

# CAAT NEWS



JANUARY – MARCH 2018 • ISSUE 247



## HOW THE ARMS TRADE INFLUENCES GOVERNMENT

**PLUS**

Taking on the arms trade in 2018 **P3**

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2017 was a really busy year for anti-arms trade campaigners, with CAAT's High Court case against arms sales to Saudi Arabia and thousands taking action against the DSEI arms fair in London.

2018 promises to be every bit as important, with a possible court appeal in the months

ahead and activities happening all across the country.

Unfortunately, CAAT News is saying goodbye to Mel Jarman, who has edited CAAT News for 13 years. Mel oversaw a huge expansion of the magazine and was absolutely central to the magazine going from strength to strength.

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## TAKING ON THE ARMS TRADE IN 2018

2017 saw campaigners taking action to stop arms sales in the High Court, with CAAT's Judicial Review application to stop arms sales to Saudi Arabia. We also saw unprecedented action on the streets, with thousands of activists taking action against the DSEI arms fair in London.

2018 promises to be another busy year, with a possible appeal of the High Court verdict on the way. You can find out more about the case and keep up to date with the latest developments, at [caat.org.uk](http://caat.org.uk).

### Farnborough International

The arms dealers will be returning to the UK for Farnborough International this summer, a week long arms fair and celebration of militarism with a particular focus on aerospace. It will see companies like BAE and Lockheed Martin descending on the small

town of Farnborough to promote their deadly wares to military delegations from around the world.

We'll be waiting for them, with plans in the works to ensure that the message is sent loud and clear that arms dealers are never welcome.

**With an unstable government in place and the arms trade moving up the political agenda, 2018 will be another big year for challenging the arms trade in the corridors of power.**

### Arms company AGMs

Every year the biggest arms companies hold Annual General Meetings (AGMs). These provide a unique chance to put their Executives on the spot and challenge them. We would like you to join us there. If you are interested, then please contact us on [events@caat.org.uk](mailto:events@caat.org.uk) for more information.

### Challenging the arms trade in Parliament

With an unstable government in place and the arms trade moving up the political agenda, 2018 will be another big year for challenging the arms trade in the corridors of power.

In last year's election, all of the major opposition parties stood on manifestos that called for an end to arms sales to Saudi Arabia. We will be working with MPs from across Parliament to make sure that pressure is kept up on the Government to stop arming Saudi Arabia.

You can contact your MP or local political parties and encourage them to focus on the issues you care about. If they are sympathetic then you can work with them to get the issues raised in Parliament. **If you are in a political party, then find out how you can help on P7.**

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Campaign Against Arms Trade works to end the international arms trade. The arms business has a devastating impact on human rights and security and damages economic development. Large scale military procurement and arms exports only reinforce a militaristic approach to international problems.

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# ARMS TRADE SHORTS

## ARMS FAIRS



Clarion Events, a UK exhibition company, has announced that it will be organising a new arms fair in Egypt in 2018. The Egypt Defence Expo will take place in December. It is fully supported by the Egyptian armed forces.  
[Armyrecognition.com, 13/12/17](#)

In October 2017, Clarion Events organised the Bahrain International Defence Exhibition and Conference. It was the first major arms fair of its kind to be held in Bahrain. It was attended by UK civil servants and arms companies, as well as military delegations from around the world.  
[Middle East Eye, 16/10/17](#)

## UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

The United Arab Emirates plans to order an upgrade for its fleet of Mirage 2000-9 fighter jets. The upgrade, which will be carried out by Dassault Aviation, a French arms company, will cost £260 million.  
[Defense News, 14/11/17](#)

In January 2018, Norway's Foreign Ministry announced that it has suspended exports of weapons and ammunition to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) over concerns they could be used in the war in Yemen. In 2016, Norwegian arms exports to the UAE rose by 10%.  
[Reuters, 03/10/18](#)



Three years of bombing have had a devastating impact on Yemen. © OCHA / Philippe Kropf / Flickr

## USA

In January 2018, the President of the United States, Donald Trump, called on the Pentagon and State Department to play a greater role in promoting arms sales. One change being considered is to call on embassy staff to directly promote arms sales, although it is unclear what the guidelines will be.  
[Reuters, 08/01/17](#)

