

From: Gabrielle Settles (b)(6)@poynter.org>
To: <Mediarequests@state.gov>
Subject: Fwd: PolitiFact Article Query to Deputy Director William Malzahn
Date: Wed, 27 Oct 2021 10:17:35 -0400

Good morning,

My name is Gabrielle Settles, and I'm a reporter for PolitiFact (here's a bit more about me). Part of my role is to fact check and report on claims that go viral on social media. I'm currently fact checking a TikTok post claiming that the Biden Administration wants to create an international committee to decide if Second Amendment rights need to be altered or cancelled. **Here's the link to that post.**

From what I've researched, I believe this claim stems from the letter that GOP senators wrote to the Biden Administration to ask for clarification of remarks from Deputy Director for Conventional Arms Threat Reduction, William Malzahn, at the Seventh Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty. They wrote that Malzahn indicated an intention to rejoin the United Nations Arms Trade Treaty, which they wrote is misguided and would subject Second Amendment rights to an international committee.

I'm hoping that you can connect me with Mr. Malzahn or a representative of his office to give comments for the record today and answer a few questions below.

1. Is the claim that the Biden Admin wants to create an international committee to oversee Second Amendment rights true or false?
2. Can you please confirm that this transcript is of your remarks at the Seventh Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty?
3. If the above are your remarks, were you highlighting plans from the Biden administration to join the Arms Trade Treaty? If not, can you describe what you were referring to?
4. Does the Biden administration have any plans to join the Arms Trade Treaty?

Thanks very much for your time. If Mr. Malzahn or a representative would be able to give responses today, that would be most helpful. I'm happy to give someone a call if they'd prefer to answer these questions by phone.

Gabrielle Settles
PolitiFact Reporter
<https://www.politifact.com/>

(b)(6)

Twitter: @settEMup

Sender: Gabrielle Settles (b)(6)@poynter.org>
Recipient: <Mediarequests@state.gov>

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