

CONFERENCE - 15 MAY 2023

Preventing and combating trafficking of conventional weapons

The Weapon's Life Cycle



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"Preventing and combating trafficking of conventional weapons"

THE WEAPON'S LIFE CYCLE

15 May 2023
9:30 AM – 6:00 PM

Arms trafficking fuels conflicts, organised crime and terrorism, and is a threat to international peace, security and stability.

The uncontrolled proliferation of conventional weapons, particularly small arms and light weapons (SALW) is a major factor in armed violence worldwide, as well as a major destabilising factor and major barrier to development.

The 2023 theme of the seminar is "The Weapon's Life Cycle". The expression refers to the life cycle of weapons and ammunition starting from localised and dated origin of design and production. The life cycle then continues through various phases of transfers and storage, up to final use, deactivation or destruction. This life-cycle approach to weapons and ammunition enables to distinguish the different key stages in the control of conventional weapons, in particular SALW. The aim is to design the appropriate political and legal tools to reduce the risks of diversion and trafficking.

This seminar brings together the main French and international technical experts – representatives of multilateral organisations, State experts, researchers and private sector actors. It aims to develop proposals for action and encourage dialogue between several actors working in the fight against arms trafficking.

In order to respond to this theme, this seminar will be organised into three round tables dedicated to the different stages of this life cycle: beginning, middle and end of the cycle

PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

9:30 AM: WELCOME COFFEE AT THE MILITARY SCHOOL

10:00 AM: OPENING REMARKS AND FULL-DAY PROGRAMME'S PRESENTATION

Pr. Julia GRIGNON – IRSEM

10:15 AM: INTRODUCTION

Ludovic GUILLOT, Head of the arms control and proliferation department, DGRIS, French Ministry of the Armed Forces

10:30 AM: FIRST ROUNDTABLE – BEGINNING OF THE CYCLE: DESIGNING, MANUFACTURING, MARKING

This first round table will present the problems encountered from the design phase of the weapon, followed by its manufacture and management on site.

- **Mr. Julien JOLY - Small Arms Survey**
- **Ms. Bertille SEIVE - French National Union of Manufacturers and Distributors of Guns, Ammunition, Equipment and Accessories for Hunting and Shooting Sports (SNAFAM)**
- **Leonardo LARA VILLARROEL - United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)VILLARROEL - United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)VILLARROEL- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)VILLARROEL - United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)**

Moderator: Mr. Reynold de LA BOUTETIERE – DGRIS



12:00-1:30 PM: Lunch break – Buffet open to all participants

1:30-2:00 PM: KEYNOTE SPEECH

Ambassador Albrecht von Wittke – Head of Conventional Arms Control and CSBM Division – German Federal Foreign Office

2:00 PM: SECOND ROUNDTABLE – MIDDLE OF THE CYCLE: TRANSFER AND STORAGE

The second round table will focus on the stages of arms transfers, with particular emphasis on issues of securing transfers and stockpiles, but also on capacity building for public actors

- **Ms. Anna MENSAH – United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR)**
- **Mr. Benjamin KING – Global International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD)**
- **Mr. Gianluca MASPOLI – North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, (NATO), Arms Control Centre**

Moderator : COL SAMARAN – IRSEM

3:30-4:00 PM: Break

4:00 PM: THIRD ROUNDTABLE – END OF THE CYCLE: COLLECTION, SEIZURE, TRACING, NEUTRALIZATION, DESTRUCTION

The third round table will address the issues of collection, seizure, tracing, neutralisation and destruction, particularly in post-conflict contexts.

