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Slovenian Presidency of the EU 2008  
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## **Slovenian Presidency of the Council of the European Union**

### **Forum for Security Cooperation Meeting No. 545 7 May 2008**

### **EU statement on "The Arms Trade Treaty"**

I thank Ms. Sarah Parker for her very interesting presentation.

On this occasion I would like to reiterate the EU's position on the pressing for an Arms Trade Treaty (ATT). Every day, and everywhere, people are affected by irresponsible arms transfer. The negative impact on peace, reconstruction, security, stability, human rights and sustainable development is especially damaging to developing countries. In addition, it diverts scarce resources from vital poverty alleviation and other development work. The EU firmly supports the elaboration of a comprehensive, legally binding instrument establishing common international standards for the import, export and transfer of conventional arms.

The European Union is committed to playing an active role in this process. We urge other States to actively support the ATT process and the work which has now started.

Thank you madam chair.

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