



Minute takers: Noel Kelly
Location: The Conference Room
Time: 14:00-15:00

SIPRI Armament and Disarmament Cluster Meeting
Solna, 13 August 2018

MINUTES

Participants:

Sibylle Bauer, Giovanna Maletta, Mark Bromley, Kolja Brockmann, Tytti Erästö, Petr Topychkanov, Alexandra Kuimova, Alexandra Manolache, Shannon Kile, Anna Regner, Quitterie de Labbey, Vitaly Fedchenko, Nikos Politis, Emma Fredriksson, Ekaterina Klimenko, Joey Fox

Agenda:

- Report back from SMT
- Report back from Programme Heads on recent and upcoming activities
- Update on ongoing and future funding proposals and decisions
- Stockholm Security Conference 2018, 19-20 September - updates
- AOB
- Date of next meeting

Report back from Programme Heads on recent and upcoming activities

AMEX:

Aude, Pieter, and Nan were out on vacation at the time of this meeting. However, Nan left a report of summer and current activities:

- The SIPRI milex database development is on schedule. A developer from Systematiq came and spent one day at SIPRI with Nan and went over all calculations and requirements. It is anticipated a working version of the database for AMEX to review will be ready by mid-end August. The timeline is to have a completed database by end-September.
- The SSA paper is with editors waiting for a final publication date.
- Nan is currently working on off-budget military expenditure, writing two papers with Diego Lopes. One will be journal article and other will fall within UD off-budget project due end of 2019.

Alexandra reported –

- Alexandra reported on a trip to Rabat in Morocco during July. Alexandra has been awarded a grant funded by EuroMeSCo to write a policy brief on Russian arms transfers to the MENA region, due out in either October or November. The project is partly coordinated by the Italian Institute for International Political studies (ISPI) and European Institute of the Mediterranean (IEMed). As part of the research, Alexandra attended the EuroMeSCo Annual Conference 'Changing Euro-Mediterranean Lenses', held in Rabat on 11,12 and [13 July 2018](#). Alexandra participated in a working package described as 'The Role of Russia in the Middle East and North Africa Region' and presented initial findings of her research. Alexandra hopes to attend a follow up workshop in Milan during October. Alexandra also met Moroccan experts and discussed military expenditure and transparency issues.

Shannon reported –

- AMEX is doing a project looking at military spending and nuclear forces producing four policy briefs and these are currently in the process of being reviewed.

DUAT:

Mark reported –

- A new intern Quitterie de Labbey has arrived to work for DUAT and will be at SIPRI until mid-December.
- DUAT are working on a number of projects at the moment. The main one being the UNSCAR project, which is funding the expansion of

ATT database covering the Middle East and North Africa. DUAT are adding activities to the database and producing a background paper.

- A contract has been signed with the UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office to support a project also about the ATT database. This is funding work to transform the backend of the database to make it more resilient. DUAT have signed a contract with the programmers in Geneva who will do the work. In-house at SIPRI, DUAT will be working with Steph and Harri to develop a social media and outreach campaign to build public awareness about the database.
- DUAT are waiting to hear back from the U.S. State Department, to see if a follow-on grant from them is forthcoming. This is for a project extending the work previously done on intangible technology transfers, looking at investigations, prosecutions, and violations of those controls. The second phase would look at the way export control regimes communicate and can do so better.
- There are plans to recruit a senior researcher to the DUAT team but the timing is to be confirmed.
- Mark is attending the ATT Fourth Conference of States Parties (CSP4), 20 - 24 August, Tokyo, Japan. Mark will be at speaking at side event that is being organized together with Japan and the Small Arms Survey. Mark will be talking about activities, the database and what is being done with it.

Giovanna reported –

- Mark and Giovanna produced a Help Desk Paper, as part of the work for the Non-Proliferation Consortium, providing recommendations on what the review of the EU Common Position on arms export, currently ongoing, should try to achieve. The paper is not public and shared only with the European External Action Service (EEAS). The EEAS informed us that they circulated the document among EU member states through the COARM early in July. Cluster staff can access if someone is interested once but it is not to be shared externally.
- Sibylle, Mark and Giovanna produced a summary report of the workshop on the further development of the EU Common Position on arms export, hosted by the Security and Defence sub-committee of the European Parliament on 19 June 2018. The report was submitted to the Parliament in July and it will be available online in the next weeks.

Kolja reported –

- A paper Kolja produced, titled ‘Drafting, Implementing, and Complying with Export Controls: The challenge Presented by Emerging Technologies’, has been published in the Strategic Trade Review Spring/Summer 2018 edition.