- **Mr. Jean-Simon MERANDAT – Central Weapons and Explosives Service, French Ministry of the Interior**
- **Mr. Pierre SAUER – Interpol**
- **Mr. Rob HUNTER-PERKINS – Conflict Armament Research (CAR)**
- **Mr. Juan BELIKOV and Mr. Aldan SERIKBAY – UN Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT)**

Moderator: Mr. Nils DUQUET – Flemish Peace Institute

5:30 PM: CLOSING REMARKS

Dr. Edouard JOLLY – IRSEM

6:00 PM : END OF THE SEMINAR

Biographies of the panelists :



CONFERENCE VIA ZOOM

INSTRUCTIONS

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COLLOQUE

« Prévention et lutte contre les trafics d'armes classiques »

LE CYCLE DE VIE DE L'ARME

INTERVENANTS



**Julia
GRIGNON**

Julia GRIGNON is an associate professor at the Faculty of Law of Laval University (Canada) and holds a PhD from the University of Geneva (Switzerland). She wrote a doctoral thesis on the temporal applicability of international humanitarian law, awarded the Paul Reuter and Walther Hug Prizes and published by Schulthess/LGDJ. Specialized in the law of armed conflict, her main field of research for more than 15 years, she led a research project on the extraterritorial application of international human rights law in the context of external military. She produced numerous publications in peer-reviewed journals and edited the book *Hommage à Jean Pictet* (Cowansville/Geneva: Yvon Blais/Schulthess). She is also co-author of the online casebook *How Does Law Protect in war?* In addition to occasional teaching and/or research visits as a visiting professor in North America, Europe and Africa, Julia Grignon spent a year of study and research at the Institute of Human Rights and Peace of the Cheikh Anta Diop University in Dakar (Senegal). At Laval University she co-founded the Interdisciplinary Research Centre on Africa and the Middle East, and co-directed the International Criminal and Humanitarian Law Clinic. She was a member of the IRSEM Scientific Council from 2016 to 2021 and has been a member of the Committee for the Jean-Pictet Competition since 2008. She is President of the Sub-Commission on International Humanitarian Law and Humanitarian Action of the National Consultative Commission on Human Rights.



**Ludovic
GUILLOT**

Ludovic GUILLOT is a nuclear advisor and Head of the arms control and non-proliferation department at the French Ministry of Defence's Directorate General for International Relations and Strategy. Ludovic GUILLOT previously held various positions in the CEA's Military Applications Directorate, in the fields of nuclear crisis response, nuclear test monitoring and finally the development of NRBC defense technologies.



**Reynold de la
BOUTETIERE**

Reynold de la BOUTETIERE is the Export Control Delegate at the Directorate General for International Relations and Strategy of the French Ministry of the Armed Forces. After a first experience as a telecommunications engineer, Reynold de la Boutetière held several positions at the Treasury, in London and Singapore. In 2009, he joined the Direction Générale de l'Armement where he was successively in charge of bilateral cooperation in the field of armaments and industrial affairs in the fields of electronics and land and naval systems. From 2018 to 2022, he was deputy director for non-proliferation, science and technology at the General Secretariat for Defense and National Security before taking up his current position as export control delegate at the Ministry the Armed Forces.

He has been a member of the Société du Grand Paris bid review commission since 2012 and was a director of several companies in the arms and nuclear sectors between 2015 and 2018.

An engineer from the Ecole Polytechnique and ENSTA, Reynold also holds a postgraduate degree in economics from the University of Nanterre.



**Leonardo
LARA**

Leonardo LARA is a Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Officer at the Firearms Trafficking Section of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). With fourteen years of experience in the UN system, he has held different positions including as Deputy Director at the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa (UNREC) in Lomé, Togo; as desk officer at the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) in New York; and as Political Affairs Officer at the United Nations Stabilization Mission in the DR Congo (MONUSCO) in Kinshasa. Leonardo Lara holds a master's degree in public policy from Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, where he was a Fulbright Scholar. He has also carried out undergraduate and postgraduate studies in communication, governance and political management at Universidad Católica Andrés Bello in Caracas.



**Bertille
SEIVE**

Bertille SEIVE is General Delegate of SNAFAM and FEPAM. After a training in international trade and business administration and master's degree in public policy management at Sciences Po Paris, she worked in employment and training issues as well as business management, as administrative and financial director for a weapons company. Bertille SEIVE then joined SNAFAM 20 years ago to support the B2B part of the civilian weapons industry. In 2012, she initiated the creation of FEPAM and took charge of the professional training, in partnership with the Ministry of the Interior. Today, these organizations are the reference organizations for exchanges with the Ministry of the Interior, Directorate-General for Customs and the Ministry of the Armed Forces. SNAFAM is a member of IEACS, the European Institute of Hunting and Sporting Arms. Mrs SEIVE is its French spokesperson.

