2018 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention on Conventional Weapons

SIDE EVENT BRIEFING

European views on the call to ban killer robots

Wednesday, 21 November 2018
13:15-14:30

ROOM XXII
United Nations
Geneva

Sandwiches & refreshments will be provided.

Speakers
- Dr. Matjaz Gams, Slovenian Artificial Intelligence Society
- Ms. Anne-Sophie Simpere, Campaign to Stop Killer Robots - France
- Mr. Daan Kayser, PAX

Concluding Remarks
- Ms. Laura Nolan, Software engineer

Moderator
- Ms. Mary Wareham, Campaign to Stop Killer Robots

The Campaign to Stop Killer Robots is a coalition of 86 non-governmental organizations in 49 countries working to preemptively ban weapons systems that would select targets and use force without meaningful human control. This side event briefing will consider challenges raised by fully autonomous weapons, also known as lethal autonomous weapons systems, and recent efforts to address them at the national and regional level in Europe.

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

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

Biographies of Speakers

Dr. Matjaž Gams, Slovenian Artificial Intelligence Society

Dr. Matjaž Gams received his PhD in computer science from the University of Ljubljana, and since 2011 has been a full professor at the Faculty of Computer and Information Science and at the Jožef Stefan International Postgraduate School, where he teaches subjects including business intelligence, cognitive science, and intelligent systems and agents in undergraduate and postgraduate studies. He is also the Head of the Intelligent Systems Department at the Jožef Stefan Institute, and an executive board member of the Slovenian Artificial Intelligence society. Dr. Gams co-founded the Slovenian Academy of Engineering (IAS) , the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (SATENA) , the Society for Cognitive Science (DKZ) , and ACM Slovenia, the Slovenian branch of the Association for Computing Machinery. @slais_slo

Ms. Anne-Sophie Simpere, Campaign to Stop Killer Robots - France

Ms. Anne-Sophie Simpere is a journalist and a freelance researcher, and author of the report "Why France must oppose the development of killer robots", recently published by the French members of the Campaign to Stop Killer Robots. Previously, she has worked with a number of international non-governmental organisations including Greenpeace, Oxfam, and Friends of the Earth. She holds degrees in international law and political communication, and has focused her work on human rights and environmental protection. @asimpere

Mr. Daan Kayser, PAX

Mr. Daan Kayser is programme leader autonomous weapons at PAX, a Dutch peace organization working in more than 15 conflict areas worldwide. PAX also works on Humanitarian Disarmament, focusing on the humanitarian consequences of certain weapons. It is centrally involved in global coalitions working to eradicate cluster munitions and nuclear weapons, and address harm from the use of explosive weapons in populated areas, the arms trade, and drones. @DaanKayser @PAXvoorvrede

Ms. Laura Nolan, Software engineer

Ms. Laura Nolan has been programming since she taught herself to code in the mid-1990s. Since then she has earned degrees in computer science and software engineering from Trinity College and UCD in Dublin, and she now specialises in software reliability. Having departed from a senior engineering role at Google this year in protest over Project Maven (a technology program aimed at automating the US DoD's drone warfare program) Laura is taking a short sabbatical to focus on writing, public speaking and volunteering. @lauralifts

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