

Minute taker: Noel Kelly

Time: 14:30-16:00 PM

SIPRI Armament and Disarmament Cluster Meeting

Zoom virtual meeting, Monday 4 April 2022

Participants:

Sibylle Bauer, Mark Bromley, Vincent Boulainin, Lucie Béraud-Sudreau, Andrea Varisco, Wilfred Wan, Kolja Brockmann, Giovanna Maletta, Laura Bruun, Tytti Erästö, Nan Tian, Diego Lopes, Alexandra Marksteiner, Alexandra Kuimova, Nivedita Raju, Lorenzo Scarazatto, Nikos Politis, Alexandra Manolache, Stephanie Blenckner, John Batho, Nikos Politis, Nils Erik Danielsson, Anant Saria, Alex Kaplan, and Ming Sun, Ludovico De Angelis

A&D cluster meeting agenda

- Updates from Operations.
- Updates from Outreach. (Communications and Editorial)
- Updates from other Clusters
- Report back from Sibylle: SMT, AMC and cluster issues/events
- EUNPDC update - Giovanna will present about the activities of the EUNPDC and work being done.
- Report from A&D Programmes/Team (by PD or nominated team member) - (any new information relevant to all since the last meeting).

Discussion (moderated by Sibylle) - How do we improve working and research practices?

- Develop and expand processes of sharing good working practices and where relevant - achieving a common approach?
- What areas to focus on? (e.g. feedback, reviewing)
- Using the Office Tools (*Planner*) now available and other IT solutions?
- AOB - A&D away day

Updates from Operations.

- No report at this meeting.

Updates from Outreach. (Communications and Editorial)

- Preparations for the milex embargo week (Easter week) and data launch on 25 April are in process. Nothing further to report from Editorial team

Updates from other Clusters

C, P&S - Johanna

- Nothing further to add outside if Monday morning report but next C, P &S cluster meeting is on Tuesday 5 April @2:00PM.

P&D – Martina

- They are getting ready to launch the Forum platform and registration. Slightly different from last year there will be both registration in-person and on-line. We will all receive a link to register for the forum. Once you do register please indicate the days you are planning to come to the forum venue. For the online registration you are most welcome to forward the link very widely to your networks.

Report back from Sibylle: SMT, AMC and cluster issues/events

- The incoming Chair of the Governing Board Mr Stefan Löfven visits SIPRI this Tuesday 5 April. In 2022, Löfven was appointed by United Nations Secretary General António Guterres as co-chair of the High-Level Advisory Board on Effective Multilateralism, alongside Ellen Johnson Sirleaf. He will brief SMT about this work and meet each of the cluster DoSs. Sibylle will report back at next meeting.
- There will be another planning meeting with the Uppsala based AMC (Alva Myrdal Centre) about the joint summer school now postponed from June until 28 August and the week thereafter. The opportunity has now come up to bring in the Odessa Center for Nonproliferation as a partner.
- A reminder about the Ypres Peace Prize – please send any ideas for nomination to Sibylle.
- SMT have approved two new SIPRI Associates to be attached to the A&D cluster including Dr Miro Himmel a chemical biological weapons expert <http://www.biological-arms-control.org/staff_mirkohimmel.html>, and Dustin Lewis the Research Director for the *Harvard Law School* Program on International Law and Armed Conflict (HLS PILAC).

EUNPDC seminar on gender in disarmament – Nivi

An EUNPDC seminar on gender in disarmament and non-proliferation was hosted by SIPRI on-line on 30 March. The session had quite several speakers and different strands were identified with different sub-topics covered, including:

- Disconnect between the women peace and security agenda and armament and disarmament.
- How to make arms control instruments gender responsive? - Feminist foreign policy hierarchies in our institutions - Feminist foreign policies and organizational work culture.

In feedback to the SIPRI organisers it was highlighted how rare it is to see policy makers, diplomats and NGOs all in one space. There are a lot of opportunities for future seminars and discussions.

Arms transfers report – Andrea (report on AT data launch from Alexandra M)

A project to UNSCAR ‘The Transparency in armaments: promoting the UN Register of Conventional Arms in the ASEAN region’ has been pre-selected. The start date is unknown but it is planned to be a one-year project.

Justine Gadon-Ferreira joins the SIPRI Arms transfers Programme as a Research Assistant from 22/04/11.

