

Position Paper

Committee: United Nations Security Council

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Country: Russian Federation

Agenda: Addressing the Proliferation and Militarization of Autonomous Weapons Systems and Artificial Intelligence in Armed Conflict

Problem 1: AI can make mistakes

For eg; A soldier is hiding near a hospital.

An AI drone sees movement. It thinks: "That's an enemy." It attacks. But actually... The person was: • a doctor, • a journalist, • or a civilian

. Many ingenious people could die. Humans also make mistakes, but AI doesn't truly understand the situation. It only follows patterns from data.

Problem 2: Who is responsible?

Lets just Suppose that AI kills naive humankind / masses Who should be punished? The: • Soldier? • Commander? • Programmer? • Company that built it? • Government? Nobody knows. This is called the accountability gap.

Problem 3: AI has no emotions

Just like Humans can think "There are children nearby. Don't attack." AI cannot feel: • mercy, • fear, • compassion, • guilt. It only follows its programming. Many countries believe life-and-death decisions should stay with humans

Problem 4: AI works very fast Humans take time

. AI reacts in seconds. Imagine: Country A launches AI drones. Country B's AI immediately thinks: "We're under attack!" It attacks back instantly. Then Country A attacks again. Very quickly... A small mistake becomes a huge war. Humans have almost no time to stop it.

Problem 5: Terrorists could get AI weapons AI is becoming cheaper.

Commercial drones are easy to buy. A terrorist group could: • buy drones, • install AI, • attack people automatically. This worries almost every country

. **Problem 6: No international rules** For eg : football. Without rules: • players would fight, • nobody would know what's allowed. The same is happening

with AI weapons. There is no specific international treaty that clearly regulates autonomous weapons. Different countries have different rules. This creates confusion.

Why are countries divided?

Some countries say: "Ban them."

They believe: • AI should never decide to kill. • Humans must always control weapons. what other countries say; "Don't ban them."

They believe: • AI can protect soldiers. • AI can react faster than humans. • Current international law is enough. Russia belongs to this second group. Russia says: • Existing international humanitarian law should continue to apply

. • Countries should discuss the issue through the CCW instead of creating a completely new treaty.

core issue of this agenda? "The central issue is whether autonomous weapons should be allowed to make life-and-death decisions without meaningful human control. As military technology continues to evolve, the international community must ensure that innovation develops alongside responsibility, transparency, and respect for humanitarian principles.

Position of the Russian Federation

Russia believes that AI in the military has both advantages and disadvantages.

Advantages

: • Faster decisions • Better surveillance • Protects soldiers • More accurate weapons

Disadvantages

: • AI can make mistakes. • Civilians may be harmed. • It may be difficult to know who is responsible if something goes wrong.

Russia says: "Countries should continue discussing AI weapons in the CCW, which is already the official UN forum for this topic." Just like CCW as a meeting room where countries discuss rules about dangerous weapons. Inside the CCW, there is a smaller group called the GGE (Group of Governmental Experts). These experts: • study AI weapons, • discuss possible rules, • suggest solutions. Russia believes this is the right place to solve the problem—not by creating a completely new organization. The CCW includes: • lawyers • military officers • AI and technology experts All of them work together. Also, every country must agree before a decision is made. This is called consensus. For example: Suppose five countries are discussing a new rule. If one country says "No," the rule cannot be adopted.

Russia likes this system because: • no country can be forced to accept a rule, • every country's security concerns are respected Russia says: "We already have international laws for war." These laws are called International Humanitarian Law (IHL). Russia believes: "Instead of making new laws, we should use the laws that already exist. Russia believes AI weapons should follow the same rules as every other weapon.

These rules are:

①Distinction Always tells the difference between: • soldiers • civilians Never attack civilians intentionally

②Proportionality Even if attacking a military target, don't cause too much civilian damage compared to the military benefit. Example: Destroying one small military truck by bombing an entire city block would not be proportional

③Precaution Take every possible step to reduce harm to civilians. Example: Check targets carefully before attacking.

④ **Military Necessity** Only attack if it is genuinely needed to achieve a legitimate military objective. Russia says AI weapons should obey all these existing rules . Russia says: "No. We do not support a complete ban." Russia believes AI weapons can be useful if they are used responsibly. Instead of banning AI weapons, Russia says: "Let's make sensible rules for using them safely." For eg cars. If cars can cause accidents, we don't ban all cars. Instead, we create: • traffic rules, • speed limits, • driving licences. Russia wants similar rules for AI weapons. Before a country starts using a new AI weapon, it should first check: • Is it legal? • Does it follow international law? • Will it protect civilians? Countries should be more open about: • what AI weapons they are developing, • how they are being used, • how they follow international law. This builds trust between countries. Even if AI helps soldiers, humans should remain responsible for important decisions. If something goes wrong, the responsibility should belong to a human commander or the government—not the AI itself.

Actions Taken So Far

Russia has **regularly attended international meetings** where countries discuss AI weapons.

It has **not ignored the issue**.

Instead, Russia has taken part in discussions with other countries.

Russia supports the **Group of Governmental Experts (GGE)**.

Who are they?

They are experts from different countries who:

- study AI weapons,
- discuss risks,
- suggest rules,
- help governments understand the technology.

Russia believes these experts should continue their work.

Russia has repeatedly reaffirmed that the CCW remains the most appropriate international platform .because it balances humanitarian concerns with the legitimate defence interests of sovereign states.

Legitimate defence interests

This means:

Every country has the right to:

- defend itself,
- protect its borders,
- protect its people,
- develop military technology.

Sovereign states

A sovereign state is simply:

An independent country that makes its own decisions.

Examples:

- India
- Russia
- China
- Brazil

Russia believes the CCW: protects civilians, and allows countries to defend themselves.

Russia has also supported continued dialogue on preventing the proliferation of advanced AI technologies, strengthening compliance with International Humanitarian Law, promoting transparency and encouraging cooperation among states to address emerging security challenges.

Russia has consistently participated in CCW and GGE discussions on autonomous weapons. It supports continued international dialogue, compliance with International Humanitarian Law, transparency, and cooperation, while maintaining that the CCW is the appropriate forum for addressing military AI."

Proposed Solutions and Recommendations

The Russian Federation proposes the following measures:

- Continue negotiations on autonomous weapons systems within the CCW and its Group of Governmental Experts.
- Ensure that all AI-enabled military systems undergo national legal reviews before deployment to verify compliance with International Humanitarian Law.
- Maintain meaningful human responsibility and accountability in decisions involving the use of force.
- Strengthen international cooperation to prevent advanced AI technologies from reaching terrorist organizations and other unauthorized actors.

- Promote confidence-building measures, transparency, and information sharing among states to reduce misunderstandings and prevent an uncontrolled arms race in military AI.
- Encourage all states to faithfully implement existing international humanitarian obligations while developing emerging military technologies.

Conclusion

The Russian Federation believes that advances in technology should make the world safer, not more dangerous. Russia considers existing International Humanitarian Law to be a strong foundation for regulating the use of Artificial Intelligence in armed conflict. Instead of creating entirely new legal frameworks, Russia supports strengthening the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW), promoting cooperation between states, respecting national sovereignty, and ensuring that humans remain responsible for decisions involving the use of force. Through these measures, the international community can encourage responsible innovation while protecting peace and security. By focusing on these approaches – strengthening existing legal frameworks like the CCW, fostering dialogue, respecting sovereignty, and ensuring human responsibility – the international community can effectively navigate the complexities of AI and other emerging military technologies. The ultimate goal is to ensure that these advancements contribute to global peace, security, and stability, rather than undermining them.