Forum: Disarmament Commission

Issue: Measures to Combat the Weaponization of Autonomous Technologies and Artificial Intelligence

Main Submitter: Italy

Co-Submitter:

THE DISARMAMENT Commission,

*Reaffirming* Chapter 1, Article 1 of the Charter of the United Nations expressing that the global community urges to spread peace and security,

*Deploring* Lethal Autonomous Weapon's (LAW) lack of human judgement to evaluate the proportionality of an attack and distinguish civilian from combatants, which goes against the principle of proportionality and distinction, the principle of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and the Law of War,

*Acknowledging* that LAW’s are not subject to be held accountable for the deaths and casualties of others,

*Recognizing* that A/RES/69/204 encourages scientific and technological developments for civilian and military applications,

*Emphasizing* that internationally negotiated guidelines for the transfer of advanced technology with military applications should take into account the legitimate defense requirements of all Member States and the maintenance of international peace and security, while ensuring that access to high-technology and services as stated in A/RES/51/40,

*Observing* the existence of international and domestic terrorist organizations that would actively seek to obtain LAW’s technology and vulnerability to hacking and the need to combat such groups in accordance with S/RES/2129,

*Guided* by the past work of the Conventions of Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW), the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on their Destruction (BWC),

*Expressing concern* for the ambiguous nature and responsibility of automated weapon systems and disarmament,

*Noting* the rapidly changing cyber technology that constantly make cyber security measures already in place ineffective at stopping hackers who may attempt to take control of LAW’s in Member States,

*Welcoming* the fact that Humans Rights Watch and the Campaign to Stop Killer Robots have brought the issue of LAW’s and questions on LAW’s technical, ethical, sociological, legal and military aspects to the broad attention of the international community, in the 2013 Report “Losing Humanity: The Case against Killer Robots” (2012),

1. Strongly suggeststhe implementation of moratorium into national policies in all Member States on the production, development, and deployment of LAW’s:
   1. As a measure to motivate Member States that are willing to conduct active research and development in LAW’s before establishing ethical and legal bases on the technology,
   2. As a temporary moratorium subject to being lifted through a consensus of the General Assembly once 101 a clear agreement on the boundaries of peaceful use of autonomous technology has been established;
2. Calls to extend the contents discussed at the annual CCW Meeting of Experts on LAW’s reporting to the CCW, including topics such as but not limited to:
   1. Pertaining to confidence-building measures (CBMs), regarding LAW’s, including enforcement mechanisms for Member State moratoriums,
   2. Encouraging Member States to utilize the International Association of Democratic Lawyers (IADL) for the purpose of facilitating the monitoring process concerning autonomous weapons and their manufacturers,
   3. Invites all Member States to cooperate through the exchange of information in order to create transparency amongst Member States;
3. Calls upon the CCW Implementation Support Unit (ISU) to assist all Member States in order to regulate any kind of future development programs of LAW’s in alliance with IHL through:
   1. Facilitating communication among Member States Parties, as well as non-governmental and international organizations, by mandating the ISU to administrate monthly CCW reports once the moratorium is lifted,
   2. Supporting Member States to implement the principles of the CCW and its protocols in their respective domestic legislation;
4. Emphasizesthe work and expertise of civil societies such as the campaign to “Stop Killer Robots” and the International Committee for Robot Arms Control (ICRAC) in bringing the topic of LAWS to the forefront of today’s domestic agenda and in educating the public about the possible threats LAWS pose in regards to Human Rights Law, International Humanitarian Law (IHL), and regional stability;
   1. Expecting the nations to publish advertisements against killer robots via media-communication services such as but not limited to newspapers, television broadcasting stations, and radio programs,
   2. Seeking the nations to turn in monthly reports regarding the progress from anti-autonomous weapons advertisements;
5. EncouragesMember States to seek out ways to utilize technology for peaceful purposes whereas at the same time supporting the prohibition of proliferation of autonomous weapons by means such as:
   1. Dispatching autonomous devices incorporated with medical technology,
   2. Facilitating rescue missions in areas that are inaccessible for medical personnel to approach,
   3. Expecting Member States to agree with the reduction of the manufacture and transaction of autonomous weapons;
6. Condemns operationalization, production, stockpiling, possession, sale, or the development of LAW’s by both non-state as well as state actors, due to the potential danger LAW’s falling into the hands of state and non-state actors can lead to, through means such as but not limited to:
   1. Enforcing a clear international law that bans such actions,
   2. Intervening with military power to any state or non-state actors that utilizes LAW’s for severe violence.