

The University of Hong Kong



Department of Politics and Public Administration

Presents

Targeted Killing, Autonomous Drones and Collective Moral Responsibility

The killing of Gaddafi, bin Laden and, especially, the use of drones by the US in Afghanistan, the tribal areas of Pakistan and elsewhere has brought the issues of the ethics of targeted killing and (relatedly) use of drones for lethal strikes on suspected terrorists to the fore. More recently the possibility has emerged of weapon systems, including drones, which once programmed and activated can identify, track and deliver lethal force without further human intervention (so-called autonomous weapons). This paper analyses these issues and does so with reference, in particular, to moral responsibility, both individual and collective.

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Seumas Miller is Professorial Research Fellow at the Centre for Applied Philosophy and Public Ethics (an Australian Research Council Special Research Centre) at Charles Sturt University (Canberra) and the 3TU Centre for Ethics and Technology at Delft University of Technology (The Hague) (joint position). He is the author or co-author of numerous academic articles and fifteen books, including *Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism: Ethics and Liberal Democracy* (Blackwell, 2009), *The Moral Foundations of Social Institutions: A Philosophical Study* (Cambridge University Press, 2010) and *Investigative Ethics: Ethics for Police Detectives and Criminal Investigators* (with Ian Gordon) (Blackwell, 2014).

Date: November 8, 2013 (Friday)

Time: 10:00 am

Venue: Room 9.66, The Jockey Club Tower

(Tea & coffee will be served at 9:45 am)

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