



DISEC

Agenda Item:

Reconciling use of unmanned air
vehicles for international security with
international law

Under Secretary General:

Muhammet Gökhan Yıldız

&

Çisem Senol

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Letter from the secretary general

Esteemed Participants,

It is our paramount pleasure to welcome you to the second installment of Yükseliş Model United Nations Conference 2025. We, Neva Nas Aydın and Ramazan Yandı, will be serving you as your Secretary General's in the upcoming three days. Our Executive Team has put not only the best Academic Team but the best Organization Team so that you can enjoy creating memories in our conference.

Essentially Model United Nations Conferences are great opportunities to improve your debating capabilities, your confidence, your foreign language level and understand how policy is implemented. We can state that Model United Nations Conferences helped us both in our academic and social lives. For this reason it is our duty to transfer these experiences to the next generations and ensure that they affect them in a similar way.

We hope you have one of the best MUN experiences of your lifes in YKMUN 2025!

Sincerely,

Neva Nas Aydın & Ramazan Yandı

Letter from the Co under secretary general

Dear delegates, I am honoured to welcome you all to the YKMUN25'. It is a pleasure to serve you as the Under Secretary General. I expect great committee flow and want you to push your limits to the best, therefore I highly encourage you to read the study guide carefully, and do not forget to do extra research about the Questions to be Addressed. Everything aside, I hope you can have a great time with the time you spend in the sessions and the conference. Lastly I would like to thank our Secretary Generals Ramazan and Neva for their efforts and for inviting me as an Under Secretary General.

Sincerely,
Muhammet Gökhan YILDIZ
Under Secretary General

For any situation don't hesitate to contact me via
gokhan.yildiz@mtdt.com.tr

Letter from the Co under secretary general

First of all, I would like to say it is a great honor to welcome you all to YKMUN 25' Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC) as the Co-Under Secretary General of the committee. The committee's subject at hand is a topic that is important for the future well-being of your country. And I hope that you will fulfill your duties and be productive during the conference but before the conference starts I expect you to read the guide in order to get the most amount of knowledge you can get. And I also encourage you to watch the videos that are in the further research part of the guide. If you have any kind of questions regarding the committee do not hesitate to contact me via email.

senolcisem@gmail.com

Sincerely,

Çisem Şenol Co-Under Secretary General

Introduction to the Committee:

The United Nations Disarmament and International Security Committee, also known as DISEC, came into being as the first of the principal committees of the General Assembly when the UN Charter was signed in 1945. DISEC is thus usually known by the name of the First Committee.

DISEC came into being so that countries could provide themselves with a platform to address matters of peace and security. According to the UN Charter, the main role of DISEC under the General Assembly is to frame general principles for cooperating to keep international peace and security. This includes weapons diminution regulations and arms regulation. DISEC proposes to members of the UN or the Security Council. While DISEC does not have any influence on the Security Council's decisions, DISEC can recommend certain issues to be debated by the United Nations Security Council.

Other than being a subsidiary of the General Assembly, DISEC is also part of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs. UNODA was officially named as such in January 1998 after a special disarmament session in 1982. UNODA deals with disarmament in general terms, including weapons of mass destruction, nuclear arms, and conventional weapons. UNODA assists DISEC by providing aid to work carried out in the General Assembly. DISEC includes all 193 UN member states and is one of the largest UN committees. DISEC draws up resolutions on issues of security that are later discussed and utilized around the world. Through its democratic process, DISEC makes it possible for countries to collaborate and set examples in ending international conflicts, but it cannot force any country to do anything or make legally binding decisions.

DISEC is also authorized to keep full records of all sessions. This means that every word that is spoken in sessions will have to be recorded and saved for history. These accounts are being used as assembly notes, research materials, and records to ensure that what is being said is true and makes international security and safety discussions honest and credible.



Introduction to the Agenda Item;

Technology And The History Of Warfare:

Since the last decades, technology has progressively changed the nature of armed conflict, and drones—or unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs)—are perhaps the most pervasive innovation. The work of science fiction is now central to military strategy for much of the world. They have proliferated rapidly for use in surveillance, but increasingly for precision bombing. This is not a strategic change; it is a deep reformation in the nature of warfare and its comprehension.

At the heart of the appeal of drones lies the prospect of accuracy. Weapons drones are generally presented as surgical tools, capable of striking only their assigned targets with minimal collateral damage. Officially, they are testified to as visualizations of technological progress: unsoiled, efficient, and rational. This report assumes that drones can mete out justice in the air without the messiness of traditional war. Policy-makers debate that drone attacks allow for more ethical warfare by minimizing civilian casualties and removing soldiers from direct attacks.

