



No Borders MUN

Background Guide

Disarmament and Security Council (DISEC)

1 | Disarmament of Nuclear Weaponry Worldwide

No Borders MUN 2022

Authored by Erik Hsu, Cherry Sung, Joy Kim

September 17th-18th, 2022

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	2
Committee Introduction	3
Agenda Introduction	4
Letter from the Chairs	5
Key Terms	6
Historical Background	7
Current State of Affairs	8
Stances of Parties	9
Possible Solutions	10
Questions to Consider	11
Bibliography	12

Committee Introduction

Since its first creation in 1945, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) has strived to resolve various fields of global issues with the assistance of all Member States. The GA is composed of six committees, which each addresses different matters. The Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC) stands as a First Committee among the six main committees, dealing with issues concerning global challenges and threats to peace that affect the international community. It further covers all disarmament and international security issues in the scope of the United Nations Charter. The ultimate objective of DISEC is to devise solutions that can effectively settle challenges that threaten peace in the international security regime. All Member States of the UN are welcome to participate as a member of DISEC, and the committee works in close cooperation with the United Nations Disarmament Commission and the Geneva-based Conference on Disarmament.

Through general debate, thematic discussions, and actions on drafts, the committee works toward disarmament and finding solutions to security concerns that threaten global peace. It focuses on the principle of cooperation between nations to maintain international peace. This committee can consider questions posed by any state, regardless of whether they are a member of the UN or not, and by the Security Council. DISEC can make recommendations to members of the UN or to the Security Council. Questions that require action must be passed to the Security Council. DISEC can make recommendations to the Security Council on matters they act upon when requested. DISEC can also initiate studies pertaining to international cooperation and security.

In the last decade, DISEC has also broadened its range of discussion topics, recently including desertification, human trafficking, and non-communicable diseases, moving towards more modern threats to international security. DISEC has passed resolutions prohibiting the use and production of bacteriological and toxin weapons, regulating technology and weapons related to outer space, and concerning small arms trade and possession. In 2013, the Security Council adopted the first resolution proposed dealing with small arms. Even though this committee can only make recommendations, it has significantly impacted global security with proposals like those.

As delegates to DISEC at NBMUN III, your role will be to reach a new or improved agreement on ways to reach disarmament of nuclear weaponry worldwide. The agreement, or resolution, will be taken by countries to implement the articles to the best extent possible.

Agenda Introduction

Even with many resolutions and treaties passed and implemented, the problem of nuclear weaponry non-proliferation has been the problem that has existed in society for the longest time. Even with previous treaties and resolutions that nations signed with a common consensus to stop nuclear weapon proliferation, the problem related to the use of specific weapons has been ongoing. Problems such as the Iran nuclear missile crisis and the consistent tensions between DPRK and South Korea sparked by DPRK's possession of nuclear weapons are making the problem even more severe.

In 1968, the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) was signed by 191 nations including the five nuclear states including China, Russia, the USA, the UK, and France. This was the first major move toward nations creating treaties and solutions toward nuclear weaponry non-proliferation. Since 1970, nations have created smaller bilateral or multilateral deals to prevent nuclear proliferation, such as the START treaty between the US and Russia to mutually remove nuclear warheads from their arsenals.

The Iran nuclear deal is one of the most catastrophic problems related to handling nuclear weaponry that has happened recently. Fortunately, the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action – otherwise known as the JCPOA – was created in 2015 in order to prohibit Iran from producing a certain ceiling number of nuclear weapons using uranium. Furthermore, in 2017, the United Nations Office on Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) created another treaty succeeding to previous treaties – mainly the NPT – named the treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons. The treaty had the objective to not only further specify the limit of nuclear material usable and weapons creatable, but also re-emphasize and bring back the topics and articles underlined by the NPT. A total of 122 nations signed the treaty.

While these treaties intended for a successful future with the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, continuous catastrophic events in relation to this topic occurred. In 2019, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) confirmed Iran's breach of the Iranian nuclear deal that was previously signed. The nation used more uranium than the limit that the JCPOA provided. Furthermore, problems such as the tension between middle east nations, or the DPRK-South Korea conflict enlarged by DPRK's nuclear weaponry proliferation, are not blocked or resolved by any treaties, sanctions, or resolutions created by the UN.

It is the duty of the DISEC committee to resolve the issue of nuclear weaponry non-proliferation once and for all. The committee must make solutions that guarantee the safety of the people by making sure that the solutions will prevent any further tensions, conflicts, or casualties from events related to nuclear weapon proliferation. The life of the people and global security is the top priority value of the committee. It should be treated with urgency and recognition from all nations on the committee.