SNAFAM is a professional organization - created in 1897 - gathering the actors of the B2B: manufacturers, importers, distributors - suppliers of the retail gun shops

The Professional Federation of Gun and Ammunition Trades - created in 2012 : in charge of training for the gun trade, and of carrying out socio-economic studies on the industry. It brings together the two professional organizations, B2B and B2C, i.e. the entire arms industry throughout the life cycle of regulated articles.



**Julien
JOLY**

Julien JOLY is a Programme Manager at the Small Arms Survey. Prior to joining the Small Arms Survey, Julien led the Conflict and Insecurity workstream for Transparency International's Defence and Security Programme, where he focused on security sector governance/reform as well as on the nexus between corruption and conflict. Before that, Julien worked as a political analyst with the United Nations Peacekeeping operation in the Central African Republic and with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in the Democratic Republic of the Congo as a programme officer. Julien's professional experience also includes working with the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs on international cooperation issues in Kenya and Ghana.



**Albrecht
VON WITTKÉ**

Albrecht VON WITTKÉ became Head of Division for Conventional Disarmament, Arms Control and Confidence and Security Building Measures Worldwide as well as Preventive Arms Control at the Federal Foreign Office, Berlin, in August 2020. In early 2022 Mr. von Wittke was elected as Chair of the Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) on conventional ammunition, established pursuant to UN General Assembly resolution 76/233 to elaborate a set of political commitments as a new global framework that will address existing gaps in through-life ammunition management. His previous postings in the German Foreign Service include, inter alia: Head of Division for Export Controls of Non-Conventional Dual Use Goods at the Federal Foreign Office, Berlin (2017- 2020); Minister Counselor in the Political Department of the German Embassy in Washington, D.C., (2014 to 2017); Deputy Head of the Export Control Division for Conventional Arms and Dual-Use Goods in the Federal Foreign Office, Berlin (2010 to 2014); Deputy Permanent Representative to the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva/Switzerland (2006 to 2010) as well as other posts at the German Embassy Tel Aviv/Israel and the German Embassy Ljubljana/Slovenia and at the Federal Foreign Office in Bonn and Berlin. He joined the German Foreign Service in 1994 after studying economics and political sciences and graduating in economics at Université Paris IX-Dauphine in 1991 and at Bonn University in 1994.



**COL Stéphane
SAMARAN**

Colonel Stéphane SAMARAN is a Saint-Cyrien (Grande Armée class of 1981-1983) and a graduate of the Ecole de Guerre (1999-2000). He has divided his career between the military (regiments in Germany and France), external operations (Balkans, Afghanistan), training in several French and foreign military schools, the function of officer in the Armed Forces Staff and a substantial international experience, including 10 years as defense attaché in several Russian-speaking countries. Still active, he joined IRSEM on September 7, 2020, where he directs the "strategies, norms and doctrines" research domain.



**Anna Edna Esi
MENSAH**

Anna Edna ESI MENSAH is an Associate Researcher with the Conventional Arms and Ammunition Programme (CAAP) of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR). Her research focuses on strengthening weapons and ammunition management (WAM) frameworks, regulating arms transfers and preventing their diversion. In addition to conducting research and supporting the design, coordination and implementation of activities under the above-mentioned work streams, she also provides advice and support to multilateral processes on conventional arms control and capacity building with UNIDIR's research tools. Prior to joining UNIDIR, Ms. Mensah worked on a United States (US) Department of State technical assistance programme focused on capacity-building and training for criminal justice and law enforcement officials in Africa. Anna holds a bachelor's degree in political science and French from the University of Ghana and the University of Strasbourg, France and a master's degree in international relations and political science from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva.



**Gianluca
MASPOLI**

Gianluca MASPOLI is currently a Swiss Voluntary National Contribution at the NATO Arms Control, Disarmament & WMD Non-Proliferation Center (ACDC). Since 2005, he has worked in peacekeeping and peacebuilding in multiple countries (e.g. Kosovo, Lebanon, Nepal, Philippines, and South Sudan). He held positions in multilateral as well as bilateral missions and worked in Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) and Security Sector Reform (SSR) programmes. Gianluca Maspoli also worked as a Policy Advisor at the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD). Prior to these positions, he worked at the University of Geneva, where he completed a PhD in political science.