## SAUDI ARABIA

In October, prior to his resignation, the then Defence Secretary Michael Fallon urged Members of Parliament to stop criticising the Saudi regime in case it impacted on arms sales. He told the Foreign Affairs Committee that "I have to repeat - sadly - that other criticism of Saudi Arabia in this Parliament is not helpful. I'll leave it there."  
[Sky News, 26/10/17](#)

## ARMS PROMOTION

The UK government is planning to introduce new measures to make it easier for arms companies to promote exports. The new policy will include increased support for arms companies from the Ministry of Defence, as well as a particular focus on the "exportability" of arms.  
[Daily Telegraph, 20/12/17](#)

## QATAR

In December, Qatar agreed to buy 24 Typhoon fighter jets from the UK. The deal is worth £6 billion and also includes training of Qatari Air Force personnel. The two countries also agreed to create a Joint Operation Squadron, the start of a partnership between the Qatari and UK air forces.  
[Al Jazeera, 10/12/17](#)

In December, Qatar also agreed to buy 12 Dassault Rafale combat aircraft from France. The deal, was made during a visit by the French President Emmanuel Macron and follows a similar deal for 24 aircraft agreed in 2015.  
[Jane's Defence Weekly, 07/12/17](#)

## CORRUPTION ALLEGATIONS

In November 2017, the Saudi Arabian government said that it will investigate corruption in the £43 billion Al Yamamah deal, a major fighter jet deal that was the biggest arms sale in UK history. There have been no updates since.  
[The Times, 11/11/17](#)

In October 2017, Dassault Aviation and two other French aerospace companies, Thales and Safran, have been fined a combined £200 million by a Court in Taiwan, following a 25 year dispute about the sale.  
[Taipei Times, 27/10/17](#)

## ISRAEL ARMS TO MYANMMAR

According to sources in the Israeli military, Israel has sold millions of pounds worth of advance military equipment to Myanmar, despite the ongoing atrocities being committed there against the Rohingya people. The deals included Israeli-made navy patrol boats custom-fitted with remote weapon stations.  
[Haaretz, 24/10/17](#)

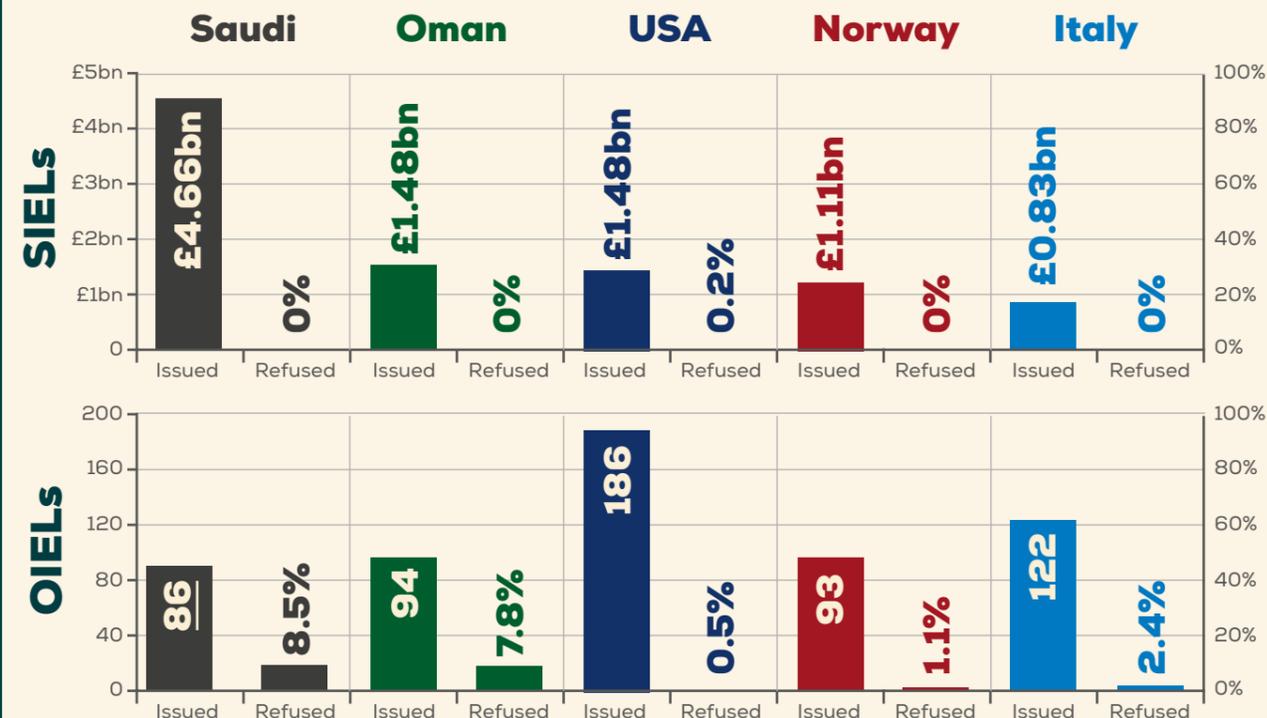
Following international criticism, it has been reported that Israel has frozen arms exports to Myanmar, although these reports have not been confirmed by the Israeli government.  
[Times of Israel: 01/11/17](#)