But the picture is far more nuanced. The notion of precision is very deceptive. While drones have the potential to attack specific GPS coordinates, the intelligence feeding such attacks is often incomplete or inaccurate. Reports of civilian casualties due to drone attacks—often mistakenly reported as enemy combatants—have appeared in several theaters of combat. Furthermore, the intervening range from controller to target can cause a dangerous emotional distance, with life-and-death decisions made based on rough video feed and algorithmic interpretation.

Therefore, drones make our understanding of modern warfare difficult. They pose risks and possibilities, changing the manner in which states exercise power as well as individuals view war. The transformation is not simply technological—it is legal, ethical, and at its core human. While the skies are filled with machines, there is uncertainty whether our laws, institutions, and ethics are aligned.



Drone Warfare Confronting the Moral Challenges:

Perhaps the greatest dilemma in using drones during war is how to make the authorities accountable. It's hard to pin them down on when, where, and how they're using these things. Unlike the traditional kind of combat, where things are fast and you can see them, these drone attacks are stealthy, beyond the reach of cameras and judges. Governments would often claim it's for national security; therefore, they rarely provide information. Which means the public can't know whether a strike was legal or whether it was justified. And as for families who have suffered bereavement, all the secrecy just serves to make things worse because they can't get answers or justice.

That doesn't alter the fact that there's barely anyone supervising these activities. Usually occurring in distant locations, drone attacks make it difficult for human rights organizations and media to reach them. Hence, what the government says is all you have to go on. They can downplay civilian deaths or just mask the truth. And when no one's talking, rumors fly and governments tell people what to think.

But then there are the others who are pushing back. Amnesty International and other individuals at the UN have been advocating greater openness, actual investigations, and means by which people can be held responsible. They research, they speak with survivors, and they sue governments in courts. They try to get to the truth. But it is only so much. If countries using drones lack coordination, their submission is just recommendations, not binding legislation to be followed.

Technology in drones is moving fast, but rules on their usage lag. If details are classified, even the most accurate strike generates uncertainties. Countries start wondering who the target was, who's in charge, and why the truth always remains concealed.



Current laws applied by the states:

1. USA

Balancing civilian commercial application with military deployment, the U.S. upholds one of the most sophisticated and busy regulatory scenes for UAVs.

Civilian Laws

According to 49 U.S. Code § 40103, the FAA retains exclusive power over U.S. navigable airspace, therefore state or municipal attempts to regulate drone activities (e.g., height limits or flight restrictions) need FAA authorization.

Recently, the United States has introduced fresh rules to extend drone activity outside the operator's visual line of sight (BVLOS), therefore accelerating commercial applications—including Amazon and Starbucks drone deliveries—by establishing safety and operational safeguards like background checks and collision avoidance systems. Executive orders have also been released to simplify new regulations for BVLOS operations while strengthening steps taken to address security risks presented by evil drone usage.

Military and Security Considerations

Under Article 51 of the UN Charter—claiming selfdefense—U.S. drone strikes directed at people in nations like Pakistan and Yemen have been defended, but regarding proportionality and transparency they remain quite contentious. Legal panels from the past questioned responsibility, even implying that drone operators—such as CIA pilots—could possibly be criminals under international or domestic law.

Summary

Reflecting a dual nature, the regulatory environment in the U.S. aggressively promotes civilian drone use while keeping safety and innovation in mind while also managing sensitive and occasionally contentious approaches to militarized drone operations.

2. China

Public safety, industry expansion, and national security worries all add to the quick changing character of China's UAV legislation.

Civilian Control and Public Safety

The CAAC has issued a number of rules including mandatory real name registration, pilot licensing, flight plan submission, and provisional regulations for civil UAV activities. Localized security measures—like those in Sichuan and Shenzhen—requiring electronic fencing, placement systems, and real-time monitoring supplement these.

Airworthiness and risk-based supervision

Using operational risk levels (low, medium, high), CAAC's risk-based certification approach categorizes drones; airworthiness testing is now underway and demands different degrees of site monitoring and control.

Emerging Federal Framework

Effective January 1, 2024, covering all UAV-related operations including design, manufacturing, and maintenance, a significant 2023 law—the "Interim Regulations for Managing UAV Flight"—issued by the State Council and Central Military Commission is to take effect.

Privacy & Fines

Though drone-specific privacy enforcement is still in its infancy, China's more data security system including Cyberlaw and PIPL grounds privacy regulation.

Enforcement tools include fines, license suspensions, even criminal penalties for major violations.

3. Turkey

Regulations for UAVs in Turkey—like the Bayraktar TB2—strive to balance daily use, respect for privacy, and military operations.

What the Law Says

Turkish Civil Aviation Law considers UAVs aircraft, therefore they have to abide flying regulations. Based on their starting weight (from under 4 kg to over 150 kg), classes (UAS0 to UAS3) are organized. Through its website, the SHGM, a unique agency, manages UAV registration, pilot certificates, and flight permissions.

Privacy Security

You can't simply fly over someone's land without authorization. Should UAV pilots violate people's privacy, they may be punished under data protection legislation and even be criminally prosecuted.

