[DISC]

BCNMUN 2023

Disarming Unregulated AI Military Weaponry Manufactured Illegally for Use in the DPRK and Private Buyers

Table of Contents

Topic: Disarming Unregulated AI Military Weaponry Manufactured Illegally for Use in the DPRK and Private Buyers

Chair: Mencia Ponce

Position: President Chair

Introduction

The illegal manufacturing and distribution of unregulated AI military weaponry for use in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and private buyers has emerged as a pressing global crisis with severe implications for international security and human life. The production and importation of these advanced weapons, obtained through black markets, have reached alarming levels, exceeding the existing United Nations (UN) legislation set in place. What exacerbates this crisis is the absence of human population sensors in these AI military weapons, highlighting the disregard for civilian lives when deployed.

Immediate action is essential to prevent the imminent delivery of over 10,000 weapons to the DPRK and private distributors within a week. The consequences of allowing such weaponry to proliferate unchecked are dire, involving the destabilisation of the Korean Peninsula, increased risks to global security, potential human rights violations, and an overall disregard for international humanitarian law.

This urgent crisis necessitates a comprehensive approach that includes the evaluation and strengthening of UN legislation, international cooperation, and strategic disarmament efforts. It is imperative to address the glaring gaps in the existing legal frameworks to effectively regulate the manufacturing, distribution, and usage of unregulated AI military weaponry. Failure to do so would not only perpetuate the imminent threat but also set a dangerous precedent for the uncontrolled proliferation of advanced military technology.

In this crisis scenario, delegates are tasked with developing actionable solutions to neutralise the immediate threat by disarming the illegal manufacture of unregulated AI military weaponry bound for the DPRK and private buyers. By addressing the root causes and consequences of this crisis, delegates have the opportunity to shape a more secure and responsible global landscape, where the principles of international law, human rights, and humanitarian ethics are upheld.

Through collaborative efforts and innovative approaches, the international community can take proactive steps to update UN legislation addressing the challenges posed by unregulated AI military weaponry. Delegates must strive to achieve consensus and mobilise resources to prevent the imminent delivery of these weapons, protect human lives, and strengthen global peace and security. The clock is ticking, and decisive action must be taken to avert the catastrophic consequences that await if this crisis is left unchecked.

Definition of Key Terms

Countries, and Organisations Involved

Countries: Nations or states that refer to sovereign political entities with defined borders and governments. In the context of disarming unregulated AI military weaponry manufactured illegally, countries refer to the nations concerned with addressing and preventing the proliferation of such weaponry, including but not limited to the United States, South Korea, and international actors.

Organisations: In this context, organisations refer to entities, both governmental and non-governmental, that play a role in efforts to disarm unregulated AI military weaponry manufactured illegally. These organisations can include government agencies, international bodies, non-profit, and initiatives with a focus on arms control and non-proliferation.

Disarming: The process of rendering AI military weaponry inoperable or eliminating their threat potential through various methods, such as dismantling, disabling, or seizing these weapons.

Unregulated AI Military Weaponry: Weapons employing artificial intelligence (AI) technology, such as drones or autonomous systems, which lack appropriate oversight, control, or compliance with international agreements or regulations.

Manufactured Illegally: Refers to the production and assembly of AI military weaponry without legal authorization or in violation of international laws and agreements governing arms production and trade.

DPRK: The Democratic People's Republic of Korea, commonly known as North Korea, is a country on the Korean Peninsula known for its reclusive regime and controversial military activities.

Private Buyers: Individuals or non-state actors who purchase AI military weaponry for their own use, potentially for illegal or harmful purposes, outside the scope of government control or regulation.

General Information

Unregulated AI military weaponry

The rapid advancement of artificial intelligence (AI) technology has revolutionised various industries, including the military sector. AI-powered military weaponry, such as drones, autonomous vehicles, and unmanned systems, offer significant advantages in terms of enhanced capabilities, precision, efficiency, and reduced human risk. However, the proliferation of AI military weaponry in unregulated contexts has become a cause for concern.

