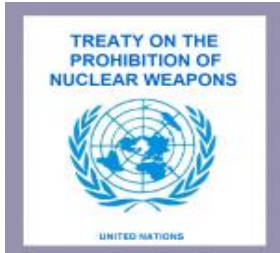


TPNW RATIFICATION – BAN ON KILLER ROBOTS AND WEAPONIZED DRONES



Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space



**BAN
KILLER DRONES**



123 international and national organisations, movements, groups from over 100 countries

The letter has also been forwarded as "for your information":

to the presidency of the UN Human Rights Council and to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the 47 member states

The letter is available in Finnish, Swedish, English, German, French, Spanish and Russian at the homepage of Women for Peace - Finland

<https://www.naisetrauhanpuolesta.org/>

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Honourable Pekka Haavisto, Minister of Foreign Affairs in Finland

cc.

Sauli Niinistö, President of Finland

all members of the Finnish Government

all members of the Finnish Parliament

Re: TPNW - ban on killer robots/autonomous weapons - ban on the use and sale of weaponized drones

We, the representatives of 123 non-governmental organisations from some 100 countries want to congratulate Finland for last October having been elected member of the UN Human Rights Council for the period 2022-2024.

Regarding this, **You Minister Pekka Haavisto, in a press statement** stressed the importance to promote global peace, security and sustainable development and that Finland, as You yourself, has excellent experience of involving civil society in the management of matters.

Your significant announcement, that Finland will work in close cooperation with both domestic and international NGOs and human rights defenders since it is vital that not only the voice of states but also the views and expertise of civil society, researchers and the private sector are heard in the work of the Human Rights Council, gives us great hope.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) (1948) is a milestone document in the history of human rights and was drafted by representatives with different legal and cultural backgrounds from all regions of the world. It sets out the fundamental human rights to be universally protected and it has paved the way for the adoption of more than seventy human rights treaties, applied today on a permanent basis at global and regional levels.

Article 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states: "Everyone has the right to life, liberty and the security of person."

Three of the biggest military threats to life today are nuclear weapons, autonomous weapon systems or killer robots and weaponized drones.

A nuclear war would not only cause long-term damage to our planet, but could end life on earth as we know it.

Autonomous weapons, commonly known as killer robots that are no longer strictly controlled by human hands, as well as weaponized drones constitute a barbarous threat to humanity.

According to the second edition of the Norwegian People's Aid's Nuclear Weapons Ban Monitor over **two-thirds of the world's countries support the TPNW**. Furthermore YouGov polls conducted in late 2020 in six NATO countries - Belgium, Denmark, Iceland, Italy, the Netherlands and Spain - show very high levels of public support for their countries to join the TPNW.

Since 2018, the **United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres** has repeatedly urged states to prohibit weapons systems that could, by themselves, target and attack human beings, calling them "morally repugnant and politically unacceptable".

On 15-16 September 2021, the Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs hosted an online conference on Safeguarding Human Control over Autonomous Weapons.

Austria's Foreign Minister, Alexander Schallenberg and New Zealand's Minister for Disarmament, Phil Twyford, presented a strong call for action towards new international treaty that would establish prohibitions and regulations on autonomy in weapons systems. The conference provided a striking illustration of political leadership embracing the need for action on this issue.

A growing number of policymakers, artificial intelligence experts, private companies, international and domestic organisations, and ordinary individuals have endorsed **a call to ban fully autonomous weapons**.

According to **Human Rights Watch** 30 countries (August 2020) are calling for a ban on killer robots.

Weaponized drones are no more acceptable than land mines, cluster bombs, or chemical weapons. The armed drone is a weapon that, because of its unique character, engenders terror and hatred on the ground, regardless of the circumstances in which it is being used.

In a **global petition** a broad spectrum of NGOs and over 100.000 persons urge governments to **ban the use and sale of weaponized drones**.

All over the world NGOs are urging their governments to sign and ratify the TPNW as well as to ban autonomous weapons and weaponized drones.

Honourable Minister Pekka Haavisto, we sincerely hope for Your dedicated support for these urgent matters, threatening mankind. We urge You to actively push European and other countries to sign the TPNW and to firmly, in the UN Human Rights Council and in the European Union, raise the urgent need for a preemptive ban on the development, production, and use of fully autonomous weapons and for a ban on the use and sale of weaponized drones.

February 24th, 2022

**INTERNATIONAL NETWORKS AND ORGANISATIONS – NATIONAL
UMBRELLA ORGANISATIONS – active in some 100 countries:**

Ban Killer Drones Campaign

an international grassroots campaign committed to banning aerial weaponized drones and military and police drone surveillance.

Contacts: Nick Mottern - nickmottern (at) gmail.com,
Kathy Kelly – kathy (at) vcnv.org

**Church and Peace - European peace church network,
EUROPE/INTERNATIONAL**

Church and Peace is the European ecumenical peace church network. The Church and Peace network comprises over fifty communities, churches, training centres, peace service agencies and peace movements, as well as around sixty members from the Mennonite, Quaker, Church of the Brethren, Anglican, Baptist, Methodist, Lutheran, Orthodox, Reformed and Roman Catholic traditions from 15 European countries.

Contact: Lydia Funck – intlooffice (at) church-and-peace.org

**GAMIP AMÉRICA LATINA Y EL CARIBE, ARGENTINA, COLOMBIA, PERÚ,
NICARAGUA, HONDURAS, MÉXICO, BRASIL, BOLIVIA**

GAMIP = Global Alliance for Ministries and Infrastructures for Peace.

Contact: gamipamericalatina (at) gmail.com

Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space

an international network of some 120 affiliates from some 25 countries concerned about the militarisation and exploitation of space.

Contact: Bruce K. Gagnon - globalnet (at) mindspring.com

**Naturfreunde Internationale - Naturefriends International -
Internationale des Amis de la Nature**

uniting more than 350,000 individual members throughout the globe, member of the Green 10, a group of leading environmental NGOs active at EU level.

Contact: Manfred Pils – office (at) nf-int.org

No to war - no to NATO international network

uniting some 400 national organisations/movements/groups from over 40 countries.

Contact: Kristine Karch – Kristine (at) no-to-nato.org

Réseau "Sortir du nucléaire", FRANCE

Federation of more than 900 associations and 60,000 people.

Contact: Marie Liger –marie.liger (at) sortirdunucleaire.fr

World BEYOND War is a global nonviolent movement to end war and establish a just and sustainable peace.

World BEYOND War is a member of the Coalition Against U.S. Foreign Military Bases; the Divest from the War Machine Coalition; the Global Day Against Military Spending; the International Peace Bureau; the Korea Collaboration Network; the Poor People's Campaign; United for Peace and Justice; the United National Antiwar Coalition; the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons; the Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space; the international network No to war – no to NATO; Overseas Base Realignment and Closure Coalition; People Over Pentagon; Campaign to End the Selective Service System; the Demilitarize U.S. to Palestine Coalition; Just Recovery Canada; No Fighter Jets Coalition; Canada-Wide Peace and Justice Network; Peace Education Network (PEN); Beyond Nuclear; Working Group on Youth, Peace, and Security; Global Alliance for Ministries and Infrastructures for Peace.

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