WIMUN NEW YORK 2026

ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

LETHAL AUTONOMOUS WEAPONS SYSTEMS (LAWS)

Simulation:
First Committee of the General Assembly (High School)

Welcome to WIMUN New York 2026,

We are very pleased to introduce you to the most authentic simulation of the General Assembly in the world; and hope to contribute to your understanding of the organisation, its mandate, and its critical role in global affairs.

Through a series of pre-conference webinars that will be offered and documents – like this resource guide – we aim to educate you not only about the global issues on the UN agenda, but also about the ways and means through which those topics are discussed, debated and negotiated by real UN diplomats.

This resource guide will provide you with a head start in doing research to gain a deeper understanding of the global issue that you will be discussing and the actions that the government you have been assigned recommends that the international community should take to address this issue. To make the research process a bit easier, the resource guide has been divided into sections and sub-sections to assist you in researching these two components. We strongly recommend you to give a careful look through the sources listed below so that the interaction with your peers is as exciting as possible.

We wish you all the very best in this journey of learning!

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TOPIC DESCRIPTION

Lethal Autonomous Weapons (LAWS) are one of the most pressing and controversial issues in international security today. They raise legal, security, moral, and ethical concerns about the future of warfare.

While earlier weapons systems—such as landmines—could act without further human input, they did not choose their targets. Modern LAWS are far more advanced. Using artificial intelligence and new technologies, these systems can actively select and engage targets across land, air, and sea. Militaries around the world are investing heavily in these technologies, sparking global debate about whether there should be limits on the role of machines in decisions about life and death.

The debate centers on a fundamental question: Should machines be allowed to decide when to take a human life?

Supporters of LAWS argue that they could make warfare more precise. Machines may react faster than humans, follow orders without emotion, and potentially reduce civilian casualties by adhering more strictly to the laws of war.

Critics warn that LAWS create serious dangers: they may make mistakes due to flawed programming or biased algorithms, blur responsibility when things go wrong, and remove essential human judgment from decisions about lethal force.

The United Nations has been addressing LAWS since 2013, when the issue was first raised by the UN Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial executions. Since then, groups of experts and Member States have met regularly to discuss possible regulation. Most states agree that international humanitarian law (IHL) applies to LAWS, and that no autonomous system should ever be used if it cannot comply with these rules. The UN Secretary-General, António Guterres, has gone further, calling LAWS "politically unacceptable and morally repugnant" and urging governments to agree on a legally binding treaty to regulate them by 2026.

Yet, deep divisions remain. Countries disagree on the definition of key terms such as "autonomy," "meaningful human control," and even what qualifies as a LAWS. Some states want a total ban on fully autonomous weapons—especially those that can target humans without oversight. Others prefer making sure that human judgment is maintained at critical points, such as activating a system, selecting targets, and
authorizing strikes.

TOPIC DESCRIPTION

Many states and NGOs argue that "meaningful human control" must be preserved — to keep responsibility firmly tied to human decision-makers. Courts rely on proving intent or recklessness in wrongful killings. But if a machine makes an unpredictable decision, it becomes nearly impossible to prove human intent. This opens the door to impunity: serious harm could occur without anyone being held legally accountable. If civilians see autonomous systems killing without justice or accountability, it could erode trust in international law and norms.

As the General Assembly's First Committee considers this issue, delegates will face difficult questions. Should the international community ban fully autonomous weapons outright? Should it regulate them more strictly under existing law? Or should states retain flexibility to pursue these technologies while limiting their misuse?

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Key Points and Main Issues

Lethal Autonomous Weapons (LAWs) are commonly understood to be weapons systems that can select and engage targets without direct human intervention. As their development and deployment increases, the international community faces deep divisions over how to define and regulate them. LAWs raise serious moral, ethical, legal, and security concerns, including the accountability for unlawful acts and the loss of human judgment in decisions to use lethal force. Additionally, the rapid growth and application of emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence increase the risks of proliferation and a global arms race.

