Perspectives on Unpredictability in Autonomous Weapons Technology

Side Event at the Group of Governmental Experts on LAWS

Wednesday 17th May, 2023
Room XXVII, Palais de Nations

This side event will explore issues related to aspects of ‘unpredictability’ as they relate to Autonomous Weapon Systems, particularly those which incorporate forms of artificial intelligence. The side event will examine the issue from a variety of perspectives and provide a space for consideration of particular ways in which Autonomous Weapons may function. It will continue the ongoing engagement of research and expert activity within the CCW on LAWS and further facilitate interactions between civil society specialists, international organisations and policymakers.

Speakers:
- Ambassador Aidan Liddle, Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom
- Ms. Georgia Hinds, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
- Mr. Giacomo Persi Paoli, UN Institute for Disarmament Affairs (UNIDIR)
- Ms. Taniel Yusef, Women’s International League for Peace & Freedom UK (WILPF UK)

The event will feature short presentations by experts and practitioners, followed by an interactive Q&A with the audience. In particular, the event will highlight:
- Technological considerations – what are the challenges of unpredictability vis. LAWS?
- State perspectives – how can States address the issue of unpredictability in LAWS?
- Legal challenges posed by unpredictability in International Law.
- Current state of research in the field.

When and Where:
The side event will take place in person on Wednesday 17th May from 13.15 – 14.30 in Room XXVII of the Palais des Nations. A light lunch and refreshments will be provided.

Organisers:
The side event will be hosted by Austria, Ireland, Mexico, New Zealand, Switzerland, and the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom UK (WILPF UK).