

Streszczenie rozprawy w języku angielskim

Doctoral dissertation "Lethal autonomous weapon systems - analysis of international law" was prepared under the supervision of dr hab. Michał Kowalski and dr Marcin Marcinko as auxiliary promoter.

The basic research question is how the balance between humanity and military necessity is being shaped in international law norms relating to weapons, in the context of development and regulation of lethal autonomous weapon systems (LAWS). In the absence of a legal definition of LAWS, for the purposes of the dissertation, LAWS are understood as systems that are designed so that the decision-making process of selection and elimination of human targets is not subject to human control, and is performed based on algorithms. The introduction of LAWS on contemporary battlefields not only implies discussions regarding specific legal norms applicable to this mean of warfare, but above all opens a discussion on how to treat people in the context of activities performed by artificial intelligence.

The hypothesis of the dissertation is that in order to maintain a proper balance between the fundamental considerations of international law of armed conflicts (LOAC) relating to the regulation of means of warfare, it is humanity and military necessity, it is legitimate to regulate the development and use of LAWS in international treaty norm.

The argumentation proving the truth of the above hypothesis is presented in six chapters. The first chapter familiarizes the reader with the dissertation plan and the adopted methodology, and also provides an introduction to the current state of technology development.

The second chapter presents philosophical and theoretical considerations that prove that international legal norms referring to the means of warfare are based on universal ideas developed by great European thinkers, as well as on contemporary international morality.

The third chapter is devoted to the analysis of the significance and normative character of the considerations of humanity and military necessity and their mutual relations, with particular emphasis on the impact of human rights law.

In the fourth chapter, a historical analysis of legal acts regulating individual means of warfare is carried out, which ends with a conclusion on the casuistic regulation of specific means of warfare and insufficient and too imprecise nature of fundamental principles of LOAC, and as a result the legitimacy of adoption of a special international treaty regarding LAWS.

The fifth chapter presents the current state of the debate on the regulation of LAWS, taking into account the positions of states and non-governmental organizations. In this chapter, the author's definition of LAWS is proposed, on the basis of which the LAWS legality analysis is carried out in the light of the LOAC principles. This study enables identification of two regulatory gaps related to the innovative nature of LAWS: the level of human control over attacks and the responsibility for the operations of LAWS.

The sixth chapter allows to confront the conclusions of the previous chapters with the areas requiring clarification, and contains *de lege ferenda* proposals regarding the scope and form of the desired legal regulation of international LAWS.

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