HMDC Presents...

Bloc Map: Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC)

Topic: Drone Surveillance and Privacy

Drones can watch people from the sky, and some weapons can choose targets by themselves. On December 2, 2024, 166 countries voted for a UN resolution on lethal autonomous weapons systems, 3 voted no and 15 abstained. The UN Secretary-General and the Red Cross called for a new treaty by 2026.

THE MAIN GROUPS (BLOCS)

A bloc is a group of countries that often vote together. Rows that start with "Check:" mean our sources do not name the members, so research them yourself.

Group	Who is in it	What they want	Source
New-treaty group	The UN Secretary-General and the ICRC President called for a legally binding treaty, finished by 2026.	Clear bans and limits on weapons that choose targets by themselves.	International Committee of the Red Cross
Large majority voting yes	166 countries voted for resolution 79/62, including the United States, United Kingdom and France.	More UN discussion of autonomous weapons in a new forum.	Human Rights Watch
Countries voting no	Belarus, Russia and North Korea (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) voted no.	No new limits on these weapons.	UN Project (vote record)
Abstaining group	15 countries abstained, including China, India, Iran, Israel, Saudi Arabia, Türkiye and Ukraine.	Undecided or careful, so they may accept a balanced deal.	UN Project (vote record)

FINDING YOUR ALLIES

1.	If your country voted yes, you have 165 possible partners; start with the treaty supporters.
2.	If your country abstained, you can be the bridge between the two sides.
3.	If your country voted no, look for others that want to keep national control over drones.

THREE COMPROMISE IDEAS

A compromise gives each side something it wants. Try one of these in an unmoderated caucus.

1.	Ban weapons that choose and attack human targets with no human control, but allow drones for rescue and disaster work.
2.	Require a human to approve every attack, and keep records that can be checked.
3.	Set privacy rules for drone cameras, such as deleting video of ordinary people after a short time.

YOUR NOTES

My country's bloc: _____ My first ally: _____

SOURCES

According to Human Rights Watch, "Killer Robots: UN Vote Should Spur Treaty Negotiations", December 5, 2024. https://www.hrw.org/news/2024/12/05/killer-robots-un-vote-should-spur-treaty-negotiations

According to UN Project (vote record), "A/RES/79/62 Lethal autonomous weapons systems: recorded vote", Last Accessed: November 2026. https://un-project.org/votes/resolution/A-RES-79-62/

According to International Committee of the Red Cross, "Joint call by the UN Secretary-General and the ICRC President on autonomous weapon systems", October 5, 2023. https://www.icrc.org/en/document/joint-call-un-and-icrc-establish-prohibitions-and-restrictions-autonomous-weapons-systems

Positions change. Before the conference, read your own country's newest statement on this topic.