

## **Monday morning meeting**

19 May 2025

### **Notes**

#### **Notes for Monday morning meeting**

##### **New colleagues**

- Pierre Thévenin is joining SIPRI as of today as a Visiting Researcher.
- FPS programme has a new intern joining, for a six-month internship. Rachel Blair will start remotely while awaiting her visa but will join in person in June.

##### **Director's Office**

- The Governing Board meeting is taking place virtually today and tomorrow from 14:00 – 18:00. There will be an open session for all SIPRI staff on Tuesday, 20 May from 15:10 to 16:30.
- There will be an RSC meeting on Tuesday 27 May at 10:30 – 12:00. We would still like a volunteer to take the minutes. Please let Priscilla know if you would like to serve as the minute taker.

##### **Operations**

- This is just a reminder that we will have a brief presentation of the new Fire Safety Procedure following today's meeting.

##### **Outreach**

- Huge thanks from Martina and Claire to everyone who made the Stockholm Forum 2025 such a successful event last week: from the core team (Mimmi, Channa, Ann-Sofie, Valeria and Gracie) who have worked for months to get every detail right, to our wonderful DO office colleagues Sofie and Priscilla, to the outreach team (especially Emma, Annika, Amelie, Aino, Benedikt and Josh) and GAD/PMO colleagues who supported us along the way. Special mentions to Thomas for volunteering to help at the venue and to Joey for allowing us to decimate her editorial team in the spirit of ensuring a successful event 😊.
- Congrats as well to Katongo, Caroline, Florian, Virginie and Jair for hosting super sessions during the two days.

##### **Armament and Disarmament**

###### **Last week:**

- Alexander and Laura attended the Informal Consultation of the United Nation General Assembly on Autonomous weapons. Alex attended the entire consultation in person, while Laura took part (online) in a panel on accountability in the use of autonomous weapons
- Vincent moderated a virtual roundtable discussion with SMEs on responsible innovation in AI for Peace and Security.

###### **This week:**

- Vincent and Alex will be in Uppsala University on Tuesday to attend the [Inaugural Peter Wallensteen Lecture with Mary Ellen O'Connell of the Kroc Institute for International Studies](#) and have meeting with university staff.
- Alexander and Laura will be in the Hague as part of a training course on [international law and governance of military AI co-hosted by SIPRI and Asser Institute](#).
- Vitaly is in Buenos Aires this week as part of a regional workshop organized by the International Atomic Energy Agency on radiological crime scene management

- Vlad will head to Glion, Switzerland, later this week to take part in an expert-level dialogue on preparing for the post-JCPOA (Iran nuclear deal) era.
- Wilfred will take part on a panel on interconnected security risks as part of the Global Challenges Foundation's Partner Days (in Stockholm)
- Pieter is attending the conference on the Future of Russia Way of War organized by the Stockholm Centre for Eastern European Studies (SCEEUS) at the Swedish Institute of International Affairs (UI) on Thursday and Friday May 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Conflict, Peace and Security**

#### **Last week:**

- Alaa hosted, spoke at, and co-organized two super sessions at the Forum. The first session was on 'How Can Independent Media and Peacebuilders Collaborate to Combat Disinformation and Hate Speech, Bridge Divides, and Build Trust?' co-Organized with the UNDP and the International Fund for Public Interest Media (IFPIM). The second session was on Leader or Left Behind? The EU in a Euro-Mediterranean Polycrisis, Co-Organized with the Center for Climate and Security (CCS) and Istituto Affari Internazionali. More about it can be found here <https://councilonstrategicrisks.org/2025/05/20/nexus25-sipri-conference-workshop-leader-or-left-behind-the-eu-in-a-euro-mediterranean-polycrisis/>.
- On Thursday, Fei attended the first state consultation of the ICT workstream of the Global Initiative on IHL. On Friday, Fei attended a seminar on 'The Two Koreas in a Rapidly Changing World' hosted by UI.
- Gretchen and Jair were in Berlin last week. On Monday they participated in a seminar of the Global Alliance for Peacekeeping, and on Tuesday they co-organized with FES a side event to the Peacekeeping Ministerial "The Future of Conflict Management and Peace Operations: Global and Regional Perspectives" where they shared early research findings from the Dakar dialogue meeting followed by a panel discussion.

#### **This week:**

- Gretchen will be in Buchillon, Switzerland for a workshop called 'Tech and Gendered Violence: Harm and Hope (Defining Priorities for Action)'. It's hosted by EPFL (EssentialTech Centre).
- On 22 May, from 12 to 13.00, the Peace Operations team is organizing a Brown Bag with Richard Gowan UN and Multilateral Diplomacy Director at the International Crisis Group (ICG). Richard will be speaking on "The UN and the future of global order". This is a particularly relevant conversation given all the changes (and challenges) unfolding in our field - especially since the start of the Trump administration - and the ongoing debates around UN reform. He'll start with a 20-minute presentation, followed by an informal 40-minute conversation. We'll meet in the Conference Room (feel free to bring your lunch!), and you're also welcome to join remotely via Teams.
- Barbara is at a lunch today with the French ambassador and members of the French Senate's Foreign Relations committee.
- Barbara is in Berlin on Thursday and Friday, participating in a workshop on Europe's future security architecture organized by SWP (Germany) and IRSEM (France).
- Virginie will be giving a presentation on the situation in the Sahel to the French Ministry of Armed forces on Tuesday, in Paris.
- The Sahel team is organizing a meeting with M Pourchier, Executive Director of Tournons la Page, a civil society organization which relays peaceful, non-partisan actions to promote democratic alternation in Africa. The meeting will take place on Thursday at 15:00. The organization is developing a new project, "Security cooperation and human rights in Africa: analysis and mapping". One aspect of the project is to analyse and map security cooperation

agreements involving training, transfer or sale of weapons and equipment, intelligence assistance. All colleagues interested are welcome to join. TLP would be interested in working with SIPRI on this project.

- On Tuesday, Jiayi will be a speaker at a Chatham House event on China and sustainable finance in the MENA region.