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Security Council Background Guide 2025

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NATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS

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Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the 2025 National Model United Nations Washington DC Conference (NMUN•DC)! We are pleased to introduce to you our committee, the Security Council. Your committee's work is facilitated by volunteer staff. This year's committee staff are Director Ruth Spickermann and Assistant Director Abhijeet Singh. Ruth is pursuing their Bachelor's degree in Political Science, Sociology, and Law. Abhijeet recently completed his undergraduate degree in Finance and Law and plans on applying to law school in the near future after taking the LSAT. The preparation of these materials was supported by Under-Secretary-General Ashlee Rolheiser, and Secretary-General, Alliyah Edwards.

The topics on the agenda for this committee are:

1. The Situation in Haiti
2. International Peace and Security and the Use of Artificial Intelligence

The Security Council is one of the six main organs of the United Nations, with the primary responsibility of maintaining international peace and security. The Security Council addresses threats through facilitating negotiations, imposing sanctions, and authorizing military action, including peacekeeping missions. The body consists of five permanent members with veto power and ten rotating non-permanent members. Substantive decisions require affirmative nine votes and no vetoes to pass.

This Background Guide serves as an introduction to the topics for this committee. However, it is not intended to replace individual research. We encourage you to explore your Member State's policies in depth and use the bibliography to further your knowledge on these topics. In preparation for the conference, each delegation should submit their Position Papers by 11:59 p.m. (DC Time) on 15 October in accordance with the guidelines in the [Position Paper Guide](#) and the [Position Papers page](#).

Two resources, available to download from the NMUN website, serve as essential instruments in preparing for the Conference and as a reference during committee sessions:

- The [NMUN Delegate Preparation Guide](#), which explains each step in the delegate process, from pre-conference research to the committee debate and resolution drafting processes. Please take note of the information on plagiarism and the prohibition on pre-written working papers and resolutions.
- The [NMUN Rules of Procedure](#), which includes the long and short form of the rules, as well as an explanatory narrative and example script of the flow of procedure.

In addition, please review the mandatory [NMUN Conduct Expectations](#) on the NMUN website. They include the conference dress code and other expectations of all attendees. We want to emphasize that any instances of sexual harassment or discrimination based on race, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, or disability will not be tolerated. If you have any questions concerning your preparation for this committee, please contact Under-Secretary-General, Ashlee Rolheiser at usgashlee.dc@nmun.org or the Secretary-General, Alliyah Edwards at secgen.dc@nmun.org.

We wish you all the best in your preparations and look forward to seeing you at the Conference!

Ruth Spickermann, Director
Abhijeet Singh, Assistant Director



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Committee Overview

Introduction

The Security Council is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations defined by the Charter of the United Nations (Charter) (1945).¹ The Security Council seeks to maintain international peace and security and oversees changes to the United Nations Charter.² As the Security Council is the only United Nations body that can create legally-binding decisions for all Member States under Chapter VII of the Charter, it has a unique and impactful mandate to set norms and govern state actions.³ Traditionally, the Security Council discusses issues related to conflict, peacebuilding and peacekeeping missions, the protection of human rights, disarmament, and humanitarian crises.⁴ With the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda) by the General Assembly in 2015, the Security Council has begun to increasingly focus on the intersection between sustainability, peace, and security.⁵

Mandate, Function and Powers

The mandate of the Security Council is to maintain international peace and security and to take action whenever peace and security are threatened.⁶ The council's authority is particularly relevant with respect to the UN's four primary purposes, as specified in the Charter of the United Nations: maintaining international peace and security; developing friendly relations among nations; cooperating in solving international problems; and promoting respect for human rights.⁷ The capabilities of the Security Council are highlighted in Chapters V-VIII of the Charter.⁸ Chapter V establishes the structure, membership, functions, and powers of the Security Council.⁹ Chapters VI and VII specifically address the range of actions that the Security Council can take when settling disputes.¹⁰ Chapter VI aims to settle disputes through peaceful means, such as negotiation and judicial settlement.¹¹ Chapter VII explores further actions that can be taken regarding threats to peace, breaches of peace, and acts of aggression.¹² This chapter also authorizes the Security Council to implement provisional measures aimed at de-escalating conflict situations, including the deployment of peacekeeping forces and sanctions.¹³ Chapter VIII allows

¹ United Nations, Security Council. *What is the Security Council?* N.d.

² Ibid.

³ United Nations Conference on International Organization. *Charter of the United Nations*. 1945. ch. VII.

⁴ Council on Foreign Relations. *The UN Security Council*. 2021; Encyclopedia Britannica. *United Nations Security Council*. 2023.

⁵ United Nations, General Assembly. *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*. 2015.

⁶ United Nations, Security Council. *What is the Security Council?* N.d.

⁷ United Nations Conference on International Organization. *Charter of the United Nations*. 1945. art. 1.

⁸ Ibid. ch. V-VIII.

⁹ Ibid. ch. V.

¹⁰ Ibid. ch. VI-VII.

¹¹ Ibid. ch. VI.

¹² Ibid. ch. VII.

¹³ Ibid. ch. VII.



the Security Council to call upon other regional agencies or arrangements to enforce appropriate operations and intervene if necessary.¹⁴

While the following list is not exhaustive, the mandate of the Security Council can be summarized as:

- The Security Council **will generally**: make policy recommendations that and conduce to the maintenance of international peace and security; call on Member States to apply economic sanctions and measures not involving the use of force; call for arms embargos, enforce disarmament, and call upon international judicial mechanisms to become active; use diplomatic tools to investigate situations that might lead to aggression (between states, non-state groups, and within state territories); authorize military action against states or entities threatening international peace and security.¹⁵
- The Security Council **will not generally**: intervene in situations and enact enforcement measures unless a threat to international peace and security can be determined; encourage the use of force unless it considers that already taken non-military measures have proven inadequate.¹⁶

Governance, Funding and Structure

The Security Council is the only United Nations body that has the power to adopt legally binding resolutions, as article 25 of the Charter obligates Member States to accept and carry out the council's decisions.¹⁷ The Security Council also has a variety of other tools to address issues on its agenda.¹⁸ For example, the President of the Security Council may issue press statements or presidential statements to communicate the council's position.¹⁹ Although not legally binding, such statements are used to bring attention to important issues and to recommend solutions to ongoing conflicts.²⁰

The Security Council was initially composed of five permanent members and six non-permanent members.²¹ In 1965, the number of non-permanent members was increased to 10.²² As the body's structure has remained largely unchanged, debates over the Security Council's efficacy and authority as a mediator on issues of international security continue.²³ The five permanent members are China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America, often colloquially referred to as the "P5".²⁴ Every year, the General Assembly elects five of the 10 non-permanent members for a two-year term.²⁵

¹⁴ Ibid. ch. VIII.

¹⁵ United Nations, Security Council. *Functions and Powers*. N.d.

¹⁶ United Nations, Security Council. *Actions with Respect to Threats to the Peace, Breaches of the Peace, and Acts of Aggression*. N.d.

¹⁷ United Nations Conference on International Organization. *Charter of the United Nations*. 1945. Art. 25; United Nations, Security Council. *What is the Security Council?* N.d.

¹⁸ Security Council Report. *The UN Security Council Handbook: A User's Guide to Practice and Procedure*. 2019. pp. 36-38.

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ United Nations, Security Council. *Voting System*. N.d.

²² Global Policy Forum. *Background on Security Council Reform*. 2021.

²³ Council on Foreign Relations. *The UN Security Council*. 2021.

²⁴ United Nations, Security Council. *Current Members*. N.d.

²⁵ Ibid.



Every Member State of the Security Council has one vote.²⁶ Votes on all matters (substantive votes) require affirmative votes of nine Member States rather than a simple majority.²⁷ However, if one of the five permanent members of the Security Council casts a negative vote on a matter of substance, such as a draft resolution, it does not pass.²⁸ This is known as a “veto”.²⁹ In the 1950s, Security Council Member States made frequent use of their capacity to veto, but its usage declined in the 1960s, rising again in the 1970s and 1980s.³⁰ In the last decades, the use of the veto power has been comparatively rare.³¹ In recent years, the Security Council has adopted many resolutions by consensus and is divided in relatively few circumstances.³²

²⁶ United Nations Conference on International Organization. *Charter of the United Nations*. 1945. art. 27.

²⁷ United Nations, Security Council. *Voting System*. N.d.

²⁸ Ibid.

²⁹ Ibid.

³⁰ Security Council Report. *In Hindsight: The Veto*. 2013; Security Council Report. *The Permanent Members and the Use of the Veto: An Abridged History*. 2013.

³¹ Ibid.

³² Ibid.



