Views of Chile on the Informal Exchanges on Artificial Intelligence in the Military Domain and its Implications for International Peace and Security

SUMMARY

Chile welcomes the opportunity to contribute to the compilation of views following the Informal Exchanges on Artificial Intelligence in the Military Domain and its Implications for International Peace and Security, held in Geneva from 15 to 17 June 2026.

Artificial intelligence (AI) represents one of the most significant technological transformations of our time. Its growing integration into military activities offers considerable opportunities to enhance international peace and security, including through improved situational awareness, more informed decision-making, enhanced cyber defense capabilities, and better protection of civilians. At the same time, AI raises important legal, humanitarian, security, technological and ethical challenges that require sustained international dialogue.

Chile considers that the discussions initiated through General Assembly resolutions 79/239 and 80/58 constitute an important opportunity to strengthen a common international understanding of the opportunities and risks associated with AI in the military domain and to promote responsible approaches to its development and use.

The concept of the military domain should be understood broadly, encompassing not only weapon systems but also AI applications supporting command and control, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, logistics, operational planning, cyber defence and decision-support functions. Such a comprehensive understanding is essential to properly assess both the opportunities and risks associated with the military use of AI.

Chile also emphasizes the importance of distinguishing between AI Security and AI Safety. While AI Security focuses on protecting AI systems against malicious interference, unauthorized access and technical vulnerabilities, AI Safety seeks to ensure that AI systems operate reliably, predictably and consistently with their intended objectives. Both dimensions are complementary and should be considered essential components of the responsible development and use of AI in the military domain.

With regard to the concept of responsibility, Chile considers it important to distinguish between responsible AI use, understood as adherence to voluntary ethical principles and good practices, and legal responsibility arising from violations of binding rules of international law. In the latter case, responsibility may refer to State responsibility, including the obligations to cease the wrongful act, provide appropriate assurances and guarantees of non-repetition, and make full reparation, as well as to individual criminal responsibility for international crimes. Greater conceptual clarity is therefore necessary to avoid confusion between non-binding policy principles and legally binding obligations.

Chile further notes that significant differences remain in the interpretation of key concepts, including autonomy, human judgment and control, AI-enabled systems, AI Decision Support Systems (AI-DSS) and high-risk AI applications. These differences are not merely terminological but may shape how States assess risks, develop national policies and consider future governance approaches. Chile therefore supports continued inclusive dialogue, the progressive development of common terminology, the exchange of good practices and strengthened capacity-building as practical means to foster greater shared understanding and facilitate future multilateral discussions.

Chile observes that artificial intelligence is being increasingly integrated across a wide range of military functions, including decision-support systems, intelligence analysis, surveillance and reconnaissance, cyber defence, logistics, and autonomous or semi-autonomous platforms. At the same time, the rapid evolution of foundation models and advanced data-processing capabilities is expanding the potential applications of AI in defence and security. Given the predominantly dual-use nature of these technologies, AI presents significant opportunities for scientific progress, innovation and capacity-building, while also raising important governance, proliferation and risk-management challenges.

Chile considers that AI can make a positive contribution to international peace and security when developed and employed responsibly and in accordance with applicable international law. AI applications may enhance situational awareness, strengthen cyber defense, improve the protection of critical infrastructure and support more informed decision-making. In armed conflict, AI also offers opportunities to improve the protection of civilians, including through enhanced identification of civilian populations and objects, better assessment of the potential humanitarian consequences of military operations, and support for precautionary and proportionality assessments, thereby contributing to more effective implementation of international humanitarian law.

At the same time, Chile recognizes that the increasing integration of AI into military systems presents important risks, including unintended escalation, accelerated decision-making in crisis situations, excessive reliance on automated systems, cyber vulnerabilities, data manipulation, automation bias and broader implications for strategic stability. From a legal perspective, concerns also arise regarding the predictability and reliability of AI-enabled systems, as limitations in understanding system behavior or insufficient legal and operational oversight may affect compliance with applicable international law.