**Benjamin
KING**

Benjamin KING is a Programme Manager with the Ammunition Management Advisory Team of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Deming (GICHD-AMAT). He currently manages several projects, including a multi-year project to implement the European Union's Council Decision 2022/2275, which seeks to develop an Arms and Ammunition Management Validation System (AAMVS). Since 2006, Benjamin worked as a researcher on weapons and arms control issues and served as an advisor to states in Africa, Europe and the Middle East on the implementation of international arms control measures. Prior to joining GICHD-AMAT in 2020, he worked with the Small Arms Survey, Mines Advisory Group (MAG) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). He holds a master's degree in international policy studies from the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey, California.



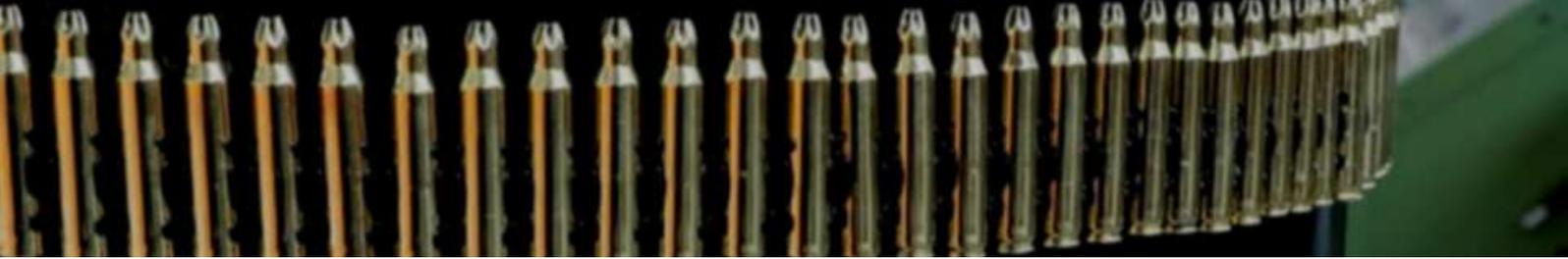
**Nils
DUQUET**

Nils DUQUET is director of the Flemish Peace Institute. He has been working at the Flemish Peace Institute since 2006 and has authored more than 50 policy-oriented and academic publications on illicit firearms trafficking and gun violence in Europe, domestic gun policies and European arms export controls. He is currently also the coordinator of Project INSIGHT, a large-scale European research projects on gun violence and arms trafficking in Europe.



**Jean-Simon
MERANDAT**

Jean-Simon MERANDAT is head of the Central Weapons and Explosives Service at the Ministry of the Interior. Trained in law and commerce and sub-prefect (high-level civil servant responsible for representing the French State within a district), he has had a career in several administrations: Ministry of Justice, Ministry of the Interior, Presidency of the Republic and CIVIPOL, the international technical cooperation agency of the Ministry of the Interior. Lieutenant-Colonel of the civilian reserve of the Gendarmerie Nationale, head of the French delegation to the Permanent International Commission for the Testing of Firearms. He is a Knight of the National Order of Merit and holds the Medal of Youth, Sports, and Associative Life as well as the Medal of Internal Security.



**Pierre
SAUER**

Pierre SAUER joined INTERPOL's Firearms Program in 2016, shortly after graduating with a Master's degree in European Affairs. As an INTERPOL Weapons Specialist, Pierre helps enhance the weapons trafficking targeting capabilities of specialized investigators and intelligence services in INTERPOL member countries in Africa, Asia-Pacific and North America, in order to open and guide their criminal investigations.

In this capacity, he prepares and coordinates international intelligence-led "police" operations targeting the weapons supply sources of criminal and terrorist organizations, primarily in Africa, conducts operational crime analysis, and conducts training on firearms identification and tracing internationally through INTERPOL's Illicit Arms Registry and Tracing System (iARMS). He has also been actively involved in the development and dissemination of the INTERPOL Firearms Discovery Protocol, designed to assist investigators in identifying the source and routes of illicit firearms seizures, as well as those responsible for smuggling them, to combat this form of cross-border crime. He is part of the operational reserve of the French National Gendarmerie.