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United Nations Conference on International Organization. *Charter of the United Nations*. 1945. Retrieved 27 October 2024 from: <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter>

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1. The Situation in Haiti

"Peace is our raison d'être. Yet, as I scan the landscape of today's world, the one thing missing most dramatically is peace."³³

Introduction

Haiti has been facing many different crises since becoming independent in the 19th century, facing a multitude of crises, including civil war, natural disasters, and disease outbreaks.³⁴ While Haiti has been continuously facing crises throughout its history, the current political crisis in Haiti can be traced back to 2018.³⁵ After the government announced significant increases to fuel prices, violent protests broke out in Haiti's capital, Port-au-Prince, as well as other cities and continued as the economic crisis worsened.³⁶ The opposing groups, which include political parties, religious and civil society groups, and members of the judiciary as well as human rights organizations, called for President Jovenel Moïse to step down who had allegations of corruption against him.³⁷ The violence continued for several years and led to the assassination of President Jovenel Moïse in July 2021.³⁸ Following the assassination, violent crime increased with the number of people killed almost tripling between 2022 and 2024 from 541 to 1554 per quarter, and criminal gangs were able to take control of parts of Port-au-Prince.³⁹

According to numbers from 2022, it is estimated that about 200 gangs operate across Haiti, with nearly half of them in Port-au-Prince.⁴⁰ While there is no specific definition of criminal gangs, according to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, most gangs have three or more members and commit multiple serious criminal offences.⁴¹ The security situation worsened significantly in 2022 with gangs fighting over territory in the capital, impacting the citizens who were already struggling after the destruction of a powerful earthquake in August 2021.⁴² Gangs have continued killings and kidnappings throughout 2023 and expanded their activities into rural areas, which had been considered safe from gang violence until

³³ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Secretary-General's remarks to the General Assembly on Priorities for 2024*. 2024.

³⁴ World Food Programme USA. *What's Happening in Haiti? Explainer on Gang Violence, Hunger Crisis and Humanitarian Aid to Civilians*. 2024.

³⁵ Concern Worldwide. *The Haiti crisis, explained*. 2025; World Food Programme USA. *What's Happening in Haiti? Explainer on Gang Violence, Hunger Crisis and Humanitarian Aid to Civilians*. 2024.

³⁶ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *UN Security Council calls for calm following violent protests in Haiti*. 2018; United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Protests, violence in Haiti prompts international call for 'realistic and lasting solutions' to crisis*. 2019.

³⁷ Delaney. BBC. *Dispute over Haiti presidential term triggers unrest*. 2021; United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Protests, violence in Haiti prompts international call for 'realistic and lasting solutions' to crisis*. 2019.

³⁸ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *UN condemns 'abhorrent' assassination of Haiti President Jovenel Moïse*. 2021.

³⁹ Buchholz. Statista. *Haiti's Escalating Gang Violence*. 2024; United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Haiti: Gang clashes in capital force hundreds to flee their homes*. 2022.

⁴⁰ Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime. *Gangs of Haiti: Expansion, power and an escalating crisis*. 2022. p. 6.

⁴¹ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. *Criminal gangs*. N.d.

⁴² United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Massive earthquake strikes Haiti; UN working with aid partners to support response*. 2021; United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *2022 Year In Review: As conflicts rage, international dialogue remains 'the only hope' for peace*. 2022.



then.⁴³ In October 2023, the United Nations Security Council authorized the Multinational Security Support (MSS) mission, led by Kenya, which deployed international police forces to Haiti to support Haiti's national police.⁴⁴ Kenya has been sending peacekeepers to volatile countries in the past and offered to send 1000 personnel to take part in rebuilding Haiti.⁴⁵ According to analysts, Kenya stands to gain political capital by becoming a dependable ally in the eyes of the international community.⁴⁶ Viv Ansanm, a gang alliance, controls approximately 85% of Port-au-Prince and has expressed plans to transform into a political party, with some political leaders recognizing them as a political entity, while others express strong opposition.⁴⁷

Because of the unstable situation, Haiti has not held legislative elections since October 2019.⁴⁸ After the assassination of Jovenel Moïse, Prime Minister Ariel Henry assumed leadership of the country with the support of the international community, and as of January 2023, no elected officials remained in Haiti's government.⁴⁹ In February 2024, Prime Minister Henry was in Kenya to discuss an agreement regarding the deployment of Kenyan police officers to Haiti when gangs carried out multiple attacks in Port-au-Prince in order to block the Prime Minister's return from Kenya.⁵⁰ Following these attacks, the government declared a state of emergency while the gangs stormed prisons to free more than 4,000 inmates and try to gain control over Haiti's main international airport.⁵¹ On 11 March 2024, Prime Minister Henry announced that he would resign once a transitional presidential council was created.⁵²

The Transitional Presidential Council was established through an agreement facilitated by the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and assumed control on 25 April 2025.⁵³ The Transitional Presidential Council is composed of seven voting members and two observers, who each represent a group or stakeholder within Haitian society and holds the powers of the Haitian presidency until an elected government is established.⁵⁴ The Transitional Presidential Council is tasked with appointing an interim Prime Minister, as well as a Council of Ministers and working towards democratic elections by establishing a Provisional Electoral Council and making arrangements to hold elections.⁵⁵ The President of the Transitional Council

⁴³ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Haiti: Gangs move into rural areas as Türk says new force 'must be deployed'*. 2023.

⁴⁴ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Security Council authorizes 'historic' support mission in Haiti*. 2023.

⁴⁵ Mohamed. Aljazeera. *Why Kenya volunteered to lead UN-approved forces to Haiti*. 2023.

⁴⁶ Ibid.

⁴⁷ Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime. *Are Haitian gangs on the road to political recognition?*. 2025.

⁴⁸ Coto et al. The Associated Press. *Political vacuum in Haiti deepens as senators' terms expire*. 2023.

⁴⁹ Ibid.

⁵⁰ Sanson. The Associated Press. *A timeline of Haiti's gang violence and how the country got to where it is*. 2024.

⁵¹ Ibid.

⁵² Coto et al. The Associated Press. *Haiti is preparing itself for new leadership. Gangs want a seat at the table*. 2024.

⁵³ Caribbean Community Secretariat. *Outcome declaration of CARICOM, International Partners and Haitian Stakeholders*. 2024; United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *World News in Brief: 'Barbaric' sexual violence in Sudan, Haiti's transitional council in place, rights experts condemn Iran rapper's death sentence*. 2024.

⁵⁴ Caribbean Community Secretariat. *Outcome declaration of CARICOM, International Partners and Haitian Stakeholders*. 2024.

⁵⁵ Ibid.



announced in January 2025 that elections are going to take place on 15 November 2025 with the transition to an elected government to be facilitated by 7 February 2026.⁵⁶ The report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH) (S/2025/28) stated, however, that the goal of restoring democratic institutions by early 2026 might not be met due to disagreements among authorities and stakeholders regarding specific questions on the road to elections.⁵⁷

Currently, an estimated 1 million people are considered living in displacement within Haiti, with most having been displaced more than once.⁵⁸ Overall, approximately 5.5 million Haitians are in need of humanitarian assistance.⁵⁹ Further, over 5,000 people were killed by gang violence in Haiti in 2024 with over 2,000 people injured and over 1,400 kidnapped.⁶⁰ The worsening security situation in Haiti and especially its capital has led to United Nations operations needing to reduce their presence in the capital at the beginning of 2025.⁶¹

International and Regional Framework

In 2004 the Security Council adopted resolution 1542 (2004) on “Establishment of the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH)” to combat the deterioration of the political and security situation, which was followed by a smaller mission to support the National Police and promotion of human rights in 2017.⁶² In June 2019 the Security Council established BINUH following 15 years of peacekeeping in Haiti.⁶³ BINUH is mandated to support the Haitian government in strengthening political stability and working towards holding free and fair elections.⁶⁴ BINUH, which has regularly been extended by the Security Council, was most recently extended in July 2024 until 15 July 2025.⁶⁵

The *Charter of the United Nations* (1945) provides the Security Council with the authority to employ measures such as sanctions, embargos or travel bans in order to maintain or restore international peace and security.⁶⁶ In October 2022, the Security Council adopted resolution 2653 (2022) on “Sanctions against individuals and entities threatening the peace, security, and stability in Haiti” acting under Chapter

⁵⁶ Caribbean Community Secretariat. *CARICOM remains a key advocate for Haiti*. 2025.

⁵⁷ United Nations, Security Council. *United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti: Report of the Secretary-General (S/2025/28)*. 2025. p. 15.

⁵⁸ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Haiti: spiralling gang violence has left more than one million displaced*. 2025.

⁵⁹ United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. *Haiti*. N.d.

⁶⁰ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *More than 5,600 killed in Haiti gang violence in 2024*. 2025.

⁶¹ United Nations, Department of Global Communication. *Support for Haiti needed now ‘more than ever’, Security Council hears*. 2025.

⁶² United Nations, Department of Global Communication. *Security Council marks transition from 15 years of UN peacekeeping in Haiti*. 2019; United Nations, Security Council. *Establishment of the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) (S/RES/1542(2004))*. 2004.

⁶³ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Security Council marks transition from 15 years of UN peacekeeping in Haiti*. 2019; United Nations, Security Council. *Establishment of the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH) (S/RES/2476(2019))*. 2019. p. 2.

⁶⁴ United Nations, Security Council. *Establishment of the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH) (S/RES/2476(2019))*. 2019.

⁶⁵ United Nations, Security Council. *Extension of the mandate of the UN Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH) until 15 July 2025 (S/RES/2743(2024))*. 2024.

⁶⁶ United Nations Conference on International Organization. *Charter of the United Nations*. 1945.