On the 14 March the annual arms transfers data was released. This resulted in **a record coverage of over 3,900 news articles or broadcasts in the first five days alone**. The stories are still running, and AT colleagues are engaged continuously with interviews, currently at over 4,600 media articles.

Overview

- Coverage in over 3 900 online news articles or broadcasts in the first five days
- 673 re-tweets; 769 likes (75 800 followers in total)
- 6 071 page views on the press release webpage
- 6 291 views on the Arms Transfers Database webpage
- 2 194 unique views on the Arms Transfers Fact Sheet publication webpage
- 29.18% (4,779 unique views) opening rate for the mailing with the click rate at 8.66%
- 2 141 clicks on SIPRI’s bit.ly links, including 1 734 on the English version of the press release
- 257 likes and 745 shares on Facebook (25 703 total page likes)
- The press release launching the data was sent to over 16,372 global subscribers including professional media. The opening rate was 29.18% (4,779 unique views) with the click rate at 8.66%.

Congratulations once again to the Arms Transfers team for navigating the challenging media work during this period and the weeks before the embargo week! Thank you also to the Editorial team and the Comms colleagues for ongoing support!

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DUAT report – Kolja

Kolja recapped the work currently being done by the DUAT Programme that includes six parallel projects.

The following projects were referenced:

- European Peace Facility (EPI) project (Giovanna leading). Giovanna and Lauriane are currently working on a paper for this project that will be circulated for review in a couple of weeks.
- Missile Technology Control Regime project (Kolja leading). Later this week the second publication on hypersonic missiles and MTCA in relation to this project will be released.
- Post-Shipment Controls project. This German funded project is in the second phase. There will a June workshop in Berlin that is a mix of the post-shipment control topic and on EPI.
- The team are working on a project on the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) region together with the centre of excellences of the EU and BAFA (German licensing authority). This is a capacity building effort on export controls in the region.
- There is a project mapping assistance activities in relation to ATT and SALW assistance in the Gulf region. The work continues in the database with data collection on going.
- Project Insight – the DUAT team are part of this project led by the Flemish Peace Institute (FPI) in a consortium project with Small Arms Survey and other partners.

The DUAT Yearbook chapter has gone through the editorial and review process and has now been sent off to typeset.

DUAT are thinking about the 2022 SSC both in relation to the work currently on going and ideas going forward. Somewhat linked to that is engagement on future funding opportunities with the German government.

Emerging Technologies – Vincent

- No major updates but current projects remain on track. The main update is work has started on the main deliverable report for the autonomous weapons project to be published in October.
- The team are working towards the organisation of a workshop happening in late April for the project on responsible innovation in AI.
- On 5 April Vincent will be in Brussels to present a proposal to the EU for what is hoped to be a 3-year project.
- The work with the CCR team on the use of AI to understand climate change security risk is on track.
- Ideas for the SSC from AT is on the do list.

MILAP report – Lucie

- In terms of core work the team are working on the Yearbook chapter and towards the milex data launch upcoming on 25 April.
- External funded projects are on track including a project for the European Commission collection data on arms companies.
- A project for the Australian DOD collecting data on Asian arms companies in collaboration with Siemon from AT is on track.
- Work on submitting a 3-year proposal to the Riksbankens Jubileumsfond is being worked on.

WMD report – Wilfred

- Last week the team along with Sibylle met with NIS at Swedish MFA to discuss WMD issues and outer space issues.
- Next week Vitaly goes to Vienna for a meeting with nuclear forensics technical group.
- On funding application - the team are taking a renewed look at the space application they submitted to the Norwegians initially last month.
- The team are working on the NordForsk Exploratory workshop call 2022 application. SIPRI as an institute can only submit one application and as the climate team are also interested talks are on going.

EUNPDC presentation – Giovanna

For the benefit of new colleagues this presentation was an overview about the EU NonProliferation and Disarmament Consortium. Please contact Giovanna or Sibylle to learn more.

EUNPDC - what's next?

- April-May 2022: New Council Decision and beginning of Phase IV (4.7 mln EUR);
- SIPRI still coordinator and responsible for General Management, publications and briefs;
- SIPRI also takes over the proliferation awareness course;

New activities:

- Podcast (IISS);
- ‘Teaching clinic’/‘Resource hub’ (PRIF);
- New internal/collaborative platform for Network (FRS); Mentorship programme confirmed (not pilot).

AOB.

The next meeting will be the A&D cluster away day will be on 22/05/05.