## MILITARY LIST EXPORT LICENCES, 01/2015-09/2017

The top five destinations for UK Military List exports are shown in the charts. Arms export licences can be issued or refused by the Government.

In the top chart, the value of approved licences for the most common type of export licence (SIELs\*) is shown for each country, along with the percentage of licence applications that are refused.

In the lower chart, there is equivalent information for open licences (OIELs\*\*). However, as there is no limit on the amount of equipment that can be exported under open licences, monetary values can't be shown. As a result the chart provides the number of licences issued and the percentage refused.



\*SIELs - Single Individual Export Licences Applies to: a single exporter; a single destination country; a single consignee; a set quantity of items, specified by value

\*\*OIELs - Open Individual Export Licences Applies to: a single exporter; one or more destination countries and/or consignees; an unlimited quantity of items, of which no record of value is kept

# BREXIT

Export regulations are unlikely to change dramatically when the UK leaves the European Union (EU). However, as the regulations do little to impede exports, UK government willingness to export military equipment to even the world's most concerning governments and military forces looks likely to be exacerbated in the search for post-Brexit trade deals

Looking for trade links beyond the EU, in January 2017, Prime Minister Theresa May secured a £100 million fighter jet deal with a Turkish government under President Erdogan that, since a failed coup attempt in July 2016, has purged over a hundred thousand workers from state jobs and arrested thousands.

More journalists are imprisoned in Turkey than in any other country. Emphasising that he would like to see more such deals, Michael Fallon, then Defence Secretary, told delegates at the DSEI arms fair in September 2017 that the UK would "spread its wings across the world" with increased arms and equipment exports after Brexit. (Independent, 13.9.17)

It is not just the Government either. In August 2016, ADS, the trade body for arms companies, said, "Europe will continue to be

important, but there are perhaps other areas where there is now a bigger incentive to develop longer-term relationships... Brexit provides the circumstances and the catalyst for faster and more efforts." (Bloomberg, 5.8.16)

**UK government willingness to export military equipment to even the world's most concerning governments and military forces looks likely to be exacerbated in the search for post-Brexit trade deals**

The EU evolved from a Franco-German initiative to promote peace on the European continent. However, in recent years, it has been rapidly militarising. In many ways the UK has served to

block this, with UK governments believing that military matters are the preserve of individual member states as well as being concerned about the implications for NATO. Brexit may assist those governments, including those of France and Germany, which are pressing for a greater EU military role.

The arms companies see more military involvement by the EU as an opportunity. Brexit is, unfortunately, unlikely to be a barrier. The UK government is hoping to stay part of the European Defence Agency and other agencies, many of which are technically inter-governmental rather than part of the EU.



Theresa May visiting Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan © Crown Copyright / Jay Allen / Flickr

# CAEC

The Commons' Committees on Arms Export Controls (CAEC), which includes MPs from the backbench Defence, Foreign Affairs, International Development and International Trade committees, scrutinises export licensing decisions.

Between 2010 and 2015 it questioned Government

decisions and pointed out the incompatibility between promoting both arms sales and human rights. In the 2015 Parliament, the CAEC floundered. After failing to agree on arms sales to Saudi Arabia, other inquiries pettered out.