Here's an improved and clearer version of your section, with refined key phrases and streamlined subparagraphs for high school MUN delegates:

Diplomatic Concerns

- *Lack of agreed definitions*: One of the biggest challenges in international talks on LAWS is the absence of shared definitions; including the term "Lethal Autonomous Weapons System" itself. Disagreements persist over how much human involvement should be required, made more complex by national interests, legal consequences, and the fast-changing nature of military technologies.
- *Geopolitical tensions and divisions*: Current global conflicts and power rivalries contribute to divisions among member states. However, history shows that meaningful arms control agreements have been achieved even in tense times, and such treaties often influence global norms beyond just the signatories.
- *Solutions*: States should continue working through inclusive and transparent diplomatic forums to develop shared definitions and principles. Regular dialogue and confidence-building measures can help bridge political divides and pave the way toward a common international framework on LAWS.

Legal concerns

- *Challenges under international humanitarian law (IHL)*: IHL requires human judgment in key decisions about the use of force, including distinction, proportionality, and precautions in attack. Since LAWS may act without human involvement, their use raises serious concerns about compliance with IHL. The main regulatory proposal is to adopt a new protocol under the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) that ensures all LAWS remain subject to IHL.
- *The accountability gap*: When machines are capable of selecting and engaging targets independently, it becomes difficult to determine who is legally responsible for unlawful actions. This creates confusion under existing legal systems, including customary international law, IHL, international human rights law, international criminal law, and the law of state responsibility.

- *Solution*: Proposed solutions include updating or creating new legal frameworks that clearly regulate LAWS and address accountability issues. States are making progress towards consensus on a two-tiered approach, which involves banning fully autonomous weapons while regulating those that still involve meaningful human control.

Moral, and Ethical concerns

- *Delegating life-and-death decisions*: Ceding life-and-death decisions to machines and allowing them to take human life raises serious moral and ethical concerns. This is widely seen as a dehumanizing shift that removes human moral agency and responsibility from warfare.
- *Widespread ethical opposition*: Religious leaders, including the Pope, as well as the majority of governments and members of the public, have expressed strong ethical objections to the use of fully autonomous weapons.
- *The importance of human involvement*: The role of humans in the use of LAWS is at the center of the debates on LAWS. Terms such as "human control," "meaningful human control," "human involvement", and "appropriate human judgment" reflect ongoing efforts to define the level of necessary and required human responsibility.
- *Solutions*: A key step is reaching international agreement on how to ensure human involvement in decisions about the use of force, and how to reflect this in future legal frameworks.

Security concerns

- *Proliferation risks*: Because LAWS can be relatively inexpensive to produce, they may become attractive to non-state armed groups, increasing the risk of widespread and unregulated use.
- *Increased potential for an arms race*: As countries compete to gain or maintain a strategic advantage, the development and deployment of autonomous weapons and related technologies could trigger an arms race.
- *Solution*: To prevent instability and misuse, the international community must work together to establish shared rules and prevent the unchecked spread of these weapons.

Key Points and Main Issues (cont.)

Technological concerns

- *Algorithmic bias*: AI systems can reflect the biases found in the data they are trained on or the code they are built with. In the context of LAWS, this could lead to flawed or discriminatory decisions during conflict.

- *Hardware malfunctions*: Like all machines, autonomous weapons can suffer from physical failures or design flaws that affect performance and safety during operation.

- *Cybersecurity vulnerabilities*: LAWS are susceptible to cyberattacks, including hacking and manipulation by hostile actors, which could disrupt military operations.

- *Uncertainty in AI behavior*: The use of machine learning introduces unpredictability, especially due to its "black box" decision-making processes that are difficult to fully understand or explain. This is especially concerning in fast-changing combat environments where the system must make real-time decisions.

- *Lack of predictability and accountability*: Because LAWS may act in unexpected ways, it can be difficult to predict or explain outcomes, which complicates efforts to hold relevant stakeholders accountable. The lack of predictability also increases the risk of unintended escalation and 'flash wars'.

- *Solutions*: Ensuring human control at every stage of the system's lifecycle, from design to deployment, and the creation of testing, transparency, and accountability standards.

