

HMDC Presents... DISEC: Part 2 (The United Nations)

HMDC Presents... Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC): Drone Surveillance and Privacy (Research Report, December 2026)

Prepared for HMDC Forensics delegates attending Harvard Model United Nations Online, December 5-6, 2026. Every fact below comes from a page or official document that was opened and read in October 2026. Each evidence entry repeats its publication and date so the source is always visible.

WHAT OUR CHAIRS WILL FOCUS ON

Harvard explains that this committee looks at drones in two ways: drones that help people in disasters, and drones that are used in war and raise security worries. Harvard splits the topic between two sessions, and our December session is the one about privacy, surveillance and intelligence, which means how drones watch people and gather information. The October session, not ours, covers armed drones and who is held responsible when they are used. In December, we will be asked to build international frameworks, or shared rules between countries, that support the "responsible use of drones" while keeping the world secure.

Harvard Model United Nations, HMUN Online Committee Page, Last Accessed: October 2026

<https://www.harvardmun.org/diseconline>

The parts of this HMDC report that match this focus most closely are the Introduction, Section 1A (the surveillance entries), Sections 1B to 1F, Sections 2B, 2C, 2E and 2F, and Sections 3A to 3C.

How we use this report: This report spends a lot of space on autonomous weapons, sometimes called killer robots, and on drone strikes in Ukraine, Russia and Sudan (Sections 1G, 2D, 2G and 3E, and the war entries in Section 1A). Those topics are about weapons that attack, which is closer to the October session than to ours, so we treat them as background only. We use them to show that the camera on a drone can lead to a strike, but we do not make a killer-robot treaty our main solution. Our speeches, position papers and resolutions should put privacy limits, registration, rules on face scanning, export controls on surveillance tools and transparency first.

PART 2, THE UNITED NATIONS RECORD

The UN has never adopted a resolution that is specifically about drone surveillance. Instead, the issue sits across four tracks: the right to privacy in the digital age (General Assembly Third Committee and Human Rights Council), armed drones and accountability (Human Rights Council), terrorist use of drones (Security Council), and autonomous weapons and military AI (General Assembly First Committee, which is DISEC). The table lists every relevant resolution whose symbol was confirmed on the official UN document system.

2A. TABLE OF UN RESOLUTIONS AND INSTRUMENTS

Symbol	Year	Body	What it does
A/RES/68/167	2013	General Assembly	First resolution on the right to privacy in the digital age; warns that new technology increases the power of governments and companies to carry out surveillance.
A/RES/69/166	2014	General Assembly	Renews the right to privacy in the digital age resolution.
A/RES/71/199	2016	General Assembly	Renews the right to privacy in the digital age resolution.
A/RES/73/179	2018	General Assembly	Renews the right to privacy in the digital age resolution.
A/RES/75/176	2020	General Assembly	Renews the right to privacy in the digital age resolution.
A/RES/77/211	2022	General Assembly	Asks states to regularly review laws on mass surveillance, profiling and biometric technologies.
A/RES/79/175	2024	General Assembly	Warns about facial recognition and remote biometric identification without safeguards and asks for human rights due diligence on AI.
A/HRC/RES/28/16	2015	Human Rights Council	Creates the post of Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy.
A/HRC/RES/34/7	2017	Human Rights Council	Renews the Council's right to privacy in the digital age resolution.
A/HRC/RES/42/15	2019	Human Rights Council	Renews the Council's right to privacy in the digital age resolution.
A/HRC/RES/48/4	2021	Human Rights Council	Says unlawful use of biometric technologies and surveillance violates privacy and harms free assembly.
A/HRC/RES/54/21	2023	Human Rights Council	Warns that facial recognition and surveillance technology can cause discrimination and that some uses may be incompatible with human rights law.

