

Minute taker: Alexandra Kuimova

Time: 9:30-11:00AM

SIPRI Armament and Disarmament Cluster Meeting

Solna, 6 November 2019

Participants:

Sibylle Bauer, Petr Topychkanov, Nan Tian, Giovanna Maletta, Diego Lopes, Alexandra Kuimova, Joey Fox, Lena Kappelin, Aude Fleurant, Vincent Boulanin, Mark Bromley (via Skype), Elena Haapaniemi.

Agenda for A&D cluster meeting 6 November 2019:

- Report back from the Programme/Project Heads on recent/upcoming activities/meetings
- Grant application updates (Please check information on Excel sheet - circulated on 4 November)
- Implementation of ongoing UD grant: update on all deliverables
- Publications updates (Joey/John)
- Report back from SMT/Sibylle
- Report back on activity from other Clusters
- AOB

DUAT – report

- The DUAT team is finishing up the EXBS project. There are two publications to come out:
 - Kolja's paper on 'Challenges to multilateral export controls: The case for inter-regime dialogue and coordination'.
 - Sibylle's and Mark's paper on 'Detecting, investigating and prosecuting export control violations: European perspectives on key challenges and good practices'.
- Mark and Giovanna are working on a case study on firearms trafficking in Sweden as part of the DIVERT project.
- Work on the YB chapters has started. All coming trips for DUAT team are mentioned in the cluster wiki.

EUNPD Consortium update:

- The conference is confirmed for December 13-14.
- There will be a network meeting and a 'Next Generation' Workshop on December 12. Giovanna and Sibylle will attend both events. Kolja will join on the last half day (14 December) after attending the EU Export Control Forum (13 December).
- In addition, on 9 December, there will be an EUNPDC Ad-hoc seminar on 'Security, Safety, Sustainability: Promoting Good Behaviour in Outer Space'. The seminar is organised in Brussels by FRS and Tytti and Sibylle are going to attend.
- EU Non-Proliferation and Disarmament papers:
 - i. Giovanna has received a proposal from Sico van der Meer (Clingendael) on nuclear risk reduction measures. This would further develop the Help Desk Paper that he produced on the same topic earlier this year. The proposal is being discussed with the authors.
 - ii. There are three papers currently in production: (a) Swarms control (Maaike Verbruggen - VUB) (b) The crisis of nuclear arms control and impact on European security (Lukasz Kulesa – PISM) (c) 'From critical engagement to credible commitments: a renewed EU strategy to the North Korean crises' (Antoine Bondaz - FRS).
- The VCDNP (Vienna Center for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation) is organizing the first non-proliferation awareness training course for graduate and post-graduate students in the field of IT and engineering. The training will take place in February 2020 in Vienna.

UD Deliverables:

- Mark and Jose's work on the policy paper on reporting instruments is progressing. They are planning to send it to the editors on December 17.

Funding applications:

- 'The current and future use of export controls to govern the trade and use of artificial intelligence' project has been submitted to the Canadian MFA.
- The DUAT team has been asked to submit three proposals to the German MFA on:

- End-use controls;
- Expanding the ATT Database to the Western Balkans;
- Assessing the status of the Arms Trade Treaty.

The proposals are ready to be submitted.

Travel (previous vs upcoming):

- On 23 October Giovanna was in Brussels attending an EMPACT meeting at the Flemish Parliament organised by the Flemish Peace Institute. The meeting brought together national authorities, police representatives and researchers. The Flemish Peace Institute presented the finding of the first phase of the DIVERT project and Giovanna joined a panel on firearms thefts.

Nuclear disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation – report

- The Hiroshima Project ‘*Addressing the Increased Salience of Nuclear Weapons*’: Petr will share the first draft of the report with Shannon and Tytti ASAP, since it should go to external reviewers on December 1.
- Tarja’s brown-bag lunch on ‘Understanding the creation and diffusion of technologies’ will take place later in November or in January.

Funding applications:

- The India-Pakistan-China Proposal (‘Assessing Nuclear Deterrence Risks and Challenges: China–India–Pakistan’) is currently with the German MFA.

Travel (previous vs upcoming trips):

- Petr attended a workshop on global no first use (GNFU) policy organized by the Takshashila Institution in Bengaluru, India.
- On 7-9 November Petr and Sibylle will be attending the 2019 Moscow Non-proliferation Conference, where Petr will be moderating a panel on the new START Treaty extension and a session on strategic stability in South Asia.
- Tarja is planning to attend the UN Conference on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons on November 22.

AMEX – report

- AMEX team has been working on data collection for the Top-100.
- Nan reported that the MILEX Database is in the final phase of implementation. Work on the internal version of the database is completed. Work on the external version of the database is ongoing. The project should be completed at the beginning of December. Once the database is completed, the AMEX team will do a final check.
- Alexandra reported that she and Siemon were invited to give a lecture on security issues in the Black Sea region at the Swedish Defence University on November 27.

UD Deliverables:

- Diego reported that the publication date for a topical backgrounder on off-budget military spending in Chile was December 16.
- A Factsheet paper on ODA Non-ODA military spending has been reviewed and will be published in 2020 (February-March).
- Nan's paper on Chinese arms industry will be sent to the editors on December 9 and it should be published in January 2020.