Regional Perspectives on the Application of International Humanitarian Law to Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems

2025

Summary: This report looks at how different parts of the world understand and respond to the legal challenges posed by autonomous weapons. It highlights the importance of applying the rules of war, known as international humanitarian law (IHL), to these new technologies. Students may find the Executive Summary (pg. 6–8) helpful for understanding the main ideas, while Section 2 (pg. 10–14) offers an easy-to-follow overview of how various regions approach the issue. Section 5 (pg. 30–31) provides clear key takeaways about the importance of human control and international cooperation.

UN addresses AI and the Dangers of Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems

2025

Summary: This article summarizes UN discussions in the Group of Governmental Experts on Emerging Technologies in the Area of Lethal Autonomous Weapons System on the growing risks of lethal autonomous weapons systems (LAWS), especially in the context of artificial intelligence.

Just Transition Finance (UNResolution 79/62 on Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems EP)

2024

Summary: UN Resolution 79/62, adopted in 2024, focuses on the challenges posed by lethal autonomous weapons systems. It calls on all countries to follow international law and continue discussions on how to govern these technologies. The resolution encourages states to share their views on possible rules or limits for LAWS, including the idea of a legally binding agreement. It reflects growing international concern about removing human control from the use of force and the need to protect peace, security, and human rights in the face of emerging technologies.

Gender and Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems

2024

Summary: This factsheet provides an overview of the issue of biases, especially on the basis of gender, that manifest in military applications of artificial intelligence (AI) such as lethal autonomous weapons systems (LAWS), and how have been discussed at relevant disarmament forums like the Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) meetings. The factsheet further recommends areas of action for a variety of stakeholders to ensure that gender biases are mitigated in military applications of AI.

Statement by Algeria, UN General Assembly First Committee, 12 October 2021

2023

Summary: In its speech at the General Assembly, Algeria expressed alarm over the development of LAWS and emphasized the urgent need for international regulation. It voiced strong support for the work of the GGE and called for the creation of a legally binding instrument to ensure meaningful human control and uphold international humanitarian law.

Elements For A Legally Binding Instrument To Address The Challenges Posed By Autonomy In Weapon Systems

2022

Summary: This working paper, authored by Chile and Mexico in August 2022, proposes a legally binding instrument aimed at addressing the ethical, legal, and humanitarian challenges posed by lethal autonomous weapon systems. It emphasizes the importance of preserving meaningful human control over autonomous weapons to prevent dehumanization of warfare and ensure accountability under international humanitarian law

Working Paper of the People's Republic of China on Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems

2022

Summary: China's Working Paper on Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems proposes a two-tier classification: "unacceptable" LAWS, which are lethal, fully autonomous, irreversible, indiscriminate, and capable of autonomous learning, should be prohibited; and "acceptable" autonomous systems, which remain under meaningful human control, can be halted or overridden, and comply with principles of distinction, proportionality, and precaution under international humanitarian law.

A Comparative Analysis of the Definitions of Autonomous Weapons Systems

2021

Summary: This UNODA primer outlines key differences among competing definitions for terms and definitions related to autonomous weapon systems, highlighting the lack of international consensus on what constitutes autonomy, control, and critical functions. It serves as a foundational reference to support informed negotiations.

Final report of the Panel of Experts on Libya established pursuant to Security Council resolution 1973 (2011), S/2021/229, 8 March 2021

2021

Summary: A Security Council report about the civil conflict in Libya. It is an important part of the discussion on LAWS as it is widely regarded to be the first documented instance of LAWS being used in a real combat situation. Specifically, paragraph 63, 64 and 65 describe how LAWS and emerging technology may have been applied on the battlefield.

General Statement by the Republic of Estonia

2021

Summary: This official statement reiterates Estonia's position that international law, including IHL and human rights law, fully applies to LAWS. Estonia emphasizes that maintaining human control over these systems is essential to ensure they operate in line with legal standards and that humans remain responsible for life-and-death decisions.

Guiding Principles Affirmed by the Group of Governmental Experts on LAWS

2019

Summary: This document outlines 11 guiding principles on the development and use of lethal autonomous weapons systems, reaffirming state responsibility, compliance with international law, and the importance of human accountability. Cited by many states as one of the most notable achievements of the Group of Governmental Experts, it serves as a foundation for ongoing international dialogue.