The emergence of unregulated AI military weaponry:

The development and deployment of AI military weaponry have presented new challenges for international security.
Non-state actors, rogue elements, and black market networks have exploited these technological advancements to manufacture and distribute AI military weaponry without proper oversight and regulation.
Black markets and illegal manufacturing:

Illegal manufacturing and trade networks have flourished, fuelling the production and distribution of unregulated AI military weaponry.
These black markets operate covertly, evading international arms control mechanisms and bypassing legal frameworks.
Lack of human population sensors and ethical concerns:

Unregulated AI military weaponry often lacks vital sensors to distinguish between combatants and civilians, posing significant ethical concerns.
The absence of human population sensors means that these weapons do not adequately account for human life when deployed, increasing the risk of civilian casualties. Violation of existing UN legislation:

The manufacturing and distribution of unregulated AI military weaponry contravenes established UN regulations and frameworks.

Current legislation, such as the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) and various UN Security Council resolutions, were primarily designed to address traditional forms of weaponry and may not adequately address the unique aspects of AI military technology.

Implications and risks:

The uncontrolled proliferation of unregulated AI military weaponry poses threats to regional and global security.

The potential misuse of these weapons by state and non-state actors could destabilise regions, escalate conflicts, and undermine peace efforts.

The lack of accountability and oversight regarding their development, deployment, and use raises concerns about human rights violations and the violation of international humanitarian law.

Addressing the challenge posed by unregulated AI military weaponry requires international cooperation, the reevaluation and update of existing regulations, and enforcement mechanisms, and the establishment of robust monitoring and control measures. The situation's urgency necessitates a comprehensive response to mitigate the risks associated with the manufacturing, distribution, and use of unregulated AI military weaponry.

Historical Context and Evolution of the Issue

Advancements in Artificial Intelligence Technology:

The 21st century has witnessed rapid advancements in artificial intelligence (AI) technology, with AI being integrated into various aspects of daily life, from virtual assistants to autonomous vehicles. While these innovations have brought significant benefits to society, they have also raised concerns about the potential misuse of AI, particularly in the context of military weaponry. AI-driven weapons have become more sophisticated, and capable of autonomous decision-making and target identification, which has raised both ethical and security concerns.

The proliferation of AI in military technology has led to the development of increasingly autonomous and powerful weaponry. AI-enabled drones, smart munitions, and unmanned ground vehicles are just a few examples of how AI has transformed the landscape of modern warfare. These developments have the potential to revolutionise military strategies and tactics, making it imperative for the international community to ensure the responsible use and oversight of AI in warfare.

Rise of Black Markets in the Manufacturing and Distribution of AI Weaponry:

 As the world has witnessed the growth of AI technology in military applications, a concerning trend has emerged: the rise of black markets for the manufacturing and distribution of AI weaponry. These markets operate outside legal channels and regulations, allowing for the production and sale of advanced AI weaponry to non-state actors and rogue nations.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), in particular, has been known to exploit these black markets. Their pursuit of AI military technology has raised concerns about the destabilising effects such weaponry could have in the region and beyond. The DPRK's interest in AI weaponry goes beyond the usual conventional weapons, making it a threat not only to its neighbours but also to international peace and security.

Private buyers, often with dubious motives or affiliations, have also entered the black market, seeking to acquire advanced AI weaponry. This poses a significant risk, as they may use these weapons for illegal activities, terrorism, or to further their personal or ideological agendas.

The illegal manufacturing and distribution of AI weaponry not only undermines international efforts to maintain peace and security but also raises ethical questions about the responsible development and use of AI technology in a military context. Governments and organisations worldwide are grappling with the challenge of identifying, tracking, and ultimately disarming these unregulated AI weapons to prevent them from falling into the wrong hands.

Efforts to address this issue require international cooperation, the development of robust regulations, and strict enforcement to ensure that AI weaponry remains under the control of responsible, accountable entities. Only through such coordinated efforts can the world hope to disarm unregulated AI military weaponry manufactured illegally for use in the DPRK and by private buyers, ultimately safeguarding global peace and security.

