

# Locked and Loaded: American Far-Right's Growing Interest in Homemade Firearms

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## Synopsis

As firearms are heavily regulated in Europe, discussions regarding improvised or homemade weapons have been consistent for several years in the European far-right online ecosystem. Comparatively, the process of purchasing firearms in the United States has historically been very simple. However, since the election of President Biden in 2020, it appears that fear of gun control measures has caused the far-right community of the United States to explore how to acquire and utilize improvised or manufactured weapons.

While the fear of gun control has been ever-present in the broader conservative discourse, the election of President Biden and the recent rise of mass shootings in the United States have increased concerns. Far-right actors have even developed a conspiracy theory suggesting that the Biden administration has been responsible for the recent mass shooting to convince the public that more significant gun control measures are necessary. Ultimately far-right actors have expressed a fear that this increased focus on gun control will result in a government gun confiscation campaign. As a result, many far-right actors have begun to discuss methods for acquiring alternative or improvised weapons online. Monitoring of communications between far-right actors suggests that they are primarily discussing utilizing improvised firearms under two primary themes: (i) creating unregistered 3D printed firearms, (ii) manufacturing makeshift ammunition.

In the past, European far-right actors have advocated for the use of, and ultimately utilized, improvised weapons to carry out individual-initiative (“lone wolf”) attacks, such as the 2019 shooting attack at a synagogue in Halle, Germany. Embracing innovations and new technological advancements have historically allowed terrorists and other extremist actors to avoid detection and execute high-impact kinetic attacks. While improvised firearms and weapons are not theoretically new, interest in them has reached a new level of prominence since the 2020 election. This significantly increased interest in the production and use of untraceable firearms could be signaling a shift in the attack strategy utilized by far-right actors in the United States. Decision-makers and security forces must be cognizant of this evolving attack strategy and implement plans to counter it. Failure to recognize and appropriately respond to this shift may allow future attacks with homemade weapons to occur.

## Introduction

In a press conference on 23 June, U.S. President Biden announced a new policy “to crack down on ‘merchants of death’ who illegally sell guns.”<sup>1</sup> Attorney-General Garland further elaborated on the plan, explaining that the Department of Justice would engage in a “concerted effort to crack down on gun traffickers” in the United States.<sup>2</sup> Multiple sources suggested that stopping the sale of illegal firearms is a major concern given the rise in violent crime, specifically “back-to-back” mass shootings.<sup>3</sup> This new plan targeting illegal firearms sales is just the latest in a series of gun-reform measures intended to stop the spread of illicit firearms instituted under President Biden. The focus on gun control has long been central to the administration, with Biden even announcing during the 2020 campaign his goal of implementing a “gun safety crackdown.”<sup>4</sup>

This increased focus on gun control policy has caused considerable pushback among the political right in the United States regarding the potential of a theoretical gun confiscation effort by the federal government. In response, conservative lawmakers in several states have passed legislation “banning police from enforcing federal gun laws.”<sup>5</sup> While fear and resistance to potential gun confiscation have long been a central element of conservative citizens broadly, the election of President Biden seems to have increased this fear to a new level. As a result, members of the far-right have also begun to express these concerns.

While monitoring encrypted and unencrypted communications channels has consistently shown interest by far-right actors in manufacturing their own firearms, since the election of President Biden in November 2020, the volume of posts on this topic has dramatically risen. Immediately after the election, far-right actors began expressing considerable fears about confiscation efforts by the incoming presidential administration. Given these concerns, far-right actors started to discuss the potential of utilizing untraceable

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<sup>1</sup> Maeve Sheehey, “Biden Announces Plan to Crack down on 'Merchants of Death' Who Illegally Sell Guns,” POLITICO (POLITICO, June 23, 2021), <https://www.politico.com/news/2021/06/23/biden-crack-down-illegal-guns-495751>.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Jonathan Lemire and Colleen Long, “Crackdown on Illegal Gun Dealers Part of Biden's Plan to Stem Rising Crime in U.S.,” Global News (Global News, June 23, 2021), <https://globalnews.ca/news/7976256/biden-crime-plan-us-guns/>; Annie Karni, “Biden Prepares to Take on Gun Violence in Wake of Back-to-Back Shootings,” The New York Times (The New York Times, May 17, 2021), <https://www.nytimes.com/live/2021/04/07/us/biden-news-today>.

<sup>4</sup> Devin Dwyer et al., “Fear Fuels Gun Sales as Biden Vows Crackdown,” ABC News (ABC News Network, December 19, 2020), <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/fear-fuels-gun-sales-biden-vows-crackdown/story?id=74759162>.

<sup>5</sup> Glenn Thrush and Nicholas Bogel-Burroughs, “Why G.O.P.-Led States Are Banning the Police From Enforcing Federal Gun Laws,” The New York Times (The New York Times, June 18, 2021), <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/06/18/us/missouri-federal-gun-laws.html>.

improvised firearms and ammunition. **Specifically, far-right actors began producing and amplifying content under two primary themes: (i) creating unregistered 3D printed weapons, (ii) manufacturing makeshift ammunition.**

### **Fear of Firearm Confiscation**

The Second Amendment of the United States Constitution states: “A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.”<sup>6</sup> While a focus on defending this right to bear arms has not always been central, since the late-1980s to early 1990s, it has become a fundamental tenet of the majority of conservatives in the United States.<sup>7</sup> Given this importance, many conservatives are opposed to any increase in gun control measures. A recent study conducted by the Pew Research Center found that only 20% of those who identify as Republican or lean-Republican believe that more restrictions should be placed on firearm access.<sup>8</sup> According to some experts, this fear of gun control legislation is because conservatives are concerned that the government will ultimately criminalize gun ownership. One politician emphasized this by arguing that conservatives fear gun control measures because “When [politicians] say universal background check, the first thing that comes in the mind of a gun owner is that means registration, and registration means confiscation.”<sup>9</sup>

While this fear of confiscation has been an underlying concern of the broader conservative community, it has become especially important to the far-right. As many members of the far-right espouse anti-government beliefs, it is unsurprising that they view any potential limitations on their “right to keep and bear Arms” as a threat. While such ideas have long-circulated in the far-right online ecosystem, concerns about possible confiscation seemed to increase after the election of President Biden in November 2020. At that time, multiple far-right channels began claiming that firearm confiscations would be inevitable under the Biden administration. Rooting these fears in well-established far-right conspiracy theories such as the “New World Order,” several users warned that under a Biden presidency,

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<sup>6</sup> U.S. Const. amend. II.

