

## TAKE ACTION!

Write polite letters to the Minister for Foreign Affairs calling on the Government of Canada to sign the Arms Trade Treaty without further delay.

**Write to:**

The Honourable John Baird  
Minister for Foreign Affairs  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6  
FAX: 613-996-9880  
Email: [john.baird@parl.gc.ca](mailto:john.baird@parl.gc.ca)  
Salutation: Dear Minister

*Should you wish to call on Pension Fund administrators to adopt ethical guidelines such as those implemented by the Norwegian Pension Fund Global's investment universe by their Council on Ethics, or the New Zealand Superfund, these addresses may be of assistance:*

**Canada Pension Plan**

One Queen Street East, Suite 2500  
Toronto, ON M5C 2W5 Canada  
[contact@cppib.com](mailto:contact@cppib.com)

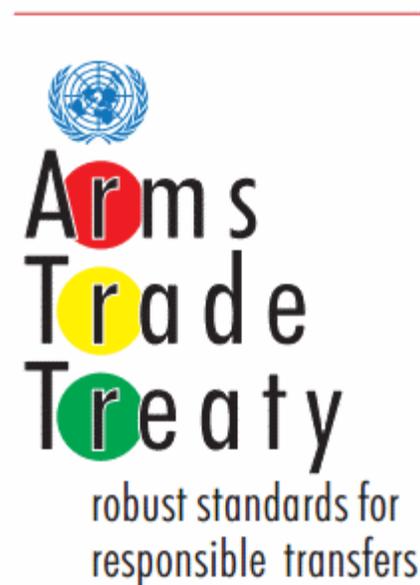
**Alberta Pensions Services Corporation (APS)**

Alberta Pensions Services Corporation (APS) guides the pension experience on behalf of Alberta's public sector pension plans. Seven public sector pension plans and two supplementary retirement plans, over 500 employers and more than 320,000 members and pensioners across Alberta rely on APS' trusted pension expertise. APS was incorporated in 1995 under Alberta's Business Corporations Act with the Government of Alberta as the sole Shareholder.

**Address:**

5103 Windermere Blvd. SW  
Edmonton AB T6W 0S9  
Toll-free: 1-800-661-8198  
Edmonton and area: 780-427-2782  
E-mail: [memberservices@apsc.ca](mailto:memberservices@apsc.ca)

# Canada: Commit to the Arms Trade Treaty!



## Information from Amnesty International



On April 2, 2013 Canada, together with 154 other states, voted in favour of a global Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) at the UN General Assembly. The ATT will prohibit states from transferring conventional weapons to countries when they

know those weapons would be used to commit or facilitate genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes. The treaty also requires governments to assess the risk of transferring arms, ammunition or components to another country where they could be used to commit or facilitate serious violations of international humanitarian and human rights law. Where that overriding risk is real and cannot be mitigated, the transfer will not happen.

Over the past year and half, over 120 states have formally signed the Arms Trade Treaty. Signing is the first step towards formal ratification, when a state agrees to be legally bound by the terms of the treaty. The ATT comes into force 90 days after *ratification* by 50 states. As of late September 2014, 53 had ratified, including five of the world's top ten arms exporting states: UK, France, Germany, Italy and Spain. This means that the long-anticipated Arms Trade Treaty will become international law by the end of 2014.

## But where is Canada?

On the list of shame: Canada is one of 40 states which voted in favour of the treaty, but have yet take any steps to make that commitment real...

Once a champion of arms control, the Canadian government stayed in the background throughout the treaty negotiation process and remains non-committal about signing the ATT. Among the excuses given is a need to consult Canadians to ensure that implementation of the treaty does not interfere with lawful, domestic gun ownership – an issue which they know full well to be outside the bounds of the ATT, which focuses on international trade. Canada also contends that current export controls are already strong enough. But there is a bigger picture that Canada needs to consider.

Signing a treaty not only indicates a willingness to develop capacity and overcome obstacles around implementation, it also sends a signal to the international community about the value of the treaty itself. The ATT will set a new standard for the arms trade and help prevent the human rights crises we have witnessed in conflicts including Syria and Darfur.

It's time for Canada to make a commitment to the Arms Trade Treaty, and encourage other states to do the same.



**GUNS HAVE FEWER TRADE REGULATIONS THAN BANANAS**