



# CAMPAIGN TO **STOP** KILLER ROBOTS

United Nations General Assembly  
First Committee on Disarmament & International Security

## SIDE EVENT BRIEFING

### “Addressing Concerns Over Fully Autonomous Weapons”

**Tuesday, 20 October 2015**  
13:15-14:30

**Conference Room A**  
United Nations  
New York

#### *Introduction*

Ambassador Juan Carlos Mendoza García, permanent representative of the Republic of Costa Rica to the United Nations in New York

#### *Moderator*

Ms. Miriam Struyk, **PAX**

#### *Speakers*

- Prof. Toby Walsh, **University of New South Wales** (TBC)
- Ms. Mary Wareham, **Human Rights Watch**
- Dr. Ian Kerr, **International Committee for Robot Arms Control**
- Mr. Richard Moyes, **Article 36**

The **Campaign to Stop Killer Robots** is a global coalition of more than 55 non-governmental organizations working for a preemptive ban on weapons systems that would select targets and use force without meaningful human control. This side event will look at recent developments including initiatives by campaign members, the **artificial intelligence call** for a ban on autonomous weapons, and the Future of Life Institute grants aimed at ensuring artificial intelligence is beneficial to humanity.

For more information see [www.stopkillerrobots.org](http://www.stopkillerrobots.org) or contact:

- Mary Wareham, Tel. +1-646-203-8292 (mobile), [wareham@hrw.org](mailto:wareham@hrw.org)

## Brief biographies of speakers

UNGA First Committee Side Event on Fully Autonomous Weapons  
United Nations New York  
Tuesday, 20 October 2015

### **Ambassador Juan Carlos Mendoza Garcia, Costa Rica**

Since 2014, Ambassador Juan Carlos Mendoza García has served as **Costa Rica**'s permanent representative to the United Nations in New York. Before become ambassador, García was a Congressional deputy with the Citizens' Action Party (*Partido Acción Ciudadana*, PAC) and served as President of the Legislative Assembly in 2011-2012.

### **Prof. Toby Walsh, University of New South Wales**

Walsh is a professor in artificial intelligence at the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia. He has served as scientific director of **NICTA**, Australia's research centre for Information and communications technology ICT research. Walsh is one of the first **signatories** on the July 2015 artificial intelligence **open letter** calling for a ban on autonomous weapons. He helped draft the letter and has since engaged in extensive media outreach. Walsh serves on the executive council of the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (**AAAI**).

### **Ms. Mary Wareham, Human Rights Watch**

Wareham has coordinated the Campaign to Stop Killer Robots since its inception in October 2012. She is advocacy director of the arms division of Human Rights Watch and has played a central role in the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and Cluster Munition Coalition, the civil society engines behind the 1997 Mine Ban Treaty and 2008 Convention on Cluster Munitions. [@marywareham](#) [@hrw](#)

### **Dr. Ian Kerr, International Committee for Robot Arms Control**

Kerr holds the Canada Research Chair in Ethics, Law and Technology at the University of Ottawa Faculty of Law in Canada. He also holds cross-appointments to the Faculty of Medicine and the Department of Philosophy. Kerr is a member of the International Committee for Robot Arms Control (ICRAC) and **signed** the July 2015 artificial intelligence **open letter** calling for a ban on autonomous weapons.

### **Mr. Richard Moyes, Article 36**

Moyes is managing partner at Article 36 and an honorary fellow at the University of Exeter. Together with Prof. Heather Roff of the University of Denver, Article 36 was **awarded** a Future of Life Institute grant in June 2015 to explore the concept of meaningful human control of weapons systems. The project includes the creation of a dataset of existing and emerging semi-autonomous weapons to examine how autonomous functions are already being deployed and how human control is maintained.

Other members of the campaign's **Steering Committee** attending the 2015 UNGA First Committee **Mines Action Canada**, and the **Women's International League for Peace and Freedom**.

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