<sup>7</sup> Donald P. Haider-Markel and Mark Joslyn, “Analysis | Gun Ownership Used to Be Bipartisan. Not Anymore.” The Washington Post (WP Company, April 18, 2019), <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2017/05/09/gun-ownership-used-to-be-bipartisan-not-anymore/>.

<sup>8</sup> Katherine Schaeffer, “Key Facts about Americans and Guns,” Pew Research Center (Pew Research Center, June 16, 2021), <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2021/05/11/key-facts-about-americans-and-guns/>.

<sup>9</sup> David A. Graham, “What Really Sank Gun Control: Distrust of Government,” The Atlantic (Atlantic Media Company, May 8, 2013), <https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2013/05/what-really-sank-gun-control-distrust-of-government/275609/>.

“civilian firearms [would be] confiscated” and gun owners would be “blacklisted using gun registrations.”<sup>10</sup>

The tasks for the creation of an NWO slave class is as follows

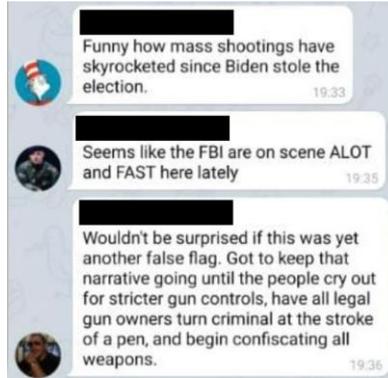
- Mandatory vaccination (could be laced with sterilization agent, as already used successfully before)
- Great Reset/4th Industrial Revolution (Council of Global Affairs, already announced by some presidents of multiple countries) is implemented, world powers work together
- Wars are ceased between the superpowers, while the independent countries are annihilated and subdued.
- Independent ammunition production is halted. Firearm owners are blacklisted using gun registrations. They are denied food and services. Civilian firearms are confiscated or willfully turned in to survive
- The international community no longer hides and conceals their identity by hiding behind independent governments and openly cooperates toward bringing “humanity together”

**Post suggesting that “gun registrations” and confiscation of “civilian firearms” under the Biden Administration would be part of the “creation of an NWO [New World Order] slave class” (Telegram, 17 November 2020)**

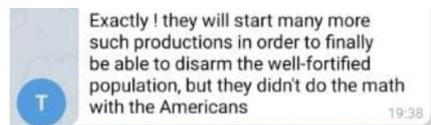
Given that many of the increased gun control measures introduced by the Biden administration were in response to the rise in mass shootings, far-right actors began to suggest that the shootings and potential gun confiscation were also intrinsically linked to “false flag” conspiracy theories. According to this conspiracy theory, government operatives, specifically from the Biden administration, manufacture mass shootings and blame others to “keep [the] narrative going until the people cry out for stricter gun laws.” Far-right actors believe that these “false flags” will ultimately allow the Biden administration to “have all legal gun owners turn criminal at the stroke of a pen, and begin confiscating weapons.”

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<sup>10</sup> In the lexicon of the far-right, the New World Order (NWO) is a theory that suggests a clandestine transitional organization controls the actions of most of the world's governments. According to the theory, the organization attempts to manufacture events and utilize repressive practices to enslave free populations such as the United States. For more on the New World Order conspiracy theory, see: “New World Order,” Anti-Defamation League, accessed June 25, 2021, <https://www.adl.org/resources/glossary-terms/new-world-order>.

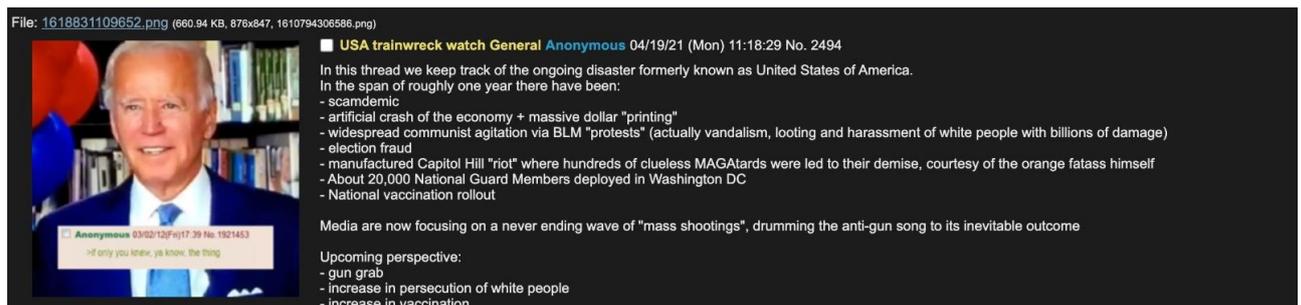


**Series of posts discussing a “false flag” conspiracy theory suggesting the Biden administration and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) are attempting to confiscate weapons by executing mass shootings (Telegram, 12 June 2021)**



**Post suggesting that the United States government would manufacture mass shooting “productions in order to finally be able to disarm” gun owners (Telegram, 12 June 2021)**

While such theories originated on unencrypted far-right Telegram channels, they quickly migrated to encrypted darknet forums as well. There users were more explicit in their discussion of the “false flag” operations by claiming that “the neverending wave of ‘mass shootings’” would lead the “anti-gun song to its inevitable outcome” of a “gun grab” and the “persecution of white people.”



