



July 15, 2026

The Honorable Marco Rubio
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Rubio,

I am writing on behalf of DAWN (Democracy for the Arab World Now), the Jamal Khashoggi legacy organization working to promote human rights and democracy in the Middle East, to ask the United States to halt all arms transfers, re-export authorizations, and security cooperation with the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The UAE is the main external sponsor of the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) that has been committing war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide in Sudan.

On February 19, 2026, the UN Independent International Fact-Finding Mission for the Sudan [found](#) that the RSF committed acts of genocide against the Zaghawa and Fur. The RSF seized El Fasher on October 26, 2025, after an 18-month siege. At least 59,000 have been [killed](#) and more than 14 million [displaced](#), according to the UN.

The UAE arms and finances the RSF. A UN Panel of Experts [traced](#) UAE supply routes to the RSF through Chad and Libya.

The United States supplies 54 percent of the UAE's arms, more than any other country, according to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). Under the Arms Export Control Act, governments that buy U.S. weapons must agree not to re-transfer them to third parties without Washington's consent. In 2019, CNN found that the UAE sent U.S.-made MRAP vehicles to militias in Yemen, including al-Qaeda-linked fighters, breaking its end-use agreements with Washington. UAE-backed forces in Yemen have [run](#) secret prisons and [tortured](#) detainees for the past decade, while airstrikes by the UAE and Saudi-led coalition [killed](#) and injured tens of thousands of civilians in Yemen's civil war, many with [U.S.-made](#) weapons.

Continued arms transfers to the UAE are prohibited under international law and treaty obligations, including the Genocide Convention, which [prohibits](#) complicity in genocide under Article III(e) and [obligates](#) all States Parties to prevent genocide under Article I. The UN Security Council arms embargo on Sudan's Darfur region, [established](#) by Resolution 1556 (2004), [binds](#) all UN member states under Article 25 of the UN Charter.

U.S. law also prohibits these transfers. The U.S. Arms Export Control Act [requires](#) recipients to agree not to retransfer U.S. weapons without prior consent, and Section 502B of the Foreign Assistance Act [prohibits](#) security assistance to any country that engages in a consistent pattern of gross violations of human rights. The Leahy Law (22 U.S.C. § 2378d) [prohibits](#) assistance to any unit of foreign security forces credibly implicated in such violations.

We ask the United States to:

1. Halt all arms transfers, re-export authorizations, and security cooperation with the UAE until it ends its support for the RSF and other grave abuses across the region.
2. Support UN Security Council action to expand the International Criminal Court investigation in Sudan and expand the Darfur arms embargo to all of Sudan.
3. Support an emergency special session of the UN General Assembly on the UAE's role in Sudan.

We welcome the chance to discuss this further.

Respectfully,

Raed Jarrar

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