This side event will illuminate and discuss some of the negative practices preventing the development of progressive policies on disarmament, the trade and use of arms, and preventing humanitarian harm. It will look at recent events related to international arms transfers, the use of explosive weapons in populated areas, condemnation of cluster munition use, and nuclear disarmament initiatives in the context of government commitments to promoting development and human rights and reducing inequality and human suffering.

It will also highlight critical challenges to progressive policies including those related to participation and representation in international discussions and negotiations on these key issues. And it will provide some positive solutions for governments and other actors in overcoming these challenges in the pursuit of a safer, more equitable, and just world for all.

Speakers

- Ambassador Courtenay Rattray, Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the UN, Event Moderator
- Ms. Ray Acheson, Programme Director Reaching Critical Will of WILPF, Rhetoric vs reality: a critique of government priorities and practice on disarmament and human security
- Ms. Elizabeth Minor, Researcher for Article 36, Process and participation: an overview of the representation of developing countries and women in international disarmament discussions and negotiations
- Mr. Thomas Nash, Director Article 36, Deny, deflect, defer: common tactics to prevent progressive policies on disarmament and protection of civilians