

Country Report – Germany May 2007 – Mai 2008 ENAAT Meeting Oslo June 08

The world's third arms exporter

Germany is ranked at the 3. place in the SIPRI yearbook 2007 behind the US at the 1. place and Russia at the second place among the worlds' biggest arms exporters for the data of the year 2006. Third place Between 2002 and 2006 in Mrd. US\$ behind USA and Russia with 9,2 Mrd. US \$ (6,2 Mrd. Euro).

At the end of the year 2007 the german government published the official arms export report with the data from 2006. The export licences increased from 6,2 billion Euro in 2005 to 7,7 billion Euro in 2006. Germany is actually the number one in Europe prior to France with 3,9 Billion Euro and Great Britian with 2,4 Billion Euro.

4,2 Billion Euro are single licences and 3,5 Billion Euro collected licences, which are often components to other EU, NATO countries. For example components to the eurofighter programm. The problem is that the end user is mostly unnone in that cases.

The biggest importers of war weapons have been Greek, South-Korea, the Netherlands, Southafrica, Turkey and the US. Weapons have been exported to 55 states. And the government has given nearly 14.000 singular licenses to 124 nations. Only 89 requests have been denied.

In Germany there is only a statistic with the licences on arms goods and war material, and only the real export on war weapons is fixed in the statistic at the governments report. There is no number of arm goods exports in this statistic. The real export on war material has been 3,9 Bill. \$Dollar. This is more than twice before in 2005 with 1,5 Bill. \$ Dollar. The most went to the near east region.

20% of the single licences are given to developed countries. 36% of these licenses were given to Pakistan.

It is a scandal, that here has not been a parliamentary debate about the last three arms export reports. 2006, 2005 and 2004. Since three years we have a big coalition with CDU and SPD in the government. Arms export is a subject for the opposite parties, but no one wants to debate this subject in the parliament. What a shame.

Forgeign minister Fischer, and the Linke were paying more attention to Afghanistan and the armament than to the arms export. The liberal party had no proplem with the arms trades, under Kohl they decided that they have no interest to look very close to arms trade.

Small arms and light weapons

2006 there have been export licences in value of 127 million Euro and ammunition in the amount of 21,2 Million Euro.

In Germany there is a special regulation since the Red-Green coalition contract, to give new small arms only instead of old - "new for old", but no one knows if this regulation has been come to practice only one time.

Heckler & Koch – H & K – is the biggest producer of small arms in Germany.

- The Spanish army decided to import the new machine gun from H & K the MG 4
- Norway decided to import the HK 416 and pistol from H & K, the machine pistol MP 7 from H & K
- Greatbritain wants to have the MP 7 too instead of the older MP 5 from H & K.

- Even special troops in Pakistan have the MP 7, although the ammunition of these pistols are problematic from the human rights perspective.

Special deal: submarines to Pakistan

One of the most difficult deals are licences for submarines to Pakistan. This deal has become public last year – see the country report 2007 in Florence.

The facts: Pakistan wants to get three German submarines U-214 in a few years round about an amount of 1,2 Billion Euro. Germany will deliver packages of material, which will be put together in Pakistan. The German union of ship builders – TKMS – under the roof of Thyssen, will sell them. HDW in Kiel, TNSW in Emden and a lot of other suppliers.

The German security council gave the promise for proceedings in 2007 and took over a Hermes guarantee of 1,029 Billion Euro. The German parliament has been informed, but could not decide anything. The government gave arguments: success in the development specially with the “fuel cell” and the employment in Germany.

The point is that the chancellor Angela Merkel is a traditional transatlantic politician and that the US wants that Germany gives delivers the submarines to Pakistan. Pakistan “needs” those submarines as a strategic partner in the so called “war for terrorism”.

Actually there is no licence to produce and export the submarines. But in 2004 there had been given a written licence – Voranfrage - . The contract between TKMS and Pakistan was ready in autumn of 2007, but the both partners wanted to sign the contract after the elections in Pakistan, after february 2008. Ottfried Nassauer from the Berlin information center for transnational security represents the opinion that nothing happened yet.

The problem is that Pakistan is planning to put nuclear weapons on the submarines, like Israel with the German Dolphin, but there is no real proof that Pakistan is organizing it. There is only the apprehension that no one can say that it will be impossible.

Some Keywords:

- The German government wants to regulate arms transfer to private security service provider, but it did not happen till now.
- Corruption : actual Siemens but no research about it
- Freedom of information act in Germany has come to law, but arms are excluded.
- Arms trade treaty ATT Germany has made long list of goods and these will dominate the debate about it.
- **EU**: Code of conduct perhaps come to legally binding in the next EU presidency from France

Office: The BUKO office is closed, the archive has gone to Berlin, Freiburg and the Bremen documents to the foundation of conversion.

But I am now the delegated person from the Christian campaign “living without arms – producing for life – stop arms export”.

Officially the BUKO Campaign is still existing, but more on the paper/internet than with paid staff and an office room.

Activities: There are some actions and campaigns from the Christian groups and the critical shareholders. The Pax Christi group is planning a picket in November in Frankfurt at the Airtec, against the growing military part.