Letter from the Chairs

Dear delegates and esteemed guests,

We welcome you to DISEC, the General Assembly Committee on Disarmament and International Security. We are looking forward to discussing the issue of nuclear proliferation with all of you at NBMUN 2022. Here is a brief introduction from each of us:

Hey! I'm Erik, the head chair for DISEC at NBMUN 2022. I'm a junior at Taipei American School, and started MUN in 7th grade. While I have mostly competed in THIMUN and UN4MUN procedures, I've won Best Delegates in both Historical Crisis and UNA-USA. Through this committee, I hope that delegates gain an increased understanding of the implications of nuclear proliferation for global and regional security. I look forward to what you have in store for this complex topic. Good luck researching!

Hello delegates! I am Cherry Sung, the Deputy Chair of DISEC. I am a freshman at Chadwick International in South Korea, and for the past 3 years, I have participated in over 40 international MUNs and founded my own conference last year. My biggest interests are international relations and economics, and this agenda fascinates me not only because I have delegated under this agenda but also because international powers certainly do revolve around nuclear weaponry in some aspects. I look forward to fruitful debates in the committee and hope everyone takes a lot away from NBMUN 2022!

Greetings, delegates. I am Joy Kim, the associate chair of the DISEC committee of this iteration of No Borders MUN. I am an eighth-grade student at Korean International School Jeju campus located in South Korea. I have been doing MUN for the past three years in various roles including as a delegate and a chair. I have joined the past two iterations of No Borders MUN as a delegate, and am extremely glad to be a chair of a conference I admired and joined for the past two years. This year's agenda of DISEC is extremely challenging. The topic of nuclear weapon proliferation should indeed come as a challenge for most of the delegates. As a chair, I am extremely excited to see delegates tackle such a heavy topic with cooperation and extensive research about the topic. I am very excited to see all of you in September!

Please do not hesitate to send us an email if you have any questions. We are looking forward to meeting you!

Best,

Erik Hsu (24erikh@students.tas.tw)

Cherry (jsung2025@chadwickschool.org)

Joy (thisisjoey77@gmail.com)

Key Terms

Nuclear Weapon

A type of weapon that contains radioactive materials such as uranium or plutonium which causes explosion from nuclear fusion and fission. Capable of damaging a range of areas with an explosion, as well as people from exposure to radioactive material.

Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM)

A nuclear-armed ballistic missile that is land-based and capable of shooting a minimum range of 5,500 kilometers. Owned by an extremely limited list of nations: Russia, the USA, China, India, DPRK, France, and the UK.

Medium Range Ballistic Missile (MRBM)

A nuclear-armed missile that is capable of shooting a range of from 1,000 to 3,000 kilometers.

Small Range Ballistic Missile (SRBM)

A ballistic missile that is nuclear-armed and capable of shooting a range of 1,000 kilometers or less.

Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)s

A treaty signed on July 1st of 1968 which went effective on March 5th of 1970 had the objective to prohibit any spreading of nuclear weapons, technology, or any manipulative usage of such weaponry for events including warfare. This was the first treaty that promoted the proper peaceful use of nuclear energy technology. Signed by a total of 191 states including the five “nuclear states” including China, the UK, the USA, Russia (then the Soviet Union), and France.

Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

A peace treaty in regards to nuclear weaponry proliferation was signed in 2017 by a total of 122 nations. Has the objective to further stop the production, development, manipulations, and actions with nuclear material, technology, and weaponry that is offensive and threatening to society.

Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)

An agreement that was established in 2015 specified the Iranian nuclear missile crisis. Its objective was to prohibit Iran – an international threat due to its possession and development of nuclear materials – from making, developing, or manipulating nuclear technology and weaponry. This was breached by Iran, admitted by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in 2019 by using radioactive material more than the ceiling made.

Historical Background

The beginning of the nuclear weaponry age worldwide was marked in 1945, when American scientists conducted “Trinity,” the first nuclear weapons test, in the New Mexico desert. Even before the Trinity test, national leaders have debated the impact of nuclear weapons on domestic and foreign policy.

Then, on August 6, 1945, towards the end of World War II, the “Little Boy” device exploded in the Japanese city of Hiroshima, destroying 50,000 buildings and killing a total of 90,000 to 146,000 people. Three days later, the “Fat Man” device exploded over the Japanese city of Nagasaki, destroying 60% of the city and killing 35,000 to 40,000 people. This was the first and the only use of nuclear weapons in armed conflict. And since then, the world has grown its nuclear weapons stockpiles.