Possible Solutions

Current State of Affairs

Scope and Scale of Illegal AI Military Weaponry Trade:

The current state of affairs regarding the illegal AI military weaponry trade is a cause for significant concern. The scope and scale of this issue have expanded dramatically in recent years, fuelled by advances in AI technology and the illicit activities of both state and non-state actors.

The black market trade in AI military weaponry, particularly for use in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), has grown to an alarming extent. This trade encompasses a wide range of AI-enhanced weapons, from autonomous drones to AI-driven cyber warfare tools. The proliferation of these weapons poses a direct threat to regional and global security.

Private buyers, often motivated by nefarious agendas, have also played a role in this trade, exacerbating the problem. The availability of these weapons to non-state actors increases the potential for terrorist organisations and criminal networks to acquire advanced AI weaponry, further destabilising regions and endangering human lives.

Lack of Human Population Sensors and Disregard for Human Life:

One of the most alarming aspects of the current state of affairs is the lack of ethical safeguards in the design and deployment of AI military weaponry. Many of these illegal AI weapons lack the necessary human population sensors and safeguards, which can lead to catastrophic consequences. AI-driven military systems, without these essential features, can fail to differentiate between

combatants and civilians, leading to unnecessary casualties and violations of international humanitarian law.

The disregard for human life inherent in these AI systems is a significant concern. Their autonomous decision-making capabilities, when coupled with the absence of safeguards, can result in indiscriminate targeting and collateral damage. Such actions not only cause humanitarian crises but also damage the reputation of AI technology as a whole.

C. Violation of Existing UN Legislation: The international community has established various United Nations (UN) conventions, treaties, and agreements to regulate arms control and protect global peace and security. However, the current state of affairs reveals a flagrant violation of existing UN legislation in the context of illegal AI military weaponry.

The use of such weaponry, particularly by the DPRK and private buyers, constitutes a direct violation of UN resolutions aimed at denuclearisation and disarmament. Furthermore, the unregulated development and sale of AI weaponry without proper oversight and accountability contradicts the principles laid out in various arms control agreements, such as the Arms Trade Treaty.

The international community must address this blatant disregard for existing UN legislation and take collective action to curtail the illegal AI military weaponry trade. This may involve stronger sanctions, intelligence sharing, and efforts to hold violators accountable through international legal mechanisms.

In summary, the current state of affairs concerning the illegal AI military weaponry trade is characterised by its alarming scope, lack of ethical safeguards, and blatant violation of existing UN legislation. Addressing this issue is imperative to protect human lives, prevent humanitarian crises, and maintain global peace and security. International cooperation and stringent enforcement of regulations are essential to disarm unregulated AI military weaponry manufactured illegally for use in the DPRK and buy private buyers.

(Existing UN Legislation and Framework)

Overview of Relevant Resolutions, Treaties, and Conventions: The United Nations (UN) has established a range of resolutions, treaties, and conventions that address arms control, disarmament, and the proliferation of military technology. In the context of disarming unregulated AI military weaponry manufactured illegally for use in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and by private buyers, several key components of the existing UN legislation and framework are relevant:

UN Security Council Resolutions: The UN Security Council has passed several resolutions aimed at denuclearising the DPRK and curbing its military activities. These resolutions, including Resolution 2371 and Resolution 2397, impose sanctions on the DPRK to prevent the proliferation of weapons technology.

Arms Trade Treaty (ATT): The ATT is an international treaty designed to regulate the trade of conventional arms and to prevent their diversion to illicit markets. It sets standards for arms transfers and aims to reduce the risk of human rights abuses and armed conflict.

Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW): The CCW is a framework that includes multiple protocols regulating various aspects of conventional weapons. While it doesn't specifically address AI weaponry, it provides a basis for discussions on the responsible use and control of such technologies.

UN Group of Governmental Experts on Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems (LAWS): This group explores the challenges posed by lethal autonomous weapons systems, including AI military technology, and assesses the adequacy of existing international law in addressing these issues.