**Post claiming that the United States government orchestrates “mass shootings” to engage in a “gun grab” (Darknet Forum, 19 April 2021)**

While continuing to connect their fear of gun confiscation to current conspiracy theories, other users “predicted” the future of the United States following the election of the Biden administration. One popular post suggested that “gun confiscations” would occur in the near future, and any individuals who “resisted” would be “branded as terrorists, summarily executed or placed in FEMA camps.”

Come on a journey into the future...

-It is the year 2050. Whites are a minority in most western countries. There hasn't been a republican president in almost 30 years. Both houses of Congress have been ruled by communist democrats for decades. The President and Vice President are a communist black and Latino power duo. They crush any opposition with the full power of the state. The rule of law has been completely upended. The constitution has been amended to include anti-White policies and laws. The country is disintegrating. Infrastructure has collapsed. Most major cities look like Detroit. Grifting Corrupt politicians are the norm and don't bother to hide it. Forced vaccinations have killed off enormous numbers of the population. Average IQ levels have dropped by 20 points.

The civil war of 2025 failed miserably for the right wing who were crushed by the boot of the Marxist state and their anti-fascist foot soldiers. Gun confiscations ensued, people that resisted were branded as terrorists, summarily executed or placed in FEMA camps. Small pockets of resistance remain. But their only goal is to survive and live outside the beast system. Fighting the state is futile.

**Popular post “predicting” the future after President Biden’s election, focusing on “gun confiscation” in the near future (Telegram, 24 November 2020)**

Although fears of firearm confiscation initially appeared in cyberspace on unencrypted far-right Telegram channels, by December 2020, individuals on encrypted darknet forums began discussing their concerns as well. Like posts on Telegram, these discussions were largely related to conspiracy theories. One anonymous user attempted to link a potential confiscation effort with the Zionist Occupation Government conspiracy by claiming that “the Zionist States of America will continue its policy of gun grabbing and restriction.”<sup>11</sup>

>>40493

The Zionist States of America will continue its policy of gun grabbing and restriction, so don't disregard 3D printing with such haste, 3D printed weapons also have the advantage they are untraceable.

**Post linking a theoretical government confiscation effort after the election of the Biden administration to the Zionist Occupation Government (Darknet Forum, 20 December 2020)**

Concern within the far-right appeared to again increase in the days before the presidential inauguration on 20 January. For example, several posts appeared after the

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<sup>11</sup> In the lexicon of the far-right, the Zionist Occupation Government (ZOG) is a conspiracy theory which suggests that governments, specifically the United States government, are controlled directly by the Zionist movement or Jewish people in general. The theory is generally associated with white supremacist sub-groups within the broader far-right community. For more on the Zionist Occupation Government conspiracy theory, see: “ZOG,” Anti-Defamation League, accessed June 25, 2021, <https://www.adl.org/education/references/hate-symbols/zog>.

opening of the new Congress suggesting that “(((They))) [the government] are coming for your guns.”<sup>12</sup>



(((They))) are coming for your guns  
[Source](#)

**Image and text post referencing a proposed bill in the House of Representatives which would require licensing firearms. Far-right users claimed that this was evidence that the government is “coming for your guns” (Telegram, 9 January 2021)**

In addition to fears of firearm confiscation under the Biden administration, far-right actors also discussed the possibility that ammunition would become scarce or be a target for seizure as well. Several users suggested that this could become a reality in the United States because “marxists have seized control of the entire government.” Users further feared that the incoming Biden administration would “be attacking firearms and ammunition ferociously from the start.”

Winchester dealers just got this notice. It's the 6th price increase in the past 12 months. Ammo will not get any less scarce, or ever go back down in price. The marxists have seized control of our entire government. They will be attacking firearms and ammunition ferociously from the start. Buy now while you still can.  
Wyatt Mann

**Post claiming that because “marxists have seized control” of the government, firearm and ammunition seizures are inevitable (Telegram, 17 January 2021)**

After the inauguration of President Biden, far-right actors appeared to retreat online, refraining from posting or heavily discussing firearms or ammunition. This relative quiet may

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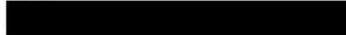
<sup>12</sup> In the lexicon of the far-right, the use of three parentheses surrounding a word or name is often referred to as the “echo.” This “echo” is used to indicate to other far-right actors that the individual, group, or information contained within the “echo” is Jewish. For further reading on the use of the “echo” by the far-right, see: “Echo,” Anti-Defamation League, accessed June 5, 2021, <https://www.adl.org/education/references/hate-symbols/echo>.

have been in an effort to avoid detection by journalists or law enforcement and coincides with an increased focus on security in cyberspace by the broader far-right community following the 6 January attack on the U.S Capitol.<sup>13</sup>

Although they remained largely quiet regarding their fears of potential firearm confiscation throughout early February, far-right channels began, again, voicing concerns in March 2021. By early March, several Telegram channels began sharing content restating their fear that the new administration and Congress would be engaging in a coordinated confiscation effort. Using headlines, quotes, and video clips related to the arrests and prosecution of individuals who participated in the 6 January attack, far-right actors claimed that the government “is coming for your guns goy!!”



They're really setting up the stage!!! We're coming for your guns goy!!



**Far-right actors used a YouTube video clip regarding recent arrests as evidence that the government would soon be “coming for [the far-rights’] guns” (Telegram, 7 March 2021)**



Gun control Bill passes the house with 7 republicans supporting it. They're coming for the guns again.