- Kolja also wrote a blog piece titled ‘3D-printable guns and why export controls on technical data matter’ published on the SIPRI website. The reception has been positive and there have been multiple reprints.
- Kolja reported on his upcoming conference activity. Kolja along with Sibylle will be attending in Frankfurt, Germany, PRIF's Annual Conference 2018: *Verification in Crisis – the Crisis of Verification. : New Technology as a Hurdle to and an Enabler of Verification in Arms Control* - 21-22 September 2018. Kolja will be on a panel on emerging technologies, presenting on 3D printing; Sibylle will present on the results of the Stockholm Security Conference at the concluding panel.
- Kolja will be attending a German industry event, ‘FALEX follow-up Fachtagung (German Industry Compliance Training)’, 24-25 September 2018, in Seligenstadt, Germany. Kolja will give a presentation on export control and compliance challenges presented by emerging technologies, using the example of 3D printing.

The Nuclear Team:

Shannon reported –

- Shannon reported on Iran dialogue activities that happened over the summer and this work continues. Interesting discussions took place and the Iranian position is clear, they do not intend to withdraw from the JCPOA for the time being and they emphasized Europe as having an important political role in terms of stabilising the nuclear deal and finding ways to deal with the American sanctions.
- North Korean dialogue activity continues as well.

Tytti reported –

- An expert meeting about the INF Treaty and how to save it, organised jointly by SIPRI and the ELN, is being planned. The goal would be to have this meeting during the autumn funding allowing.
- Tytti has been writing a paper on WMD free zone efforts in the Middle East.
- Tytti reported on some of her work travels over the summer period including to workshop in on the status of the impact of the TPNW on the NPT, organized by Kings College London, and held in London on 12 July. In connection with the workshop, she also discussed possible future cooperation with BASIC but is unsure at the moment what is coming out from this?
- Tytti reported on attending a conference in China, titled - Wanshou Dialogue on Global Security/Academic visit – held in Beijing / Shanghai, China 19-26 June 2018. This event was organised by Chinese People’s Association for Peace and Disarmament (CPAPD).

Tytti moderated a panel on security in Northeast Asia and prepared a paper on the *'The need for a regional security regime in Northeast Asia'*.

- Tytti attended a conference titled - *Triangular Interdependence: A Closer Look at Europe-Iran-Turkey Relations* – held in Berlin, Germany, held on 29 June 2018. The event was organised by Centre for Applied Research in Partnership with the Orient (CARPO), Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES), and Al-Sharq Forum. Tytti was a speaker in a panel on the Changing Nature of US Engagement in the Middle East, where she gave a presentation on 'The need for regional security and arms control talks in the Middle East'.
- Tytti attended Almedalen politics week in Gotland, Sweden. She was a speaker in a panel, titled - *Kärnvapnens framtid – vad säger forskningen och politiken om avskräckning och förbudsavtal?* Tytti gave a presentation on the *'Nuclear Ban, Order and Justice in the Global Non-Proliferation Regime'* held on 4 July 2018.
- She will be attending the EU NPDC Consultative meeting 4-5 September, giving a presentation on the JCPOA.

Petr Topychkanov reported –

- The most active project now is the one on artificial intelligence, machine learning, the impact on nuclear risks and strategic stability. The next meeting, which is the second meeting, will happen at the beginning of September in Beijing. Petr will spend a couple of additional days for meetings with Chinese experts on nuclear security and nuclear arms control issues. Now currently in the process of negotiating the date, agenda, and list of participants of the third meeting and it hoped to be at the end of this year.
- There is a date already fixed on the 18 October between SIPRI and IMEMO (Institute of World Economy and International Relations) a Moscow based institute about a joint event to mark the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Russian version of the SIPRI yearbook. SMT will discuss further.
- Petr attended a jointly organized US-Russia dialogue meeting organized by Non-proliferation Studies (CNS) and the Center for Energy and Security Studies (CENESS) and held in Monterey, USA, held on 30-31 July 2018. The dialogue provided a unique opportunity for U.S. and Russian non-governmental and governmental experts to learn about new nuclear non-proliferation developments from experts in the field and to engage in candid and informal discussions on these pivotal issues. The key focus was on emerging technology challenges for arms control.

Vitaly reported –

- Vitaly wanted to raise awareness about access to IAEA events. The IAEA often conducts big symposiums and conferences and the normal procedure in order to participate is, one needs government permission or to be part of a government delegation. However, since we have an MOU it is possible for SIPRI in some cases to nominate participants directly. If a SIPRI person thinks they need to go to a symposium or conference it is possible to arrange. If interested then feel free to speak with Vitaly.

Sibylle reported –

- Sibylle will be in Japan next week (21-23 August) for the Hiroshima annual roundtable on nuclear disarmament issues. Part of the reason for the trip is not just to participate in the roundtable but also to discuss our on going cooperation. A project proposal had been submitted and feedback is awaited. The idea is go further in-depth on the topic of nuclear disarmament verification.
- As Sibylle is already in Japan she will travel to Tokyo and attend the last day of the ATT conference, Fourth Conference of States Parties (CSP4) on Friday, 24 August.
- On the technologies side, Vincent is back from parental leave on 1 September. For AI/technologies in the meantime, different tracks have already been started. A number of them are in the DUAT programme and funding has been secured from the German MOFA to turn one of the security conference sessions into a study and also to commission a series of background papers. This is what is called the Bio Plus X in the agenda for SSC 2018 that the German MOFA had a special interest in. Kolja will do a lot of work on this and also Vincent once back will be providing input on technologies in cyber and other fields that when combined with bio provides interesting technologies in the area of human enhancement and so forth. The information from the background papers will be combined with the results from the conference and additional research.

