A day conference exploring the growing use of armed drones

Saturday 18th September University of London Union Malet Street, London



Joystick warfare

A technology that was once the stuff of video games and science fiction is now a reality. Welcome to the world of 'network-centric warfare', a paradigm shift in the way that wars and undeclared wars are being fought, where operators dispatch 'targets' at the touch of a joystick, behind the safety of a computer screen – the world of drone technology.

Summary execution



Although the use of armed drones is still relatively new, hardly a week goes by without news of yet another drone strike by US or British forces. There is a picture beginning to emerge of high civilian casualties, whilst the use of armed drones to target specific individuals could amount to

summary or arbitrary execution. While politicians and the military see drones as the latest in a long line of new weapons that will provide a clean and tidy solution – time and again history has proved that this is a myth.

Surveillance state

Military drone manufacturers are looking for civilian uses for remote sensing drones to expand their markets and this includes the use of drones for domestic surveillance. Drones will no doubt make possible the dramatic expansion of the surveillance state.

Come and join other peace campaigners, researchers and civil liberties experts to investigate how we can down the drones.

Timetable

10.00am Registration

10.30am Welcome & introduction

10.50am The Rise of the Drone: Professor Dave Webb,

Leeds Met University, Vice-Chair CND

12.00pm Workshops: Session One (see below)

1.00pm Lunch

1.45pm Workshops: Session Two (see below)

2.45pm Coffee break

3.00pm Plenary: Where to from here?

4.00pm End of programme : Discussion can continue in the pub

Workshops

Session One (morning)

Choose one of:

a) Campaigning locally: Led by local activists working on drones.

b) Robotic Weapons: Where Next? Led by Professor Noel Sharkey.

c) Big Brother's Drone: The use of drones for surveillance in the UK.

Session Two (afternoon)

Choose one of:

- d) Law and Drone War: Exploring the legality of drones use.
- e) Israel's Drones: Israel's use of drones in Gaza and elsewhere.
- f) BAE and Drones: Britain's biggest arms dealer and their drones.

The cost of attending conference (which includes buffet lunch) is £10/£6 concession. Places at the conference are limited. To book a place please complete the form overleaf and send to: Drone Wars Conference, FoR, Peace House, 19 Paradise Street, Oxford, OX1 1LD

Email mary@for.org.uk for more information.

Booking form I would like to book ____ place(s) at the Drone Wars conference. I enclose £10 (£6 concesions) per person (cheques payable to Fellowship of Reconciliation). Name Address Postcode Email _____ While we will make every effort to allocate you to your preferred choice of workshop, please choose an alternative in case your first preference is fully booked: Morning Workshop | First choice | Second choice Afternoon Workshop First choice Second choice Lunch I would like a veggie non-veggie lunch For further information call 01865 250 781 or email mary@for.org.uk

Please return to:
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