UAVs for both domestic and military applications

For military uses (such as the Bayraktar TB2 and Vestel Karayel), Turkey has actively developed its own UAV sector. Turkey claims they are legal for self-defense and security purposes in other nations.



4. Germany

All about safety, assuring people trust drones, and holding others accountable, Germany has some of the most stringent regulations for them.

Responsibility and Regulations

If you possess a drone in Germany, you are held responsible for any damage it does—even if it was not your fault. Consider it this way: events occur even when you least anticipate them. Fortunately, insurance and constraints dependent on the weight of your drone can assist. Under the civil code, you can be held responsible if you do something deliberately that causes damage or fail badly. Particularly over residences, flying drones over private property without permission is a no-go.

Military Uses and International Law Germany's supreme court stated that using Ramstein Air Base for drone activities doesn't breach any international law. That suggests the administration can keep promises to allies and do its security job.

5. Israel

Regarding unmanned aerial vehicles (drones), Israel is quite significant. Using them for both military purposes and everyday, routine life, they are up among the finest in the globe.

Regulations Governing Regular Drone Use

Using drones follows regulations set by the Israel Civil Aviation Authority (CAAI). You must register your drone if it weighs more than 250 grams. You will need a pilot's license if your weight surpasses 2 kg. Additionally, there are regulations governing your maximum altitude and where you cannot fly at all.

Israel employs geofencing to prevent drones from going near specific sites, including airports, military facilities, and other locations where they shouldn't be.

How the Military Employs Drones

Among the first to deploy drones in battle was Israel. Watching events, targeting removing, and information collecting make use of them rather often. They own the Heron and Harop, somewhat well-known drones.

Military drone use has its own guidelines set out by the Israel Defense Forces (IDF). Article 51 of the UN Charter holds that it is all about self-protection.

Israel's drone attacks in areas including Gaza have people all throughout the world watching. They're asking if these strikes are just, whether they only target the proper persons, and whether they protect civilians as they should according to International Humanitarian Law (IHL).

6. Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia too is seriously considering drones, buying them from other countries and developing their own equipment.

Regular drone use: what about it?

The General Authority of Civil Aviation (GACA) sets the guidelines. Should you wish to fly a drone not intended for enjoyment, you must register it, obtain a license, and seek flight authorization. Check their website, gaca.gov.sa.

You cannot simply fly anywhere. Keep clear of military areas, airports, and metropolises.

How the Armed Forces Makes Use of Drones

Like they did in Yemen, the Saudi army mostly employs drones for surveillance, scouting, and attack purposes.

To help protect themselves, they purchase drones from Turkey, China, and the U.S. According to Saudi Arabia, drone attacks are acceptable for self-defense, but many worry about civilian casualties and if they're adhering to the laws of war. Knowing precisely what is happening is challenging.

7. UAE

For both daily tasks and the military, UAVs are transforming the UAE into a major player.

Common Rules for Regular UAVs

The GCAA establishes the guidelines for drone usage. You must get authorization to fly, train pilots, and register your drone.

Though strict no-fly zones exist the UAE is deploying drones for purposes including deliveries, agriculture, and building inspection.

Military UAV Consumption

Buying high-tech drones from the U.S. and China, the UAE has invested heavily in them. They have even begun to create some at home.

Yemen and Libya have utilized military drones. The UAE maintains this is acceptable under international law for self-defense or peacekeeping.

Wanting to guarantee that drone regulations comply with worldwide safety requirements, the UAE belongs to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

8. Iran

Iran has developed its own drone business very fast despite sanctions. They employ these drones both at home and during local battles.

Control of Civilian Drones

Although not entirely understood how civilian drones are controlled, you appear to have to register them and adhere to tight instructions from Iran's Civil Aviation Organization.

For farming and environmental monitoring, drones are increasingly employed.

How the Army Utilizes Drones

Iran's military and IRGC often employ drones for Middle East assaults and observation of events.

Attacks and surveillance missions over boundaries include Iranian drones. This frequently causes questions about what is permitted under international law as well as problems with other nations.

Though Iran claims its drone operations are for defense, utilizing them in proxy wars complicates legal matters.



UN Charter:

Basic rules about when nations can legitimately use force are found in the UN Charter. These rules apply to drone strikes now, just like old-fashioned military stuff. Unless the Security Council says it's okay or there's some other legitimate reason, Article 2(4) states that states cannot threaten or use force against a country's borders or political independence. This should also apply to drone operations, be it one fast strike or a full campaign. Countries are, however, doing things on their own more, stretching the boundaries as drones are affordable, simple, and politically simple to deny.