**Post from a far-right Telegram channel suggesting that the United States Congress is “coming for [their] guns again” (13 March 2021)**



They lied to you about your history and you did nothing.  
They genocide your people and you did nothing.  
They gave billions of your tax dollars to Israel and you did nothing.  
They dehumanized you for being White and you did nothing.  
They opened your borders and you did nothing.  
They indoctrinated your children and you did nothing.  
When they come for your guns, you'll do nothing. Because you're all cowards, and they know it.  
Now they're coming for everything.

**A far-right user claimed that gun seizures were imminent, and “when [the government] come for your guns, [the far-right will] do nothing” (Telegram, 24 March 2021)**

Far-right concerns regarding the potential of a coordinated confiscation effort reached new popularity as the Biden administration, and Congressional leaders called for the passage of bills related to universal background checks and a possible assault weapons ban in

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<sup>13</sup> For more on the evolving strategy of the American far-right in cyberspace following the 6 January attack on the Capitol, see: Liram Koblentz-Stenzler and Alexander Pack, “Hiding to Fight Another Day: Far-Right Extremists Adopt a New Strategy in the Cyberspace Arena after 6 January Capitol Attack” (International Institute for Counter-Terrorism, June 16, 2021), <https://www.ict.org.il/images/Hiding%20to%20Fight%20Another%20Day.pdf>.

the wake of another mass shooting.<sup>14</sup> In response to this more aggressive tone from the administration, far-right actors began heavily posting that their “guns are not safe” while Congress was attempting to engage in “gun grabbing.”



So the gun grabbing swine in congress want Creepy Joe to take executive action to add "[concealable assault weapons](#)" to the NFA. What this is talking about is AKs, ARs, SCARs, etc built in a pistol configuration.

So in other words, congress wants the ATF to go after pistol braces. I told you guys the commie swine wouldn't stop when the ATF backed off a few months ago.

**Post from a far-right actor suggesting that the United States Congress is attempting to take away certain weapons by sending the “ATF to go after pistol braces” (Telegram, 2 April 2021)<sup>15</sup>**

Alright..this needs to stop. Our Guns are not safe and we are an occupied nation in the midst of a communist takeover by people who have no regard for the U.S. Constitution.

**Text post suggesting that “[their] guns are not safe” given that the United States government has been the victim of a “communist takeover” (Telegram, 7 April 2021)**

Other users highlighted the perceived danger of President Biden’s new tone, suggesting that his efforts to limit firearm access served a more nefarious purpose. Reconnecting a potential confiscation effort to the “New World Order” conspiracy theory, several users claimed that President Biden was only taking firearms from “white people who might object to the globalist takeover of the US.”



Senile traitor Joe Biden \*really is\* coming after your guns. He doesn't care about black gangs using guns and won't be taking theirs away. No, the only guns he's going to take away are from normal, law-abiding white people who might object to the globalist takeover of the US. #2A

**Post claiming that the Biden administration “\*really is\* coming after your guns” (Telegram, 8 April 2021)**

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<sup>14</sup> Annie Karni and Catie Edmondson, “Biden Seeks Assault Weapons Ban and Background Checks,” The New York Times (The New York Times, March 23, 2021), <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/03/23/us/politics/biden-gun-control.html>.

<sup>15</sup> “ATF” is an acronym for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, a federal law enforcement agency in the United States Department of Justice.



Do NOT surrender your weapons. A government that disarms its people is about to do something to you that they're afraid you'll shoot them for.

**Post linking to an article claiming that the Biden administration will be seizing weapons, the user advocated that individuals should “NOT surrender [their] weapons” (Telegram, 9 April 2021)**

### **Far-Right Interest in Improvised Weapons**

As concerns about the potential for increased gun control and a theoretical gun confiscation mandated by the Biden administration continued to mount in the far-right cyberspace, users began to explore the possibility of improvised weapons. Specifically, far-right actors began producing, promoting and downloading content related to: (i) 3D printed weapons, (ii) Manufacturing ammunition.

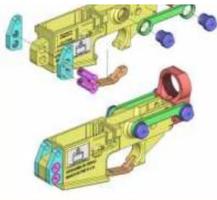
#### **i. 3D Printed Weapons**

3D printed weapons are not entirely new—since at least 2013 files referencing partially or fully printable firearms began being distributed on the internet.<sup>16</sup> While files of varying quality have been available for more than seven years, until recently, the production of 3D printed weapons has remained a largely niche area of interest among gun advocates, hobbyists, and designers in the United States. It appears that the elections of President Biden and a largely liberal Congress in 2020 have significantly changed this dynamic.

Fearing a potential “Biden gun control plan,” users on several unencrypted cleartext forums began exploring the prospect of utilizing 3D printed weapons. Citing concerns about registration or confiscation, several posts advocated “selling serialized parts” while producing “unserialized parts at home” through 3D printing. Sharing theoretical instructions, posts suggested that 3D printing would allow users to “make almost production grade lowers at home with no involvement from the ATF, FBI” or other agencies, effectively making the weapons “untraceable.” In addition to functional parts for firearms, users also discussed how 3D printers could be used to create accessories for existing weapons such as magazines or Telescopic sights (“scopes”).

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<sup>16</sup> Lisa Marie Payne, “Texas Company Cleared to Put 3D-Printed Gun Designs Online,” [chicagotribune.com](https://www.chicagotribune.com/nation-world/ct-texas-3d-printed-gun-20180726-story.html) (Chicago Tribune, July 26, 2018), <https://www.chicagotribune.com/nation-world/ct-texas-3d-printed-gun-20180726-story.html>.



For anyone concerned about the Biden gun control plan, assuming he gets in (unlikely):

SELL YOUR LOWER RECEIVERS  
BUY A 3D PRINTER  
FIND WHAT YOU NEED FOR FILES ONLINE

The lower receiver on almost any modern firearm is the part that will be affected by the bullshit gun law plans. Many guns have an upper/lower assembly pattern. This means guns like Gen 1-3 Glockes, ARs, AKs, and probably a few others I'm missing.