Now the CAEC is back in business, finally forming again

after the 2017 General Election. The Chair is Labour MP Gareth Jones and its first inquiry is a general one.

Full information is on the parliamentary website at [parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/other-committees/committee-on-arms-export-controls/](http://parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/other-committees/committee-on-arms-export-controls/)

# ARE YOU A MEMBER OF A POLITICAL PARTY?

The Conservative government might last for a full five years, but, equally, it could collapse at any point. A government more sympathetic to CAAT's aims might then be elected. Such a government, Labour or coalition, would then come under huge pressure to maintain the status quo, continuing to support UK military exports and responding to threats in a militaristic way.

It is the jobs argument that prevents many key people in opposition parties from taking action to end the arms trade. In September, the Trade Union Congress passed a motion calling on the Labour Party to set up a shadow Defence Diversification Agency (DDA). This could be a game changer. The motion was seconded by Unite, a union covering many skilled arms industry workers.

## Labour member? Ask your CLP to support a shadow DDA

It is vitally important that Labour's frontbench team knows acting on the TUC motion is a priority for members. Please ask your local Labour Party to pass a motion on the shadow DDA and to tell the Party centrally, including shadow Business Secretary Rebecca Long Bailey, that it has done so. The motion, right, based on one adopted by Shipley CLP in 2017, can, of course, be adapted.

## In another Party?

If you are in a different Party, please adapt the motion so it acknowledges that some communities are heavily economically dependent on arms industry jobs and welcomes the TU motion proposal for a Defence Diversification Agency to work on an arms conversion strategy.

## Creation of a Shadow Defence Diversification Agency

Following the successful adoption by the TUC at its September 2017 conference of the resolution 'Defence, Jobs and Diversification', we call on the Labour Party to set up a shadow Defence Diversification Agency (DDA) as a priority.

Key foreign policy goals of the Labour Party include multilateral nuclear disarmament and the control of the sale of arms to regimes with poor humanitarian records. A shadow DDA, in collaboration with a National Investment Bank and National Education Service, will work with all involved in the arms and nuclear weapons industries to prepare plans for conversion to alternative, socially useful products, such as green energy generation by off-shore wind and tidal power.

The announcement in October 2017 by BAE Systems of plans to axe 2,000 jobs shows once again that not only are these plants producing weapons which can have devastating humanitarian consequences and, through the desire to sell, mute UK criticism of human rights violations, but that jobs in the arms industry are not secure.

A DDA will help fulfill a future Labour government's longer-term goals of an ethical foreign policy, of nuclear disarmament through support of the UN global ban on nuclear weapons and of the provision of secure, sustainable jobs.



© San Sharma / Flickr

# HOW DO THEY GET AWAY WITH IT?

## How the arms trade influences government

Former CAAT researcher [Joe Lo](#) uncovers how arms companies work behind the scenes to influence decision-makers.



Despite the death and destruction that the arms trade causes, it is not just tolerated but consistently supported and promoted by the Government. Many of you will therefore have asked yourselves a very good question: “Why?! How do arms companies keep getting away with it?”

The answer isn't that it is popular. It's not. A recent poll of over 2,000 UK adults showed that just 28% thought the Government should promote the sale of UK military equipment to foreign governments. Far less thought the Government should promote weapon sales to human-rights abusers (6%), undemocratic regimes (9%) and governments that have been accused of violating international humanitarian law (5%). The Saudi regime, which is the world's biggest buyer of UK arms, ticks all three of these despicable boxes.

So, if it's not popular, why does the Government continue to do it? One part of the answer is simple: self-interest. While outright bribes of UK government figures are rare, Government decision-makers do get plenty of perks from the arms trade. Arms companies often invite ministers, military chiefs and civil servants to fancy dinners at five-star hotels. After they've retired from government, they often offer them jobs on their advisory boards – where they likely get paid a great deal of money for doing very little work except for sharing their contacts-book and insider knowledge of government.

### 'What is groupthink?'

Perhaps more important than self-interest though is a term first coined in the 1970s by social psychologist Irving Janis: groupthink. The people who make decisions on the Government's arms trade policy have such a cosy relationship with arms company

executives and lobbyists that they think the same as them.