Chile therefore considers that continued international dialogue should focus on strengthening a common understanding of these risks while promoting practical measures to maximize the benefits of AI and mitigate its potential adverse consequences. Such measures include the exchange of national experiences and good practices, capacity-building, transparency, confidence-building measures, and the conduct of appropriate legal reviews of AI-enabled military systems throughout their life cycle. Chile also considers that particular attention should be given to the operational contexts in which AI systems are employed, promoting their use in ways that reduce risks to civilians and contribute to the protection of civilian populations in accordance with international humanitarian law.

Chile considers that many of the implications of military AI for international peace and security are determined during the earliest stages of a system's development. Decisions relating to system design, operational objectives, technical architecture, model development and the quality of training and evaluation data may significantly influence the future performance, reliability and risk profile of AI-enabled military systems. Accordingly, considerations relating to safety, security, robustness, appropriate transparency and meaningful human oversight should be incorporated throughout the design and development process.

Chile further believes that the development of AI-enabled military capabilities should be carried out in a manner consistent with applicable international law and international humanitarian law. In this regard, national legal reviews and other assessment mechanisms represent important tools for identifying potential risks and promoting the responsible development and use of AI. Chile also recalls the importance of legal reviews of new weapons, means and methods of warfare, including those conducted pursuant to Article 36 of Additional Protocol I where applicable, recognizing that such reviews may be relevant from the earliest stages of research, development and acquisition.

Chile recognizes the important contribution of the private sector, industry, academia and research institutions to AI innovation and considers that public-private cooperation can play a valuable role in promoting safer, more reliable and resilient AI systems, as well as in facilitating the exchange of good practices. At the same time, Chile emphasizes that States retain the responsibility to ensure, through appropriate legal, regulatory or contractual mechanisms, that AI-enabled military systems are developed and acquired in a manner consistent with their international obligations.

Chile considers evaluation, verification, testing and validation to be essential components of responsible AI governance. While testing in controlled environments provides valuable information regarding system capabilities and limitations, it may not fully predict system behaviour in complex operational settings. For this reason, Chile supports a continuous risk management approach throughout the AI life cycle and encourages the voluntary exchange of national experiences and good practices on testing, evaluation and validation methodologies as a means of strengthening confidence and promoting more consistent governance approaches.

Chile recognizes that the responsible governance of artificial intelligence in the military domain requires a comprehensive life-cycle approach. The opportunities and risks associated with AI are not limited to its operational use but extend throughout the design, development, testing, procurement, deployment, operation, maintenance and eventual decommissioning of AI-enabled military systems. Decisions adopted during the earliest stages of development—including system design, data governance and technical architecture—may significantly influence the future performance, reliability and risk profile of such systems. Accordingly, considerations relating to safety, security, robustness, appropriate transparency, cybersecurity and meaningful human oversight should be incorporated throughout the entire life cycle.

Chile emphasizes that the deployment and operational use of AI-enabled military capabilities should remain consistent with applicable international law, including international humanitarian law and, where relevant, international human rights law. Increasing technological sophistication does not diminish the importance of human judgment, supervision and accountability. On the contrary, the growing use of AI-enabled Decision Support Systems (AI-DSS) reinforces the need to ensure that these technologies support, rather than replace, human decision-making. Appropriate mechanisms for human supervision, intervention, validation, traceability, auditability and continuous evaluation remain essential to promote responsible use and reduce operational risks.

Chile further considers that effective risk management should be maintained throughout the operational life of AI systems. National legal reviews of new weapons, means and methods of warfare, including those undertaken pursuant to Article 36 of Additional Protocol I where applicable, constitute an important safeguard for ensuring compliance with international law. Given that AI systems—particularly those relying on machine learning—may evolve over time, Chile believes that legal and operational assessments should be revisited whenever significant modifications affect the characteristics, intended use or foreseeable effects of a system. Likewise, decisions concerning procurement, transfer and decommissioning should be informed by legal, technical and operational considerations, including cybersecurity, resilience, due diligence and the prevention of proliferation to non-State actors.

