



United Nations General Assembly
First Committee on Disarmament & International Security

SIDE EVENT BRIEFING

Retaining Meaningful Human Control of Weapons Systems

Wednesday, 17 October 2018

13:00-14:25

Conference Room 8

United Nations

New York

Introduction

- Ambassador Thomas Hajnoczi, [Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#)

Speakers

- Prof. Lucy Suchman, [International Committee for Robot Arms Control](#)
- Dr. Branka Marijan, [Project Ploughshares](#)
- Mr. Michael Klare, [Arms Control Association](#)

Moderator

- Ms. Mary Wareham, [Campaign to Stop Killer Robots](#)

This side event will consider the need for a new treaty to prohibit lethal autonomous weapons systems, also known as fully autonomous weapons, and thereby retain meaningful human control over the use of force. It is co-sponsored by the [Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Austria](#) and by the [Campaign to Stop Killer Robots](#), the coalition of 85 non-governmental organizations working in 40 countries.

For more information see www.stopkillerrobots.org or contact:

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

Biographies of Speakers

#UNGA73 Side Event on a New Ban Treaty on Fully Autonomous Weapons

Ambassador Thomas Hajnoczi, Austria

Ambassador Thomas Hajnoczi heads the disarmament department of Austria's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Previously, in 2013-2017, he served as Austria's permanent representative to the UN Office at Geneva. Ambassador Hajnoczi has played a prominent role in multilateral initiatives to create new international law on weapons that raise humanitarian concerns, particularly the 2017 Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and the 1997 "Ottawa" Mine Ban Treaty. [@thomashajnoczi](#) [@MFA_Austria](#)

Lucy Suchman, International Committee for Robot Arms Control

Dr. Suchman is professor of anthropology of science and technology in the Department of Sociology at Lancaster University and co-director of Lancaster's Centre for Science Studies. Dr. Suchman is a member of the International Committee for Robot Arms Control (ICRAC). In 2002, she received the Benjamin Franklin Medal in Computer and Cognitive Sciences and in 2010, the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) SIGCHI Lifetime Research Award. [@icracnet](#)

Branka Marijan, Project Ploughshares

Dr. Marijan is a program officer with Project Ploughshares, Project Ploughshares is an operating division of the Canadian Council of Churches that works with churches, governments and civil society to advance policies and actions to prevent war and armed violence. Dr. Marijan has a PhD from the Balsillie School of International Affairs and an MA in Globalization Studies from McMaster University. [@brankamarijan](#) [@ploughshares_ca](#)

Mr. Michael Klare, Arms Control Association

Special guest Michael T. Klare is professor emeritus of peace and world-security studies at Hampshire College. He is a senior visiting fellow and serves on the board of the Washington, DC-based Arms Control Association, which **in September 2018 called** on states to address the risks raised by lethal autonomous weapons systems by negotiating a new international treaty to retain meaningful human control over weapons systems and the use of force. Klare has written widely on arms control, US defense issues, and the international arms trade. [@armscontrolnow](#) [@mklare1](#)

Ms. Mary Wareham, Campaign to Stop Killer Robots

Ms. Mary 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](#) [@bankillerrobots](#) [@hrw](#)