You can see this groupthink everywhere, but perhaps nowhere more so than at an event called the Defence Suppliers Forum. This is a regular meeting in Whitehall that brings arms company executives together with ministers and civil servants, mainly from the Ministry of Defence (MoD). It is a chance for arms companies to directly influence what government is doing.

### An arms dealers' calendar features a host of military charity gala dinners, arms fairs and networking receptions – all of which are opportunities to schmooze decision-makers

On top of this big meeting, there are regular smaller meetings between ministers and arms company executives. Government transparency data often lists the subject of these meetings simply as “routine catch-up”. While this completely blocks transparency, it does show just how cosy the relationship between government and the arms trade is. No wonder they think like one group.

These meetings don't all happen in meeting rooms. An arms dealers' calendar features a host of military charity gala dinners, arms fairs and networking receptions, all of which are opportunities to schmooze government decision-makers over a glass of champagne or two.

### The revolving door

Another factor in the relationship is that many government decision-makers go on to work in the arms trade. If you are a senior civil servant in the MoD, you may see arms dealers as your future colleagues. On top of this, many of your former MoD colleagues, who are perhaps your personal friends,

will now work for arms companies.

Not just this, but some of your current government colleagues will literally be getting their pay-cheques from the arms industry. For years now, arms company employees have been working in the Ministry of Defence and the Department of International Trade on secondment. While there, they continue to be paid by their arms company. Arms dealers are literally working inside government.

### Role of civil servants

There is also a government unit, with over 100 taxpayer-funded employees, whose sole job is to promote arms exports abroad. Part of the way they do this is by co-ordinating government support for arms export promotion – briefing ambassadors, civil servants, ministers and military officials on what the arms trade is trying to push to where and how to help them sell it.

### There is considerable group pressure on individuals within government not to rock the boat by mentioning the death and destruction which the arms trade causes

With the line between government and arms companies so consistently being blurred, ignored and distorted, there is considerable group pressure on individuals within government not to rock the boat by mentioning the death and destruction which the arms trade causes. It's much easier to go with the flow, promote the arms trade and reap the rewards of a seat on an arms company's advisory board when you retire.

To find out more, visit [caat.org.uk/resources/influence](http://caat.org.uk/resources/influence)

*Joe left CAAT last December and is taking time to work and travel abroad. He did lots of great work here and we wish him well in his travels.*

# UNIVERSITIES NETWORK

A new year has begun, and arms companies are currently smacking their lips as they eye up UK universities full of highly skilled students.

Over at the University of Manchester, BAE Systems has been exploiting students' labour to develop new types of drone technology with the potential to be used in conflicts around the world. More information below.

Similarly, at Cranfield University, BAE Systems is sucking students into their company by offering Masters level qualifications.

Privatisation and cuts to further education have seen departments across the country shrinking, which has increased the opportunities for arms companies like BAE Systems to profit cheaply from highly skilled students.

We should be fully funding further education, and encouraging and creating opportunities for students involved in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths subjects to use their skills to solve important global issues like climate change, rather than creating even greater global insecurity through fuelling armed conflict.

The direction of travel is very concerning and needs to be resisted. Every year, more and more of our education system is being sold-off to big business and corporate interest.

**Privatisation and cuts to further education has increased the opportunities for arms companies to profit cheaply from highly skilled students**

As this continues and as the impact of cuts is felt, arms companies will only look to tighten their grip on universities. But thankfully CAAT Universities Network are here to work with students in stopping them!

Get in touch at [universities@caat.org.uk](mailto:universities@caat.org.uk) to order materials for a new round of campaigning on campus this semester. Book in a screening of *Shadow World* to raise awareness of the devastating effects of the arms trade and build a student movement to cut university ties to the arms trade for good.

## Manchester University

Over recent months BAE Systems has worked with the University of Manchester to launch its new Magma drone, with the first phase of trials starting in December 2017. The collaboration is yet another sign of the increasing militarisation of campuses and the ways in which arms companies are taking advantage of funding problems in Higher Education.

## Cranfield University

BAE Systems is also working with Cranfield University to introduce a Postgraduate Apprenticeship/ Masters programme. This will see Europe's biggest arms company directly shaping the programme as students work for BAE at the same time as gaining an academic qualification. Universities are meant to be places of learning, not recruitment grounds and conveyor belts for arms companies. It's time to kick companies like BAE out of Higher Education.