A/HRC/RES/25/22	2014	Human Rights Council	Urges states to ensure armed drones used in counterterrorism and military operations comply with international law, and calls for transparency and investigations.
A/HRC/RES/28/3	2015	Human Rights Council	Repeats the call for armed drone use to comply with international law.
A/HRC/RES/44/20	2020	Human Rights Council	Expresses concern about surveillance of peaceful protesters with facial recognition and phone-tracking tools.
A/HRC/RES/50/21	2022	Human Rights Council	Names "aerial surveillance vehicles" as a concern at protests and urges states not to use facial recognition arbitrarily on protesters.
A/HRC/RES/58/23	2025	Human Rights Council	Expresses concern about aerial surveillance of human rights defenders and says biometric identification must not be used for mass surveillance.
A/RES/67/234 B	2013	General Assembly	Adopts the Arms Trade Treaty, which regulates the international trade in conventional arms.
A/RES/78/241	2023	General Assembly (First Committee)	First General Assembly resolution on lethal autonomous weapons systems; asks the Secretary-General to collect state views.
A/RES/79/62	2024	General Assembly (First Committee)	Convenes open informal consultations in 2025 on lethal autonomous weapons systems.
A/RES/79/239	2024	General Assembly (First Committee)	Affirms that international law applies to AI throughout its life cycle in the military domain and asks for a report to the 80th session.
A/RES/80/57	2025	General Assembly (First Committee)	Calls on CCW parties to complete a set of elements for an instrument on lethal autonomous weapons "with a view to future negotiations"; adopted

			164-6-7.
A/RES/80/58	2025	General Assembly (First Committee)	Artificial intelligence in the military domain; convenes informal exchanges of states in Geneva (June 15-17, 2026); adopted 167-5-5.
A/RES/78/265	2024	General Assembly	Promotes safe, secure and trustworthy AI for sustainable development.
S/RES/2098	2013	Security Council	Authorises the UN mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to use surveillance by unmanned aerial systems to monitor arms flows.
S/RES/2370	2017	Security Council	Condemns the flow of weapons, including unmanned aircraft systems, to terrorist groups and asks states to stop it.
S/RES/2482	2019	Security Council	Repeats concern about unmanned aircraft systems reaching terrorists and criminals.
S/RES/2617	2021	Security Council	Expresses concern about terrorist use of drones and asks the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate to raise awareness of the threat.

2B. THE RIGHT TO PRIVACY IN THE DIGITAL AGE

United Nations General Assembly (A/RES/68/167), December 18, 2013: The UN privacy agenda begins

Tagline: Starting the UN privacy agenda

Source: According to... United Nations General Assembly, December 18, 2013

Link: <https://undocs.org/A/RES/68/167>

Fact: It states... In its first resolution on the right to privacy in the digital age, the General Assembly noted that rapid technological development increases the ability of governments, companies and individuals to carry out surveillance, interception and data collection that may violate the right to privacy. It reaffirmed that no one may be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with privacy, family, home or correspondence.

This means... The legal foundation for this topic is already agreed by the whole General Assembly. Delegates can cite this resolution to argue that aerial surveillance is covered by existing privacy rights.

United Nations General Assembly (A/RES/79/175), December 17, 2024: Facial recognition without safeguards threatens rights

Tagline: Warning about biometric surveillance

Source: According to... United Nations General Assembly, December 17, 2024

Link: <https://undocs.org/A/RES/79/175>

Fact: It states... The latest resolution warns that facial recognition and remote biometric identification without proper safeguards can harm human rights, notes reports that facial recognition is less accurate for certain groups, and notes the growth in collecting sensitive biometric data. It encourages states and companies to carry out human rights due diligence through the whole life of AI systems and to stop using AI that cannot comply with human rights law until safeguards exist.

This means... Drones with facial recognition fall directly under these concerns. The resolution does not mention drones by name, which leaves room for DISEC to address aerial use specifically.

2C. AERIAL SURVEILLANCE OF PROTESTERS AND RIGHTS DEFENDERS

UN Human Rights Council (A/HRC/RES/50/21), July 14, 2022: Aerial surveillance vehicles at protests

Tagline: Naming aerial surveillance vehicles

Source: According to... UN Human Rights Council, July 14, 2022

Link: <https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/50/21>

Fact: It states... The Council expressed concern at arbitrary and unlawful surveillance of peaceful protesters through closed-circuit television and "aerial surveillance vehicles," and through facial and emotional recognition and phone-tracking devices. It urged states not to use biometric identification, including facial recognition, arbitrarily or unlawfully to identify people at peaceful assemblies.

This means... This is one of the few UN texts that names surveillance from the air. Delegates can quote it as agreed language when drafting clauses on drones at protests.

UN Human Rights Council (A/HRC/RES/58/23), April 7, 2025: Biometrics must not be used for mass surveillance

Tagline: Protecting human rights defenders

Source: According to... UN Human Rights Council, April 7, 2025

Link: <https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/58/23>

Fact: It states... The Council expressed concern at surveillance of human rights defenders through aerial surveillance vehicles, facial recognition and spyware. It called on states to ensure that biometric and facial recognition technologies are not used by public or private actors for mass surveillance, and to provide remedies for victims of unlawful surveillance.