Chile recognizes that AI offers significant opportunities to contribute to international peace and security, including by improving situational awareness, strengthening cyber defence, enhancing the protection of critical infrastructure and supporting more informed operational decision-making. AI may also contribute to better implementation of international humanitarian law, including through applications that support civilian protection, proportionality assessments and precautionary measures. At the same time, Chile recognizes important risks associated with the military integration of AI, including unintended escalation, accelerated decision-making, automation bias, cyber vulnerabilities, malicious data manipulation, strategic instability and proliferation. These risks underscore the importance of transparency, confidence-building measures and continued international dialogue.

Chile also highlights the increasing convergence of AI with other emerging technologies, including information and communication technologies, biotechnology, chemistry, space technologies and strategic systems. While these convergences create significant opportunities for innovation and peaceful applications, they also present complex governance and proliferation challenges. Existing international legal and policy frameworks—including those relating to disarmament, non-proliferation, cybersecurity and emerging technologies—provide valuable experience that should inform future discussions. In Chile's view, future efforts should build upon these existing frameworks and avoid unnecessary duplication across international processes.

Chile considers international cooperation and capacity-building to be essential components of responsible AI governance. Capacity-building should encompass not only technical expertise but also legal, institutional, regulatory and policy capabilities, enabling States to conduct legal reviews, assess risks, develop national governance frameworks and participate effectively in multilateral discussions. Chile further supports the inclusive participation of all relevant stakeholders—including governments, international organizations, academia, the scientific and technical community, industry, the private sector and civil society—while preserving the intergovernmental nature of decision-making. Strengthened regional, subregional and interregional cooperation, together with the voluntary exchange of national experiences, good practices and technical expertise, can contribute significantly to building common understanding, reducing technological disparities and promoting the responsible development and use of AI in the military domain.

Chile actively participates in a range of international initiatives addressing the implications of emerging technologies for international peace and security. In particular, Chile has contributed constructively to discussions on Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems (LAWS) under the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, has actively supported the Responsible AI in the Military Domain (REAIM) process, and is a member of the Core Group sponsoring General Assembly resolutions 79/239 and 80/58 on artificial intelligence in the military domain. Chile's approach has consistently emphasized the importance of preserving meaningful human responsibility, promoting risk reduction, ensuring compliance with international law, and strengthening international cooperation and capacity-building.

Chile considers that the governance of military AI requires multidisciplinary approaches integrating legal, technical, operational and policy perspectives. In this regard, international organizations, academia, the scientific and technical community, industry, the private sector and civil society all make valuable contributions to advancing collective understanding of AI technologies and their implications. Their continued engagement can enrich multilateral discussions and support the development of responsible governance approaches, while preserving the intergovernmental nature of international decision-making.

Chile also recognizes the significant contribution of existing international initiatives to advancing dialogue on AI in the military domain. Legally binding international law, including international humanitarian law, remains the foundation governing the use of AI in armed conflict. At the same time, non-binding political and normative initiatives—including the eleven Guiding Principles adopted by the GGE on LAWS, the REAIM process, the analytical work of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and the reports of the United Nations Secretary-General—have made important contributions to developing common understandings regarding responsible governance, risk management, human responsibility, international cooperation and capacity-building. In Chile's view, future initiatives should build upon these existing achievements, reinforce previously agreed understandings and avoid unnecessary institutional fragmentation or duplication of efforts.

Looking ahead, Chile believes that future multilateral discussions should remain gradual, inclusive and consensus-oriented, with the primary objective of strengthening common understanding of the opportunities, risks and implications of AI in the military domain. Priority should be given to enhancing capacity-building, promoting transparency and confidence-building measures, facilitating the exchange of national experiences and good practices, and supporting the implementation of existing international law. Chile also attaches particular importance to regional, subregional and interregional dialogue as complementary mechanisms for strengthening cooperation, reducing knowledge gaps and fostering broader participation in global discussions. Chile remains fully committed to continuing to engage constructively in future multilateral efforts aimed at promoting the responsible development and use of artificial intelligence in the military domain in support of international peace and security.