Algorithmic Bias and the Weaponization of Increasingly Autonomous Technologies - A Primer

2018

Summary: This UNIDIR report is a valuable resource for understanding how algorithms work and the important role they play in both everyday computer systems and autonomous weapons. It explains that algorithms are the core of any autonomous system's "brain," guiding how it senses, learns, plans, decides, and acts. The report also warns that these systems can make mistakes, especially when algorithms are biased. By studying how algorithmic bias has caused problems in areas like healthcare or transportation, we can better understand the risks these technologies may pose when applied to weapons.

Report of the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial summary or arbitrary executions

2013

Summary: This landmark UN report raises concerns about the legality and accountability of lethal autonomous weapons. It calls for a moratorium on their development and use until clear international rules are established.

OFFICIAL MEMBER STATE

U.S. Policy on Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems

2025

Summary: The document outlines the United States' approach to LAWS and clarifies key points about its governing policy, DoD Directive 3000.09. While there is no internationally agreed definition of LAWS, the directive provides specific definitions for use within the U.S. military. It also sets guidelines for the involvement of human operators, outlines requirements for senior-level reviews of autonomous weapons, and includes procedures for informing Congress about any updates to the policy.

Lithuania's Security Policy : Arms control and nonproliferation

2025

Summary: The document outlines Lithuania's stance on arms control, including its views on Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems (LAWS) in Section 4, "Emerging Technologies and Outer Space." Lithuania supports addressing LAWS within the framework of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW), which it sees as providing a balanced approach between military necessity and humanitarian concerns. Additionally, Lithuania emphasizes the importance of safeguards, particularly cybersecurity measures, to prevent the proliferation of such systems and their potential acquisition by terrorist groups.

Lethal autonomous weapons systems : report of the Secretary-General

2024

Summary: This report gives an overview of the current state of global positions held on the topic. It also includes the official positions shared by 56 member states with the Secretary General. The full list of included countries is: Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mexico, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Spain, State of Palestine, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

Peru's General Statement At The Conference "Humanity At The Crossroads: Autonomous Weapons Systems And The Challenge Of Regulation"

2024

Summary: Peru's statement focuses on the urgent need for a legally binding treaty to ban and regulate autonomous weapons systems, especially those that operate without human control and can independently target humans. Peru expresses concern that such systems could lower the threshold for the use of force and even become weapons of mass destruction. It highlights Peru's role in co-sponsoring related UN resolutions and its contribution to Draft Protocol VI, which outlines prohibitions, regulations, and capacity-building measures for autonomous weapons.

Germany's national contribution to the UN Secretary-General's Report on lethal autonomous weapons systems (LAWS)

2024

Summary: Germany's position on Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems (LAWS) is built on three main pillars. First, it supports the eleven Guiding Principles adopted by the CCW's Group of Governmental Experts in 2019, which affirm that international humanitarian law applies to all weapons systems. Second, Germany emphasizes that meaningful human control must be maintained throughout the entire lifecycle of any autonomous weapon system to ensure accountability and compliance with legal standards. Finally, it advocates for the negotiation of an additional protocol under the CCW to strengthen international regulation of these technologies.

Philippines Calls For Indo-Pacific Voices To Address Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems Risks

2023

Summary: This document highlights the Philippines' proposal for an Indo-Pacific regional framework to address the risks of LAWS, emphasizing that machines should not make life-or-death decisions without meaningful human control. The Philippines, together with 14 other countries, proposed drafting a CCW protocol to explicitly prohibit fully autonomous weapons systems and aims for a legally binding instrument by 2026. They stress that such systems would violate international humanitarian law and deepen accountability gaps, advocating for inclusive, ethical global governance led by human oversight.

South Africa Calls For Parliaments To Work With Governments To Ban Uncontrolled Autonomous Weapons Systems

2023

Summary: South Africa's parliamentary delegation has strongly urged that uncontrolled autonomous weapons systems—those capable of operating without any direct human supervision—be unequivocally banned under a legally binding international instrument, grounded in international humanitarian law, human rights, and ethical standards. Additionally, the delegation proposed enhancements to IPU draft resolutions to require parliament-led oversight, public consultation, and accountability mechanisms related to the acquisition and use of lethal autonomous systems.

