

Young Women and Next Generation Initiative (YWNGI) Event:

Conventional Weapons Diversion: Challenges and Initiatives to Counter Illicit Trafficking

15 April 2025
16.00-17.45 CEST
online

The Vienna Center for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation (VCDNP) and the International Affairs Institute (IAI), in the framework of the Young Women and Next Generation Initiative (YWNGI) cordially invite you to a webinar entitled “*Conventional Weapons diversion: challenges and initiatives to counter illicit trafficking*”.

The event will **feature a lecture by Dr. Nils Duquet**, *Director at the Flemish Peace Institute*. He will speak about the **diversion of Conventional Weapons** and how such weapons, during their lifecycles, happen to be diverted from the legal trade into the illicit domain. Nils Duquet will also address the **existing international normative frameworks and initiatives** aiming at combating the illicit proliferation of such weapons.

The event will take place online on Zoom **on 15 April 2025 from 16:30 to 17:30 (CEST)**.

Students and young specialists interested in learning more about the field of non-proliferation, arms control and disarmament are particularly encouraged to attend. The event will be held in English.

We kindly ask you to RSVP via the online registration form:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ZvIGS_bFQim4_YVC7nosEA

Tentative Agenda

16.00 **Welcome remarks and introduction**

Federica Dall'Arche, Senior Research Associate, VCDNP

Speaker

Nils Duquet, Director, Flemish Peace Institute

17.15 **Q&A**

17.45 **Meeting Ends**

Background

The Vienna Center for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation (VCDNP) and The International Affairs Institute (IAI), in the framework of the [EU Non-Proliferation and Disarmament \(EUNPD\) Consortium](#) have launched a *Young Women and Next Generation Initiative (YWNGI)*, an initiative to encourage young women and the next generation to enter the non-proliferation, arms control and disarmament field.

Driven by the widely shared awareness of the persistent age and gender imbalances among experts and practitioners in the non-proliferation, arms control and disarmament field, the *Young Women and Next Generation Initiative* aims to help address such imbalances by exposing college and university level students to arms control issues, increasing awareness and encouraging participation in events and workshops. The initiative also aims to respond to the very limited offering of relevant courses on WMD issues in colleges and universities at undergraduate and master's level. The goal is to help students understand how to pursue a career in the field, making the best use of their own skills. The Initiative includes the creation of a [mentorship programme](#), the conveying of workshops and meetings, and the organization of outreach visits at universities.

The YWNGI is possible thanks to the generous support of the European Union.