VII of the *Charter of the United Nations* and established a sanctions regime aimed at reducing the violence in Haiti and supporting efforts to rebuild democratic institutions.⁶⁷ The sanctions against leaders of Haitian gangs include a travel ban for designated individuals, an assets freeze, and an arms embargo.⁶⁸ This embargo was imposed in order to prevent the supply of weapons and military equipment to the gangs operating in Haiti.⁶⁹ The sanctions have continuously been extended; most recently by Security Council resolution 2752 (2024) on “Extension of the measures imposed by Security Council resolution 2653 (2022) and extension of the mandate of the Panel of Experts concerning Haiti for a period of 13 months”, which extended the sanctions until 18 October 2025.⁷⁰

The General Assembly has adopted several human rights frameworks in the past, maintaining their commitment to protecting human rights.⁷¹ The General Assembly adopted the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (UDHR) in 1948.⁷² UDHR was the first document to set out fundamental human rights to be universally protected and serves as a basis for other human rights treaties.⁷³ The *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights* (1966) commits nations to ensure civil and political rights of people, including the right to life, electoral rights, and freedom of speech.⁷⁴ In addition to this, the *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* (1966) includes the right to health, the right to education, and the right to an adequate standard of living.⁷⁵ Human rights as established in these frameworks are continuously being abused due to the situation in Haiti.⁷⁶ Numerous reports of killings, kidnappings, sexual violence and sexual exploitation of the Haitian population, as well as reports of attacks and threats against journalists in Haiti.⁷⁷ The Human Rights Council (HRC) has addressed the human rights violations in HRC resolution 55/24 (2024) on “Technical assistance and capacity-building to improve the situation of human rights in Haiti, in connection with a request from the authorities of Haiti for coordinated and targeted international action”, which recalls the international human rights frameworks and addresses the human rights violations in Haiti.⁷⁸

In 2015, the General Assembly adopted the resolution 70/1, “*Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*” (2030 Agenda), which includes the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and serves as a roadmap for combatting inequalities, protecting the planet, and furthering human

⁶⁷ United Nations, Security Council. *Sanctions against individuals and entities threatening the peace, security, and stability of Haiti (S/RES/2653(2022))*. 2022.

⁶⁸ Ibid.

⁶⁹ United Nations, Department of Global Communication. *UN Security Council extends sanctions, arms embargo on Haiti*. 2024.

⁷⁰ United Nations, Security Council. *Extension of the measures imposed by Security Council resolution 2653 (2022) and extension of the mandate of the Panel of Experts concerning Haiti for a period of 13 months (2752(2024))*. 2024.

⁷¹ United Nations Children's Fund, Armenia. *The international human rights framework*. 2019.

⁷² United Nations, General Assembly. *Universal Declaration of Human Rights (A/RES/217 A (III))*. 1948.

⁷³ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. N.d.

⁷⁴ United Nations, General Assembly. *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (A/RES/2200 (XXI))*. 1966.

⁷⁵ Ibid.

⁷⁶ United Nations, Security Council. *United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti Report of the Secretary-General (S/2025/28)*. 2025. p. 9.

⁷⁷ Ibid.

⁷⁸ United Nations, General Assembly. *Technical assistance and capacity-building to improve the situation of human rights in Haiti, in connection with a request from the authorities of Haiti for coordinated and targeted international action (A/HRC/RES/55/24)*. 2024.



development.⁷⁹ SDG 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions) addresses armed violence and insecurity and aims for people to be free or fear from violence.⁸⁰ SDG 2 (zero hunger) aims to create a world without hunger.⁸¹ Food insecurity is affected by conflict, climate change, and deepening inequalities, which has led to almost half of the Haitian population facing food insecurity.⁸² SDG 5 (gender equality) names gender equality as a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world and aims to address sexual violence, economic empowerment, and equal representation.⁸³

Role of the International System

In October 2023, the Security Council authorized a MSS mission, headed by Kenya, to be deployed to Haiti.⁸⁴ The MSS mission is mandated to provide support to the Haitian National Police in improving security conditions in Haiti and combating the gang violence in the country, as well as providing security for critical infrastructure in Haiti.⁸⁵ In addition to improving the security in Haiti, the MSS mission includes an oversight mechanism to prevent human rights violations.⁸⁶ One goal of the mission, which is funded by voluntary contributions and support from individual countries and regional organisations, is to build security conditions to hold free and fair elections in Haiti.⁸⁷ However, this funding has failed to meet the mission's annual required budget of approximately USD \$600 million.⁸⁸ In addition, the number of deployed personnel has also not been able to reach the 2,500 officers that were planned to be deployed originally.⁸⁹ As of April 2025, only about 1,000 officers have been deployed.⁹⁰ The MSS mission lacks resources for sustained operations with the position of Special Representative of the Multinational Security Support Mission remaining unfilled and 50% of combat vehicles being non-serviceable.⁹¹ Haiti requested in a letter to the Secretary-General that the MSS mission be transformed into a United Nations peacekeeping mission, but in his response the Secretary-General noted that this was not currently a

⁷⁹ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *The Sustainable Development Agenda*. N.d.; United Nations, General Assembly. *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*. 2015.

⁸⁰ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Goal 16: Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies*. N.d.

⁸¹ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Goal 2: Zero Hunger*. N.d.

⁸² Ibid; World Food Programme. *WFP Haiti Country Brief*. 2025.

⁸³ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls*. N.d.

⁸⁴ United Nations, Security Council. *Authorization to Member States to form and deploy a Multinational Security Support Mission in Haiti (MSS) for an initial period of 12 months (S/RES/2699(2023))*. 2023.

⁸⁵ Ibid.

⁸⁶ Ibid.

⁸⁷ Security Council Report. *April 2025 Monthly Forecast*. 2025; United Nations, Security Council. *Authorization to Member States to form and deploy a Multinational Security Support Mission in Haiti (MSS) for an initial period of 12 months (S/RES/2699(2023))*. 2023.

⁸⁸ Security Council Report. *April 2025 Monthly Forecast*. 2025.

⁸⁹ Ibid.

⁹⁰ Ibid.

⁹¹ United Nations, Security Council. *Letter dated 24 February 2025 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2025/122)*. 2025.



feasible option until there has been significant progress in reducing gang territorial control.⁹² The MSS mission was extended by the Security Council in September 2024 until 2 October 2025.⁹³

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) was established in 1946 with the mandate to help children and young people in need and to protect children's rights and is active in Haiti to support children affected by the ongoing crises.⁹⁴ According to estimates by UNICEF, 3 million children in Haiti were in need of humanitarian assistance at the end of 2024.⁹⁵ The need for assistance encompassed the need for food, with nearly half the population facing food insecurity, healthcare, with cholera cases and lacking water and sanitation, as well as education, with nearly 25% of children in Haiti losing access to education in 2024.⁹⁶ UNICEF supports children in Haiti in several areas, including the protection of children, education, health and nutrition, and sanitation and hygiene.⁹⁷ UNICEF not only supports children but also their caregivers by providing them with humanitarian assistance.⁹⁸ In 2024, UNICEF was able to reach over 970,000 people, including 470,000 children in Haiti and provide them with support including health care services, mental health support, and cash assistance.⁹⁹

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is the United Nations' leading agency on international development.¹⁰⁰ Haiti is one of the most at risk countries with regards to climate change while also facing security concerns and a political crisis.¹⁰¹ UNDP works with the Haitian government to support them in various ways.¹⁰² UNDP supported Haiti's first ever assessment of climate security challenges.¹⁰³ Further, UNDP supports projects like a flood management project, which aims to reduce risks caused by climate change-induced flooding through sustainable land management.¹⁰⁴ Haitian society is threatened by the intersecting risks that stem from the security challenges and environmental vulnerabilities like increased competition over natural resources or the government being unable to manage disasters.¹⁰⁵

⁹² Security Council Report. *April 2025 Monthly Forecast*. 2025; United Nations, Security Council. *Letter dated 24 February 2025 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2025/122)*. 2025.

⁹³ Security Council Report. *April 2025 Monthly Forecast*. 2025; United Nations, Security Council. *Extension of the mandate of the Multinational Security Support Mission in Haiti (MSS) until 2 Oct. 2025 (S/RES/2751(2024))*. 2023.

⁹⁴ United Nations Children's Fund. *UNICEF history*. N.d.; United Nations Children's Fund. *Haiti Humanitarian Situation Report No. 11 End-of-year Sitrep*. 2025.

⁹⁵ United Nations Children's Fund. *Haiti Humanitarian Situation Report No. 11 End-of-year Sitrep*. 2025.

⁹⁶ Ibid.

⁹⁷ United Nations Children's Fund. *Snapshot of key results for 2024*. 2024.

⁹⁸ United Nations Children's Fund. *Haiti Humanitarian Situation Report No. 11 End-of-year Sitrep*. 2025.

⁹⁹ United Nations Children's Fund. *Snapshot of key results for 2024*. 2024; United Nations Children's Fund. *Haiti Humanitarian Situation Report No. 11 End-of-year Sitrep*. 2025.

¹⁰⁰ United Nations Development Programme. *About Us*. N.d.

¹⁰¹ Paul. United Nations Development Programme. *Addressing Haiti's Climate Security Challenges: A Pathway to Peace and Resilience*. 2024.

¹⁰² Ibid.

¹⁰³ Ibid.

¹⁰⁴ United Nations Development Programme. *Green Climate Fund approves \$22.4 million towards building climate resilience in Haiti's Trois-Rivières region*. 2023.