Defence and artificial intelligence Briefing

2025

Summary: This 2025 European Parliament briefing examines the growing use of artificial intelligence in military settings, with particular concern over Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems (LAWS), which are weapons that can select and engage targets without human intervention. The most relevant parts are Section 3.3 which explains the ethical and legal principles, such as protecting civilians and maintaining responsibility, that LAWS often challenge, Section 4, which outlines the key risks such as loss of human control and accountability, and Section 5, where the European Parliament's position is made clear: LAWS should be banned, and any military use of AI must ensure meaningful human oversight.

EU Statement on Responsible Military Use of New and Emerging Technologies

2025

Summary: The EU calls for the responsible development and use of military technologies, including autonomous weapons, in line with international law. It emphasizes the importance of meaningful human control and accountability in decisions involving force.

Addressing the social and humanitarian impact of autonomous weapon systems and artificial intelligence

2024

Summary: More than 140 countries approved the IPU's resolution urging parliaments to take action on the risks of autonomous weapons systems (AWS) and artificial intelligence. The resolution supports the two-tiered regulation framework: banning fully autonomous weapons that violate international humanitarian law, and regulating other AWS in line with legal standards. It also calls on parliaments to educate the public about the ethical, legal, and humanitarian risks of AWS and to share best practices through the IPU. While security issues are often left to executive branches, the resolution highlights that parliaments have a unique role in holding governments accountable, shaping laws, and controlling budgets – even on military matters.

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Communiqué of the Regional Conference on The Peace And Security Aspects of Autonomous Weapons Systems: An ECOWAS Perspective

2024

Summary: The Freetown Communiqué is a joint statement from ECOWAS member states that calls for strong international rules on autonomous weapons systems. The document highlights serious concerns about removing human control from the use of force. It supports the creation of a legally binding international agreement that would prohibit fully autonomous weapons and ensure meaningful human involvement. The communiqué also emphasizes the importance of global cooperation and fairness for developing countries, in shaping future technologies responsibly.

Remarks by Dr. Alhaji Sarjoh Bah, Director of Conflict Management Directorate in the Political Affairs, Peace and Security Department, to the Workshop on Autonomous Weapons System: An ECOWAS Perspective

2024

Summary: The African Union highlights the need for African leadership in shaping global norms on emerging military technologies, including LAWs. It stresses ethical governance, meaningful human oversight, and the inclusion of African values in AI-based decision making.

Statement By The Federal Republic Of Nigeria To The United Nations And Other International Organizations In Geneva On Behalf Of The African Group Member States That Are High Contracting Parties To The Convention On Certain Conventional Weapons

2023

Summary: Speaking for the African Group, Nigeria emphasized the urgent need to adopt legally binding rules on lethal autonomous weapons systems. The statement supports a prohibition on LAWS that function without meaningful human control and calls for ethical, legal, and humanitarian safeguards aligned with international law and African values.

Caribbean Community Declaration on Autonomous Weapons Systems

2023

Summary: The Declaration, supported by the 15 CARICOM member states, makes a strong regional contribution to global policy on autonomous weapons systems, urging deeper international engagement on key risks. It highlights concerns such as proliferation, diversion to non-state actors, and threats to domestic security and law enforcement. The text also emphasizes ethical and social harms, including digital dehumanization and discrimination, and calls for an intersectional approach to address these challenges.

Working paper by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) and Other States Parties to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW)

2024

Summary: In this 2022 statement, the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), a group of over 100 countries, called for stronger international efforts to prevent the dangers of autonomous weapons systems. They expressed concern that these technologies could lead to serious humanitarian, legal, and ethical problems, especially if humans are removed from decision-making in the use of force. They also highlighted the need for fairness and inclusion, warning that unequal access to these technologies could widen global divides.

