. They analyze the global arms market, the nature of the arms suppliers, the various concepts of arms transfer control, and the criteria for assessing arms transfer control measures. In this context, they include an analysis of the UN Register of Conventional Arms.

They maintain that the Register's creation is "...the most significant step in the direction of international norm building" (p. 20). In addition to chronicling the Register's evolution, Lamb and Moher include a list of its merits: first, it establishes a valuable confidence-building measure; second, it draws international attention to excessive and destabilizing accumulations of weapons, thereby reducing the chances of conflict; third, at the national level, it promotes dialogue and the review of military practices; and, finally, it provides a foundation for future arms control.

The Register is not, however, without its problems. Lamb and Moher contend that a major obstacle to overcome is the perception that it discriminates against arms importing nations (i.e. since the Register does not include military holdings or procurement through national production it imposes greater transparency on arms importing states). Another difficulty arises from the fact that most weapons transfers between states are already known. As a result, some states will consider the Register redundant and choose not to participate. Despite these shortcomings, the Register "...possesses the potential to evolve over time into the cornerstone of an increasingly comprehensive, and mandatory arms transfer control regime" (p. 21).

204. Laurance, Edward J. "Enhancing Transparency Related to the Transfer of Military Technology and Weapons of Mass Destruction in Accordance With Existing Legal Instruments." A Paper Presented at the Tokyo Workshop on Transparency in Armaments. Tokyo: June 1-3, 1992.

Laurance chronicles the creation of the UN Register of Conventional Arms and examines the implications of expanding its coverage. To begin with, he details what is beyond the scope of the Register (i.e. weapons up-grade packages, the transfer of high technology with military applications, and weapons of mass destruction). He then offers four basic approaches to improve the Register's transparency: first, develop the databases of non-governmental organizations (e.g. the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) and the Monterey Institute of International Studies (MIIS)) for use by UN member states; second, make available information given to international organizations (e.g. the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)); third, convince national governments to release information held at the national level; and, finally, develop an international verification system (e.g. Open Skies regime).