You can 3d print those easily. These parts usually only hold together the trigger parts and the upper, so little heat or pressure is involved. You can print a lower and strip the parts from your existing gun, sell the stripped used lower to some shmuck who couldn't find one, and be done with it in 90% of the country.

3D printed lowers are completely untraceable. They are usually easy to destroy with large amounts of heat or acid. They can be built, repaired, and stored like any other lower. Depending on the plastic you use, you can make almost production grade lowers at home with no involvement from the ATF, FBI, or any other bullshit alphabet agency.

You can print mags too. And accessories. And just fun stuff too, the possibilities are almost endless with a 3D printer.

>TLDR

Concerned about Biden's plan? Rid yourself of serialized parts and make new unserialized parts at home.

### Post advocating for the use of and providing instructions for construction of 3D printed weapon parts (4Chan, 29 November 2020)

While discussions of 3D printed parts in response to the Biden administration first appeared on unencrypted clearnet forums, by mid-December 2020, the theme had migrated to encrypted darknet forums as well. In one discussion thread, users discussed the utility of “easily downloadable and printable guns” in the current political climate. The idea of improvised weapons became so popular on the darknet forums that some users began referring to 3D printed weapons as “the messiah of the anti-gun control movement.”

Anonymous 12/10/2020 (Thu) 20:37:01 No. 40458 >>40460

>>40450

The gun definitely interests me, the idea of easily downloadable and printable guns excites me, even if I'm a little too paranoid to get involved. Lets just hope 3d printers will always be easily obtainable, maybe someone could make a design for a makeshift 3d printer.

### Post discussing the possibilities of 3D printed firearms and also voicing concerns about the availability of 3D printers under potential future legislation (Darknet Forum, 10 December 2020)



Gun thread Anonymous 03/14/21 (Sun) 15:36:36 No. 1354 [Reply]

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1zabSOHd0Ag>

I think one of the things that will be pivotal in the struggle will be firearms and firearms production. 90% of 'responsible conservatives' will shit their pants and give their guns to the zombots when they come knocking. In Europe, the population is already disarmed. But 3D printing is essentially the messiah of the anti-gun control movement. Balliet did a quality job at manufacturing firearms out of metal, but not everybody has the equipment or space to do metalworking and melting etc. The problem was the ammunition, too sugary if IIRC. As for me, I don't know where to possibly acquire the materials for ammo and the FGC ammo manual was not helpful.

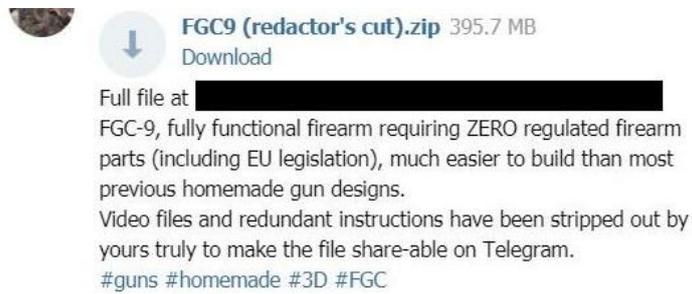
### Post explaining the “pivotal” role that 3D printed weapons will serve for the far-right movement (Darknet Forum, 14 March 2021)

Like its movement from clearnet to darknet forums, discussions about the usability of 3D printed weapons also migrated to Telegram. In approximately mid-December 2020, Telegram users began sharing practical PDF instructional manuals and printable models for 3D printed weapons.



Nice and compact. Full auto only, too - making this is a felony, so definitely don't do that.

**Post showing a fully 3D printed firearm based on one of the files shared on a known far-right channel  
(Telegram, 16 December 2021)**



**Post sharing a file for a “fully functional firearm requiring ZERO regulated firearm parts”  
(Telegram, 30 January 2021)**

In addition to general files and instructional materials, users also began sharing guides for how to start printing firearms at home with as little as “\$600.” A widely shared infographic suggested which 3D printer, the filament type, and files users could utilize.



**Infographic explaining how far-right users can begin producing 3D printed firearms (Telegram, 7 February 2021)**



Which way Western man?  
>pay Arizona weirdos 1699.99 for the M20.  
> [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED], a  
desktop power supply, a pump, some round stock, a  
grinder, JB weld, a harbor freight stick welder, a vise,  
some salt, a length of tube, and a bucket pay \$669.99  
for 2-3 FCG-9s

818 23:25

**Another post explaining the cost-benefit and process of creating a 3D printed weapon at home  
(Telegram, 11 March 2021)<sup>17</sup>**

While continuing to produce and promote files and instructional manuals, far-right actors also began discussing the potential of combining 3D printed firearm parts with electrochemically machined barrels. Electrochemical barrel machining is a process used by firearm manufacturers to “rifle” firearm barrels to help stabilize the “spin” of projectiles.<sup>18</sup> By sharing instructions on electrochemical machining, far-right actors could, theoretically, create a 3D printed weapon without any mass-manufactured firearm parts such as a barrel, thus increasing how “untraceable” the firearm would be.



**CHEETAH-9 SMG V1.zip** 4.6 MB  
Download

Christmas came early this year! Remember when I talked about how [REDACTED] designs could incorporate newer stuff like 3D-printing and barrels rifled using ECM? Turns out I CALLED IT!

**Post sharing a compressed file for a 3D printed firearm using electrochemical barrel machining  
(ECM)  
(Telegram, 16 December 2021)**

<sup>17</sup> Information regarding the recommended parts and instructions for assembly have been purposely omitted.

<sup>18</sup> Kathleen A. Savage and Greg Freed, “Module 4: Modern Firearms Manufacture: Rifling,” Firearm Examiner Training Program (National Forensic Science Technology Center, 2008), [https://projects.nfstc.org/firearms/module04/fir\\_m04\\_t06\\_05.htm](https://projects.nfstc.org/firearms/module04/fir_m04_t06_05.htm).