There is one notable exception under Article 51: nations might protect themselves if they are attacked. Particularly in the fight against terrorism, nations employing drones sometimes use this to attack nonstate organizations across borders. The difficult aspect is determining when a drone assault qualifies as permissible self-defense. The basic version is that you can only use force if you have been assaulted and your reaction has to be appropriate and fit the attack. Many nations claim they can use force to stop an imminent assault, even if there is yet no attack. This is dubious,

especially if the strikes happen without the okay of the nation where it is taking place and if there is no evidence that the target was an immediate threat.

Under Article 51, drone warfare also changes what counts as an armed assault. Although large attacks are apparent, drones make it difficult to distinguish between tiny, random occurrences and full-on war. Because drones are remote, attacks might occur far within another country, maybe nowhere near a fighting site. Under Article 2(4), countries thus get concerned about their sovereignty. Because its members cannot agree on anything, these steps usually avoid the Security Council.

Drones are basically testing how far the provisions of the UN Charter may be stretched, but they haven't changed them. Article 2(4) and 51 will continue to be at the legal and political forefront of debate on the future of warfare as drone technology develops, therefore raising the issue of respecting country borders versus handling of new security threats.

International Court of Justice (ICJ) decisions:

Two important decisions by the International Court of Justice (ICJ)—Nicaragua v. United States (1986) and DRC v. Uganda (2005)—still have relevance in our discussion of when it is permissible to use force under international conventions. These cases came way before drones became very popular, but what they said still holds weight for drone attacks and going after targets in other nations.

The Court reviewed what the United States was doing in Nicaragua, backing the Contras among other activities, in the Nicaragua case. According to Article 2(4), the Court repeated that force against another country is not permissible directly or indirectly. To qualify as an "armed attack" entitling you to act under Article 51 self-defense, it needs to be a pretty serious matter. Even if it's smaller than that, it is still illegal but it does not entitle the other nation to retaliate in self-defense. Because there was no evidence Nicaragua had actually begun an armed attack, the Court rejected the U.S. argument it was acting in collective self-defense. This rigid perspective makes it challenging to argue drone strikes are acceptable just because you believe someone could assault you later, especially if they aren't doing something major at the moment.

The ICJ found in the DRC v. Uganda case that Uganda violated rules by sending its soldiers into the Congo without approval. Uganda said they acted to defend themselves from attacks by groups in the Congo, but the Court did not believe those attacks were serious enough to justify Uganda's actions.

For drone strikes, this implies that typically against the law if you are employing them without authorization in another nation. The exception is if you are answering to a

genuinely armed assault serious enough and your reaction is reasonable and required. Both of these circumstances emphasize honoring a nation's borders, need a real "armed attack", and not using self-defense too readily as a justification.

Essentially, the ICJ is saying that just because drones are simple to use and accurate doesn't mean you can ignore the rules. Though drones may be contemporary, the laws governing war and respect of other countries remain the same.



International Responses and Proposed Regulations for Drone Warfare:

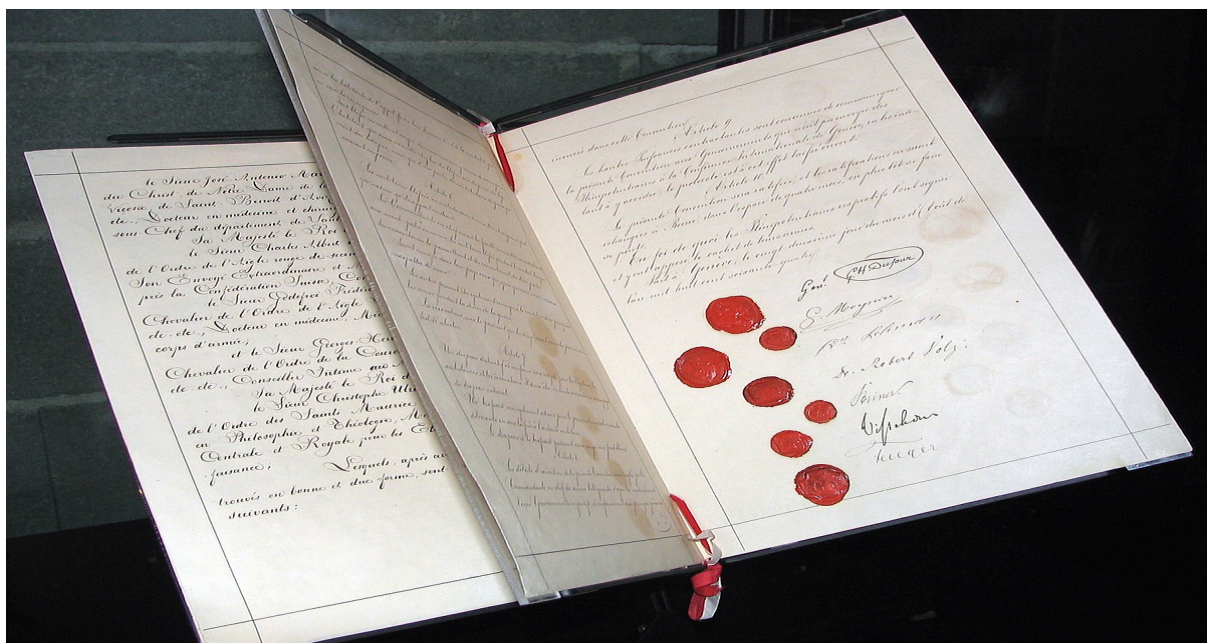
As more drones are deployed in war, the global community has been somewhat delayed in responding to the ethical and legal challenges they raise, but it is paying attention. UN reports and special advisors express concern because no well-defined worldwide regulations exist governing the use of unmanned aerial vehicle strikes, primarily when these strikes occur outside of declared war areas. Greater transparency, accountability, and adherence to international human rights legislation are often requested in the reports. While groups like Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International concur and go further by looking at particular attacks, speaking with survivors, and lobbying for law reform.

