

small arms survey 2011

states of security



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FOREWORD

The provision of effective and accountable public security continues to be a major challenge in the 21st century. Violence manifests itself in many different ways in places as diverse as the streets of Chicago, the north of Mexico, and several regions in Yemen. To meaningfully address this variety is a challenge for well-resourced, stable countries with legitimate leadership. It is all the more difficult for fragile countries with weak capacity, sometimes-contested leadership, or fractured or under-resourced security institutions. Yet it is in these settings that basic security matters most. We know that violence has significant and long-lasting negative effects on development. Even in the absence of violence, the lack of an effective and accountable level of security and justice delivery slows down development. Violence also creates negative global externalities that affect all of us.

While national authorities as well as multilateral and bilateral agencies are increasingly prioritizing security and justice development as part of their peacebuilding and state-building efforts, much more remains to be done. Many populations continue to be under-served. In a range of settings, communities, groups, and individuals may feel compelled to provide for their own security, often with uneven results. Certain states opt to shift some of the security ‘burden’ from the public to the private sector. While it is not yet clear what the long-term consequences of these decisions may be, we must guard against actions that widen social and economic inequalities. Moreover, global issues, such as the arms trade, have profound effects on violence and fragility, but remain under-addressed.

These issues are complex and political. Informed decisions require good analysis and the sharing of expertise. I therefore welcome the *Small Arms Survey 2011: States of Security*. It builds on the *World Development Report: Conflict, Security and Development*, as well as on recent work of the OECD–DAC International Network on Conflict and Fragility on state-building and armed violence reduction. This edition of the *Small Arms Survey* shows how—in places such as Côte d’Ivoire, Haiti, and Madagascar—the effective and accountable delivery of basic security is often compromised. The volume also provides important new quantitative analysis on the growth of the global private security sector and informal security providers who are filling the gap. The case studies and analysis contained in the *Small Arms Survey 2011* will benefit policy-makers, researchers, and all those concerned with understanding and responding to modern security and development challenges.

—J. Brian Atwood

Chair, Development Assistance Committee (DAC)
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

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ABOUT THE SMALL ARMS SURVEY

The Small Arms Survey is an independent research project located at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, Switzerland. Established in 1999, the project is supported by the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and current contributions from the Governments of Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States. The Survey is grateful for past support received from the Governments of France, New Zealand, and Spain. The Survey also wishes to acknowledge the financial assistance it has received over the years from different United Nations agencies, programmes, and institutes.

The objectives of the Small Arms Survey are: to be the principal source of public information on all aspects of small arms and armed violence; to serve as a resource centre for governments, policy-makers, researchers, and activists; to monitor national and international initiatives (governmental and non-governmental) on small arms; to support efforts to address the effects of small arms proliferation and misuse; and to act as a clearinghouse for the sharing of information and the dissemination of best practices. The Survey also sponsors field research and information-gathering efforts, especially in affected states and regions. The project has an international staff with expertise in security studies, political science, law, economics, development studies, sociology, and criminology, and collaborates with a network of researchers, partner institutions, non-governmental organizations, and governments in more than 50 countries.

NOTES TO READERS

Abbreviations: Lists of abbreviations can be found at the end of each chapter.

Chapter cross-referencing: Chapter cross-references are fully capitalized in brackets throughout the book. One example appears in Chapter 5, which reviews the relationship between multinational corporations and their security providers: ‘Two major international initiatives, both spearheaded by the Swiss government, have sought to address the lack of regulation of private security companies and prevent improper use of force and human rights violations (PRIVATE SECURITY COMPANIES).’

Exchange rates: All monetary values are expressed in current US dollars (USD). When other currencies are also cited, unless otherwise indicated, they are converted to USD using the 365-day average exchange rate for the period 1 September 2009 to 31 August 2010.

Small Arms Survey: The plain text—Small Arms Survey—is used to indicate the overall project and its activities, while the italicized version—*Small Arms Survey*—refers to the publication. The *Survey*, appearing italicized, relates generally to past and future editions.

Small Arms Survey

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A customer approaches a business entrance as a security guard totes a shotgun in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, September 2005.
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