

Dear CWC Coalition colleagues,

Note: This is a longer email, but please read through to learn about our new discussion series. The first discussion will be held on June 15 (see details below).

After reaching out to everyone who suggested a working group topic, it became clear that all parties had very different goals in mind. In an attempt to still foster discussion on important CW-related topics without relying on working group meetings, we are going to trial-run a member suggestion to hold an informal discussion series on CW-related topics.

Current Plan: The CWC Coalition will hold semi-regular one hour informal meetings over Zoom featuring different themed talks. One to two individuals (or more, depending on interest in the topic) will give a short 10-15 minute presentation on a topic related to the CWC. After the presentation, the floor will be open for discussion.

We want this to be a helpful and productive experience for everyone, so we will continue to be open to suggestions for changes in length of time, structure, frequency, etc.

The **first discussion** will be led by Jean Pascal Zanders (*The Trench*) and Alastair Hay (*University of Leeds*) on **Wednesday, June 15, at 10:00 am EDT (Washington, DC time)** and will cover white phosphorus. They will be discussing the nature of WP, the kind of harm it causes, and the place of incendiary weapons in international arms control and humanitarian law. After the discussion, they are planning on creating a joint fact sheet/briefing paper, in which they will take into account the types of questions or arguments made during the Q&A session of the discussion.

To RSVP, click here:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMrc-2vrzgvHdakow0JOIVHWXpc1G9P3KvF

Need a time zone converter? Click here.

The rest of this email describes the goals, general schedule, and sign up procedure for the discussion series.

Goals:

- Provide a forum for lively discussion on important CW-topics
- Help individuals formulate ideas, topics, and key recommendations well ahead of the CSP and RevCon
- Connect those with similar interests or areas of expertise
- Provide networking and learning opportunities

Time/Date:

Dates will change based on availability of speakers. Since individuals are spread across the globe, discussions will likely occur at 9 or 10 am Washington, DC time so that most individuals can tune in at a reasonable hour (3/4pm in The Hague; 4/5pm in Halabja; 6:30/7:30pm in New Delhi; 9/10pm in Singapore, etc.)

Who Can Attend?

Open to CWC Coalition members and other interested parties. If you have a colleague who would be interested in attending, please CC Leanne on the email you forward them.

Topics and How to Sign Up:

Leanne will reach out again to everyone who suggested a working group topic to gauge interest and availability in leading a discussion. After those individuals have been approached, Leanne will distribute a sign-up form for those interested in presenting at future discussions.

Based on the Working Group submission form, here are some of the other topics we hope to get to:

- Chemical security and preventing chemical terrorism,
- Educating future generations about chemical weapons,
- National implementation, and more.

Thank you for reading through this long email! If you have any questions, please reach out.

Sincerely,

Leanne

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