



CAMPAIGN TO **STOP** KILLER ROBOTS

The Campaign to Stop Killer Robots is pleased to invite you to a

SIDE EVENT

in the margins of the Convention on Conventional Weapons on

Time for Swift Action

Meaningful human control and the call to ban fully autonomous weapons

Monday, 13 April

13:00-14:30

Conference Room XXIII
UN Palais des Nations, Geneva

Sandwiches and refreshments will be provided

Featuring:

- Ms. Jody Williams, Nobel Peace Laureate
- Mr. Thomas Nash, Article 36
- Ms. Bonnie Docherty, Human Rights Watch
- Ms. Mary Wareham, Campaign to Stop Killer Robots

Moderated by Mr. Ayman Sorour, Protection.

This briefing will look at why existing international law must be strengthened to preemptively ban the development, production, and use of fully autonomous weapons. It will consider how the principle of meaningful human control can form a starting point for approaching the multiple questions raised by these weapons. The insurmountable legal and practical obstacles with holding someone—the commander, operator, programmer, manufacturer—accountable for unforeseeable, unlawful acts committed by fully autonomous weapons will also be addressed. Finally, the briefing will look at why national policy is essential to ensure an adequate and swift response to the concerns raised by fully autonomous weapons.

No RSVP required. For more information, please see: www.stopkillerrobots.org or contact Ms. Mary Wareham at: Tel. (646) 203-8292, wareham@hrw.org

Biographies of Speakers

Ms. Jody Williams, Nobel Women's Initiative

Ms. Williams received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1997 together with the [International Campaign to Ban Landmines](#) for their central role in establishing the 1997 Mine Ban Treaty. Williams chairs the [Nobel Women's Initiative](#), which she founded in 2006 together with five of her sister Nobel Peace laureates. In 2013, the University of California Press published her memoir entitled [My Name is Jody Williams](#). Williams and more than 20 of her fellow Nobel Peace laureates have issued a [joint statement](#) endorsing the call for a preemptive ban on fully autonomous weapons. [@JodyWilliams97](#) [@NobelWomen](#) (Spanish)

Mr. Thomas Nash, Article 36

Mr. Thomas Nash is director of Article 36 and joint coordinator of the International Network on Explosive Weapons. As Cluster Munition Coalition coordinator from 2004 to 2011, he helped secure the 2008 Convention on Cluster Munitions. In 2014, Article 36 launched a pledge since signed by more than 50 individuals committing not participate in all-male panels on disarmament and security topics. [@nashthomas](#) [@Article36](#) (French, Spanish)

Ms. Bonnie Docherty, Human Rights Watch

Ms. Bonnie Docherty is a lecturer on law and senior clinical instructor at the International Human Rights Clinic at Harvard Law School and part-time senior researcher in the Arms Division at Human Rights Watch. Docherty's 2012 "Losing Humanity" report has been credited with initiating the international debate on fully autonomous weapons. She is the author of a new report on accountability concerns as well as a 2014 report on the human rights law implications. [@hrw](#) [@HmnRightsProgram](#)

Ms. Mary Wareham, Campaign to Stop Killer Robots

Mary Wareham is advocacy director of the Arms Division of Human Rights Watch and serves as global coordinator of the Campaign to Stop Killer Robots. She was centrally involved in the processes that created the Convention on Cluster Munitions and the Mine Ban Treaty and has worked to ensure their universalization as well as compliance. [@marywareham](#) [@hrw](#) [@BanKillerRobots](#)

Mr. Ayman Sorour, Protection

Mr. Ayman Sorour is executive director of Protection of Armaments and Consequences, a humanitarian disarmament NGO working in the Middle East and North Africa and member of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines. Sorour holds a Bachelor of Arts in law from Cairo University, is registered with the Egyptian Bar and is a member of the Arab Lawyers Union. [@ayman_sorour](#) (Arabic, French)

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SIDE EVENT

in the margins of the Convention on Conventional Weapons on

Listen to the dictates of the public conscience
Why fully autonomous weapons are ethically unacceptable

Tuesday, 14 April

13:00-14:30

Conference Room XXIII
UN Palais des Nations, Geneva

Sandwiches and refreshments will be provided

Featuring:

- Prof. Peter Asaro, International Committee for Robot Arms Control
- Mr. Ryan Gariepy, Clearpath Robotics
- Ms. AJung Moon, Open Roboethics initiative

Moderated by Ms. Miriam Struyk, PAX.

This briefing will look at how automation and robotic technologies poised to revolutionize modern warfare bring potential benefits but also raise fundamental ethical questions. It will consider how the Martens Clause offers an explicit role for public opinion and its “principles of humanity” and “dictates of public conscience” standards may weigh in favor of a ban on fully autonomous weapons. Public opinion surveys, polls, and other measurements of public sentiment are tools that help demonstrate if autonomous weapons are ethically acceptable now or in the future. From the perspective of responsible development of technology, the briefing will consider and commitments that private sector representatives—either individuals or companies—can make as a matter of principle and practice to address concerns over fully autonomous weapons.

