Challenges to International Humanitarian Law (13 April 2016)

Mr. Chairman,

We thank the distinguished panellists for the useful and interesting presentations. We have the following question to Dr. Arnold:

We recognize that there is a whole body of international law out there including International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and International Criminal Law. Can you shed some light on its enforcement, particularly for States which have neither accepted compulsory jurisdiction of ICJ, nor are parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC). The International Criminal Tribunals are also ad hoc mechanisms established by the UN Security Council, which has its own political dynamics, to deal with particular situations. In this situation, wouldn’t it be more appropriate and practical to develop positive international law (a treaty or a CCW Protocol) dealing specifically with lethal autonomous weapon systems.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.