

Resolution on Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems

The General Assembly

1. *Recalling* its resolution 78/241 of 22 December 2023,
2. *Affirming* that international law, including the Charter of the United Nations, international humanitarian law, international human rights law, and international criminal law, applies to autonomous weapons systems,
3. *Mindful* of the serious challenges and concerns that new technological applications in the military domain, including those related to artificial intelligence and autonomy in weapons systems, also raise from humanitarian, legal, security, technological and ethical perspectives,
4. *Concerned* about the possible negative consequences and impact of autonomous weapon systems on global security and regional and international stability, including the risk of an emerging arms race, of exacerbating existing conflicts and humanitarian crises, miscalculations, lowering the threshold for and escalation of conflicts and proliferation, including to unauthorized recipients such as non-State actors,
5. *Recognizing* the rapid development of new and emerging technologies, and recognizing further that they hold great promise for the advancement of human welfare and could, inter alia, help to better protect civilians in conflict in certain circumstances,
6. *Reaffirming* that any weapon, including autonomous weapons systems, that cannot comply with international humanitarian law is ipso facto prohibited and that systems incapable of being used in accordance with international humanitarian law should not be developed or used,
7. *Welcoming* the interest and sustained efforts on these issues, in particular through the ongoing and valuable work of the Group of Governmental Experts on Emerging Technologies in the Area of Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems, established under the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, and in this regard underlining the significant progress made in these discussions as well as the various proposals presented,
8. *Mindful* of the importance to address the impact of applications of AI and autonomy in the military domain more comprehensively and to ensure complementarity with discussions on Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems,
9. *Noting* the adoption by consensus of Human Rights Council resolution 51/22 of 7 October 2022 on human rights implications of new and emerging technologies in the military domain,
10. *Acknowledging* the important contribution of international and regional conferences and initiatives including the latest regional conferences hosted by the Philippines on 13 and 14 December 2023 and by Sierra Leone on 17 and 18 April 2024, the international conference hosted by Austria on 29 and 30 April 2024 and the REAIM-summit hosted by the Republic of Korea on 9 and 10 September 2024,

11. *Recognizing* the valuable contributions made by United Nations entities and international and regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, civil society organizations, academia, industry and other stakeholders in enriching international discussions on autonomous weapons systems, encompassing legal, ethical, human rights, societal and technological dimensions,
12. *Recognizing* the efforts of the Secretary-General within the new agenda for peace initiative to address the issue of autonomous weapons systems,
13. *Cognizant of* the support from a large group of Member States for the start of negotiations on a legal instrument addressing autonomous weapons systems,
14. *Recalling* the repeated calls by the Secretary-General to conclude negotiations of a legally binding instrument with prohibitions and regulations for autonomous weapons systems by 2026,
15. *Stressing* the importance of the role of humans in the use of force to ensure responsibility and accountability and for States to comply with international law,
16. *Recalling* the importance of comprehensive and inclusive discussions of the challenges and concerns related to autonomous weapons systems and *reaffirming* the role of the General Assembly with regard to international peace and security and its near universal membership and wide substantive scope,
17. *Highlighting* the importance of international cooperation and capacity-building to facilitate further discussions and engagements in international deliberations on autonomous weapons systems by all States,

Operative Paragraphs

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General A/79/88 "Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems" pursuant to Res. 78/241 on Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems reflecting the views of Member and Observer States and international and regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, civil society, the scientific community and industry on ways to address the challenges and concerns autonomous weapons systems raise from humanitarian, legal, security, technological and ethical perspectives and on the role of humans in the use of force,
2. *Welcomes* the high number of submissions to the said report and *notes* the broadly shared view expressed therein on the need for the international community to address the aforementioned challenges and concerns with utmost urgency,
3. *Highlights* the importance of addressing the challenges and concerns posed by autonomous weapons systems in the context of the objectives and purpose of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW), and encourages all UN Member States to actively take part in the work of the Group of Governmental Experts on Emerging Technologies in the Area of Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems,
4. *Calls upon* the Group of Governmental Experts on Emerging Technologies in the Area of Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems to fulfill its mandate as agreed to by High Contracting Parties in 2023 as soon as possible, preferably by the end of 2025, and further *calls upon* the High Contracting Parties of the CCW to spare no effort in this

regard,

5. *Underlines* that a comprehensive and inclusive approach will be required to address the full range of challenges and concerns posed by autonomous weapons systems, including from a legal, technological, ethical, humanitarian and security perspective, in order to safeguard international peace and security,
6. *Decides* to convene open informal consultations under the framework of this resolution in 2025 to consider the relationship of autonomous weapons systems to these other aspects in full complementarity with the mandate of the Group of Governmental Experts on Emerging Technologies in the Area of Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems,
7. *Further decides* that these open informal consultations should explore possible approaches for addressing challenges and concerns posed by autonomous weapons systems as well as elements, areas of convergence, and common understandings on the abovementioned aspects in an inclusive manner, with a view to improving States understanding of the scope of any future multilateral instrument without prejudging its nature,
8. Requests the Chair of the open informal consultations to present a summary report reflecting the discussion of the consultations to its eightieth session,
9. *Further decides* that the open informal consultations should be convened in [Geneva][New York][Geneva and New York] for a duration of [10 days] [5 days respectively] in 2025 and that these consultations shall be open to the full participation of all Member States and Observer States and international and regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and civil society, including the scientific community and industry,
10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the support necessary to convene the informal consultations,
11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its eightieth session the item entitled "Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems".