

## **Is “a ban on offensive autonomous weapons beyond meaningful human control” going to work?**

An offensive autonomous weapons ban will work because there is precedent for similar agreements working, and the benefits of the ban are clear and equal for everyone. This can be implemented in practice the same way that nations agreed to not pursue chemical and biological weapons, with international agreements, after negotiations had occurred and nations could sign onto the agreement. The main stakeholders are the scientists and engineers who work on and contribute to the development of these weapons, as well as the economic and political leaders in the countries producing these weapons. Secondary stakeholders are all other humans who can be affected by these weapons in terms of them being targeted by the weapons or experiencing financial repercussions due to the production of these weapons in the form of taxes, job lay-offs, or even new jobs being created. Only scientists and engineers should be evaluating scientific products and creating comprehensible media to present to those who need to see it for further decision making such as politicians or businesses who would use these weapons. Politicians or businessmen and women being involved in the evaluation process would likely taint it with their own biases, goals, and lack of technical knowledge and experience. It is unlikely that the integrity of these evaluations will be valued over the agendas of these politicians and business people. I think that these weapons being developed will only have positive effects on IPS research and development. The open letter on autonomous weapons mentions the possibility of a public backlash as a response to autonomous weapons that curtails its potential benefits from being realized. I don't think this is a reasonable outcome, as the general population should be capable of realizing that autonomous weapons are just one negative application of AI, and that

here are broader and more positive uses for it that everyone will be willing to explore for their own good.