A few proposals have emerged attempting to establish global standards for employing drones. These ideas include creating treaties aimed at regulating armed drones to establish more effective observation teams within bodies like the United

Nations Human Rights Council. Some legal scholars and organizations suggest making a worldwide database of drone attacks. This would minimally show the times and locations drones are being used, and the responsible parties. Various parties want tighter controls concerning authorized drone sellers, especially because drone tech is becoming widespread quickly outside of the original innovators.

It is still hard to reach an agreement among all parties about the best way to control drones despite all these attempts. Major powers that heavily utilize drones, including the US, Russia, and China, are reluctant to accept regulations possibly limiting their military capabilities. There are also substantial disagreements over the way in which international legal frameworks should be applied in drone wars, mostly when it involves entities that are not sovereign nations or in operations to combat terrorism across borders. Furthermore, international competitive pressures and divergent views regarding the distribution of authority make it tough to align national aspirations with a standardized code.

Because there aren't any established international regulations, drone-based military actions are still underdefined from a legal and ethical standpoint. Until the international community unites, a lot will depend on the level of influence applied by the general public, if nations are prepared to act ethically, and if international organizations can change to address the requirements of existing conflicts.



UAVs and the Geneva Conventions: Rethinking the Rules of War in the Drone Age:

Originally regarded as the foundation of worldwide humanitarian law, the Geneva Conventions were meant to introduce order and humanity to the turmoil of war. Adopted in their present form in 1949, these conventions define the legal safeguards for noncombatants: the injured, prisoners of war, and civilians. Though the

conventions' theories underlie the rules of armed conflict, the nature of war has changed dramatically in recent times. Nowhere is this transformation clearer than in the growth of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), sometimes referred to as drones. Great problems for how we understand—and enforce—the Geneva Conventions are produced as drones grow in significance in contemporary military operations.

Drones seem to fit the humanitarian goals of the Conventions at first glance. Often lauded for their accuracy and capacity to reduce risk to troops by taking them off the battlefield, they are also praised. Theoretically, drones ought to assist one in adhering to the core ideas of the Geneva Conventions: discrimination (between soldiers and civilians), proportionality (avoiding too much force), and caution (minimizing civilian harm). However, using drones really reveals the flaws of modern legal systems. Instead of promising more moral, cleaner warfare, drone strikes have revealed ambiguities in international law and emphasized pressing issues on accountability, transparency, and the erosion of battlefield norms.

One of the most obvious clashes between drone warfare and the Geneva Conventions is the principle of distinction, which dictates the need to differentiate between lawful military targets and noncombatants. Though drone technology is really complex, its correctness rests just on the knowledge driving it. Many drone strikes, particularly those executed in places like Yemen, Somalia, or Pakistan's tribal areas, depend on pattern-of-life analysis or metadata rather than real visual confirmation to locate targets. This can lead to horrific errors: whole families slain in the name of preemptive selfdefense; civilians misidentified as fighters. Such occurrences challenge the truthfulness of the separation theory, therefore raising doubts about whether it is truly being adhered to in drone operations far away from conventional battlefields.

The matter of proportionality is equally convoluted. Proportionality demands that the expected military benefit of an attack not be exceeded by the conceivable injury to civilians. How then is this hypothesis evaluated in drone warfare, where judgments are frequently based on poor data and without complete target environment visibility? Furthermore, drone operators—sometimes based thousands of miles from the war zone—could be more emotionally remote from the results of their actions. This emotional and physical disparity can subtly change risk assessments, hence leading to less strict proportionality readings. Because legal norms have grown more elastic in the face of political and strategic expediency, civilians may perish not only from defective equipment but also from this.