**ECM v2.0.1 Barreln... .zip** 54.2 MB  
Download

Ever wanted to make a gun barrel at home? With this new and improved guide, you can.  
#guns #homemade #3D

**PDF instructional guide for how to manufacture a firearm “barrel at home” through electrochemical barrel machining (Telegram, 26 February 2021)**

**ii. Manufacturing of Fabricating Ammunition**

Although much of the discussion by far-right actors since the 2020 election has been related to 3D printed or improvised firearms, users also began producing content related to manufacturing or improvising ammunition. Beginning in late November 2020, popular far-right Telegram channels began creating and sharing instructional guides for “making homemade ammunition using unregulated parts.”



**BWA-Ammo.zip** 11.3 MB  
Download

[REDACTED] (relatively) new guide to making homemade ammunition using unregulated parts, courtesy of [REDACTED]

**Post sharing a compressed instruction guide for “making homemade ammunition” (Telegram, 27 November 2020)**

While many of the Telegram channels that shared information on manufacturing improvised ammunition were associated with the far-right in the United States, it appears that the files originated from European far-right designers. This is likely because European far-right actors have significantly more experience exploring the potential of improvised weapons, given the relative unavailability of firearms in European countries.



**But-What-About-A... .pdf** 3.5 MB  
Download

[REDACTED] guide to making homemade ammo (especially Europe).

**Re-post of a known European far-right actor’s “guide to making homemade ammo” (Telegram, 27 November 2020)**

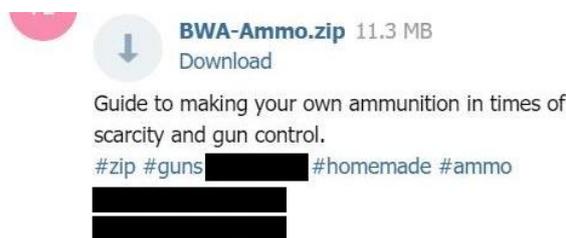
In addition to general guides explaining how to mix chemicals into a modified gun powder, far-right actors also began sharing instructors for how to manufacture projectiles (bullets). Specifically, some far-right channels explained how home fabricators could “cast [their] own bullets and how to use ECM [electrochemical machining] to jacket them.”

[REDACTED]

This man had his rights stripped by ZOG cuck courts after being attacked by "gangbangers" (nonwhites) and protecting himself. He can carry a black powder revolver because it's not considered a firearm. Fun fact: that's how the kike courts got past the "shall not infringe" part of the 2A, the 'ol founding-fathers-and-muskets argument .

We will probably release a comprehensive guide on black powder in the near future

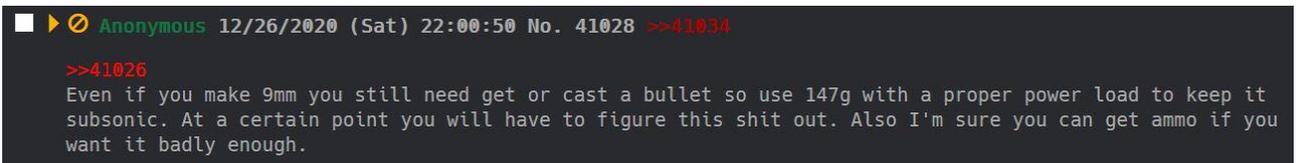
**Post from a far-right channel popular in the United States explaining that a “comprehensive guide” on how to manufacture and use “black powder” would be forthcoming (Telegram, 29 December 2020)**

A Telegram post interface. At the top left is a pink circular profile picture. To its right is a blue download icon with a white arrow pointing down. Next to it is the text "BWA-Ammo.zip 11.3 MB" in blue, with "Download" in grey below it. The main text of the post reads: "Guide to making your own ammunition in times of scarcity and gun control." followed by hashtags "#zip #guns [REDACTED] #homemade #ammo". Below the text are two black rectangular redaction boxes.

A Telegram post interface. At the top left is a blue circular profile picture. To its right is a blue download icon with a white arrow pointing down. Next to it is the text "BWA\_A\_Vol2\_Catho....zip 9.8 MB" in blue, with "Download" in grey below it. The main text of the post reads: "Sequel to the ammunition guide, dealing with how to cast your own bullets and how to use ECM to jacket them." followed by hashtags "#zip #guns [REDACTED] #homemade #ammo". Below the text are two black rectangular redaction boxes.

**Post explaining how to make improvised ammunition and “cast your own bullets” (Telegram, 29 December 2020)**

By late December, discussions on the utility of improvised or homemade ammunition migrated from Telegram to darknet forums. There, users heavily discussed the different types of chemical explosives—such as black powder—necessary for an improvised or 3D-printed firearm. Like Telegram channels, far-right actors also addressed the need to “cast a bullet” or other projectiles.

A screenshot of a darknet forum post. The background is black with white and red text. At the top left is a small white square icon. To its right is a red speech bubble icon, followed by the text "Anonymous 12/26/2020 (Sat) 22:00:50 No. 41028 >>>41034" in red. Below this is the text ">>>41026" in red. The main body of the post is in white text: "Even if you make 9mm you still need get or cast a bullet so use 147g with a proper power load to keep it subsonic. At a certain point you will have to figure this shit out. Also I'm sure you can get ammo if you want it badly enough."

**Post from a larger thread discussing improvised ammunition, including the “need to get or cast a bullet” (Darknet Forum, 26 December 2020)**

Although with less frequency, far-right actors continued to share content related to fabricating improvised ammunition throughout the first half of 2021. By late March, in

addition to written instructional guides, far-right actors also began to share video tutorials and progress updates on their homemade projectiles.



