PROJECT PLOUGHSHARES ANNUAL REPORT







Throughout 2018, Project Ploughshares continued to produce evidence-based research and to communicate the policy implications of such research to a wide range of stakeholders—in Canada and abroad—including the general public, various church denominations, and government officials. With public outreach efforts, in-house and external publications, engagement with government officials and civil society colleagues, and participation at numerous key processes, we endeavoured to advance our core mission and long-term objective of a more just, peaceful, and secure world.

A few highlights:

- Project Ploughshares participated in the second Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) for the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). At the NPT Prep-Com, Project Ploughshares delivered one of the civil-society statements to the Plenary and spoke on a panel about challenges facing the global nuclear-disarmament and non-proliferation regime.
- Project Ploughshares continued to research Canada's arms sales to Saudi Arabia, providing commentary and analysis for in-house and external publications and media outlets. As part of a coalition of Canadian civil society groups, Project Ploughshares contributed to efforts to address shortcomings in the federal government's proposed legislation

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Cesar Jaramillo

concerning Canada's accession to the Arms Trade Treaty (Bill C-47 and related regulations), including various joint submissions to Global Affairs Canada.

- Project Ploughshares became more deeply involved in the issue of Explosive Weapons in Populated Areas, which constitutes a significant danger to civilians during armed conflict. We collaborated closely with the International Network on Explosive Weapons (INEW), and participated in regional outreach efforts to lay the groundwork for the negotiation of an international Political Declaration to stop the use of explosive weapons in populated areas.
- Project Ploughshares managed the production of Space Security Index 2018—the latest volume in the only annual, comprehensive assessment of outer space security in the world. As part of this process, we organized the annual Space Security Working Group experts' meeting in collaboration with McGill University in Montreal.
- Project Ploughshares continued its engagement with the international Campaign to Stop Killer Robots. As well as participating in national and international events, we produced publications on ethical and governance challenges related to the development of autonomous weapons systems, focusing on the need for meaningful human control.

I invite you to read through our Annual Report for more details on our work last year.

Cera / Mo

PLOUGHSHARES AT A GLANCE

Est. 1976

PROJECT PLOUGHSHARES is a Canadian peace research institute with a focus on disarmament efforts and international security, specifically in the areas of the arms trade, emerging military and security technologies, nuclear weapons, and outer space security.

Project Ploughshares is the peace research institute of The Canadian Council of Churches.

Project Ploughshares operates out of The Kindred Credit Union Centre for Peace Advancement (CPA) at Conrad Grebel University College on the University of Waterloo campus. The CPA is home to University of Waterloo faculty and graduate students, as well as peace-oriented entrepreneurs and established local peacebuilding organizations.

Policy work and program implementation are often carried out in collaboration with other nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), in Canada and internationally.



Project Ploughshares is a member of the following groups:

- International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons
- Campaign to Stop Killer Robots
- Canadian Council for International Co-operation
- Peacebuild
- Canadian Network to Abolish Nuclear Weapons
- International Action Network on Small Arms.

EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

Technological advancements continue to pose new challenges for global security. While some applications have clear societal benefits, others threaten to be destabilizing and dangerous. Ploughshares participated in UN discussions on autonomous weapons, conducted research and advocacy on the humanitarian implications of emerging technologies, and hosted public events on autonomous weapons systems.

In 2018 Ploughshares staff:

- attended Meetings of the Group of Governmental Experts on Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems at the United Nations in Geneva in April and August;
- presented at side event briefings on the issue of autonomous weapons and gender considerations in August;
- presented at a side event briefing entitled "Retaining Meaningful Human Control of Weapons Systems" during the First Committee on Disarmament and International Security in October.

SPACE **SECURITY**

Earth is becoming more and more reliant on outer space for social, scientific, and economic benefits at a time when no clear regulations exist to prevent an arms race in outer space.

In 2018 Ploughshares staff:

- managed and produced the 15th volume of the Space Security Index (SSI), the annual, comprehensive, and systematic assessment of international developments that have an impact on the security of outer space;
- presented at the 2018 Canadian Space Commerce Association SmallSat Symposium on the topic of security and small satellites.

REFUGEES AND FORCED MIGRATION

Any long-term solution to the unprecedented global refugee crisis must address the drivers of forced migration: armed conflict, repressive regimes, the influx of weapons.

In 2018 Ploughshares staff:

- advocated for humanitarian assistance, security sector reform, arms control, human rights, and the rule of law;
- followed up on the U.S.-Canada Safe Third Country Agreement legal challenge and closely monitored irregular migration into Canada and the responses of the Canadian government;
- conducted research on drivers of conflict-induced forced migration, particularly the role and impact of conventional weapons and armed conflicts.

PLOUGHSHARES **RESEARCH**

ARMS **TRADE TREATY**

Irresponsible arms transfers exacerbate armed conflict, sustain repressive regimes, and enable those regimes to violate the human rights of their citizens. Ploughshares research and analysis aims to support efforts to curb irresponsible arms exports and monitor implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), which calls on states to set the highest possible standards to better regulate the global arms trade.

In 2018 Ploughshares staff:

- monitored Canada's process to accede to the ATT, including Bill C-47, the draft legislation proposed by Ottawa for this purpose, and liaised with both government officials and Canadian civil society colleagues on this file.
- attended the 2018 Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty, as well as the Preparatory Committee meetings for this conference.
- continued to scrutinize Canada's arms trade, including the multi-billion-dollar arms deal with Saudi Arabia.

NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Today, nearly 15,000 nuclear warheads threaten civilization. Arguments in favour of the purported benefits of possessing nuclear weapons are being challenged by a renewed emphasis on the humanitarian imperative for disarmament.

In 2018 Ploughshares staff:

- encouraged the universalization of the ban treaty, including working to encourage Canada's support and signature;
- attended the Second Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty in Geneva in April/May, and the UN First Committee in New York in October;
- monitored potential nuclear security flashpoints, including the situation in the Korean peninsula and the implementation of the JCPOA (Iran nuclear deal);
- monitored the 2018 UN High Level Conference on Nuclear Disarmament in May.







ACTION



Clockwise from top left: Branka at a panel discussion on autonomous weapons and the future of warfare, held in Ottawa; Sonal Marwah at a refugee rights panel in Waterloo; Jessica West with student researchers for the Space Security Index in Montreal; Cesar with Setsuko Thurlow at the University of Toronto; Branka speaking at a side event briefing at the United Nations in Geneva; Jessica at the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in Vienna; Cesar delivering a statement to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Preparatory Committee conference in Geneva.

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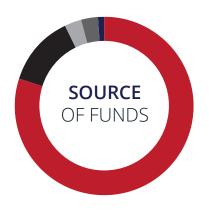
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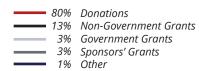
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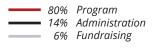
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TOTAL

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We are also grateful to our sponsoring churches and to The Simons Foundation Canada in Vancouver for its generous financial support.

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Established in 1976, Project Ploughshares is a Canadian peace research institute with a focus on disarmament efforts and international security, specifically in the areas of the arms trade, emerging military and security technologies, nuclear weapons, and outer space security.

WHAT DOES PROJECT PLOUGHSHARES DO?

Project Ploughshares promotes informed debate, both in policymaking circles and among the general public, through high-quality research that is then presented to government; before international bodies such as the United Nations; and at roundtables, conferences, and in publications.

CAN MY DONATION MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Yes! Your donation allows Project Ploughshares to fund research and advance policies that ensure resources and energy are spent on resolving conflict and reducing armed conflict, not feeding it.

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