This means... The most recent Council language goes further than earlier texts by rejecting mass surveillance with biometrics. Delegates who favour strong limits can cite it; delegates who favour security flexibility will need to argue for narrow exceptions.

2D. ARMED DRONES AND ACCOUNTABILITY

UN Human Rights Council (A/HRC/RES/25/22), March 28, 2014: Transparency and investigations on armed drones

Tagline: Demanding transparency on armed drones

Source: According to... UN Human Rights Council, March 28, 2014

Link: <https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/25/22>

Fact: It states... The Council urged all states to ensure that armed drones used in counterterrorism and military operations comply with the UN Charter, human rights law and humanitarian law, including precaution, distinction and proportionality. It called on states to be transparent in their records on drone use and to conduct prompt, independent and impartial investigations. It passed by 27 votes to 6, with 14 abstentions; France, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the United Kingdom and the United States voted against.

This means... The UN agreed on transparency in principle more than a decade ago, but major drone users opposed it. Delegates should expect the same split today.

UN Human Rights Council (A/HRC/44/38), August 15, 2020: International oversight has failed

Tagline: Exposing weak international oversight

Source: According to... UN Human Rights Council, August 15, 2020

Link: <https://undocs.org/A/HRC/44/38>

Fact: It states... The Special Rapporteur concluded that international oversight mechanisms have not addressed drone killings with the seriousness they deserve. She found that the Security Council questioned the legality of an extraterritorial targeted killing in only one instance, and that most drone strikes receive little public scrutiny at national or international level.

This means... The UN's current system does not hold drone users accountable. DISEC delegates could propose a new reporting or review mechanism, but they must design it to work despite the Security Council veto.

UN Human Rights Council (A/HRC/56/45), August 20, 2024: Drones were among the first technology issues the UN examined

Tagline: Mapping UN work on drones

Source: According to... UN Human Rights Council, August 20, 2024

Link: <https://undocs.org/A/HRC/56/45>

Fact: It states... A UN human rights mapping report found that drone targeted killings, and the lack of transparency about criteria for drone strikes, were among the first issues human rights treaty bodies considered about new military technologies. Special rapporteurs have discussed armed drones and autonomous weapons since the early 2010s.

This means... The UN has studied this issue for more than a decade, but mostly through reports and recommendations rather than binding action. Delegates should explain why earlier efforts have not led to agreed rules.

2E. THE UN'S OWN USE OF SURVEILLANCE DRONES

United Nations Security Council (S/RES/2098), March 28, 2013: UN peacekeepers use surveillance drones

Tagline: Using drones for peacekeeping

Source: According to... United Nations Security Council, March 28, 2013

Link: [https://undocs.org/S/RES/2098\(2013\)](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2098(2013))

Fact: It states... The Security Council directed the UN mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to monitor arms moving across the eastern border, including by using surveillance capabilities provided by unmanned aerial systems, and to share information with the UN Group of Experts.

This means... The UN itself uses surveillance drones and sees value in them. Delegates can argue that drone surveillance can protect civilians, and that the UN should model privacy-protective practices in its own missions.

2F. TERRORIST USE OF DRONES

United Nations Security Council (S/RES/2370), August 2, 2017: Stop drones reaching terrorists

Tagline: Stopping drone flows to terrorists

Source: According to... United Nations Security Council, August 2, 2017

Link: [https://undocs.org/S/RES/2370\(2017\)](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2370(2017))

Fact: It states... The Security Council strongly condemned the continued flow of weapons, military equipment, unmanned aircraft systems and their components to ISIL, Al-Qaida, their affiliates, illegal armed groups and criminals, and encouraged states to prevent and disrupt these flows.

This means... The Security Council sees drones as a terrorism threat, which supports state arguments for counter-drone surveillance. Delegates must decide how to stop terrorist drones without expanding surveillance of ordinary people.

United Nations Security Council (S/RES/2617), December 30, 2021: Awareness of terrorist drone threats

Tagline: Raising awareness of terrorist drones

Source: According to... United Nations Security Council, December 30, 2021

Link: [https://undocs.org/S/RES/2617\(2021\)](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2617(2021))

Fact: It states... Renewing the mandate of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), the Council noted the increasing global misuse of drones by terrorists against infrastructure and public places. It acknowledged the need to balance encouraging innovation with preventing misuse, and asked CTED to raise awareness of terrorist drone use for attacks and trafficking. It referenced the Global Counterterrorism Forum's Berlin Memorandum.