SSC 2019

Emma reported-

- The Stockholm Security Conference is approaching and on 2 August, Ekaterina shared the draft agenda for the conference by email. Events begin on 19 September at the Riksdag with a pre-conference seminar followed by a reception. Currently we are lacking private sector representatives. The full conference starts on 20 September at Fotografiska. (Please see the agenda for details).
- This year we have a bit different format of inviting participants. We are not sending invitations to the contact lists of SIPRI

Communications Team but rather inviting selected people from our (your) expert networks.

- In this regards, please suggest names from your networks that may be interested in participating and send Ekaterina or Emma their names and contact details. Ekaterina or Emma will forward them invitations with registration link. Please send suggestions ASAP. All participants except the speakers are self sponsored.
- If you have any questions contact Emma and Ekaterina.

The EUNPDC project:

- Nikos Politis introduced himself as the new Financial Coordinator for the EU projects now working here in SIPRI. Welcome Nikos!
- The main focus for Nikos's role is on the EUNPDC project but potentially we have more EU projects on the way.

Sibylle reported –

- The first kick off meeting with EU budget personnel and also the first Steering Board meeting was held on 2 July. This was the first time they had the official gathering of the consortium with EU counterparts.

Giovanna reported -

- The next relevant event is in September for the annual EU Consultative Meetings (4-5 September). Sibylle Giovanna, Tytti, Tarja and Quiterrie will all be attending. The agenda covers selected issues within the mandate (conventional weapons and WMD).
- The annual EUNPDC conference is confirmed for the 18-19 December 2018 in Brussels at the Egmont Palace. IAI will lead the organisation of the conference this year. We will provide support both on financial issues and by sharing inputs for speakers, participants and topics. We will hear more about this in the coming months.
- Following the first Board meeting of the expanded consortium on 2 July, two meetings were held on 3 July. One with representatives of the EU External Action Service (EEAS) to discuss more about contents and about upcoming seminars, the conference, and the EU Consultative meeting. The second meeting was with financial counterparts along with representatives of the EU Commission to discuss contract provisions and technical questions.
- The schedule for the EUNPDC paper publication series was raised and this will be discussed among the team and with the Editors.
- On 2-3 July, Giovanna, Sibylle, Nikos and Maria were in Brussels where they attended a series of meetings EUNPDC related meetings. On the 2 July, they attended the first Consortium Board meeting, where they met with the other members of the Consortium. On the 3 July, there were a further two meetings. One with representatives of the EEAS to discuss more about “contents”, i.e. about upcoming Ad-

hoc seminars, the conference, and the EU Consultative meetings. The second meeting was with the EU financial counterpart (i.e. the Foreign Policy Instruments Service of the EU Commission) to discuss more in details contract provisions and more technical questions.

- The issue of schedule for EUNPDC paper publication series was raised and this will be discussed among the team and with the Editors.
- Authors and subjects are needed for these 20 papers and the next priority is to commission authors. For inspiration all are advised to look back at the list of past papers with 60 papers previously done. New authors are now needed and these should not be the same persons as before. Some of the topics can be the same if it is a new angle or if new information has come to light.
- We also have the helpdesk series to consider and of course there we don't know when these will come. Sibylle will also have regular interaction with the EEAS now they are coming back from the vacation period to try to find out about new requests ASAP.
- On distribution, there are different levels of sensitivity regarding this – a case-by-case basis. These are not public papers and it's really on demand for the External Action Service (which sometimes didn't even share them with the EU Member States). Some things will probably be fine to disseminate while others will not be spread widely.
- On ad hoc seminars – so far there's nothing lined up for us. There will be a bio weapons seminar that FRS will organise. IISS will do a MANPADS seminar in November that will be held back to back with a NATO event on the issue. On the issue of landmines there are no takers so far to organise a seminar. The topic of SALW and UN Security Council resolutions and embargoes will be looked at later on.

AOB

Upcoming - UN First Committee

Sibylle -

- On the calendar for the UN First Committee, thinking ahead for coordination, if anybody is thinking about doing events or possibly doing side events then it would be good to raise this at our next A&D cluster meeting. UNIDIR have approached Sibylle to jointly do something on nuclear issues but other issues may pop up. It will be good to know who will be in New York even on other topics and we can discuss further at the next A&D cluster meeting.

Editorial –

- Joey has been in touch with AMEX about planning chapters for the next yearbook. Editorial have been or will be in touch also with the other teams. The table of contents will be worked out on due course following meetings with the teams.

Next A&D cluster meeting – On Wednesday, 20 August, 9:30am