Travel (previous vs upcoming trips):

- On November 26-28 Aude will be attending a conference organized by GRIP (in the context of the GRIP 40th anniversary). She will present on military expenditure and its drivers.

Emerging military and security technologies – report

- Vincent was in New York attending a side-event 'Capturing Technology, Rethinking Arms Control' at the UNGA - First Committee. Vincent presented the findings of the SIPRI/ICRC project: Limits on Autonomy: identifying practical elements of human control. In addition, Vincent discussed opportunities for future collaboration between SIPRI and the UNODA, namely possible work on the Article 36 Reviews and work on responsible innovation in the space of international peace and security.
- The draft of the Carnegie Final Report is being finalized. A soft launch event is being planned to be held in Geneva on December 3.
- Vincent is discussing with Tytti about developing work related to space issues (namely, space-based technologies). The project would follow the same model as the current Carnegie project on AI and strategic stability and nuclear risk: a mix of regional workshop and desk-research.
- Mistra Project: Vincent is discussing with Malin about a project related to the geopolitics of climate change (the opportunity and risks related to emerging technologies). He is going to travel to Linköping to discuss the specifics of the project with the partners. This 3-year project will start in 2021.
- The MSB (Myndigheten för samhällsskydd och beredska) Project: Vincent has sent his report to MSB for review.
- In addition, Dan approached Vincent about a project on cyber security and informational warfare for the Japanese Bank for International Cooperation.

Travel (previous vs upcoming trips):

- On December 3-5 Vincent will be attending the Seminar for Promoting International Cooperation around Artificial Intelligence organized by the Center for Humanitarian Dialogue (HD) in Geneva. In addition, Vincent will attend together with Dan the soft launch event on the impact of artificial intelligence on strategic stability and nuclear risk at the UN Library in Geneva.

Publications updates (Joey)

- Siemon's paper on SSA should be published within two weeks.

- Joey reported that the outreach team had set up the Visual Communication (VC) group within Outreach. For now, the VC includes Steph, Shannen, Joey, John and Frank; Joey (print) and Shannen (online) are the key points of contact.
- Joey reminded that researchers should contact Joey and Shannen about the visual aspects of their work at three points:
 - (a) before a proposal (e.g. concept note, formal application) that could involve visual elements (e.g. graphics, film, data visualization, animation) is circulated externally with a potential funder;
 - (b) on notification that this funding has been received; and
 - (c) at any time that relevant changes with regard to (a) or (b) take place.
- Joey will be on vacation from December 19 to January 8.
- Frank will be on vacation from December 8 to January 16.

Operations (Lena):

- The Operations Team has started testing the new budget system. Therefore, the availability of the operations team will be limited. Lena informed the cluster that she would work from home one day per week for the rest of the year. Sibylle asked Lena to share her Zimbra calendar with the programme directors.
- All travel claims should be done in December. Lena will send out a reminder-email.

SMT/Sibylle- report

SIPRI–Swedish MFA Partnership:

- SIPRI is working with the Swedish Foreign Ministry on the Stockholm Nuclear Disarmament Initiative which was started by Margot Wallström. SIPRI and the Swedish MFA are organizing a high-level meeting to be held in Stockholm on the 27-28 of November. A follow up meeting at the ministerial level will be held on the 25 of February in Berlin.
- Sibylle informed the cluster that the Swedish Government had committed to setting up a Swedish center of excellence on nuclear disarmament. Ambassador Paul Berijer has been tasked by the government to explore the ways to develop the center (by 13 December).

The Körber Foundation (Hamburg)

- Sibylle reported about a conversation she had with the German Körber foundation while in Berlin the previous week. The foundation is known for its non-profit work aimed at, among others, fostering international dialogue. The Körber Foundation also runs a joint project with the Munich Security Conference called Munich Young Leaders. The Foundation might be a partner for the next SSC, should there be one. Sibylle will explore this lead further.

SIPRI–German MFA Partnership:

- The German Federal Foreign Office hosted a big conference last March which SIPRI was a thematic partner in. As a follow up, the German MFA want to organize an event in Berlin next year in November (dates still to be confirmed).

- In addition, Germany is assuming the Presidency of the European Council in the second half of 2020. Germany want to fold a lot of its initiatives into the priorities that Germany will set for its Presidency of the EU. The German Government would like to partner with SIPRI and the EUNPD Consortium on that.
- The German MFA is interested to bring work on technologies forward. The MFA has established a brainstorming expert group on technology issues. The first meeting of the group was held in August. Sibylle and Kolja attended the meeting. The next meeting will take place in Berlin on the 22 of November. Sibylle and Kolja will participate in a roundtable that discusses approaches to arms control and governance of emerging technologies – Focus on AI and the role of the EU.
- Sibylle was in Berlin last Friday for the annual meeting organized by the advisory board of the German Foreign Ministry on disarmament matters (Gesprächskreis Abrüstung).

Peace and Development Cluster

- Martina reported that the draft concept note for 2020 Stockholm Forum on Peace and Development would be shared with everyone ASAP.
- The deadline for proposals and applications is 4 December 2019.

AOB

11 December at 9:20 AM