



Weekly Report

Genocide and Crimes Against Humanity Initiatives Around the World

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- 1** Parliamentary Initiative
- 2** UN Initiative
- 3** NGO Initiative

Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict

- The British Parliament prepares to co-chair the Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict which will be held from 10 to 13 June 2014 at ExCel London.
- The summit will be the largest gathering ever brought together on the topic of sexual violence in conflict. All the governments that have endorsed the UN Declaration of Commitment to End Sexual Violence in Conflict will be invited, as will legal, military and judicial practitioners and representatives from multilateral organizations, NGOs and civil society.
- The Summit aims to create a sense of irreversible momentum against sexual violence in conflict and practical action that impacts those on the ground.
- Source: Gov.uk
<https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/sexual-violence-in-conflict/about>

UN Security Council Reaffirms Commitment to Genocide Prevention in Resolution 2150

- On April 16th, 2014, the UN Security Council reaffirmed its commitment to fighting genocide in Resolution 2150.
- The Resolution “Calls upon States to recommit to prevent and fight against genocide, and other serious crimes under international law, reaffirms paragraphs 138 and 139 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document on the responsibility to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity, and underscores the importance of taking into account lessons learned from the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda, during which Hutu and others who opposed the genocide were also killed.”
- The Resolution urges “States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide to consider doing so as a matter of high priority and, where necessary, to enact national legislation in order to meet their obligations under that Convention.”
- Source: United Nations Security Council
[http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/2150\(2014\)](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/2150(2014))

“Allowing machines to determine who should live or die in a conflict is an issue that concerns all states.”

– Peter Asaro, Co-Chair of the International Committee for Robot Arms Control



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Canadian Leadership Needed on “Killer Robots”: Mines Action Canada Launches Call to Ban Fully Autonomous Weapons

- Canada should support new international law to pre-emptively ban fully autonomous weapons of “killer robots” said Mines Action Canada as it launched an effort to address the weapons on April 28th, 2014 in Ottawa. They were joined by experts from the global Campaign to Stop Killer Robots, a new an international coalition of concerned civil society groups. The Campaign to Stop Killer Robots believes that humans should not delegate the responsibility of making decisions about violent force to machines.
- International attention to the issue has intensified since Human Rights Watch issued its “Losing Humanity” report in November 2012, looking at the challenges fully autonomous weapons would pose to the protection of civilians and rule of law. A report issued by a UN special rapporteur in April 2013, described technical, legal, ethical, moral, and other concerns with fully autonomous weapons and called for an immediate moratorium on the weapons.
- Representatives from more than 100 nations—including Canada—are gathering at the United Nations in Geneva next month together with campaigners to discuss questions relating to the emerging technology of “lethal autonomous weapons systems.” Mines Action Canada encourages the government to take an active role in the Convention on Conventional Weapons experts meeting and a leadership role over the longer-term.
- Source: Stop Killer Robots Canada
<http://stopkillerrobots.ca/media/press-releases/>