Incendiary Weapons and White Phosphorus Munitions: Humanitarian Impacts and a Call for Action

Monday, November 16, 2026, 13:15-14:30

Room XI, UN Geneva

This side event will examine the effects of incendiary weapons and white phosphorus munitions as the Review Conference of the Convention on Conventional Weapons (CCW) prepares to address Protocol III. Panelists will detail the humanitarian, legal, medical, operational, and environmental consequences of these weapons, exemplified by use in conflicts ranging from Vietnam to Lebanon. Panelists will present the findings of two new reports by Human Rights Watch and Norwegian People's Aid. They will also call on states to take concrete action at the CCW Review Conference to advance protections for civilians from these cruel weapons.

Panelists

- Bonnie Docherty, Human Rights Watch
- Therese Krystad Prestsæter, Norwegian People's Aid
- Roos Boer, PAX (moderator)

For more information, see: Human Rights Watch and Harvard Law School's International Human Rights Clinic, *Uncontrolled Burn: The Inhumane Effects of White Phosphorus Munitions and the Need for Stronger Law*, September 2026, https://www.hrw.org/report/2026/09/09/uncontrolled-burn/the-inhumane-effects-of-white-phosphorus-munitions-and-the-need.