¹⁰⁵ Mosello et al. *Roots for peace: uncovering climate security challenges in Haiti and what to do about them: Policy Brief*. 2023; Paul. United Nations Development Programme. *Addressing Haiti's Climate Security Challenges: A Pathway to Peace and Resilience*. 2024.



Haiti is part of CARICOM, a group of 21 Caribbean countries, who work together towards economic integration, foreign policy coordination, human and social development, and security.¹⁰⁶ In 2019, CARICOM attempted to assist in resolving the difficult situation in Haiti, but President Moïse did not agree to any engagement by the organization.¹⁰⁷ In 2021, CARICOM decided to send a fact-finding mission to Haiti in support of United Nations efforts.¹⁰⁸ CARICOM has expressed willingness to provide support especially in the area of building the electoral process, justice and law enforcement, and public administration.¹⁰⁹ In 2024, CARICOM convened a meeting with regional and international stakeholders and developed the agreement, which established the Transitional Presidential Council in Haiti.¹¹⁰ CARICOM is a significant actor in supporting Haiti including through advocating for support for Haiti by the international community through increased funding for security and humanitarian assistance.¹¹¹

The situation in Haiti has left much of its population in need of humanitarian assistance.¹¹² There are several organizations providing support to people in Haiti in different areas.¹¹³ The Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) is a specialized agency within the United Nations system with the mandate to lead international efforts to combat hunger.¹¹⁴ FAO has a longstanding collaboration with the World Food Programme (WFP), which is a humanitarian organization that provides food assistance to people in conflicts, natural disasters, and other crises.¹¹⁵ The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) is a United Nations agency for sexual and reproductive health with the mission to empower people to have control over their reproductive help and provide access to sexual and reproductive health services where they are needed.¹¹⁶ The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) is an entity within the United Nations system that works towards gender equality and the empowerment of women.¹¹⁷

Addressing the Hunger Crisis

In addition to the political crisis and ongoing violence, Haiti is facing significant food insecurity.¹¹⁸ According to data from August 2024, 5.4 million people, which is half of the Haitian population, are

¹⁰⁶ Caribbean Community Secretariat. *Who We Are*. 2025.

¹⁰⁷ Sanders. Caribbean News Global. *CARICOM's role as Haitian crisis worsens*. 2020.

¹⁰⁸ Caribbean Community Secretariat. *UN Security Council recognises CARICOM's engagement with Haiti*. 2021.

¹⁰⁹ Caribbean Community Secretariat. *CARICOM Secretariat participates in international meeting on support for Haiti*. 2021.

¹¹⁰ Caribbean Community Secretariat. *Outcome declaration of CARICOM, International Partners and Haitian Stakeholders*. 2024.

¹¹¹ Caribbean Community Secretariat. *CARICOM remains a key advocate for Haiti*. 2025.

¹¹² United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. *Haiti*. N.d.

¹¹³ Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations. *Haiti: Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan 2024*. 2024; United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. *Haitian women and girls empowered by UN Women amid humanitarian crisis*. 2024; United Nations Population Fund. *Strengthening the resilience of women and girls amidst Haiti's growing humanitarian crisis*. 2025.

¹¹⁴ Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations. *About FAO*. 2025.

¹¹⁵ Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations. *Partnering with WFP*. 2025.

¹¹⁶ United Nations Population Fund. *About us*. 2025.

¹¹⁷ United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. *About UN Women*. N.d.

¹¹⁸ World Food Programme. *Haiti*. 2025.



considered food insecure, with 2 million people facing emergency levels of food insecurity.¹¹⁹ The causes for the food crisis are multifaceted.¹²⁰ The escalating violence and population displacements have negatively impacted agricultural production and disrupted markets, which has only exacerbated the hunger crisis in Haiti.¹²¹ Other key drivers of the current hunger crisis are rising prices, poverty, and natural disasters.¹²² Haiti faces climate-related issues like floods and delayed rainy seasons, which further exacerbates issues with agricultural production.¹²³ The gangs have also actively disrupted food supplies and furthered the decline in agricultural production by blocking roads and threatening people, including farmers to prevent them from returning to their fields.¹²⁴

SDG 2 (zero hunger) aims to ensure access to food for everyone by 2030.¹²⁵ The targets of SDG 2 include increasing agricultural productivity, implementing resilient agriculture practices, and increasing investments in the food sector through international cooperation.¹²⁶ FAO works with WFP and local and international partners in order to provide an effective and coordinated response to the hunger crisis.¹²⁷ FAO supports agriculture in Haiti by supplying crop seeds and farming animals to households across the country, as well as providing gardening kits and training on market gardening production techniques, good nutritional practices and seed multiplication.¹²⁸ WFP supports the population in Haiti by distributing hot meals, providing school meals to children, and screening for and treating malnutrition.¹²⁹

The goal of the United Nations initiatives in Haiti is to build long-term sustainable development, including resilient food systems.¹³⁰ Much of the Haitian population relies on food imports provided by the international organizations working in Haiti.¹³¹ These organizations are working towards reducing this dependency.¹³² One example is the WFP's home-grown school feeding programme, which aims to buy all ingredients locally instead of importing them in order to support local farmers and boost the Haitian economy.¹³³

¹¹⁹ World Food Programme. *WFP Haiti Country Brief*. 2025.

¹²⁰ United Nations Sustainable Development Group. *Explainer: 5 things to know about food security in Haiti in times of crisis*. 2024.

¹²¹ Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations. *Food crisis in Haiti: FAO calls for urgent funding to assist 608,000 people to prevent further starvation and suffering*. 2024.

¹²² United Nations Sustainable Development Group. *Explainer: 5 things to know about food security in Haiti in times of crisis*. 2024.

¹²³ Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations. *Haiti: Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan 2024*. 2024.

¹²⁴ United Nations Sustainable Development Group. *Explainer: 5 things to know about food security in Haiti in times of crisis*. 2024.

¹²⁵ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Goal 2: Zero Hunger*. N.d.

¹²⁶ Ibid.

¹²⁷ Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations. *Haiti: Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan 2024*. 2024.

¹²⁸ Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations. *Haiti: Response overview, November 2024*. 2024.

¹²⁹ World Food Programme. *WFP Haiti Country Brief*. 2025.

¹³⁰ United Nations Sustainable Development Group. *Explainer: 5 things to know about food security in Haiti in times of crisis*. 2024.

¹³¹ Ibid.

¹³² Ibid.

¹³³ Ibid.



The Situation of Women and Girls in Haiti

The situation in Haiti affects women and girls disproportionately as pre-existing discrimination and inequalities are exacerbated by the ongoing political crisis.¹³⁴ The makeshift camps, where many displaced people live, put women and girls at particular risk of sexual and gender-based violence (GBV) and do not offer basic necessities.¹³⁵ In an assessment by the UN Women 16.2% of women surveyed in the camps reported being victims of discrimination and harassment, while 75.6% of those surveyed reported not having received any aid from an organization or group since arriving in the displacement camps.¹³⁶ Approximately 88% of women in the camps do not have a source of income, which has led some women to resort to sex work in order to meet their needs.¹³⁷ In addition to this, GBV has reached alarming levels with sexual violence being used in order to control access to humanitarian assistance and intimidate women and girls.¹³⁸ Criminal gangs continuously use sexual violence against women and girls to instil fear, gain power, and extort money.¹³⁹

SDG 5 (gender equality) aims to reduce gender inequality and protect women from GBV with targets focusing on ending violence and discrimination against women, ensuring women's participation in leadership, and supporting women's economic empowerment.¹⁴⁰ UNFPA supports women and girls by providing mobile clinics to provide healthcare services in Port-au-Prince's metropolitan areas, establishing safe spaces providing psychosocial support, and educating the population about available services for preventing and responding to GBV.¹⁴¹ UN Women works in cooperation with other organizations to provide support to women and girls in Haiti.¹⁴² One example of this is a project to provide emergency support to survivors of sexual and GBV.¹⁴³ The project provides counselling, medical assistance, relocation, and economic funding, as well as an online reporting system which allows survivors to access emergency services securely and anonymously.¹⁴⁴

¹³⁴ United Nations, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. *Women and girls bear the brunt of crisis ravaging Haiti, say UN experts*. 2024.

¹³⁵ United Nations, Department of Global Communication. *Haiti: Displaced women face 'unprecedented' level of insecurity and sexual violence*. 2024.

¹³⁶ United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. *Addressing Haitian women's particular needs through their leadership role*. 2024.

¹³⁷ United Nations, Department of Global Communication. *Haiti: Displaced women face 'unprecedented' level of insecurity and sexual violence*. 2024; United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. *Addressing Haitian women's particular needs through their leadership role*. 2024.

¹³⁸ United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. *Addressing Haitian women's particular needs through their leadership role*. 2024.

¹³⁹ United Nations, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. *Women and girls bear the brunt of crisis ravaging Haiti, say UN experts*. 2024.

¹⁴⁰ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls*. N.d.

¹⁴¹ United Nations Population Fund. *Strengthening the resilience of women and girls amidst Haiti's growing humanitarian crisis*. 2025.

¹⁴² United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. *Haitian women and girls empowered by UN Women amid humanitarian crisis*. 2024.

¹⁴³ Ibid.

¹⁴⁴ Ibid.



