

Statement by PAX
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Convention on Conventional Weapons
Geneva
29 Augustus 2018

Thank you mr Chairperson,

On behalf of my organisation PAX, which is a member of the Campaign to Stop Killer Robots, I would like to take the opportunity to **express my gratitude** to you for **guiding our debates** and providing us with the **opportunity to express** our views.

We appreciate the initiative taken by those states, putting forward **concrete options** regarding Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems (LAWS).

It demonstrates that there is a understanding by the **majority of states** that there is a **need for, and commitment to** developing a **concrete outcome** to deal with the challenges posed by these weapons.

However this does not mean, we **can continue talking** about these policy options indefinitely.

Technology continues to develop at a **rapid pace** and it is crucial that the international community **draws clear boundaries** and **sets a high standard** as soon as possible.

For PAX only a **legally binding instrument** would adequately **address all the legal, ethical and security concerns** related to LAWS.

There is an urgent need for an **international norm**, that is a **legal obligation, enshrined and embedded in national laws**, which **ensures meaningful human control** over the critical functions of weapon systems.

Therefore we call on you to decide in November, to **start and conclude** negotiations on such a norm in 2019.

This is not only possible. It is **urgently needed to protect humanity from these weapons**.

Thank you.