This means... The Council itself recognises a balance between innovation and security. Delegates can use that "balance" language to include privacy in the same equation.

UN Human Rights Council (A/HRC/52/39), March 1, 2023: The Delhi Declaration leaves out state abuse

Tagline: Criticising the Delhi Declaration gaps

Source: According to... UN Human Rights Council, March 1, 2023

Link: <https://undocs.org/A/HRC/52/39>

Fact: It states... The Special Rapporteur welcomed the inclusive process behind the Counter-Terrorism Committee's 2022 Delhi Declaration on new technologies, including drones. She was very concerned, however, that it did not address the abuse of armed drones by states or the widespread abuse of surveillance technology by states, and warned the Security Council against narrow guidance that ignores human rights.

This means... UN counterterrorism work focuses on drones in the hands of terrorists, not on governments that misuse them. A DISEC resolution could close this gap by covering both.

2G. AUTONOMOUS WEAPONS AND MILITARY AI

United Nations General Assembly (A/RES/78/241), December 22, 2023: First Assembly resolution on autonomous weapons

Tagline: Requesting views on autonomous weapons

Source: According to... United Nations General Assembly, December 22, 2023

Link: <https://undocs.org/A/RES/78/241>

Fact: It states... On the report of the First Committee, the General Assembly asked the Secretary-General to collect the views of states on lethal autonomous weapons systems, including the humanitarian, legal, security, technological and ethical concerns they raise and the role of humans in the use of force, and to report to the 79th session.

This means... DISEC itself has opened this debate. Delegates are continuing a process their own committee started.

United Nations General Assembly (A/RES/79/62), December 2, 2024: Consultations in 2025

Tagline: Convening consultations in 2025

Source: According to... United Nations General Assembly, December 2, 2024

Link: <https://undocs.org/A/RES/79/62>

Fact: It states... The General Assembly decided to convene open informal consultations in 2025 to consider the Secretary-General's report, in a way that supports the Group of Governmental Experts working under the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons in Geneva.

This means... The UN now has two parallel tracks: the General Assembly in New York, open to all states, and the expert group in Geneva, which works by consensus. Delegates must decide which track should lead.

United Nations News, May 14, 2025: The first New York consultations on autonomous weapons

Tagline: Agreeing on a two-tier approach

Source: According to... United Nations News, May 14, 2025

Link: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2025/05/1163256>

Fact: It states... The consultations called for by resolution 79/62 met in New York for two days in May 2025, bringing together member states, academic experts and civil society. Secretary-General Guterres told them, "There is no place for lethal autonomous weapon systems in our world," and "We cannot delegate life-or-death decisions to machines." UN News explained that these weapons broadly include advanced drones that select targets and use force without human instruction. A civil society leader said agreement was forming on a "two-tiered" approach, banning some systems and regulating others, but states still disagreed on a definition and on what "meaningful human control" means.

This means... The two-tier idea (ban the worst systems, regulate the rest) is now the main middle ground. Delegates can write clauses on both tiers, but they must also offer a clear definition, because disagreement over words has slowed the talks for years.

United Nations (A/79/88), July 1, 2024: The Secretary-General calls for a ban

Tagline: Urging a ban on killer machines

Source: According to... United Nations, July 1, 2024

Link: <https://undocs.org/A/79/88>

Fact: It states... In his report on lethal autonomous weapons, the Secretary-General said machines with the power to take human lives are politically unacceptable and morally repugnant and should be banned. He repeated his call for a legally binding instrument, concluded by 2026, that prohibits systems working without human control and regulates all others. Several state submissions in the report mention drones, including swarms of small drones that could cause mass casualties.

This means... The UN's top official has set a 2026 deadline. Delegates in December 2026 will be debating at the moment that deadline arrives.

United Nations General Assembly (A/RES/79/239), December 24, 2024: International law applies to military AI

Tagline: Applying law to military AI

Source: According to... United Nations General Assembly, December 24, 2024

Link: <https://undocs.org/A/RES/79/239>

Fact: It states... The General Assembly affirmed that international law, including the UN Charter, humanitarian law and human rights law, applies at all stages of the life cycle of AI in the military domain. It encouraged national, regional and global efforts and asked the Secretary-General for a report on military AI beyond autonomous weapons for the 80th session.