UN Women has highlighted in a report from July 2024 that the infrastructure and assistance for displaced people is not suited for men and women equally and specific needs need to be taken into consideration.¹⁴⁵ Further, UN Women called on stakeholders involved in the MSS mission to strengthen the protection of women and girls as well as give women's organizations leading roles in managing the displacement camps to help reduce the risks women and girls are facing there.¹⁴⁶ Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) have called on the Security Council to strengthen judicial institutions and fully implement the women, peace, and security agenda to protect women in the conflict.¹⁴⁷ In Security Council resolution 2699 (2023) on "authorization to Member States to form and deploy a Multinational Security Support Mission in Haiti (MSS) for an initial period of 12 months" the Security Council requested Member States involved in the MSS mission to include specific expertise on GBV and ensure women's representation at all levels of the MSS mission.¹⁴⁸

Conclusion

Haiti has faced many crises in its history.¹⁴⁹ The country currently faces a complex crisis, marked by ongoing gang violence that has been impacting the population for several years.¹⁵⁰ In addition, Haiti does not have a democratically elected government but is governed by a Transitional Presidential Council, which is working towards holding free and fair elections.¹⁵¹ The Security Council is supporting Haiti through the adoption of a sanctions regime, which includes travel bans and asset freezes, aimed against gang leaders and the establishment of BINUH, an office with the mandate to support the Haitian government as well as monitoring the human rights situation.¹⁵² In addition to this, the Security Council authorized the MSS mission, which allows Member States to deploy police forces to Haiti in order to support the Haitian National Police.¹⁵³ This mission aims to improve the security conditions and secure critical infrastructure.¹⁵⁴ In addition to the fragile political situation, Haiti faces significant food insecurity, which has left almost half of the country facing hunger.¹⁵⁵ The ongoing gang fights are one cause for this hunger crisis with gangs disrupting food supply and threatening farmers, keeping them from their fields.¹⁵⁶

¹⁴⁵ Ibid.

¹⁴⁶ United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. *300,000 Haitian women and girls are displaced without basic safety and health services*. 2024.

¹⁴⁷ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *The question concerning Haiti - Security Council, 9902nd meeting*. 2025.

¹⁴⁸ United Nations, Security Council. *Authorization to Member States to form and deploy a Multinational Security Support Mission in Haiti (MSS) for an initial period of 12 months (S/RES/2699(2023))*. 2023.

¹⁴⁹ World Food Programme USA. *What's Happening in Haiti? Explainer on Gang Violence, Hunger Crisis and Humanitarian Aid to Civilians*. 2024.

¹⁵⁰ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *More than 5,600 killed in Haiti gang violence in 2024*. 2025.

¹⁵¹ Caribbean Community Secretariat. *Outcome declaration of CARICOM, International Partners and Haitian Stakeholders*. 2024.

¹⁵² United Nations, Security Council. *Establishment of the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH) (S/RES/2476(2019))*. 2019; United Nations, Security Council. *Sanctions against individuals and entities threatening the peace, security, and stability of Haiti (S/RES/2653(2022))*. 2022.

¹⁵³ United Nations, Security Council. *Authorization to Member States to form and deploy a Multinational Security Support Mission in Haiti (MSS) for an initial period of 12 months (S/RES/2699(2023))*. 2023.

¹⁵⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵⁵ World Food Programme. *WPF Haiti Country Brief*. 2025.

¹⁵⁶ United Nations Sustainable Development Group. *Explainer: 5 things to know about food security in Haiti in times of crisis*. 2024.



United Nations organizations, like FAO and WFP, work to combat food insecurity by providing meals directly or helping farmers to increase their yields.¹⁵⁷ One especially vulnerable group are women and girls, as crises and conflicts exacerbate pre-existing discrimination and inequalities.¹⁵⁸ Not only are the camps where many displaced people live not safe for women, but the gangs continuously use sexual violence against women and girls as a way to instill fear and gain power.¹⁵⁹ Organizations like UN Women and UNFPA work to provide essential services and specific support to women and girls but keep struggling due to lack of funding and adverse conditions in the country.¹⁶⁰ The United Nations System is working to support Haiti in many different ways, but the situation remains uncertain with regards to the ability of the Transitional Council to reach the goal of holding elections within the timeline that has been laid out.¹⁶¹

Further Research

As delegates conduct further research and consider how to address this topic, they should consider: What are other vulnerable groups that are especially affected by the situation in Haiti? What can the international community do to disrupt the supply chains through which the gangs gain access to weapons and other supplies? What can Member States do to support Haiti on its way to free and fair elections? How can existing structures be improved to provide help to the Haitian government as well as the population? How can the international community support vulnerable groups in Haiti?

¹⁵⁷ Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations. *Haiti: Response overview, November 2024*. 2024; World Food Programme. *WFP Haiti Country Brief*. 2025.

¹⁵⁸ United Nations, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. *Women and girls bear the brunt of crisis ravaging Haiti, say UN experts*. 2024.

¹⁵⁹ United Nations, Department of Global Communication. *Haiti: Displaced women face 'unprecedented' level of insecurity and sexual violence*. 2024; United Nations, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. *Women and girls bear the brunt of crisis ravaging Haiti, say UN experts*. 2024.

¹⁶⁰ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *'The UN is not leaving Haiti,' spokesperson affirms*. 2024; United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. *Haitian women and girls empowered by UN Women amid humanitarian crisis*. 2024; United Nations Population Fund. *Strengthening the resilience of women and girls amidst Haiti's growing humanitarian crisis*. 2025.

¹⁶¹ United Nations, Security Council. *United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti: Report of the Secretary-General (S/2025/28)*. 2025.



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2. International Peace and Security and the Use of Artificial Intelligence

*"We must come together now, and we must do it fast, to mitigate this threat and ensure that new technologies remain a force for good rather than a force for evil."*¹⁶²

Introduction

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is changing the world at an unprecedented pace, creating a number of opportunities and significant challenges for international peace and security.¹⁶³ AI is currently defined by the United Nations Terminology Database as the capability of a computer or a computer-operated robot to carry out tasks that are usually linked to human intelligence.¹⁶⁴ The United Nations Department of Global Communications (DGC) described AI as a variety of technologies that can independently learn and adapt over time.¹⁶⁵ According to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), AI systems enable machines to replicate aspects of human intelligence, such as perception, decision making, and communication.¹⁶⁶ In 2024, the United Nations Secretary-General addressed the Security Council in New York; the remarks stated that AI-enabled cyberattacks can not only disrupt infrastructure within a Member State, but also incapacitate the essential services needed, thereby weakening a nation by targeting their technological facilities.¹⁶⁷ The potential for AI to be used in such a manner highlights the adverse impacts AI can have on international peace and security.¹⁶⁸ According to the *Governing AI for Humanity Report* (2024), the rapid development of AI across the globe may raise ethical questions, as well as concerns regarding individual safety and security, as well as Member States' national security.¹⁶⁹

The integration of AI into warfare, specifically using lethal autonomous weapons systems (LAWS), compounds these dangers.¹⁷⁰ LAWS are commonly referred to as "killer robots"; they are a type of war-based AI technology that have the capabilities to identify, select, and eliminate targets without direct human input.¹⁷¹ This may introduce ethical and legal dilemmas such as concerns about AI's inability to distinguish between civilians and combatants and the issue of human accountability on autonomous decisions made by autonomous weapons.¹⁷² Currently, there is no agreed upon definition of LAWS by the

¹⁶² Voronkov. United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism. *Remarks by Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism*. 2019.

¹⁶³ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Secretary-General Tells Security Council That 'AI' Must Never Equal 'Advancing Inequality', Urging Safe, Secure, Inclusive Future for Technology*. 2024.

¹⁶⁴ United Nations, Department for General Assembly and Conference Management. *UNTERM artificial intelligence*. N.d.

¹⁶⁵ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Global Issues Artificial Intelligence (AI)*. N.d.

¹⁶⁶ United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. *Artificial Intelligence*. N.d.

¹⁶⁷ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Secretary-General Tells Security Council That 'AI' Must Never Equal 'Advancing Inequality', Urging Safe, Secure, Inclusive Future for Technology*. 2024.

¹⁶⁸ United Nations AI Advisory Body. *Governing AI for Humanity: Final Report*. 2024. p. 31.

¹⁶⁹ Ibid.

¹⁷⁰ Stanley Center for Peace and Security et al. *The Militarization of Artificial Intelligence*. 2019. p. 11.

¹⁷¹ United Nations Regional Information Centre for Western Europe. *UN addresses AI and the Dangers of Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems*. 2025.