(International Response and Efforts)

A. Existing Initiatives and Measures Taken by Member States:

The international community has recognised the grave threat posed by unregulated AI military weaponry, which is manufactured illegally for use in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and by private buyers. Member states have taken several initiatives and measures to address this issue:

1. **UN Sanctions:** Many member states have supported and implemented United Nations (UN) sanctions against the DPRK to curb its weapons programs. These sanctions are aimed at preventing the transfer of military technology, including AI weaponry, to the DPRK.

2. **Bilateral and Multilateral Agreements:** Several countries have entered into bilateral and multilateral agreements to regulate arms trade and control the export of military technology. These agreements help prevent the illicit transfer of AI weaponry to unauthorised entities.

3. **National Legislation*:** Many nations have developed or strengthened their national legislation to address the production, trade, and use of AI military weaponry. These laws enable member states to take legal action against those involved in illegal arms trade, including private buyers.

4. **Intelligence Sharing:** Member states have initiated intelligence-sharing mechanisms to monitor and track the illegal manufacturing and distribution of AI weaponry. This cooperation helps identify and apprehend those involved in these activities.

(Collaboration with Relevant International Organisations and Stakeholders)

Effective international collaboration is essential to tackle the challenge of unregulated AI military weaponry. Member states have been engaging with relevant international organisations and stakeholders to address this issue:

1. **International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA):** The IAEA plays a critical role in monitoring nuclear activities. Member states collaborate with the IAEA to ensure that AI technology is not used for nuclear weapons development.

2. **International Criminal Police Organisation (INTERPOL):** INTERPOL facilitates international police cooperation, helping member states combat the illegal trade of AI weaponry. It assists in tracking and apprehending those involved in these activities.

3. **Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs):** Civil society organisations and advocacy groups play a crucial role in raising awareness about the dangers of unregulated AI weaponry. Member states often collaborate with NGOs to gather information and promote disarmament efforts.

The international response to disarming unregulated AI military weaponry manufactured illegally for use in the DPRK and by private buyers involves a multi-pronged approach. Member states are taking various measures, working closely with international organisations, NGOs, industry leaders, and academic institutions to address this urgent issue. This collaborative effort is essential to safeguard global peace and security in the face of evolving threats from AI technology.

Bibliography

"Behavioural Economics and Non-Market Valuation: A Research Agenda." Frontiers in Data, 2022, https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fdata.2022.991759/full.

"Toolkit to Combat Smuggling of Migrants." United Nations Ofce on Drugs and Crime, https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafcking/Toolkit_Smuggling_of_Migrants/10-50900_Too l9_ebook.pdf.

"More Than 30 Countries Call for International Legal Controls on Killer Robots." Amnesty International, 2023,
https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2023/02/more-than-30-countries-call-for-international-lega l-controls-on-killer-robots/.

"International Sanctions against North Korea." Wikipedia, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_sanctions_against_North_Korea. Accessed 28 October 2023.

United Nations. "Title of the Document." United Nations Press Releases, 2023, https://press.un.org/en/2023/gadis3725.doc.htm.

Rand Europe. "International Arms Trade on the Hidden Web." Rand Corporation, https://www.rand.org/randeurope/research/projects/international-arms-trade-on-the-hidden-web.ht ml.

"Defence Primer: U.S. Policy on Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems." USNI News, 16 May 2023, https://news.usni.org/2023/05/16/defense-primer-u-s-policy-on-lethal-autonomous-weapon-systems -2.

"The Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons." UNODA, https://disarmament.unoda.org/the-convention-on-certain-conventional-weapons/#:~:text=It%20wa s%20adopted%20on%2010,or%20to%20afect%20civilians%20indiscriminately.

"The Arms Trade Treaty (ATT)." The Arms Trade Treaty, https://thearmstradetreaty.org/ #:~:text=The%20Arms%20Trade%20Treaty%20(ATT,force%20on%20 24%20December%202014.

"UN Resolutions Concerning North Korea." Korean Legal Information Institute, http://www.koreanlii.or.kr/ w/index.php/UN_resolutions_concerning_North_Korea?ckattempt=1.