**TOWARDS A RESEARCH STRATEGY FOR THE ARMAMENT AND DISARMAMENT CLUSTER**

**May 2017**

## Overarching research question

I. Developments in armament (conventional, NBC, cyber and spending on those issues): What are current trends, their drivers, and peace/security risks arising from them?
II. What are current policy, institutional, legal-regulatory and self-regulatory and civil society responses to these trends and risks, and how effective are they?

**(Potential) cluster research topics**

1. Technology as a driver of peace/security risks
   - 1.1. Intersection/relationship between conventional, NBC, delivery systems, cyber and blurred boundaries between these areas
   - 1.2. Implications for doctrinal developments (esp. nuclear)
   - 1.3. Missiles (who has what; role in force structures; missile defence)
   - 1.4. Implications of increasing importance of intangibles
   - 1.5. Broadening of control rationale to human security/human rights considerations; evolving dual-use concept and blurred/shifting boundaries
   - 1.6. Technology as an opportunity (e.g. verification) vs. risk (e.g. lower threshold for military action), including role of availability of technology (e.g. satellite mapping)
   - 1.7. Changing nature of armed conflict: e.g. 'left of launch/pre-emption through cyber intervention – "The new pre-emptive right of way") and cyber

2. Future of arms control and disarmament (NBC and conventional)
   - 2.1. What are current policy, institutional, legal-regulatory and self-regulatory responses to armament trends and how effective are they?
   - 2.2. Increased legitimacy/reduced respect for nuclear weapons in political discourse or strengthened anti-nuclear norm (ban-treaty and humanitarian initiative)?
   - 2.3. Humanitarian arms control: landmines, cluster munitions, Yemen
   - 2.4. Effects of technology on spending (link to Issue 1)