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November 21, 2023

Jake Sullivan  
National Security Advisor  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear National Security Advisor Sullivan,

We write to strongly urge the Biden Administration to recommit the United States to the Arms Trade Treaty. With heightened global insecurity and resource competition, re-engagement with the Arms Trade Treaty process is one important signal to the world that the U.S. remains steadfastly supportive of responsible arms transfers and respect for international human rights and humanitarian law.

Transparency International U.S. is a part of the world's largest coalition dedicated to fighting corruption. The defense and security initiative works toward a world where governments, the armed forces, and arms transfers are transparent, accountable, and free from corruption. In 2013, the U.S. signed the Treaty but has since stepped back from engagement. In that time, 113 countries have signed the treaty, including many U.S. allies.

Earlier this year, the Administration recognized the importance of arms transfers by updating its Conventional Arms Transfer (CAT) policy. We supported that initiative calling it a "significant step forward" in assessing the risks of US arms transfers fueling corruption. Corruption can also undermine US efforts to ensure US weapons are not diverted to unauthorized recipients or for unauthorized uses. Responsible arms transfer policies are necessary to efforts that help us move beyond the current crises and to a safer and more secure world.

To further the principles adopted by the U.S. and promote wider acceptance among allies, the Administration should publicly restate its commitment to the Arms Trade Treaty.

Sincerely,

Gary Kalman  
Executive Director