**Video update on a “3D printable 37mm ammo components” (Telegram, 29 March 2021)**

By mid-2021, discussions on improvised ammunition again migrated—to cleartnet forums such as 4Chan and 8Kun. On these platforms, users explored how to modify existing ammunition to be used in 3D or improvised weapons. For example, one user suggested using modified “snap cap[s]” loaded with gun powder as a potential accelerant.<sup>19</sup> Additionally, the user argued that “cheap metal” could be melted down and “shaped into a [b]ullet form.”

you can for exemple buy a metal snap cap (9mm .380 .40 .45 .38 .357) make a hole just like a regular one, use a blank 22 short cartridge as primer (or just the 22 primer) put some good powder, and the bullet itself can be done from melting some kind of cheap metal and shaped into a pullet form.

**Post explaining how to modify existing firearm training tools to create improvised ammunition (4Chan, 15 June 2021)**

**Potential of Individual-Initiative Attackers**

In October 2019, far-right extremist Stephen Balliet executed an individual-initiative (“lone-wolf”) attack in Halle, Germany, using homemade firearms, ultimately killing two people.<sup>20</sup> Balliet claimed that one of the primary goals of this attack was “proving the viability of improvised weapons.”<sup>21</sup> In August 2020, Dean Morrice, a far-right supporter in Somerset, England, was arrested for possessing “terrorism manuals and instructions for a 3D printed gun.”<sup>22</sup> Spanish authorities then arrested a man in possession of “manuals on terrorism and urban guerrilla warfare... white supremacist material,” and “two 3D printers along with gun

<sup>19</sup> “Snap caps” are a non-firing training ammunition.

<sup>20</sup> “Halle Synagogue Attack: Germany Far-Right Gunman Jailed for Life,” BBC News (BBC, December 21, 2020), <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-55395682>.

<sup>21</sup> Lizzie Dearden, “Use of 3D Printed Guns in German Synagogue Shooting Must Act as Warning to Security Services, Experts Say,” The Independent (Independent Digital News and Media, October 11, 2019), <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/3d-gun-print-germany-synagogue-shooting-stephan-balliet-neo-nazi-a9152746.html>.

<sup>22</sup> “Former Army Driver Jailed for 18 Years for Terrorism Offences,” BBC News (BBC, June 14, 2021), <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-somerset-57468303>.

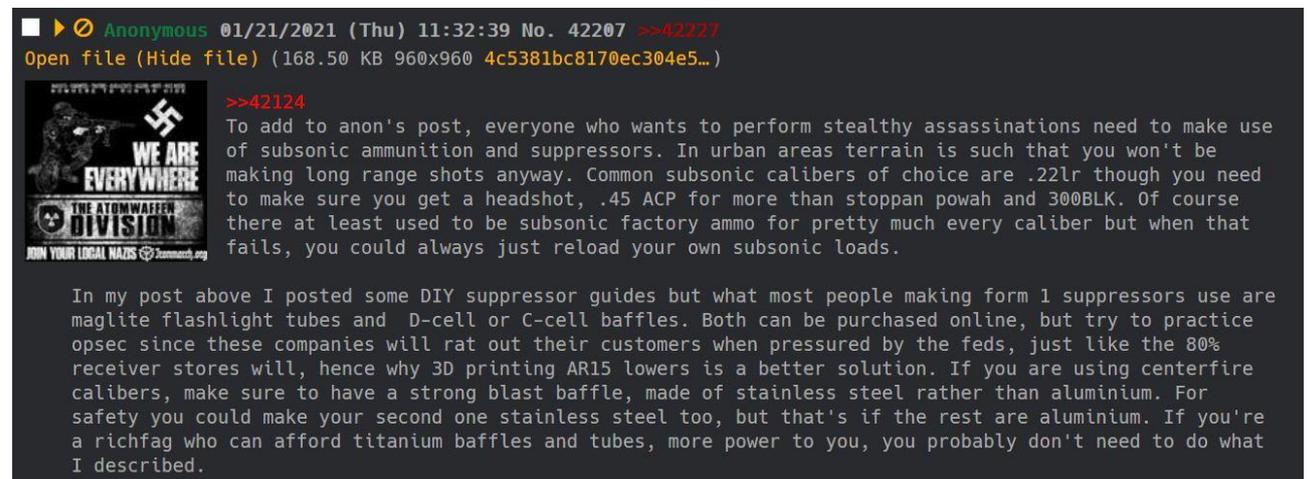
parts.”<sup>23</sup> These events attest to the centrality of 3D-printed weapons in the European far-right community.

While far-right actors in Europe have been considerably more active in their use of improvised firearms, evidence suggests that far-right actors in the United States are beginning to explore the utility of 3D-printed weapons for individual-initiative attacks as well. As early as December, far-right actors on darknet forums began discussing the benefits of using 3D-printed weapons to commit individual-initiative attacks. One user specifically highlighted the inability to trace improvised firearms, suggesting that it is a benefit, given that “3D printing allows [them] to slay invaders and get away with it.”<sup>24</sup>

The majority of murders are unplanned, and acts of impulsive rage, while calm and calculated killings of strangers (non-Whites) are extremely hard to solve unless the shooter has been very sloppy about evidence. 3D printing allows you to slay invaders and get away with it in Roblox.

**Post suggesting that 3D-printed weapons may be appropriate for individual-initiative attacks because they help the potential attacker “get away with it” (Darknet Forum, 20 December 2020)**

By January, the discussions had become even more explicit, with individuals discussing how to “perform stealthy assassinations.” To support this effort, anonymous far-right users recommended utilizing 3D-printed firearms and “DIY suppressor[s]” made from “flashlight tubes and D-cell or C-cell baffles.” Users argued that this was the most secure option as firearm companies “will rat out their customers when pressured by the feds.”


 Anonymous 01/21/2021 (Thu) 11:32:39 No. 42207 >>42227  
 Open file (Hide file) (168.50 KB 960x960 4c5381bc8170ec304e5...)


