

United Nations General Assembly

Position Paper for the Brazil

Agenda: The Global Arms Trade and the Role of Private Military Companies, with Special Reference to the U.S. Second Amendment

Background:

Brazil experiences firsthand how unregulated arms flows and the growing presence of private military companies (PMCs) endanger public safety, weaken state authority, and intensify organized crime. Illegal weapons fuel violence in cities, empower criminal groups in the Amazon, and threaten the security of our region as a whole. While Brazil respects the sovereignty of every state—including the domestic scope of the U.S. Second Amendment—our concern is that national policies must not enable the diversion of arms across borders, undermining collective security.

National Position:

Brazil advocates a balanced approach: arms trade that meets legitimate defense needs, but under strict safeguards to prevent diversion into criminal hands. We believe PMCs, if left unregulated, risk undermining international humanitarian and human rights law. Therefore, Brazil supports multilateral cooperation through the UN Programme of Action on Small Arms, the Arms Trade Treaty, and related instruments, while emphasizing that shared responsibility must guide all states, regardless of domestic constitutional frameworks.

Proposals:

- **Arms Control:** Expand end-use verification, universal firearm marking, and data-sharing mechanisms. Create international standards to address new threats such as 3D-printed weapons and ghost guns.
- **PMCs:** Establish a global registry, with mandatory reporting on contracts and incidents. Ensure accountability through clear jurisdiction and avenues for victim redress.
- **Cooperation:** Initiate a Brazil–U.S. dialogue to disrupt trafficking routes, enhance tracing cooperation, and balance domestic rights with international obligations.

Conclusion:

Brazil seeks to strengthen global security through cooperation, not confrontation. Our position is rooted in a simple principle: national sovereignty and international responsibility must advance together. By ensuring that weapons remain tools of lawful defense rather than instruments of instability, and by holding PMCs accountable, the international community can reduce the risks that threaten us all.