

Monday morning meeting

22 September 2025

Notes

Operations

HR:

- Upcoming arrivals:
 - Joshua Wilks will start remotely from 22 September as Research Assistant for four months with the Food Peace and Security, Sahel Resilience Partnership and the new research collaboration with International Organization for Migration in South Sudan.
- A new email address – workenvironment@sipri.org – has been created as an additional way to report work environment issues.
Through this address, employees can report:
 - Risk observations – potential hazards before anything has happened.
 - Incidents– when something happened that could have caused harm but did not.
 - Accidents – when an event has led to injury, illness, or damage.
- Reports can also be made directly to HR, to your line manager, to a safety representative, or to facilities – or simply to any responsible colleague who can help solve the problem immediately. The important thing is that issues are acted upon quickly. If something can be resolved on the spot, that is encouraged. HR must, however, always be informed so that the matter can be documented and included in our work environment follow-up.
Urgent matters are dealt with straight away, other reports are followed up in the Work Environment Group, and once a year the Safety Committee reviews all cases to see if there are patterns that need further action.

GAD:

- Congratulations to Vitaly (WMD Programme)! GAD has countersigned a contract for a project with the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) for the production of three case studies on Nuclear Forensics in 2026 and 2027.
Budget: USD 84,231 (798,845 SEK)
- Congratulations to Tytti (WMD Programme)! GAD countersigned a contract for a project titled 'RRBS – Exploring possibilities for risk reduction in the Baltic Sea region'. The main deliverables are an in-person roundtable meetings to be held in Stockholm in November or December 2025 - and the bigger project application that this seed funding project will also produce by March 2026. The donor is Svenska institutet (SI). The project started on 15 September and will run until 31 May 2026. Budget: SEK 475,495
- Congratulations to Virginie and Marie (Sahel and West Africa Programme)! GAD has countersigned a contract for a project titled 'Bridging research and humanitarian response for an evidence-based approach to displacement in the Chad–Sudan borderlands'.
- The donor is the International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie), funded through the UK's FCDO Research Connection programme. The project starts on 1 October 2025 and runs until 31

December 2026.

Budget: GBP 29,449 (377,566 SEK)

- As part of our ongoing efforts to secure external funding, we kindly ask staff to share their Europass CVs with GAD (if you have not done so already). We circulated this message to all staff by email on Friday. New staff are especially encouraged to submit their Europass CVs as soon as possible to kelly@sipri.org. Many of you have already shared your CVs, but you may wish to update them—please feel free to send an updated version.

Director's Office

- Welcome back to Sepideh, who is returning from her maternity leave! For the next month she will be working 50% (mornings) and from late October she will be back full-time.
- Many warm thanks to everyone who has contributed to the geographical papers and not least to Outreach for finalizing this excellent work last week. The papers will be circulated to you all during this week and will also be shared with the Board.
- On Thursday 18 October, Karim and Charlotta met with Dag Hartelius, State Secretary for Foreign Affairs at the MFA. The courtesy call was a good chance to establish a contact and highlight some of the key areas of work of SIPRI. The State Secretary expressed an interest in further developing the dialogue between SIPRI and the MFA. The geographical papers were handed over and were much appreciated. They will be distributed throughout the MFA.
- This week Karim and Charlotta continue the round of external meetings, including on Wednesday a meeting with the Director General of FBA and the Speaker of the Parliament, and on Friday a meeting with the State Secretary for International Development Cooperation.
- DO is currently busy with the preparations for the Governing Board meeting and the public event that will take place in the afternoon of Tuesday 7 October. The theme will be Resolving conflicts in an insecure world.
- As part of Strategic Grant deliverables, SIPRI will host a roundtable on Thursday morning entitled 'Finding Common Ground: Development Cooperation in Fragile and Conflict-affected Settings' with Swedish and European policy makers. Luc will moderate the discussion and Jingdong, Barbara MT and Johan Schaar will present alternative regional models of cooperation. Caroline and Florian will also take part and Charlotta will provide welcome remarks. There will be a follow up workshop in November which will be a broader set of civil society actors. Contact Claire if you have any questions.
- There will be an RSC meeting on Thursday 25 September. We hope you are all able to participate.

Senior Management Team (SMT)

- At the SMT meeting last week, besides the weekly recurring agenda items, SMT discussed:
 - The visit by the Foreign Affairs Committee
 - Meeting with the German historian with regards to the SIPRI 60th anniversary
 - Meeting with the colleagues from the European Institute for Peace
 - SIPRI's engagements in the upcoming Munich Security Conference

Outreach

- On Tuesday, Reuters TV will come at 13.30 for interviewing Karim ahead of the Nobel Prize announcement on 10 October, please avoid the library at that time, we are in contact with the workshop scheme for Monday and Tuesday!

- We understand there are still questions on the event situation in the current temporary solution which was presented last week. Please reach out to Steph to start with, she will aim to help you and guide you further.

Armament and Disarmament

- On Monday and Tuesday (22-23 Sept), GovAI and WMD are co-organizing a workshop on 'The Impact of Military AI on Nuclear Escalation' as part of work funded by Carnegie Corporation of New York. Major kudos to Jules and Vlad, and Lucas and the events team, for leading this.
- On Thursday-Friday (25-26 Sept), Nivi is in Geneva to take part in a workshop on PAROS (Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space) organized by VCDNP (Vienna Center for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation) and the GCSP (Geneva Center for Security Policy)
- On those same days, Wilfred is in Oslo for the Nobel Symposium on 'Managing the Challenges of the Third Nuclear Age' and to present on 'getting risk reduction right'
- On Thursday-Friday (25-26 Sept), Nan is in New York for General Assembly High-Level week to speak at the SDG lounge event "The Security We Need: Rebalancing Military Spending for a Sustainable and Peaceful Future".

Conflict, Peace and Security

- Pierre will be in Tallinn for the Annual Baltic Conference on Defence on September 23 and 24.

Peace and Development

- Prof. Małgorzata Burchard-Dziubińska from the University of Łódź, Poland will be with us as a guest researcher for two weeks from 22 September – 1 October. She's here mainly to use the library and explore links between the military, environment, and climate.