Another fundamental pillar of the Geneva Conventions, accountability, also becomes less strong in the drone setting. Traditional warfare leaves behind physical evidence, eyewitnesses, and usually world attention. Drone strikes, on the other hand, are mostly conducted covertly and with little to none poststrike analysis. Victims are

almost never identified, and governments often reject liability, citing secret intelligence or national security. This transparency makes it difficult to judge whether strikes follow or defy international law. Though drone warfare has brought about just this kind of setting, the Geneva Conventions were never designed to operate in an accountability vacuum.

Another urgent issue is the legal uncertainty around cross-border drone attacks. Created considering state to state conflict—where combat lines and zones were fairly obvious—the Geneva Conventions contrast with drone warfare, which typically targets people in countries lacking official war declarations. This questions difficult topics of authority, power, and the legitimacy of force in nonwar locations. Such strikes are governed by the Geneva Conventions, human rights law, or some mix of both? States have taken different positions, but there is no clear international consensus—leaving a dangerous legal gray area that powerful countries have been quick to exploit.

Legal experts and human rights campaigners have demanded fresh policies or interpretations in answer to these problems to more precisely include drone warfare under the umbrella of the Geneva Conventions. The inclusion of clearer definitions of legal targeting in nontraditional conflict zones, the establishment of a public registry of UAV operations, and the establishment of an international body to evaluate drone strikes are among proposals. Encouraging nations to apply the current laws of war to drone operations and to guarantee that legal and ethical criteria are not weakened by technical innovation, the International Committee of the Red Cross has also commented.

Parallel to this, the use of UAVs has also highlighted great divisions between countries that have sophisticated drone capabilities and those that do not. Among the nations with major drone initiatives are the United States, Israel, China, and Turkey; their level of legal compliance and transparency has been different. Other countries—particularly those on the receiving end of drone strikes—have condemned what they see as a double standard: one whereby strong states claim to follow international law yet mostly operate outside its reach. This imbalance threatens to undermine the Geneva Conventions' own legitimacy, transforming them into tenets lauded more in words than in actions.

Notwithstanding such conflicts, the Geneva Conventions still offer a vital moral and legal guide. In an age when war is becoming more distant, mechanized, and Dehumanized, their values—restraint, empathy, and respect for life—are more relevant than they have ever been. Rather than the Conventions being out of date, the difficulty is that they have to be revalidated and very well applied in light of new developments. The international community has to fight the temptation to view UAVs as exempt from established standards as they become a normal aspect of armed conflict. Instead, we have the tougher task of using those rules to the realities of twenty-first-century combat without compromising their ethical center.



U.S. Department of Defense Law of War Manual:

Like the Pentagon's go-to reference book for how the U.S. military sees and applies the law of war, the U.S. Department of Defense Law of War Manual (2023) is For military personnel, it combines the advice provided by treaties, what is often regarded as international law, and what the U.S. hopes to achieve. The handbook states being human, being able to distinguish who is a soldier and who is not, ensuring the benefits surpass the drawbacks, and military requirement are among the most crucial elements. It also notes that new technology, such as drones, must adhere to the same guidelines as ancient weaponry.

Regarding drones, the handbook states that using them does not alter the standards on who you can shoot at. Commanders must still determine who is a soldier and who is a civilian, guarantee they do not damage too many civilians relative to their military good, and aim to not harm anybody they do not have to. It further states that you may cross borders to defend yourself, but under both U.S. and international law you have to really need to and the response has to be justified.

The 2023 edition considers conversations about new technologies and clarifies that even if something is managed remotely, a person is nevertheless accountable and the law still applies. In essence, the handbook says drones are suitable for use in warfare provided you abide by the rules. It does not let you legally circumvent the regular conventions for combat a war.



European Parliament Armed Drones and EU Law:

Through its Human Rights Subcommittee, the European Parliament compiled a report on the urgent necessity for the EU to make a strong and moral stance on the use of armed drones. Though EU nations are becoming more powerful with drones, military technology is developing quickly and the laws are ambiguous. This might result in varied and maybe criminal policies across the EU.

The central goal is to produce a Council Decision clarifying all EU nations must adhere to the UN Charter and international human rights laws when using armed drones. One major argument is that nations cannot merely say there is an impending threat to justify strikes elsewhere, particularly if the nation where the strike takes place did not give approval. The report advises establishing independent groups to check who is being targeted and guaranteeing accountability following a strike in order to control circumstances. Open inquiries, court reviews, and simpler means for survivors and their families to be paid could all result from this.

One's honesty and openness here count a lot. EU nations should provide information on the strikes themselves and the harm they cause to people as well as explain why they believe they are permitted. According to the report, these activities are acceptable because one is accountable, not secretive.

The paper also cites a 2017 seminar when representatives from organizations including the ICRC, the European External Action Service, and others spoke about these topics. Although most people agreed on coming at it with coherent legislation, EU nations continue to disagree, mostly on the export of drones and whether the EU should have a strict policy on this.