# BAHRAIN

Sayed Ahmed Alwadaei is the Director of Advocacy at the Bahrain Institute for Rights & Democracy. Here is his story of the lengths the regime will go to in order to intimidate and silence its critics.

I have campaigned for human rights and democracy since the Arab Spring erupted in my home country, Bahrain, in 2011. As a result of my work, I have faced torture and imprisonment. But what disgusts me the most is the targeting of my family, to silence me for exposing the horrific abuses committed by the regime.

Bahrain is a small island, but its people have experienced abuse on an unimaginable scale. Peaceful protests are crushed, and detainees are denied even basic medical treatment. The UN Committee Against Torture found that torture is "widespread" in Bahrain. Yet the US and UK refuse to criticise the totalitarian regime; the arms trade is simply too lucrative to risk.

In 2011, when Saudi Arabian security forces were invited into Bahrain to crush pro-democracy protesters, they used UK-manufactured armoured vehicles to do so. When Saudi Arabia and Bahrain bomb schools and hospitals in Yemen, they do so with UK/US arms.

The UK government in particular is so desperate to appease its Gulf Coast ally that it is willing to ignore its own constituents. My wife and I have lived in London since I sought asylum in 2012. A year ago, she was detained at a Bahraini airport. Evidently incensed about my human rights work, an officer threatened her: "Who should we start with, Sayed's family or yours?"

Now, our family members are being tortured and imprisoned. My mother-in-law, brother-in-law and cousin each face three years in prison on falsified charges. They have faced terrible abuse: sleep deprivation, humiliation



Sayed speaking at a demonstration outside the DSEI arms fair

and threats of rape. Despite their suffering, the UK continues to rely on Bahrain's assurance that the reprisals have nothing to do with me.

**"Nothing encouraged me more than seeing the DESI protests: hundreds of people taking action to save the lives of those victimised by the most repressive regimes on Earth"**

In September 2017, I was keen to join the protests at the DESI arms fair, but the threats made me hesitant. In the end, I realised that I have no choice but to keep fighting – for my family, for my country, and for democracy. Nothing encouraged me more than seeing the DSEI protests: hundreds of people taking action to save the lives of those victimised by the most repressive regimes on Earth.

## Bahrain Institute for Rights & Democracy

BIRD is a leading NGO that focuses on investigating human rights abuses in Bahrain. We work in three stages: exposing, supporting victims, and seeking accountability. We have developed a unique yet incredibly effective strategy of lobbying, peaceful protests, media work and creative use of the legal process. Through our campaigning, we have drawn attention to the role of the arms trade in supporting the totalitarian regime.

You can support us by donating, following us on Twitter ([@BirdBahrain](https://twitter.com/BirdBahrain)) or signing up for our newsletter. If you would like any more information, please contact [team@birdbh.org](mailto:team@birdbh.org).



# FREE RAIIF BADAWI

January marked three years since imprisoned Saudi blogger Raif Badawi was flogged by the Saudi Arabian state. CAAT joined English PEN, Reporters Without Borders and Amnesty International at a vigil outside the Saudi embassy.

Raif was imprisoned in 2012 after starting a website to encourage political debate in his country. He was sentenced to 10 years in prison and

1000 lashes. In 2015 he was publicly flogged for the first time, receiving 50 lashes. There are fears he would not survive another flogging.

By arming and supporting the Saudi regime, the government is making itself complicit in the abuses and atrocities that the regime is carrying out against Saudi people, like Raif, as well as those that it is committing in Yemen.



Protesters calling for the release of Raif Badawi



## LOOKING BACK AT 2017

2017 was a fantastic year for taking action against the arms trade.

### #StopArmingSaudi

Our ongoing court case has continued to push the toxic UK-Saudi Arabia relationship into the public eye, with 76% of the UK now opposing arms sales to human rights abusers, and most mainstream political parties incorporating ending arms to Saudi Arabia into their manifestos.



