



## Department for International Trade

Department for International Trade  
3 Whitehall Place  
London  
SW1A 2AW

T +44 (0) 20 7215 5000  
E [enquiries@trade.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@trade.gsi.gov.uk)  
W [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

Our ref:  
Your ref:

Women in Black  
By email: [wibinfo@gn.apc.org](mailto:wibinfo@gn.apc.org).

26 February 2020

A number of signatories to your recent campaign have written to the Prime Minister calling on him to end arms transfers to Saudi Arabia. I am replying on behalf of the Department for International Trade as Export Control is the responsibility of the Secretary of State for International Trade.

All exports of military equipment require an export licence and I can assure you that the Government takes its arms export control responsibilities very seriously.

The Government remains fully committed to complying with the 20 June 2019 Court Order. Its position remains as set out in the Secretary of State's statement to Parliament on 20 June, that until we retake our licensing decisions in line with the courts judgment, we will not issue any new licences for exports to Saudi Arabia and its coalition partners for possible use in the conflict in Yemen.

The Government is deeply concerned by the ongoing conflict and humanitarian crisis in Yemen. It fully supports the peace process led by the UN Special Envoy, Martin Griffiths, and urges the parties to engage constructively with this process. A political settlement is the only way to bring long-term stability to Yemen and to address the worsening humanitarian crisis.

**Dean Gallacher**  
Head UK & EU Policy Export Control Joint Unit