

A glance at the past week ~~ahead~~

Militarized AI and Cyber Conflicts - Peace and Stability - Challenges and Risks

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ISODARCO

Int. School On Disarmament And Research on Conflicts

- ✓ Course focus on major AI and cyber issues in the military
 - ✓ Identification, understanding, and the way forward inspired to peace, arms control and disarmament goals
- ✓ Broad scope of the course: *Required*
- ✓ Incompleteness of the course: *Unavoidable*
 - ✓ AI pervasiveness and cybersecurity problems spanning over most software and hardware systems



Identification and understanding comprehensive problems and risks (1)

- Cybersecurity
 - Tensions between AI and security communities
 - Cyber-threats undermining confidence in one's own systems
 - Increasing risks from AI autonomous agents in cyber operations
 - Multidomain escalation risks
 - Legal status of cyberoperations
- Cyberintelligence
 - Massive data collection and use by public and private agencies
 - Authenticity and veracity crises
 - Protecting rights, democracy and non-domination political relationships

Identification and understanding comprehensive problems and risks (2)

- Analyses of military powers' positioning on AI, cyberoperations, and other EDTs
- Envisaged military advantages of AI
 - AI as intelligence analyst, battlefield factor, decision maker
- Socio-technical downsides of AI
 - AI limitations and vulnerabilities
 - Pitfalls of AI-AI and human-AI interaction
- Calls for new AI R&D paradigms
- Vested interests and power relationships in the new digital, military-industrial complex

Understanding in context

Selected domains and cases

- Nuclear deterrence
 - Impact of cyberthreats and AI on deterrence pillars
 - AI and launch-on-warning time frames
- Autonomous Weapons Systems
 - Dangers to civilians; non-state actors; unintended conflicts and escalation; accountability gap
 - Regulation motivations, international efforts and obstacles
- AI-enabled DSS
 - enhancing or jeopardizing human agency and decision-making?
 - Raising extended Meaningful Human Control problems

The way forward

- Building on 2025 OEWG cybersecurity recommendations
- Promoting and sharing research on military AI
- Interpreting and applying Meaningful Human Control of AI
- Regulating Autonomous Weapons Systems
- Assessing and monitoring AI threats and promises in biosecurity
- Underscore necessity of renewed nuclear arms control initiatives,
 - made even more acute by AI and cyber issues

Science-informed dialogue across all boundaries