Artificial intelligence: questions of interpretation and application of international law

2021

Summary: In this document, the European Parliament expresses its opposition to the use of Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems (LAWS) that operate without meaningful human control, stating that only humans should make life-or-death decisions in warfare. It calls for strict international rules to ban fully autonomous weapons and urges the EU to lead efforts ensuring military AI follows international law and ethical standards.

Statement By African Group

2018

Summary: In its 2018 statement, the African Group expressed strong concerns about autonomous weapons and called for international rules to prevent their misuse. The group argued that decisions about using force must always involve real human control and supported creating a legally binding agreement to ban fully autonomous weapons. They also warned that these technologies could increase inequality between countries and make it harder to hold anyone accountable for harmful actions. Overall, the African Group emphasized the need for global cooperation to ensure these weapons are used responsibly.

EU Statement on Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems (LAWS)

2018

Summary: The EU reaffirms its commitment to ensuring meaningful human control over autonomous weapons and calls for compliance with international humanitarian law. It supports ongoing GGE discussions as a way to build shared understandings and norms on LAWS technologies.

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State Position Monitor by Automated Decision Research

2025

Summary: Automated Research's State Positions resource provides individual country reports for each state's position on negotiating a legally binding instrument on autonomous weapons, and engagement on autonomous weapons systems in relevant international fora (primarily United Nations General Assembly, Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons meetings).

A Diplomat's Guide to Autonomous Weapons Systems by Future Life Institute

2024

Summary: This guide is a helpful resource for understanding the current international landscape surrounding LAWS. Among other things, it provides a clear overview of past and ongoing diplomatic discussions, outlines the positions of various governments, and lists the international forums where LAWS are currently being debated.

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) Submission to the UN Secretary-General's Report on Autonomous Weapon Systems

2024

Summary: This document from WILPF/Reaching Critical Will analyzes autonomous weapon systems (LAWS) through three lenses: international peace and security, war profiteering and global inequalities, and human rights violations. The report discusses the gendered dimensions of autonomous weapons, pointing out that AI systems can perpetuate discrimination and dehumanization, particularly affecting women, LGBTQ+ people, and marginalized communities. The document concludes with several recommendations.

Challenges posed by autonomous weapons systems and ways to address them: a perspective from Latin American academia and civil society

2024

Summary: The document from Latin American experts highlights the humanitarian and legal threats posed by autonomous weapons systems, especially how bias in AI can disproportionately harm marginalized groups, including those with disabilities (see Section 1.1). It also explores how they create barriers to justice and accountability for victims (Section 1.2), and outlines policy recommendations for creating an inclusive, binding legal framework to regulate or ban such systems (Section 2.2).

Belén Communiqué by the Latin American and the Caribbean Conference on the Social and Humanitarian Impact of Autonomous Weapons

2023

Summary: The Belén Communiqué was the main outcome document of the first regional intergovernmental meeting on autonomous weapons systems, organized by the government of Costa Rica and FUNPADEM, and was adopted by over 30 states. It highlights the dangers posed by these systems and calls for ethical and legal responses. The communiqué reflects growing support for a legally binding instrument to regulate or prohibit weapons that operate without meaningful human control.

International Committee of the Red Cross - What you need to know about autonomous weapons

2021

Summary: The ICRC provides a definition of LAWs and warns that autonomous weapons risk weakening compliance with international humanitarian law. It calls for new legal rules and insists on meaningful human control over the use of force.

WAI, Emerging Technology and LAWS: Security, Moral, and Ethical Perspectives in Asia by Nonviolence International Asia

2020

Summary: This report explores how countries in Southeast Asia are thinking about artificial intelligence (AI), new technologies, and the risks connected to lethal autonomous weapons systems (LAWS). It highlights the importance of placing people and ethics at the center of technological development and raises concerns about how these technologies could affect peace, security, and human rights in the region. For students, the Executive Summary (pg. 6–8) gives a helpful overview of key ideas. Section 3: Key Perspectives from Southeast Asia (pg. 17–22) shares quotes and views from scholars and officials in the region, offering insight into local concerns. Section 5: Recommendations (pg. 26–28) is also useful, showing how experts suggest managing the risks of AI and autonomous weapons responsibly.

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