**76% of the UK now oppose arms sales to human rights abusers**

### Arms fair blocked!

In September, one of the world's biggest arms fairs came to London and thousands of people came out to stop it. We came together for an entire week of direct action in September, blockading deliveries every single day. Campaigners

continued the protests throughout the week of the arms fair. Court cases for those arrested at DSEI are running until March. **Check out p15 for more details.**

**We came together for an entire week of direct action in September**

We are part of a global movement, with other actions taking place against arms fair in Czech Republic, Canada, Israel, South Korea and New Zealand.

### Organising across the UK

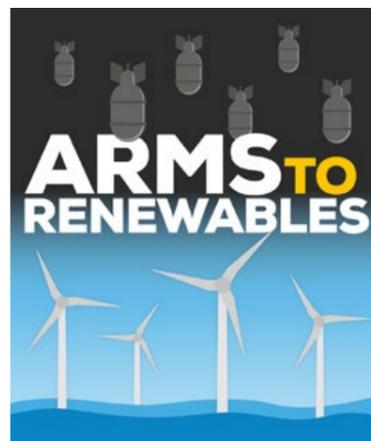
2017 saw people mobilising against the arms trade all across the UK. Film screenings, stalls and local events helped the movement grow

Universities were active: from Newcastle to Norwich, and from Bath to Manchester, students challenged arms companies and militarism on their campuses.

### Arms to renewables

Our "Arms to Renewables" message is finally being heard by unions: in September, the TUC passed a motion agreeing to lobby for a shadow Defence

Diversification Agency. This would include plans for "arms conversion" (away from arms to other industries) that would protect skilled jobs.



### EU resistance

For the first time, the European Union is proposing to fund military research and development. CAAT supporters were among the 140,000 people from around the EU who signed an EU-wide online petition calling for EU funds not to be used in this way. While the funding is going ahead, CAAT and the European Network Against Arms Trade have made the message clear to EU politicians and officials: this is not okay.

## LOCAL ACTION

2017 was a huge year of action for local groups, with local actions up and down the country to support CAAT's judicial review of arms sales to Saudi. In September, local groups travelled from around the UK to take part in the massive Stop the Arms Fair week of action against the DSEI arms fair in London.

**There are lots of people to link up with - and if you'd like to start some action in your local area, now is the perfect time**

There's lots going on, and 2018 looks like being another big year. With local groups in Bristol, Yorkshire, London, Brighton and

Scotland, there are lots of people to link up with - and if you'd like to start some action in your local area, now is the perfect time.

This spring and summer, the film *Shadow World*, a feature length documentary about the multi-billion dollar international arms trade, will go on tour across the UK. The film, based on the book by Andrew Feinstein, is an eye-opening insight into the arms trade and a great tool for organising in your local area.

If you are connected to a local group and are interested in hosting a film screening, please email [outreach@caat.org.uk](mailto:outreach@caat.org.uk) to book a screening in your community.

### Scottish CAAT needs you!

Activists in Scotland have built a great network of campaigners, and the Edinburgh group is doing lots of brilliant work. In February the group held a stall in the Scottish Parliament to engage directly with MSPs.

They are planning lots of creative actions this spring and would love to hear from any CAAT supporters in Scotland who would like to get involved. You can check out their Facebook page at [facebook.com/CAATScotland](https://www.facebook.com/CAATScotland) to stay up-to-date with their activities!



Arming West Yorkshire CAAT group hold a Stop Arming Saudi protest

## COURT SOLIDARITY

Last September, Stop the Arms Fair had huge success in mobilising hundreds of people to block the set up of the DSEI arms fair. There was a full week of mass protests, involving activists from across the country.

The policing was totally inappropriate and heavy-

**Trials have been happening over recent months and we need your help to support them as they face charges**

handed, with over 100 people arrested during the week of action. Trials have been happening over recent months and we need your help to support them as they face charges. Your

solidarity is important and can go a long way.

Join us outside Stratford Magistrates Court to support the defendants at their plea hearings. **You can see dates on page 15.** If you would like to send a message of support to the defendants, please email Lucie on [events@caat.org.uk](mailto:events@caat.org.uk).

# SUPPORT CAAT TO BUILD FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

CAAT's work challenging the arms trade is all part of a broader vision of a better, safer world. By challenging the industries that fuel wars, we want to contribute to build a global society that is genuinely secure and can deliver a brighter future for all.

