

Danish statement

The Global IHL Initiative: State consultation on IHL and Peace (Work stream 3)

5 February 2026

- Thank you for today's session putting focus on disarmament as a supporting factor for peace.
- International disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation treaties play an important role in the implementation of fundamental rules and principles of IHL, which govern the means and methods of warfare, including certain types of weapons.
- The international arms control and disarmament regimes have come under heavy pressure. We must work hard together to change this.
- Disarmament strengthens collective security by building trust among states and freeing resources for investment in social and economic development, which in turn fosters greater international stability. Disarmament efforts can support stabilization on a local, regional and global level. At the same time, it reduces the risk of the use of weapons that are excessively injurious or indiscriminately harmful to civilians.
- Denmark believes that humanitarian disarmament measures such as demining and stockpile destruction can reduce immediate threats to civilian life, restore safe access to land and infrastructure, enable economic activity, and facilitate humanitarian initiatives.
- Disarmament also has the potential to limit diversion of illicit weapons to armed groups or criminal networks and lower the risk of conflicts, especially in fragile post-conflict environments.

I thank you