Fundamentally, this paper is urging the EU to clarify the ambiguity around the legislation in an ethical manner—adhering to global norms, being honest, and ensuring that everyone is accountable when it comes to what are maybe the most potent weapons we have currently.



Case Studies on the Use of Armed Unmanned Aerial Vehicles:

Using armed drones in present conflicts raises rather huge questions globally as many are asking if it complies with international regulations on warfare and what the UN supports. Three instances showing how drones are altering conflict—both between nations and with other groups follow:

Many people are debating the targeted drone killings the United States has been doing in countries including Yemen and Pakistan. Those who support these attacks claim they have harmed groups that might harm other nations, hence preventing strikes and protecting U.S. soldiers. Critics question whether these attacks should be treated like police actions following human rights rules or as part of a battle. People also wonder how transparent these activities are, if people get injured, and why more legal-point open justification is lacking.

The dispute between Armenia and Azerbaijan over NagornoKarabakh demonstrated that even less expensive drones like the Bayraktar TB2 may truly affect things on the battlefield. By using armed drones, Azerbaijan acquired the capacity to engage adversaries in real time and conduct operations more effectively, hence facilitating their conquering of territory. While some specialists see this as a strategic success, others highlight its negative consequences. This covers possible dangers to structures civilians require and problems verifying that those participating could distinguish between soldiers and civilians as the law demands.

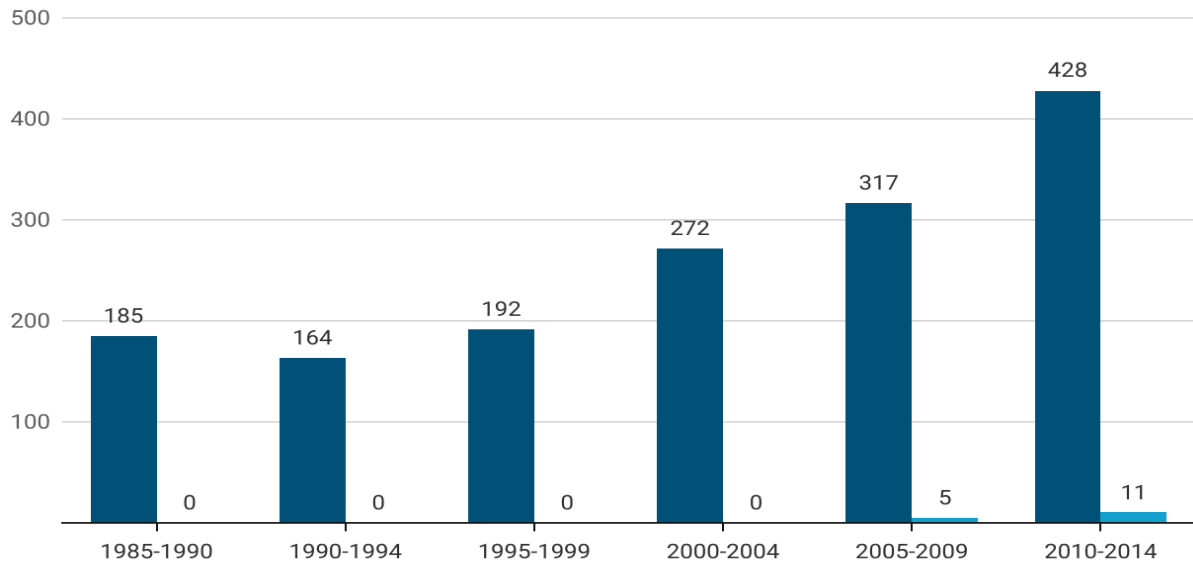
Both sides in the continuing conflict in Ukraine are using drones as loitering munitions like the Shahed136 to observe the enemy. Hitting military and civilian infrastructure with these systems raises alarms due of the civil consequences for civilians, especially while drones are used in densely inhabited regions. According aid group reports, it is imperative to make sure safety measures are implemented with the goal of causing the least damage to civilians.

The challenge in all of these cases is aligning ancient legal norms with modern and rapidly evolving technology. The UN has emphasized several times that all nations and groups engaged in wars have to make sure that when they deploy drones, they follow the laws of war in addition to human rights legislation where pertinent. Keeping armed drone use moral and dependable requires being open about how decisions are made, accepting responsibility when harm happens, and protecting civil people.