This means... AI-enabled drone surveillance in the military is covered by human rights law, according to the Assembly. Delegates can use this to argue that military surveillance drones must respect privacy.

United Nations General Assembly (A/RES/80/57), December 1, 2025: Working toward elements of an instrument

Tagline: Preparing elements of a future instrument

Source: According to... United Nations General Assembly, December 1, 2025

Link: https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/4095989/files/A_RES_80_57-EN.pdf

Fact: It states... On the report of the First Committee, the General Assembly said a full and inclusive multilateral approach is needed to deal with the legal, technological, ethical, humanitarian and security concerns of lethal autonomous weapons. It stressed the urgent need to address them within the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, called the Chair's rolling text a "significant milestone," and called on states to complete a set of elements for an instrument "with a view to future negotiations." It kept the topic on the agenda of the 81st session.

This means... DISEC's own resolution now points toward negotiations, but it leaves the work in Geneva. Delegates in December 2026 will be writing the next resolution in this series.

United Nations Meetings Coverage (GA/12736), December 1, 2025: Voting on autonomous weapons and military AI

Tagline: Recording the votes on autonomy and AI

Source: According to... United Nations Meetings Coverage and Press Releases, December 1, 2025

Link: <https://press.un.org/en/2025/ga12736.doc.htm>

Fact: It states... The General Assembly adopted the resolution on lethal autonomous weapons systems by 164 votes to 6, with 7 abstentions. Belarus, Burundi, North Korea, Israel, Russia and the United States voted against. It adopted the resolution on artificial intelligence in the military domain by 167 votes to 5, with 5 abstentions; Burundi, North Korea, Israel, Russia and the United States voted against.

This means... Almost every state supports action, but some of the largest drone and AI powers voted no. Delegates must decide whether to move ahead with the majority or soften the text to bring those powers in.

Arms Control Association, December 2025: The United States and Russia oppose AI resolutions

Tagline: Splitting over military AI governance

Source: According to... Arms Control Association, December 2025

Link: <https://www.armscontrol.org/act/2025-12/news/us-russia-oppose-un-resolutions-military-use-ai>

Fact: It states... The United States voted against the 2025 resolution on AI in the military domain after supporting a similar one in 2024, warning it could build a "global governance regime designed to institute centralized control over a critical technology." The resolution sets up a three-day meeting of UN members in 2026, with a summary for the General Assembly's fall 2026 session. Secretary-General Guterres said, "Humans must always retain authority over life-and-death decisions."

This means... Major powers changed their votes from one year to the next, so support is not fixed. Delegates representing the United States or Russia have a clear position to defend, and other delegates have a clear argument to answer.

United Nations News, September 22, 2026: The Secretary-General tells world leaders to outlaw killer robots

Tagline: Opening the 81st General Assembly with a warning

Source: According to... United Nations News, September 22, 2026

Link: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2026/09/1168392>

Fact: It states... Opening the general debate of the 81st General Assembly, Secretary-General Guterres said power in the world is being reshaped in part by the "growing role of AI and autonomous weapons in decisions once reserved for humans." He said, "The danger is not technology. The danger is technology without accountability," and added, "Life-and-death decisions must never be surrendered to machines. Killer robots must have no place in our future." He called for a multilateral framework to manage AI risks with independent oversight.

This means... The UN's top official raised this issue in his most important speech of the year, just before DISEC began its 2026 session. Delegates can quote him to show that the whole UN system expects action now, not more years of discussion.

United Nations Meetings Coverage (GA/DIS/3767), October 12, 2026: States agree that humans must stay in control

Tagline: Agreeing on elements in Geneva

Source: According to... United Nations Meetings Coverage and Press Releases, October 12, 2026

Link: <https://press.un.org/en/2026/gadis3767.doc.htm>

Fact: It states... During the First Committee's general debate in October 2026, the UN reported "an area of convergence": countries "across geopolitical divides" increasingly agree that humans, not algorithms, must keep final control over the use of force. The United Kingdom noted that in September 2026, after more than a decade of debate, the Group of Governmental Experts agreed on a set of elements for a possible future instrument on lethal autonomous weapons. Italy welcomed that consensus and said, "Human beings must remain responsible for decisions concerning the use of force." Sri Lanka warned that human judgment and control must remain clear "throughout the lifecycle of the weapon."

