



# INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL SUPPORTING FAIR TRIAL & HUMAN RIGHTS

Registration No. 2795/2012

OFFICIAL LETTER HEAD OF THE ORGANIZATION

## **ICSFT denounces USA's weapons sell deal with Saudi Arabia**

USA President Donald Trump approved the sale of billions of dollars' worth of weapons to Saudi Arabia, citing Iranian threats to its arch rival.

According to reports "Mr Trump invoked a rarely used aspect of federal law to push through the \$8bn (£6bn) deal - bypassing Congress." Sources are reporting that USA is also gearing up to sell weapons to the United Arab Emirates, another key player of the Saudi-led coalition in Yemen.

Trump's support of Saudi Arabia has angered those who fear the weapons may be used against civilians in Yemen by Saudi-led forces.

USA's ongoing support of Saudi led coalition that's committing war crimes in Yemen contradicts with the sentiment of countries to contribute to the prevention of crimes against humanity, particularly genocide.

The Saudi-led war in Yemen has officially entered its fourth year accompanied by the deafening international silence and impunity! The coalition is carrying out a devastating air bombardment campaign in Yemen that could amount to war crimes. The coalition airstrikes which have struck civilian infrastructure including health facilities, schools, factories, power facilities, bridges and roads is a clear violation of the Law of the War. Further Saudi Arabia holds one of the worst human rights record, sitting on top of global executioners list.

Regardless of this, Saudi Arabia is among the top importers of arms and equipment from countries like USA and France. These arms transfers are taking place despite the fact that the weapons are used to commit serious violations of international human rights and humanitarian law, especially in the Yemen. The arms trade with Saudi Arabia is enabling Saudi Arabia to prosecute a war that has killed tens of thousands and left 8 million more on the brink of famine. The bombs killing innocent civilians have the words "Made in the USA" written on them, and without these western countries intelligence, logistics, training, and equipment, the

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Saudi war effort have fallen apart long ago. Military support for the Saudi regime makes USA complicit in its wrongs.

ICSFT recalls that under the ATT, only the identification of a risk of committing or facilitating serious violations of international humanitarian law or human rights law triggers the obligation for State Parties to deny arms exports. It is wrong and immoral to think that this risk does not exist in relation to arms sales to Saudi Arabia. The evidence we see from Yemen suggests the opposite: the risk is very clear.

Therefore we urge USA to immediately stop arms transfers to Saudi Arabia, and any other country where the arms export could facilitate a serious violation of international human rights law or humanitarian law!

Why are USA, selling arms to a country that has supported terror, has a poor human-rights record, and has waged a reckless war in Yemen?

If human rights, democracy, and regional stability is USA's agenda, stop supporting and arming Saudi Arabia- Saudi Arabia, a repressive regime on top of the world's top human rights violators list.