¹⁷² United Nations Regional Information Centre for Western Europe. *UN addresses AI and the Dangers of Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems*. 2025; United Nations, General Assembly. *Seizing the*



United Nations, however, the Secretary-General has publicly claimed LAWS to be politically unacceptable.¹⁷³ LAWS have already been used in conflicts such as the conflict in Libya in 2021, where a Panel of Experts on Libya reported that AI-powered weapons engaged targets.¹⁷⁴ As of now, the Autonomous Weapons System (AWS) market is quickly growing, as forecasts are projected to grow from USD \$17.71 billion in 2025 to \$26.17 billion by 2029, increasing the risks associated with warfare.¹⁷⁵

The potential for AI-driven weapons to escalate conflicts and cause unintended civilian casualties poses a challenge to international peace and security, as AI accelerates the speed of military decision-making and reduces opportunities for human judgment.¹⁷⁶ Secretary-General António Guterres warned that AI in armed conflict is destroying the aspect of human control and called for a ban on lethal autonomous weapons by 2026.¹⁷⁷ If this ban is not achieved, it risks Member States could deploy AI weapons in conflict that may contravene international law and human rights with developing these AI based weapons.¹⁷⁸ The *Global Digital Compact* (2024) initiative aims to establish frameworks ensuring that AI serves humanity, rather than to destabilize it.¹⁷⁹ The Security Council has called for appropriate regulations and regulatory approaches to address the risks and opportunities presented by AI with respect to international peace and security.¹⁸⁰

International and Regional Framework

The United System Chief Executives Board for Coordination published the *Principles for the Ethical Use of Artificial Intelligence in the United Nations System* in 2022.¹⁸¹ The Publication contains ten principles to guide and implement the use of AI across all United Nations entities.¹⁸² Some key principles for the ethical use of AI are: safety and security, human autonomy and oversight, as well as responsibility and accountability.¹⁸³ Together, these principles reiterate and emphasize an ethical approach that prioritizes human rights while allowing AI technologies to be developed in a safe and responsible manner.¹⁸⁴ These principles provide a foundation for ethical AI use across all United Nations entities and align with broader human rights law.¹⁸⁵ Additionally, the *Framework for a Model Policy on the Responsible Use of AI in UN System Organizations* (2024) builds on these principles by offering guidance for developing AI policies

opportunities of safe, secure and trustworthy artificial intelligence systems for sustainable development (A/RES/78/265). 2024. p. 6.

¹⁷³ United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs. *Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems (LAWS)*. N.d.

¹⁷⁴ United Nations, Security Council. *Panel of Experts on Libya established pursuant to resolution addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2021/229)*. 2011. p. 17.

¹⁷⁵ The Business Research Company. *Autonomous Military Weapons Global Market Report*. 2024.

¹⁷⁶ Stanley Center for Peace and Security et al. *The Militarization of Artificial Intelligence*. 2019. p. 7.

¹⁷⁷ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Secretary-General's remarks to the Security Council - on Artificial Intelligence*. 2024.

¹⁷⁸ Ibid.

¹⁷⁹ United Nations, General Assembly. *The Pact for the Future (A/79/1)*. 2024. p. 37.

¹⁸⁰ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Security Council Debates Use of Artificial Intelligence in Conflicts, Hears Calls for UN Framework to Avoid Fragmented Governance*. 2024.

¹⁸¹ United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination. *Principles for the Ethical Use of Artificial Intelligence in the United Nations System*. N.d. p. 1.

¹⁸² Ibid.

¹⁸³ Ibid. p. 3.

¹⁸⁴ Ibid. p. 4.

¹⁸⁵ Ibid. p. 2.



that mitigate risks while promoting good governance.¹⁸⁶ This framework calls for institutional accountability structures that ensure the responsible development and use of AI, with careful attention to managing risks relating to peace and security such as the misuse of AI in armed conflicts by deploying LAWS.¹⁸⁷

The *Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons* (CCW) (1983) bans weapons that cause unnecessary suffering of civilians.¹⁸⁸ One significant aspect of the CCW is that its structure allows for the negotiation of new protocols to address emerging threats, such as LAWS.¹⁸⁹ Furthermore, the CCW established the Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) to give insight at the Meeting of the High Contracting Parties in 2023, relating specifically to emerging technologies and challenges in the area of LAWS; these particular challenges increase civilian casualties and the risk of proliferation.¹⁹⁰ Although there is no internationally agreed upon definition of LAWS, the CCW has focused on a two-tiered approach, which prohibits autonomous weapons that do not comply with International Humanitarian Law (IHL), and regulates all other types of weapons to ensure they remain within IHL boundaries.¹⁹¹

Adopted in 2024, the Council of Europe's Framework, *Convention on Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights, Democracy, and the Rule of Law*, is the first legally binding international treaty in the field of AI.¹⁹² This Treaty establishes a comprehensive legal framework to ensure that AI systems are applied in a manner where they are aligned with human rights, democracy, and the rule of law.¹⁹³ The Framework provides legally binding obligations for both public authorities and private actors within their respective Member States to protect peace and security from the misuse of AI that may violate international human rights law.¹⁹⁴ The *Inter-American Framework on Data Governance and Artificial Intelligence* (MIGDIA) was developed by the Organization of American States (OAS) in 2023.¹⁹⁵ The MIGDIA guides Member States to create ethical AI systems in public and private sectors, that are tailored to responsible innovation while safeguarding and protecting the international peace and security of individuals.¹⁹⁶

Role of the International System

¹⁸⁶ United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination. *Report on the Operational Use of AI in the UN System*. 2024. p. 4.

¹⁸⁷ Ibid. p. 3.

¹⁸⁸ United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs. *Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, Group of Governmental Experts on Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems*. 2024.

¹⁸⁹ Ibid.

¹⁹⁰ Bruun. Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. *Towards A Two-Tiered Approach To Regulation Of Autonomous Weapon Systems: Identifying Pathways and Possible Elements*. 2024; United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs. *Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, Group of Governmental Experts on Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems*. 2024.

¹⁹¹ Bruun. Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. *Towards A Two-Tiered Approach To Regulation Of Autonomous Weapon Systems: Identifying Pathways and Possible Elements*. 2024.

¹⁹² Council of Europe. *Council of Europe Framework Convention on Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law*. 2024.

¹⁹³ Ibid. p. 2.

¹⁹⁴ Ibid. p. 1.

¹⁹⁵ Organization of American States. *Inter-American Guidelines on Data Governance and AI*. 2023.

¹⁹⁶ Organization of American States. *Inter-American Framework on Data Governance and Artificial Intelligence (MIGDIA)*. 2023. p. 4.



The Security Council has begun exploring the different implications of AI through high-level briefings and discussions under the Maintenance of International Peace and Security agenda.¹⁹⁷ In 2023, the Security Council held its first open debate on AI and its implications for international peace and security.¹⁹⁸ During this meeting, the United Nations Secretary-General highlighted the substantial risks AI poses with regards to autonomous weapons.¹⁹⁹ The Secretary-General also called for the creation of an international scientific panel to assess risks and benefits and enhance global understanding of AI governance.²⁰⁰ The Security Council emphasized that AI must be created with caution to ensure consistency with the rule of law, human rights, and have also discussed concerns about the misuse of AI weapons when it comes to international peace and security.²⁰¹ These discussions have emphasized the need for coordinated action and frameworks on an international scale to assure AI systems are developed securely and responsibly.²⁰²

A Security Council meeting took place in 2023 called Artificial Intelligence: Its Impact on Hate Speech, Disinformation and Misinformation.²⁰³ This meeting was organized by Albania and the United Arab Emirates to allow the private sector, Member States, and United Nations' representatives to delve into the challenges presented by AI in armed conflict.²⁰⁴ Furthermore, a Security Council high-level briefing titled "Artificial Intelligence: Opportunities and Risks for International Peace and Security" was held.²⁰⁵ At this briefing, Member States at the Secretary-General's High-Level Advisory Body on AI discussed options for international AI governance, and highlighted recommendations such as establishing a new global body on AI.²⁰⁶

In 2024, the High-level United Nations Summit of the Future adopted a *Pact for the Future, Global Digital Compact* (GDC) and *Declaration on Future Generations* (DFG); these documents represent a significant step toward establishing global AI governance.²⁰⁷ The *Pact for the Future* addresses AI as part of its commitment to international peace and security by addressing the risks and opportunities of AI when it

¹⁹⁷ Security Council Report. *Artificial Intelligence: High-level Briefing*. 2024.

¹⁹⁸ United Nations Association of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, *UN Security Council holds first ever debate on AI, peace and security*. 2023.

¹⁹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰⁰ United Nations Sustainable Development Group. *Great Power, Greater Responsibility: UN Secretary-General Calls For Shaping AI For All Of Humanity*. 2025.

²⁰¹ Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. *United Nations Security Council session on Artificial Intelligence: Foreign Secretary's speech*. 2023; United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Security Council Debates Use of Artificial Intelligence in Conflicts, Hears Calls for UN Framework to Avoid Fragmented Governance*. 2024.

²⁰² United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Security Council Debates Use of Artificial Intelligence in Conflicts, Hears Calls for UN Framework to Avoid Fragmented Governance*. 2024.

²⁰³ Security Council Report. *Arria-formula Meeting on "Artificial Intelligence: Its Impact on Hate Speech, Disinformation and Misinformation"*. 2023.

²⁰⁴ Ibid.

²⁰⁵ Security Council Report. *Artificial Intelligence: High-level Briefing*. 2024.

²⁰⁶ Security Council Report. *Arria-formula Meeting on "Artificial Intelligence: Its Impact on Hate Speech, Disinformation and Misinformation"*. 2023.