Drone Trade (UAS/UAV)- International Transfer Volume

Transfer Volume in Numbers

■ Unmanned aerial vehicles ■ Armed unmanned aerial vehicles



(Transfer Volume in Numbers)

Source: Market.us Scoop

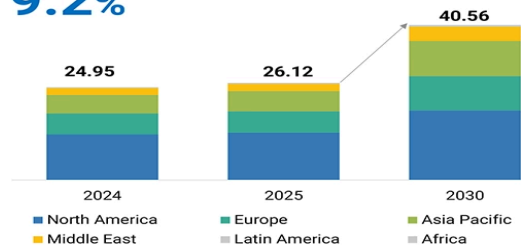
UAV (DRONE) MARKET

Market Size, Market Dynamics, and Market Ecosystem

MARKETSANDMARKETS™

CAGR (2025–2030)

9.2%



MARKET SIZE (USD BILLION)



MARKET DYNAMICS (DRIVERS AND RESTRAINTS)

DRIVERS

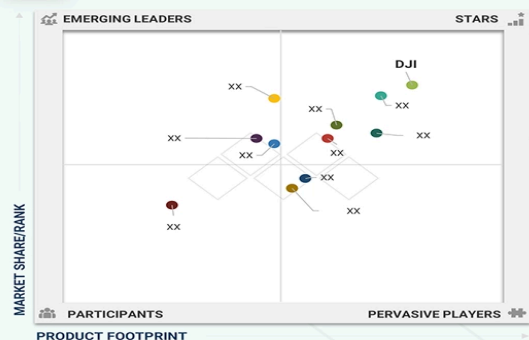
- Rising procurement of UAVs for military sector
- Need for farm management optimization using agricultural drones
- Increasing use of drones in civil and commercial applications

RESTRAINTS

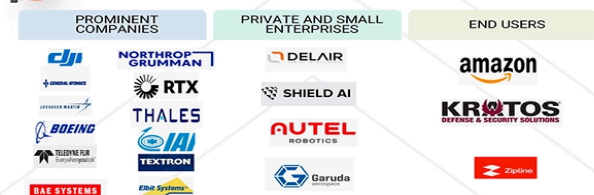
- Information security risk
- Lack of qualified and certified drone operators



COMPANY EVALUATION MATRIX: KEY PLAYERS



ECOSYSTEM ANALYSIS



Questions to be Addressed:

1. Legal framework and compliance what is the current international legal framework governing the use of armed drones in armed conflicts? ,
2. To what extent does the use of UAV comply with the principles of international humanitarian law, including distinction, proportionality, and necessity?
3. In the context of existing international legal mechanisms, how is a person responsible for illegal drone attacks held accountable?
4. Classification and use: how does international law classify different types of UAVs during war?
5. What is the legal difference between surveillance drones and armed drones? How do these distinctions affect their use in conflict zones?
6. Technical and ethical issues . To what extent does unmanned aircraft technology blur the traditional boundaries between war and peace, and between war and civilians?
7. Politics, accountability, future trends . Should mechanisms to ensure transparency and accountability in warfare involving unmanned aerial vehicles be effective?
8. How can the increase in unmanned aircraft be used to change standards and practices in future armed conflict laws?
9. What are the ethical implications of autonomous or semi-autonomous drone use in military and surveillance contexts?
10. What role should international organizations, such as the UN, play in regulating UAVs use?
11. How can states increase transparency and oversight in their drone programs?
12. Can existing treaties and international law adequately govern UAV operations, or is there a need for new legal instruments.

Further research:

[Australia-needs-to-be-transparent-on-armed-drones](#)

[Human-rights-impacts-autonomous-weaponry](#)

[B0B8AF88-FD20-44F8-A920-634484645113.pdf](#)

[Remarks: The resort to drones under international law](#)

[The use of drones](#)

[The implications of drones on the just war tradition](#)

[The humanisation of global politics: International criminal law, the responsibility to protect, and drones](#)

[Law among nations: an introduction to public international law](#)

[The necropolitics of drones](#)

[After action: The US drone program's expansion of international law justification for use of force against imminent threats](#)

[The use of UAVs in humanitarian relief: An application of POMDP-based methodology for finding victims](#)

Further research/extra content to watch:

<https://youtu.be/eH0WhuwKtE0?si=aXNoK4TwCd4b9OjO>

https://youtu.be/sqH_lclZUgQ

<https://youtu.be/obSzs2NIEEM>

https://youtu.be/nEEWYN_5a28

Bibliography:

Shiri Krebs, *Above the Law: Drones, Aerial Vision and the Law of Armed Conflict*

The International Law Framework Regulating the Use of Armed Drones”

Claudia Candelmo, *Drones at War: The Military Use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles and International Law*

Mohamad Akib Ismail, *Restriction and Classification of UAVs in War according to International Law*

UN Charter (esp. Articles 2(4), 51 – Use of force & self-defense)

Geneva Conventions & Additional Protocols (Rules of war)

ICRC Customary IHL Database – <https://ihl-databases.icrc.org/customary-ihl>

International Court of Justice (ICJ) decisions –*Armed Activities on the Territory of the Congo (DRC v. Uganda)* and *Nicaragua v. United States*

UN Special Rapporteur Reports on Extrajudicial Killings (e.g., by Agnes Callamard)

U.S. Department of Defense Law of War Manual (2023)

European Parliament briefing on Armed Drones and International Law (available via europarl.europa.eu)