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## **“No Killer Robots!” Negotiation and adoption of a Treaty on Autonomous Weapons Systems**

*Submitted by Michael Beer, Nonviolence International*

### **Proposal:**

That the UN Summit of the Future support negotiations and adoption of a Treaty on Autonomous Weapons Systems

The treaty should prohibit:

- Autonomous weapon systems that do not allow for meaningful human control. Examples include autonomous weapon systems where the location or duration of their functioning cannot be limited, or weapon systems where mission parameters (time and space of operation, type of target etc) could change during an operation without human approval. We sometimes call these systems ‘fully autonomous weapons.’
- Autonomous weapon systems that would target humans, even when used with human control. Processing people through sensors, such systems reduce people to objects, and so are dehumanizing to civilian and military victims alike. They also pose other moral, legal and practical problems. We reject the automated killing of people.

### **Comments:**

Of course, systems that are not prohibited must still be used with meaningful human control. To ensure this, the treaty should include what are called ‘positive obligations’ – rules on the design, development and use of other autonomous weapons systems. Together, these rules should require that system users understand the way the weapons system works and understand the specific context in which it might be used. These understandings are vital for a user to predict the effects they will create, and so to make real moral and legal judgements.