²⁰⁷ United Nations Sustainable Development Group. *Summit of the Future Outcome Documents: Pact for the Future, Global Digital Compact and Declaration on Future Generations*. 2024; United States Mission to the United Nations. *Pact for the Future, Global Digital Compact and Declaration on Future Generations Key Deliverables and U.S. Explanation of Position*. 2024.



comes to military weapons.²⁰⁸ The DFG emphasizes the need for AI governance to acknowledge both the positive and negative effects of AI at an international level.²⁰⁹ Furthermore, the High-level United Nations Summit of the Future commits Member States to fostering cooperation on AI governance through initiatives such as the Independent International Scientific Panel on AI.²¹⁰ Additionally, the *Pact for the Future* states it will assess risks from the misuse of technological military advancements by enhancing international cooperation, while working alongside the Secretary-General and increasing discussion on LAWS.²¹¹

The 2021 *UN Activities on Artificial Intelligence Report*, mandated by the International Telecommunication Union, outlines the United Nations' wide-ranging efforts to use AI in overcoming global challenges, specifically with UNESCO and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).²¹² Some initiatives include AI solutions on pandemic preparedness and infrastructure development.²¹³ In addition to these initiatives, this Report specifically states the significance of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDR) in AI and international peace and security.²¹⁴ In 2022, UNIDIR's *Innovations Dialogue Conference Report on AI Disruption, Peace, and Security* discussed the unique and challenging effects of AI in the context of modern warfare and international security.²¹⁵ This Report emphasizes that the integration of AI technologies into military operations has the potential to enhance military accomplishments through improved efficiency, speed, and precision.²¹⁶

While AI technologies can offer some benefits in military operations, they are highly prone to creating unforeseen risks to international peace and security.²¹⁷ For example, increased speed in warfare can lead to rushed or flawed judgments that can result in operational mistakes and strategic errors.²¹⁸ The Report further notes that AI systems are brittle causing them to be less accurate than human operators; while also being inclined to make errors because the AI systems often fail when it comes to dynamic and cluttered environments.²¹⁹ As a result, AI may misinterpret information or fail in ways that human operators would not.²²⁰

The United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution 79/239 on “*Artificial intelligence in the military domain and its implications for international peace and security*” in 2024, which focuses on AI in the

²⁰⁸ United Nations Sustainable Development Group. *Summit of the Future Outcome Documents: Pact for the Future, Global Digital Compact and Declaration on Future Generations*. 2024.

²⁰⁹ Yusuf et al. Global Governance Innovation Network. *Governing AI for the Future of Humanity: Connecting the Declaration on Future Generations with the Global Digital Compact*. 2025.

²¹⁰ United Nations Sustainable Development Group. *Summit of the Future Outcome Documents: Pact for the Future, Global Digital Compact and Declaration on Future Generations*. 2024. p. 49.

²¹¹ Ibid. p. 19.

²¹² International Telecommunication Union. *United Nations Activities on Artificial Intelligence: 2021*. 2021. p. 149.

²¹³ Ibid.

²¹⁴ Ibid.

²¹⁵ Anand et al. United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research. *The 2022 Innovations Dialogue: AI Disruption, Peace and Security (Conference Report)*. 2022. p. 18.

²¹⁶ Ibid. p. 12.

²¹⁷ Ibid. p. 8.

²¹⁸ Ibid. p. 12.

²¹⁹ Ibid.

²²⁰ Ibid.



military field to understand its implications and adverse effects when relating to international peace and security.²²¹ General Assembly resolution 79/239 addresses the importance of the *Charter of the United Nations*, IHL, and human rights law, being applied to all stages of AI development and use in the military field.²²² The resolution also emphasizes the significance of international peace and security in regard to the misuse of LAWS as established by the CCW and GGE.²²³ Additionally, it shows the need for a responsible and human-centric use of AI in the military domain with IHL compliance.²²⁴ The resolution also calls for increased international cooperation and capacity-building to address AI gaps and divides in society.²²⁵ Importantly, the resolution outlines the challenges posed by LAWS and the resolution calls for a substantive report for further discussion at the General Assembly's 80th session.²²⁶ The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is an independent organization dedicated to providing humanitarian protection from armed conflict; they have been engaging in discussions since 2015 to ensure regulation and ethical implications of LAWS to ensure AI remains compliant with IHL.²²⁷ The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is also actively involved in a project of AI nuclear weapons and technologies to ensure ethical AI decision making in warfare.²²⁸

The United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), in partnership with the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), has launched initiatives to encourage ethical innovation in AI for peace and security.²²⁹ For example, UNODA and SIPRI organize workshops where participants from around the world engage in seminars to better understand how AI research can increase risks to international peace and security.²³⁰ This collaboration focuses on raising awareness about the risks and misuse of AI with respect to military operations.²³¹ It also raises awareness to ensure that AI technologies are applied responsibly to support international peace and security.²³²

Artificial Intelligence and the Use of Autonomous Weapons Systems

The deployment of AI-driven AWS, particularly LAWS, creates significant threats to worldwide security as well as international stability.²³³ These systems have the capability to identify targets and engage on said targets without using any human judgement, thus reshaping modern warfare through advancements in AI

²²¹ United Nations, General Assembly. *Artificial intelligence in the military domain and its implications for international peace and security (A/RES/79/239)*. 2024. p. 1.

²²² Ibid. p. 3.

²²³ Ibid.

²²⁴ Ibid. p. 1.

²²⁵ Ibid. p. 2.

²²⁶ Ibid. p. 3.

²²⁷ International Committee of the Red Cross. *ICRC position on autonomous weapon systems*. 2021. p. 2; International Committee of the Red Cross. *We are the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)*. 2025.

²²⁸ AI for Good. *International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)*. 2025.

²²⁹ Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. *Responsible innovation in AI for peace and security*. 2025.

²³⁰ United Nations, Office for Disarmament Affairs. *UNODA, SIPRI, and the EU, Lead Dialogue on Responsible AI at UNGA First Committee Side Event*. 2024.

²³¹ Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. *Responsible innovation in AI for peace and security*. 2025.

²³² Ibid.

²³³ United Nations, General Assembly. *Lethal autonomous weapons systems (A/79/88)*. 2024. p. 7.



technology.²³⁴ The production of AWS has the possibility to negatively affect peace and security since these weapons select and engage targets without the presence of human interference, consequently increasing accountability gaps and violations of IHL.²³⁵ Moreover, these weapons have already been purchased by several Member States that have the power and capability to threaten international peace and security.²³⁶

From a legal perspective of the United Nations General Assembly, LAWS present several challenges to adhere to IHL and the *Charter of the United Nations*.²³⁷ The fundamental principle of IHL is proportionality which means the anticipated harm to civilians must not be greater than the military advantage gained, which requires human judgment to ensure that attacks are lawful and minimize harm to civilians.²³⁸ However, AI systems are not equipped to make these complex human-like decisions.²³⁹ For example, an autonomous weapon operating without human oversight can fail to distinguish between military personnel and civilians.²⁴⁰ Furthermore, it is incapable of accurately assessing whether an attack is proportionate to the military advantage gained.²⁴¹ The ICRC has noted that these AI systems can cause unprecedented attacks or escalate warfare due to AI errors.²⁴² Additionally, accountability remains a vital concern under the current frameworks, it is unclear who would be held responsible for violations of IHL committed by AI systems; whether it be the operator, the programmer, or the country deploying them.²⁴³ While LAWS promise increased precision and risk reduction to the military, the potential for misuse raises ethical, legal, and humanitarian concerns.²⁴⁴

Efforts to address these obstacles produced by AI are currently underway, yet still remain fragmented due to differing national interests and a lack of consensus on definitions and regulations; as a result, the CCW serves as a key forum for discussions on regulating LAWS.²⁴⁵ The GGE has explored different variables such as human control over critical functions like target selection and engagement.²⁴⁶ In its 2023 discussions, the GGE emphasized that human control is essential to ensure compliance with IHL, particularly the principles of distinction, proportionality, and precautions in attack, and highlighted the need for both prohibitions and restrictions on the design and use of AWS to protect civilians and uphold

²³⁴ Ibid. p. 70.

²³⁵ Human Rights Watch. *Stopping Killer Robots*. 2020.

²³⁶ Ibid.

²³⁷ United Nations, General Assembly. *Lethal autonomous weapons systems (A/79/88)*. 2024. p. 7.

²³⁸ International Review of the Red Cross. *Artificial intelligence and machine learning in armed conflict: A human-centred approach*. 2019. p. 471.

²³⁹ Ibid.

²⁴⁰ Ibid. pp. 471-472.

²⁴¹ Ibid.

²⁴² International Committee of the Red Cross. *ICRC position on autonomous weapon systems*. 2021. p. 10.

²⁴³ Ibid. pp. 7, 17.

²⁴⁴ Anand et al. United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research. *The 2022 Innovations Dialogue: AI Disruption, Peace and Security (Conference Report)*. 2022. p. 11.

²⁴⁵ Arms Control Association. *Geopolitics and the Regulation of Autonomous Weapons Systems*. 2025; United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs. *Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, Group of Governmental Experts on Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems*. 2024.