 >>42124  
 To add to anon's post, everyone who wants to perform stealthy assassinations need to make use of subsonic ammunition and suppressors. In urban areas terrain is such that you won't be making long range shots anyway. Common subsonic calibers of choice are .22lr though you need to make sure you get a headshot, .45 ACP for more than stoppan powah and 300BLK. Of course there at least used to be subsonic factory ammo for pretty much every caliber but when that fails, you could always just reload your own subsonic loads.

In my post above I posted some DIY suppressor guides but what most people making form 1 suppressors use are maglite flashlight tubes and D-cell or C-cell baffles. Both can be purchased online, but try to practice opsec since these companies will rat out their customers when pressured by the feds, just like the 80% receiver stores will, hence why 3D printing AR15 lowers is a better solution. If you are using centerfire calibers, make sure to have a strong blast baffle, made of stainless steel rather than aluminium. For safety you could make your second one stainless steel too, but that's if the rest are aluminium. If you're a richfag who can afford titanium baffles and tubes, more power to you, you probably don't need to do what I described.

**Post advocating for the use of 3D-printed weapons to execute individual-initiative attacks (Darknet Forum, 21 January 2021)**

<sup>23</sup> “Spain Dismantles Workshop Making 3D-Printed Weapons,” BBC News (BBC, April 19, 2021), <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-56798743>.

<sup>24</sup> In the lexicon of the far-right, the phrase “invaders” generally references immigrants to a given country.

While much of the overt discussions regarding individual-initiative attacks occurred on the darknet, some far-right Telegram channels also began to suggest that 3D-printed weapons could be used to carry out individual-initiative attacks. One popular post asked, “imagine what a wignat could do with a hidden basement with a 3D printer and an ECM barrelmaking set-up.” While this post was less explicit than those shared on the darknet, it appears that the user was insinuating that 3D-printed weapons could serve as an effective tool for executing individual-initiative attacks.<sup>25</sup>



imagine what a wignat could do with a hidden basement with a 3D printer and an ECM barrelmaking setup

**Post suggesting that 3D-printed weapons could be a benefit for potential white nationalist individual-initiative attackers (Telegram, 9 March 2021)**

### Summary

Immediately after the election of President Biden in November 2020, the American far-right began to express serious concerns about the potential for increased gun control measures. This fear was raised again as the incoming presidential administration began calling for a “gun safety crackdown” following the recent rise in mass shootings in the United States.<sup>26</sup> These concerns have reached new heights as the Biden administration has taken a much more aggressive stance on gun control since taking office, first, by targeting so-called “ghost guns” and, second, by pursuing “rogue dealers.”<sup>27</sup>

Routine monitoring and collection efforts found that far-right actors started to produce and promote significantly more content exploring the possibility of using 3D-printed weapons and improvised or homemade ammunition in response to these fears. Additionally, multiple posts across the far-right online ecosystem discussed the potential of utilizing 3D-printed weapons to execute individual-initiative attacks. Although the information collected does not suggest that this strategy has been widely accepted, there is evidence indicating that certain sub-groups within the broader far-right are interested in utilizing this as a potential attack strategy. Given that far-right actors in other countries have successfully executed

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<sup>25</sup> In the lexicon of the far-right, “wignat” appears to be a reference to a white nationalist actor or supporter.

<sup>26</sup> Devin Dwyer et al., “Fear Fuels Gun Sales as Biden Vows Crackdown,” ABC News (ABC News Network, December 19, 2020), <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/fear-fuels-gun-sales-biden-vows-crackdown/story?id=74759162>.

<sup>27</sup> Matt Zapposky, “Justice Dept. Details Proposed Restrictions on 'Ghost Guns',” The Washington Post (WP Company, May 7, 2021), [https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/biden-ghost-guns/2021/05/07/0d20ef86-af74-11eb-acd3-24b44a57093a\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/biden-ghost-guns/2021/05/07/0d20ef86-af74-11eb-acd3-24b44a57093a_story.html); Maeve Sheehey, “Biden Announces Plan to Crack down on 'Merchants of Death' Who Illegally Sell Guns,” POLITICO (POLITICO, June 23, 2021), <https://www.politico.com/news/2021/06/23/biden-crack-down-illegal-guns-495751>.

individual-initiative attacks using 3D-printed weapons, it is critical that decision-makers and security forces be aware of this developing phenomenon.

While the Biden administration and Department of Justice have attempted to limit the potential for mass shootings and other attacks by closing loopholes, reducing the sale of “ghost guns,” and targeting “illegal gun traffickers,” they must also recognize the potential threat of 3D-printed weapons. If the administration fails to develop an effective strategy and effective regulation for combatting this emerging threat, it is possible that the next individual-initiative attacker in the United States will use a printed weapon.



## ABOUT THE ICT

Founded in 1996, the International Institute for Counter-Terrorism (ICT) is one of the leading academic institutes for counter-terrorism in the world, facilitating international cooperation in the global struggle against terrorism.

ICT is an independent think tank providing expertise in terrorism, counter-terrorism, homeland security, threat vulnerability and risk assessment, intelligence analysis and national security and defense policy.

ICT is a non-profit organization located at the Interdisciplinary Center (IDC), Herzliya, Israel which relies exclusively on private donations and revenue from events, projects and programs.

## ABOUT ICT GLOBAL FAR-RIGHT EXTREMISM DESK

The aim of this desk is to shed light on the terrorist threat posed by far-right extremism in its various manifestations, including 'Lone Wolf' leaderless terror, organized resistance groups and far-right political parties. The desk also attempts to elucidate the scope of the threat posed by these individuals and organizations, through research and analysis surrounding the wide spectrum of far-right ideologies, modi operandi, trajectories of radicalization, operational strategies, developmental trends and parallels with global jihadist organizations.

This desk, comprising a team of ICT interns and researchers fluent in multiple languages, monitors a vast constellation of channels, forums, and discussion boards frequented by far-right extremists.