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Biographies of Speakers

Prof. Peter Asaro, International Committee for Robot Arms Control

Prof. Peter Asaro is director of Graduate Programs for the School of Media Studies at The New School for Public Engagement in New York and co-founder and vice-chair of the International Committee for Robot Arms Control (ICRAC). He is a philosopher of technology who has worked in artificial intelligence, neural networks, natural language processing and robot vision research. Prof. Asaro spoke at the first CCW meeting on lethal autonomous weapons systems in May 2014. @peterasaro @icracnet

Mr. Ryan Gariepy, Clearpath Robotics

Mr. Ryan Gariepy and three other University of Waterloo mechatronics engineering graduates founded Clearpath Robotics in 2009, where he serves as chief technology officer. Based in Kitchener, Ontario outside Toronto, the company has since grown into a multi-million dollar operation with clients including the Canadian and US defense departments. In August 2014, Clearpath Robotics issued a public [statement](#) pledging not to develop or manufacture weaponized robots that remove humans from the loop, making it the first company worldwide to endorse the call for a ban. Gariepy speaks about the ethics involved in engineering the responsible development of technology. @clearpathrobots

Ms. AJung Moon, Open Roboethics initiative

Ms. Moon is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of British Columbia studying under Drs. Elizabeth Croft and Mike Van der Loos. Her research focus is on human robot interaction, including negotiation and conflict resolution. Ms. Moon is a Vanier Scholar, co-founder of the think tank Open Roboethics Initiative, and writes the [Roboethics Info Database](#). She will speak on findings from public opinion surveys and polls on autonomous weapons and other measurements of public sentiment on whether autonomous weapons are ethically acceptable now or in the future. @RoboEthics (Korean)

Ms. Miriam Struyk, PAX

Ms. Struyk is program director for security and disarmament at [PAX](#) (formerly IKV Pax Christi), a Dutch peace organization that is a co-founder of the Campaign to Stop Killer Robots. In early 2014, PAX released the campaign's first [short animated film](#) in together with a 32-page [report](#) detailing its objections to killer robots. [PAX](#) has collecting dozens of signatures on an interfaith statement supporting the campaign's call for a preemptive ban on fully autonomous weapons. @miriamstruyk @PAXvoorvrede (Dutch)

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SIDE EVENT

in the margins of the Convention on Conventional Weapons on

Fully autonomous weapons are not “inevitable”
A preemptive ban can be achieved now if we work together

Friday, 17 April

13:00-14:30

Conference Room XXIII
UN Palais des Nations, Geneva

Sandwiches and refreshments will be provided

Featuring:

- Mr. Steve Goose, Human Rights Watch
- Prof. Noel Sharkey, International Committee for Robot Arms Control
- Mr. Paul Hannon, Mines Action Canada
- Ms. Ray Acheson, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

Moderated by Mr. Camilo Serna, SEHLAC

This briefing will look at how an international ban can be created if nations cooperate with all relevant actors, including civil society, in addressing key issues raised in the CCW process and move swiftly to negotiate new law. It will review the common ground and main points of convergence from the week-long 2015 CCW experts meeting on lethal autonomous weapons systems. The briefing will consider the pertinent example provided by CCW Protocol IV banning blinding lasers and other processes for efforts to preemptively ban fully autonomous weapons. Finally, the briefing will look at how to build on the momentum gained and take the process to address fully autonomous weapons forward at the CCW, Human Rights Council, and in other fora, making use of every available opportunity.

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Biographies of Speakers

Mr. Steve Goose, Human Rights Watch

Mr. Steve Goose is executive director of the Arms Division of Human Rights Watch. Goose and Human Rights Watch were instrumental in bringing about the 2008 Convention on Cluster Munitions, the 1997 Mine Ban Treaty, and the CCW's 1995 protocol banning blinding lasers and 2003 protocol on explosive remnants of war. Prior to joining Human Rights Watch in 1993, Mr. Goose worked as a staff member of the House Appropriations Committee and as a researcher for the Center for Defense Information. @SteveDGoose @hrw

Prof. Noel Sharkey, International Committee for Robot Arms Control

Noel Sharkey is Emeritus Professor of Artificial Intelligence and Robotics at the University of Sheffield. He is also co-founder and chair of the International Committee for Robot Arms Control (ICRAC), a group of experts concerned with the pressing dangers that military robots pose to peace and international security. Professor Sharkey is a journal editor and has written more than 150 academic articles and books on relevant areas of robotics, psychology, computer science and machine learning. Sharkey spoke at the first CCW meeting on lethal autonomous weapons systems in May 2014. @StopTheRobotWar @icracnet

Mr. Paul Hannon, Mines Action Canada

Mr. Hannon the executive director of [Mines Action Canada](#) (MAC), a co-founder of the Campaign to Stop Killer Robots, and has 15 years of collective experience in the Canadian development sector. Mines Action Canada (MAC) is a nation-wide coalition of more than 35 Canadian non-governmental organizations that came together in 1994. @MinesActionCan @PCHannon

Ms. Ray Acheson, WILPF Reaching Critical Will

Ms. Ray Acheson directs Reaching Critical Will, a project of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom ([WILPF](#)), a co-founder of the Campaign to Stop Killer Robots. WILPF is the oldest women's peace organization in the world; it turns 100 years old in April 2015. @achesonray @WILPF @RCW_

Mr. Camilo Serna, SEHLAC

Mr. Camilo Serna Villegas is a co-founders of the Campaña Colombiana Contra Minas (CCCM), the Colombian wing of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL), and serves as its operations coordinator. CCCM is a member of the regional NGO network Seguridad Humana en Latinoamerica y el Caribe ([SEHLAC](#)), a member of the Campaign to Stop Killer Robots. Created in 2008, SEHLAC coordinates NGO actions to address armed violence and humanitarian issues affecting Latin America and the Caribbean. @SehlaOrg

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