²⁴⁶ United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs. *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*. 2023.



ethical standards.²⁴⁷ While some Member States are advocating for a complete ban on fully autonomous weapons, including LAWS, due to ethical and legal concerns, other Member States support less restrictive measures, which focus on transparency and accountability during deployment of LAWS.²⁴⁸ The international community still remains at an impasse regarding the regulation of LAWS.²⁴⁹ However, Secretary-General António Guterres, has called for a legally binding instrument by 2026 to prohibit LAWS that operate without human judgment and oversight.²⁵⁰ Despite this fact, achieving consensus among Member States has been difficult due to differences in national interests and strategic priorities.²⁵¹

Tracking of Small Arms and Light Weapons Using Artificial Intelligence

According to UNODA, small arms and light weapons (SALW) are portable lethal weapons that are designed to shoot a bullet in an explosive manner.²⁵² In 2023, SALW were responsible for approximately more than 700 deaths daily totalling close to 260,000 lives lost every year, directly causing an impact on international peace and security.²⁵³ Despite having resolutions and tracing systems, tracking SALW remains challenging.²⁵⁴ Despite the adoption of the *International Tracing Instrument* (ITI), efforts to trace SALW continue to face difficulties due to uncoordinated systems and varying national implementation capacities.²⁵⁵ AI can offer a new and safe potential in this field by enhancing weapon identification and analyzing trafficking patterns, as recent research demonstrates that AI models can accurately detect, recognize, and categorize small arms.²⁵⁶ AI systems can improve tracing efficiency that directly support Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16 (peace, justice, and strong institutions) by reducing violence and combating illicit arms flows.²⁵⁷

The Security Council has continuously reiterated the importance of addressing illicit trade and the diversion of SALW since it is an important factor in maintaining international peace and security.²⁵⁸ The Security Council has adopted two resolutions in the past decade that call for enhanced measures to trace

²⁴⁷ Ibid.

²⁴⁸ Ibid.

²⁴⁹ Ibid.

²⁵⁰ United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs. *Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems (LAWS)*. N.d.

²⁵¹ United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs. *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*. 2023.

²⁵² United Nations, Department for General Assembly and Conference Management. *UNTERM small arms and light weapons*. N.d.

²⁵³ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Over 700 a day dying from small arms fire; main 'weapons of choice' for criminals and terrorists*. 2023.

²⁵⁴ World Customs Organization. *Enforcement and Compliance: Illicit Trade Report 2023*. 2023. pp. 57, 229.

²⁵⁵ United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research. *The International Tracing Instrument: Examining options to support operationalization*. 2018. p. 5; World Customs Organization. *Enforcement and Compliance: Illicit Trade Report 2023*. 2023. pp. 57, 229.

²⁵⁶ Bajon. *Deep learning small arms recognition: Development of a basic model and prospects for its use in the field of conventional disarmament*. 2022. p. 13.

²⁵⁷ United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. *Goal 16: Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies*. N.d.; United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute. *SDG 16 Through a Digital Lens*. 2023. p. 32.

²⁵⁸ United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs. *Small Arms and Light Weapons Treaties and Instruments*. N.d.



SALW to prevent their misuse and their destabilizing effects: resolution 2117 (2013) on “small arms” and resolution 2616 (2021) on “consideration during mandate renewals of role of peace operations in supporting national authorities in combating illicit transfer and diversion of arms in violation of arms embargoes”.²⁵⁹ Tracing SALWs has become an important basis for these efforts, but obstacles remain because of the fragmented system and lack of capability; this is mainly due to inadequate marking of weapons and limited international cooperation.²⁶⁰

SALW tracing currently relies on frameworks like the ITI, which was adopted in 2005 under the Programme of Action (PoA) on SALWs.²⁶¹ The ITI requires Member States to mark weapons at the point of manufacture or import and to maintain accurate records to facilitate tracing efforts.²⁶² However, the Security Council stated that tracing still remains challenging because only about 28% of illicit weapons were successfully traced in 2022, demonstrating the need for a more effective solution.²⁶³ Additionally, the inefficiency of tracing can allow illicit weapons to remain in circulation, thus posing a threat to international peace and security.²⁶⁴ AI tracking of SALW aligns with the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination’s principles on integrating AI for the public good.²⁶⁵ AI integration into SALW tracing mechanisms can enable Member States to enhance efforts to reduce armed violence and promote peace, directly supporting SDG 16 (peace, justice, and strong institutions).²⁶⁶

AI for Good, a platform organized by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) that is in partnership with over 46 different United Nations agencies focuses on using AI in an ethical and appropriate manner for positive ways to achieve the SDGs.²⁶⁷ As part of this platform, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) collaborates with initiatives like the Life Cycle Initiative to implement AI.²⁶⁸ Through the Life Cycle Initiative in 2023, UNEP is starting to progress towards using AI to evaluate environmental impacts; the same AI driven approach which could be adapted to support peace and security by tracking SALW by analyzing their production from the manufacturer and to follow illicit circulation.²⁶⁹ Furthermore, IAEA is utilizing AI for object tracking in nuclear technology and

²⁵⁹ United Nations, Security Council. *Small arms (S/RES/2117 (2013))*. 2013; United Nations, Security Council. *Consideration during mandate renewals of role of peace operations in supporting national authorities in combating illicit transfer and diversion of arms in violation of arms embargoes, (S/RES/2616 (2021))*. 2021.

²⁶⁰ United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research. *The Scope and Implications of a Tracing Mechanism for Small Arms and Light Weapons*. 2003. pp. 1, 24.

²⁶¹ United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research. *The International Tracing Instrument: Examining options to support operationalization*. 2018. p. 3.

²⁶² Ibid. p. 5.

²⁶³ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *In Day-long Debate, Speakers in Security Council Wrestle with Impacts of Illicit Small Arms, Light Weapons as Both ‘Source and Symptom’ of Violent Conflict*. 2023.

²⁶⁴ Ibid; United Nations, Security Council. *Small arms and light weapons Report of the Secretary-General*. 2023. p. 6.

²⁶⁵ United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination. *Artificial Intelligence*. 2024.

²⁶⁶ United Nations, General Assembly. *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*. 2015.

²⁶⁷ International Telecommunication Union. *United Nations Activities on Artificial Intelligence: 2023*. 2023. p. 171.

²⁶⁸ Ibid.

²⁶⁹ Ibid.



applications.²⁷⁰ IAEA's efforts also demonstrate how AI driven object tracking can strengthen nuclear safeguards and ensure the peaceful use of nuclear technology, while addressing global security challenges.²⁷¹

Conclusion

AI advancements in technology are being implemented and created across different United Nations agencies with a focus on ensuring AI advancements are developed responsibly to align with the different mandates within the United Nations system.²⁷² The Security Council plays a critical role in addressing implications of AI in the field of international peace and security by addressing ethical AI challenges, particularly in preventing the misuse of autonomous weapons and ensuring compliance with IHL.²⁷³ By incorporating AI topics into the international peace and security agenda, the Security Council can facilitate international cooperation and promote measures that mitigate threats presented by AI technologies.²⁷⁴ The United Nations has taken proactive steps to address these concerns through frameworks, like the ITI, the CCW, and initiatives such as the GDC.²⁷⁵ The United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination urges a more efficient and ethical proactive approach to AI integration so as to maintain human rights, ensuring that innovations contribute positively rather than posing underlying risks and threats to humanity.²⁷⁶ Efforts that are led by the High-Level Committee on Management Task Force on AI to develop system-wide ethical frameworks in line with United Nations standards enable Member States to effectively adapt to new AI technologies to support international peace and security.²⁷⁷ The deployment of AI weapons, particularly LAWS, requires regulatory framework and human oversight to prevent accountability gaps and violations of IHL.²⁷⁸ Furthermore, adapting AI into the tracking of SALW can improve tracing efficiency and help reduce the illicit circulation of arms, directly supporting efforts to achieve global peace and security.²⁷⁹

²⁷⁰ AI for Good. *UN AI Actions*. 2025.

²⁷¹ Ibid.

²⁷² International Telecommunication Union. *United Nations Activities on Artificial Intelligence: 2023*. 2023.

²⁷³ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *First Committee Approves New Resolution on Lethal Autonomous Weapons, as Speaker Warns 'An Algorithm Must Not Be in Full Control of Decisions Involving Killing'*. 2023.

²⁷⁴ Ibid.

²⁷⁵ United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs. *Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, Group of Governmental Experts on Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems*. 2024; United States Mission to the United Nations. *Pact for the Future, Global Digital Compact and Declaration on Future Generations Key Deliverables and U.S. Explanation of Position*. 2024; World Customs Organization. *Enforcement and Compliance: Illicit Trade Report 2023*. 2023.

²⁷⁶ United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination. *Artificial Intelligence*. 2024.

²⁷⁷ High-level Committee on Management. *Task Force to Develop a System-wide Normative and Operational Framework on the use of AI in the UN System*. 2024. p. 1.

²⁷⁸ Human Rights Watch. *Stopping Killer Robots*. 2020.

²⁷⁹ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *In Day-long Debate, Speakers in Security Council Wrestle with Impacts of Illicit Small Arms, Light Weapons as Both 'Source and Symptom' of Violent Conflict*. 2023; United Nations, Security Council. *Small arms and light weapons Report of the Secretary-General*. 2023. p. 6.



Further Research

As delegates conduct further research and consider how to address this topic, they should consider: How should Member States cooperate to develop a rapid response for incidents involving the malfunction of AI enabled weapons? What legal frameworks are needed to hold Member States accountable for violations caused by autonomous systems? What global solutions are needed to regulate AI development and use in conflict prevention? How can the Security Council balance innovation with security risks? How can AI track and record data to help identify and disrupt the SALW network? In what ways can IHL be adapted to address the unique challenges posed by autonomous weapon systems?



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