Over our forty years of effective campaigning, CAAT has had a huge impact on the arms trade, but there is still a long way to go. All our work so far has only been possible through the support of people like you and one of the key ways that people support us is through gifts left in wills. By leaving a gift in your will, you can help CAAT to end the arms trade for good, making our vision a reality before another forty years has passed.

When it comes to your will, it's

only right that providing for your loved ones comes first. But, if the time is ever right for you to leave a gift for a cause you care about, please do remember CAAT. Whether you have made a will already or not, if you would like to leave a gift, including CAAT is a really quick and simple process, with no cost to you now. For a

**For a grassroots campaign like CAAT, every gift in every Will can have a big impact on our work, however large or small**

grassroots campaign like CAAT, every gift in every will can have a big impact on our work, however large or small.

If you have already included CAAT in your will, we would really appreciate it if you would let us know. We will never ask you for any more detail than that and will only contact you again if you ask us to. If you have not yet left a gift and would like further information, please get in touch using the contact details on page 2 or visit [caat.org.uk/legacies](http://caat.org.uk/legacies).



## TAKING ACTION

People arrested at the DSEI arms fair in September are appearing in court this year.

Come along to **Stratford Magistrates Court** in London to show your support on any or all of these dates:

**21-23 Feb • 7-8 March • 18 April**

### Shadow World

Want to book a *Shadow World* screening in your community? Email [outreach@caat.org.uk](mailto:outreach@caat.org.uk)

### Stop Arming Saudi

Want to hold a Stop Arming Saudi talk or workshop? Email [outreach@caat.org.uk](mailto:outreach@caat.org.uk)

### AGMs

Interested in taking action at an arms company AGM this year? Email [events@caat.org.uk](mailto:events@caat.org.uk) and we'll get stuck into some planning.

## THEY SAID IT

"I have to repeat sadly to this committee that obviously other criticism of Saudi Arabia in this Parliament is not helpful and ... I'll leave it there, but we need to do everything possible to encourage Saudi Arabia towards batch two."

Huffington Post, 25 October 2017  
Then Defence Secretary Michael Fallon encourages other MPs to stop criticising Saudi Arabia in case it affects arms sales.

"The activation with Northrop Grumman at New York Comic Con was meant to focus on aerospace technology and exploration in a positive way. However, as the spirit of that intent has not come across, we will not be proceeding with this partnership..."

Polygon, 07 October 2017  
Marvel Entertainment explains why it is ending a sponsorship deal with arms company Northrop Grumman following anger from fans.

"I too have a Nuclear Button, but it is a much bigger & more powerful one than his, and my Button works!"

The Guardian, 03 January 2018  
The President of the United States, Donald Trump, threatens nuclear war against North Korea over Twitter.

### Thanks to Mel Jarman

Mel was the editor of CAAT News for 13 years and was crucial to its expansion and move into being a full-colour magazine. Mel has begun working in a new role in Westminster. Everyone at CAAT is very grateful for all of the great work she has done and we wish her well in everything she does next.

Plan an event near you in March 2018

Take a kite to your park, the beach, town centre, a military base and fly it with friends, to celebrate Nao Roz, Persian New Year, 21st March.

**fly kites not drones**

This is the 5th year of the campaign, which was started by young kite flyers in Afghanistan and now inspires people around the world. Military drones know no borders and make war too easy.

See [www.flykitesnotdrones.org](http://www.flykitesnotdrones.org) for stories, activities, kite making instructions and much more.

Resources available from the Drone Campaign Network at [www.dronecampaignnetwork.org.uk](http://www.dronecampaignnetwork.org.uk)

Contact us at [info@dronecampaignnetwork.riseup.net](mailto:info@dronecampaignnetwork.riseup.net) or ring 07414 465695 to let us know your plans.



You can donate to CAAT by either visiting our website at **caat.org.uk**, or completing the form below (in block capitals) and returning it to:  
**Freepost RSYR-UCBS-GHEE, CAAT, Unit 4, 5-7 Wells Terrace, London, N4 3JU**

Donations direct to CAAT are the most useful for the campaign, but if you send a Charities Aid Foundation cheque please make it payable to TREAT (Trust for Research and Education on Arms Trade) making clear that you wish for your donation to support CAAT's research programme. Unlike CAAT, TREAT is a registered charity (No.328694).

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