This means... For the first time, the Geneva group has agreed on the building blocks of a future agreement, and the real First Committee is discussing it this autumn. Delegates should treat human control as common ground and focus their debate on the harder question: whether to start negotiating a treaty, and where.

2H. WHAT IS WORKING AND WHAT IS NOT

- **Working:** The UN has built a large body of agreed language on privacy, biometrics and surveillance, renewed every two years in the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council. Special rapporteurs have documented drone harms in detail. The General Assembly has started a formal process on autonomous weapons. Investigative bodies, such as the Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine, have used drone footage to establish crimes against humanity.

- **Not working:** No UN resolution deals directly with drone surveillance. The armed drone resolutions of 2014 and 2015 were opposed by major drone users and have not been followed by binding rules. Oversight of drone strikes is weak, and the Security Council has rarely examined them. UN counterterrorism texts focus on terrorist drones and say little about state abuse. The Secretary-General's 2026 deadline for an autonomous weapons treaty has not produced a negotiated treaty as of the sources reviewed: the Geneva expert group agreed a set of elements by consensus in September 2026, but some proposed bans were removed and formal negotiations have not started. The 2025 resolutions on autonomous weapons and military AI passed by large majorities, but the United States and Russia voted against both.

21. WHERE THE MAJOR BLOCS STAND

Delegates will meet the same groups again and again in this debate. The list below gives each group's known position in plain words, with one source each, so a delegate can predict who will support or oppose a clause.

1. **The United States:** The United States voted against the 2025 General Assembly resolutions on autonomous weapons and on AI in the military domain. It warned that the AI resolution could build a "global governance regime designed to institute centralized control over a critical technology," even though it had supported a similar AI resolution in 2024.
 - Source: According to... Arms Control Association, December 2025
 - Link: <https://www.armscontrol.org/act/2025-12/news/us-russia-oppose-un-resolutions-military-use-ai>
2. **Russia:** Russia also voted against both 2025 resolutions, joined on both votes by the United States, Israel, North Korea and Burundi. Russia is also one of the heaviest users of drones in the war in Ukraine (see the OHCHR and CSIS entries in Part 1), so new limits would affect it directly.
 - Source: According to... United Nations Meetings Coverage and Press Releases, December 1, 2025
 - Link: <https://press.un.org/en/2025/ga12736.doc.htm>
3. **China:** China says autonomous weapons must stay under human control and supports a binding instrument only "when the conditions are mature." It would ban only systems that have all five of its listed traits at once (such as full autonomy and no way to switch them off), which leaves wide room for other autonomous drones, and it abstained on the 2025 First Committee draft.
 - Source: According to... Lieber Institute, United States Military Academy at West Point, March 27, 2026
 - Link: <https://lieber.westpoint.edu/human-oversight-chinese-characteristics-lethal-autonomous-weapons-ccw-gge/>
4. **France and its European Union partners:** France, a permanent member of the Security Council, welcomed the September 2026 Geneva report and wants the November 2026 Review Conference to give the expert group a new negotiating mandate. Its goal is an instrument that bans fully autonomous weapons and regulates systems with autonomous functions, while keeping human beings in control.
 - Source: According to... French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, September 10, 2026
 - Link: <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/presse-et-ressources/decouvrir-et-informer/actualites/organisations-internationales-reunion-du-groupe-d-experts-gouvernementaux-sur-les-systemes-d-armes>

5. **African states (ECOWAS and the African Group):** In the 2024 Freetown Communiqué, West African states backed negotiations on a binding treaty to ban autonomous weapons that work without meaningful human control. Sierra Leone's ambassador explained, "We are a vulnerable region," and said the region hopes a treaty will stop the most militarised countries from increasing their dominance.
 - Source: According to... Africa Renewal (United Nations), May 17, 2024
 - Link: <https://africarenewal.un.org/en/magazine/unregulated-autonomous-weapons-systems-pose-risk-africa>
 6. **The Gulf Cooperation Council and Arab states:** Speaking for the Gulf states in the First Committee in October 2026, Bahrain condemned two Houthi drone attacks aimed at Mecca in September 2025 and condemned Iranian attacks on Gulf territory. These states see drones mainly as a terrorism and missile threat, so they are likely to support counter-drone cooperation and limits on drone transfers to armed groups.
 - Source: According to... United Nations Meetings Coverage and Press Releases, October 7, 2026
 - Link: <https://press.un.org/en/2026/gadis3764.doc.htm>
-