



LANDMINE MONITOR FACT SHEET

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Mines Retained for Training and Research (Article 3)

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Established in 1998, Landmine Monitor is
an initiative of the International Campaign
to Ban Landmines, 1997 Nobel Peace Prize
Co-Laureate

Of the current 144 States Parties, 70 retain over 250,000 antipersonnel mines for training and research purposes under the exception granted by Article 3 of the 1997 Mine Ban Treaty. Burundi, Serbia & Montenegro, Sudan, and Turkey joined this list since publication of the *Landmine Monitor Report 2004*. At least 68 have chosen not to retain any mines. Central African Republic, Estonia, Liberia, Papua New Guinea, St Vincent & Grenadines, and Turkmenistan recently joined this list. A total of 18 States Parties once possessed stockpiles but have chosen not to retain any mines, with the recent addition of Turkmenistan. Six States Parties have not made clear if they intend to retain any mines, down from 15 reported in the *Landmine Monitor Report 2004*.

Only five States Parties account for nearly one-third of all retained mines: Brazil (16,125), Turkey (16,000), Algeria (15,030), Bangladesh (15,000), and Sweden (14,798). Turkey is the recent addition to those retaining far more mines than is standard State practice. Algeria, Bangladesh, Brazil, and Turkey have not detailed the intended purposes or requirements for retaining such a high number of antipersonnel mines.

A total of ten States Parties retain between 5,000 and 10,000 mines: Namibia, (9,997), Belarus (7,530), Australia (7,465), Greece (7,224), Japan (6,946), Croatia (6,546), Chile (5,895), and Serbia & Montenegro, Sudan, and Tunisia (5,000 each). Serbia & Montenegro and Sudan are recent additions to this list.

The majority of States Parties that retain mines, a total of 34, retain between 1,000 and 5,000 mines. Another 20 States Parties retain less than 1,000 mines. Botswana declared its intent to retain mines in its initial transparency measures report, but has not reported on this matter since September 2001.

One encouraging trend is the significant number of States Parties that have reduced the number of mines retained from the high levels originally proposed. Argentina, Australia, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Denmark, Ecuador, Italy, Lithuania, Mauritania, Peru, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Thailand, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Kingdom, Venezuela, and Zambia have taken this step between March 1999 and September 2004. Nine of these States Parties originally intended to retain 10,000 mines or more.

A total of 15 States Parties have so far reported consuming 4,987 mines for training and research purposes in 2004. In 2003, 17 States Parties reported consuming 3,112. In 2002, 16 States Parties reported consuming 2,540 mines.

At least 27 States apparently did not consume any retained mines in 2004: Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Republic of Congo, Cyprus, Djibouti, El Salvador, Eritrea, Hungary, Italy, Jordan, Moldova, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, Peru, Portugal, Romania, Suriname, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Thailand, Tunisia, United Kingdom, and Yemen.

This list could significantly increase as the 20 States Parties that retain antipersonnel mines belatedly submit annual updates of their transparency reports for 2004. For example, Denmark, Honduras, Kenya, FYR Macedonia, Rwanda, Togo, Uruguay, and Zimbabwe were among the 26 States Parties did not report consuming any mines in 2003; 29 apparently did not consume any in 2002.

It is worth noting that this list of States Parties for 2004 includes several that retain over 1,000 mines and have not reported consuming any mines for research or training purposes for two or more consecutive years, including: Algeria, Bangladesh, Djibouti, Hungary, Jordan, Mozambique, Peru, Portugal, Thailand, Tunisia, and Yemen.

Chad, Lithuania, Mauritius, and Turkmenistan have reconsidered their retention of mines and now have chosen not to retain any live mines. In contrast, El Salvador, Hungary, and Mozambique changed their initial decision not to keep any mines and subsequently retained mines. Against the trend of reducing the numbers of mines retained, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Macedonia FYR, and Sweden have actually increased their holdings significantly.