**Rob
HUNTER-PERKINS**

Rob HUNTER-PERKINS is the Head of Research at Conflict Armament Research. Prior to joining CAR in February 2018, he worked with several NGOs in the field of arms control and humanitarian disarmament, and between 2015 and 2017 was the senior researcher for the Arms Trade Treaty Monitor project, tracking global implementation of the Treaty. He holds a master's degree from the Post-War Recovery and Development Unit at the University of York.



**Juan
BELIKOW**

Juan BELIKOW, PhD. UNOCT/UNCCT expert, specialized in organized crime-terrorism nexus, C/PVE, arms trafficking and money laundering. Professor at the School of Government, ADEN University (Panama), and at the postgraduate Specialization Course in Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing, University of Buenos Aires (UBA); director of the Research Program on Organized Crime, Center for Hemispheric Security Studies (CESH-UBA); and lead modernization of the state and citizen security specialist at UNDP, UNODC, OSCE, UNWomen, OAS, World Bank and IDB, with field experience in police reforms in 47 countries in Eastern Europe, Central Asia, Middle East, Africa, Latin-America and Caribbean. Just after 9-11 he was hired by the US National Defense University as the first professor of counterterrorism and organized crime at the William J. Perry CHDS and the Near-East South-Asia Center for Strategic Studies. Before moving to US, Belikow served as a geopolitical analyst at the Ministry of Defense in Argentina, as professor at the National Defense School, War College and National Intelligence and has been deployed in several UN PKO as political observer. Belikow is a fellow of IPSA, SASE, IISS, ISIAE, RESDAL, CLACIP, CARI and CLIPP.



**Aldan
SERIKBAY**

Aldan SERIKBAY est responsable de la gestion des programmes au Centre des Nations unies pour la lutte contre le terrorisme (UNCCT) au sein du Bureau des Nations unies pour la lutte contre le terrorisme (UNOCT). Il y travaille sur un programme mondial de lutte contre l'utilisation d'armes à des fins terroristes. Aldan gère le projet "Addressing the terrorism-arms-crime nexus" : prévenir et combattre le trafic illicite d'armes légères et de petit calibre et leur transfert illicite aux terroristes, axé sur l'Asie centrale. Avant de rejoindre l'UNOCT, Aldan a travaillé pendant plus de 12 ans au ministère des affaires étrangères du Kazakhstan, d'abord en tant que fonctionnaire civil, puis en tant que chef de la division de la sécurité internationale. Aldan est titulaire d'un master de la London School of Economics.

Aldan possède une connaissance approfondie de la politique, de la sécurité, des structures gouvernementales et de la culture de l'Asie centrale. Il parle l'anglais, le polonais, le russe et le turc et comprend clairement certaines langues d'Asie centrale.



**Édouard
JOLLY**

Édouard JOLLY is senior researcher in theory of armed conflicts at IRSEM and academic advisor in war and strategic studies at the Centre des Hautes Études Militaires (CHEM). His research focuses on all components of organized violence, in particular on the conduct of hostilities in contemporary armed conflicts. His work covers three fields:

1/ Strategic studies: the aim is to analyze military strategies, with their operational and tactical variations, from planning to conducting, as well as their integration into different defense policies. This research is carried out in the context of both state and non-state armed conflicts, including risk anticipation (strategic environment and crisis management) and prospective analysis (climate security and technologies).

2/ Philosophy of war: the objective is to better understand what is called a "war" in the 21st century, by developing appropriate conceptual distinctions, mostly based on the work of Clausewitz and its reception by philosophers, but also more widely in the history of European philosophy. This research aims at developing a conception of war structured by hostility and destruction.

3/ Conventional arms control: the aim is to evaluate the risks of diversion and arms trafficking, in an international context that is politically (UN PoA) and legally (ATT) normative. This research focuses in particular on SALW, based on their use and evolution in various contemporary theaters of operation.