
Advance Retransfer Consent for USG Sold or Granted Items

Each time the USG exports defense articles, it requires the foreign government recipient to sign end-use and retransfer assurances to the USG stating that the foreign government will not retransfer or alter the end-use of the USG-origin defense articles without first obtaining the written consent of the USG. This means that any time a foreign government wishes to retransfer a USG-origin defense article to a third country, it must first seek consent from the USG. Before the USG may consent to a retransfer, it is required by the Arms Export Control Act to first obtain end-use and retransfer assurances from the proposed recipient of the retransfer. Waiting for such assurances can often take months.

Especially to address times of crisis, such as in coalition scenarios when one ally urgently needs equipment that can most rapidly be acquired from another ally via retransfer, the USG is offering a way to substantially expedite the retransfer process. In fact, the USG is offering to grant advance consent to retransfers that meet certain criteria.

Foremost among the criteria is that countries wishing to take advantage of this offer must sign blanket end-use and retransfer assurances that would apply to all of their USG-origin defense articles. Only by requiring such assurances from all countries receiving retransfers through this advance consent process can the USG comply with U.S. law.

If all of the USG's friends and allies sign the blanket assurances, dozens of routine retransfers will be able to take place each year immediately with the State Department's prior consent. Even those retransfers which do not meet the criteria for advance consent will be processed roughly four times faster, since cases will no longer be delayed for months waiting for assurances to be signed.