The ICBL has urged that all states should declare the intended purposes and actual uses of antipersonnel mines retained under Article 3. During the Oslo negotiations in 1997 and during Standing Committee discussions from 1999-2004, most States Parties have agreed that mines retained should number in the hundreds or thousands or less, but not tens of thousands. The ICBL believes that states that retain antipersonnel mines and apparently do not use any of these mines for permitted purposes abuse the exception permitted by Article 3.

Retaining Mines		2004	Not Retaining Mines	Not Known
Brazil	16,125	875	Afghanistan*	Cape Verde
Turkey	16,000	--	Albania*	DR Congo
Algeria	15,030	0	Andorra	Ethiopia
Bangladesh	15,000	0	Antigua & Barbuda	Equatorial Guinea
Sweden	14,798	908	Austria*	Guyana
Namibia	9,997	0	Bahamas	Sao Tome e Principe
Belarus	7,530	--	Barbados	
Australia	7,465	70	Belize	
Greece	7,224	--	Benin	
Japan	6,946	1,413	Bolivia	
Croatia	6,546	#	Burkina Faso	
Chile	5,895	350	Cambodia*	
Serbia & Montenegro	5,000	--	Cameroon*	
Sudan	5,000	--	Central African Rep.	
Tunisia	5,000	0	Chad*	
Thailand	4,970	0	Comoros	
Czech Republic	4,829	20	Costa Rica	
France	4,457	#	Cote D'Ivoire	
South Africa	4,388	33	Dominica	
Belgium	4,176	267	Dominican Rep.	
Peru	4,024	0	Estonia	
Macedonia FYR	4,000	#	Fiji	
Yemen	4,000	0	Gabon*	
Ecuador	3,970	#	Gambia	
Spain	3,815	#	Ghana	
Bulgaria	3,676	0	Grenada	
Nigeria	3,364	#	Guatemala*	
Zambia	3,346	--	Guinea*	
Netherlands	3,176	0	Guinea Bissau*	
Kenya	3,000	#	Holy See	
Djibouti	2,996	0	Iceland	
Slovenia	2,994	5	Jamaica	
Bosnia & Herzegovina	2,755	0	Kiribati	
Romania	2,500	0	Liberia	
Germany	2,496	41	Lithuania*	
Denmark	2,058	#	Lesotho	
Mali	2,000	#	Liechtenstein	* = once stockpiled mines or in the process of destroying them
United Kingdom	1,930	0	Madagascar	-- = not applicable for reporting period
Canada	1,907	21	Malaysia*	# = has not submitted an annual transparency report for 2004 due by 30 April 2005
Argentina	1,772	0	Malawi	
Uganda	1,746	#	Maldives	
Hungary	1,500	0	Malta	
Mozambique	1,470	0	Mauritius*	
Slovakia	1,427	54	Mexico	
Angola	1,390	--	Monaco	
Burundi	1,200	#	Nauru	
Tanzania	1,146	0	New Zealand*	
Portugal	1,115	0	Niger	
Nicaragua	1,040	810	Niue	
Cyprus	1,000	0	Norway*	
Jordan	1,000	0	Panama	
Venezuela	1,000	#	Papua New Guinea	
Luxembourg	956	20	Paraguay	
Sierra Leone	956	#	Philippines*	
Colombia	886	100	Qatar	
Honduras	826	#	St. Kitts & Nevis	
Italy	811	0	St. Lucia	
Mauritania	728	--	St. Vincent & Grenadines	
Zimbabwe	700	#	Samoa	
Uruguay	500	#	San Marino	
Togo	436	#	Senegal	
Congo Rep. of	372	0	Seychelles	
Tajikistan	255	0	Solomon Islands	
Moldova	249	0	Swaziland	
Eritrea	222	0	Switzerland*	
Suriname	150	0	Timor-Leste	
Ireland	116	#	Trinidad & Tobago	
Rwanda	101	#	Turkmenistan*	
El Salvador	96	0		
Botswana	unk	#		