In its first resolution formed on January 24, 1946, the UN General Assembly called for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons and set up a commission to address nuclear weapons. Amid tensions raised by different nations’ nuclear weapon tests, peace movements emerged worldwide. In 1954, Japan converged to form a unified “Japanese Council Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs,” which collected an estimated 35 million signatures calling for bans on nuclear weapons.”

On July 29, 1957, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) was created to promote and oversee the peaceful use of nuclear technology. U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower’s December 1953 “Atoms for Peace” speech is considered to have created the impetus for forming the institution. Eisenhower said that an international agency was needed to prevent the spread, or proliferation, of nuclear technology, warning that, if unchecked, it could result in “the annihilation of the irreplaceable heritage of mankind.”

In the years 1968–75, nuclear non-proliferation started going global but with both progress and setbacks. On one hand, the United Nations established the first framework relating to nuclear weapons with the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT). And the world’s two biggest nuclear powers, the United States and the Soviet Union took initial steps toward limiting their nuclear arsenals. On the other hand, India obtained nuclear weapons.

In the 1980s, a movement for nuclear disarmament resparked with the statements of U.S. President Ronald Reagan such as making a “world free of nuclear weapons.” Reagan started discussions on nuclear disarmament with the Soviet Union, namely by hosting Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START).

Over the 20th century, multiple regions and countries pledged to be free of nuclear weapons. On February 14 of 1967, a treaty prohibiting nuclear weapons in Latin America, the Treaty of Tlatelolco, was signed in Mexico City to agree not to manufacture, test, or acquire nuclear weapons. On August 6, 1985, the South Pacific became nuclear-free through the

South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty. The treaty prohibits the manufacturing, stationing or testing of nuclear weapons within the area. On December 15, 1995, the nations of Southeast Asia created a nuclear-weapon-free zone stretching from Burma in the west, the Philippines in the east, Laos and Vietnam in the north, and Indonesia in the south. On April 11, 1996, Africa became a nuclear-free zone as officials from 43 African nations signed the Treaty of Pelindaba in Egypt, establishing an African nuclear-weapon-free zone and pledging not to build, test, or stockpile nuclear weapons. On June 1, 1996, Ukraine became a nuclear-weapon-free state after returning its last inherited Soviet nuclear weapon to Russia.

On July 8, 1996, the International Court of Justice stated in an advisory opinion that the threat or use of nuclear weapons would generally be contrary to international law. On the same year on September 24, the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty opened for signature at the United Nations. China, France, the United Kingdom, Russia, and the United States all signed the treaty, but India did not. In 1998, India and Pakistan conducted nuclear tests, followed by North Korea conducting its nuclear test in 2006.

Current State of Affairs

The biggest treaty or international agreement that governs the spread of nuclear weapons and the peaceful use of nuclear energy is the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). The NPT was put into force in 1970 and is currently the only binding multilateral treaty that prevents the spread of nuclear weaponry. The Treaty outlined five nuclear-weapon states, France, the United Kingdom, the United States, China, and Russia, as the five countries that are legally allowed to have nuclear weapons under the NPT. The Treaty is the most widely ratified nuclear disarmament agreement in the world, with 191 states currently in the agreement, and is seen as the cornerstone of preventing nuclear weapon proliferation. The NPT established the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) as its main enforcement agency. Members of the treaty are required to allow IAEA inspections to ensure that they are complying with the terms of the treaty. While the NPT is a binding multilateral treaty, members can simply leave the treaty, which is why it is not entirely effective for prevent nuclear proliferation. For example, because North Korea was barred from owning nuclear weapons under the NPT, they pulled out in 2003 and cited US aggression as the primary reason for withdrawing.

Currently, nine countries in the world have nuclear weapons. Besides the five countries that are legally allowed to possess nuclear weapons under the NPT, India, Pakistan, Israel, and North Korea possess nuclear weapons and are excluded from the NPT.

The biggest nuclear weapon crisis in the current world is considered to be North Korea. Even as one of the poorest countries in the world, North Korea has a military arsenal that puts them on the top of foreign policy agendas and headlines. It spends around a quarter of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) on its military, which is more than the other 170 countries tracked by the US State Department. North Korea's nuclear arsenal stands between 20 to 60 nuclear bombs, and they have the ability to manufacture around 6 of them every year. The heavy emphasis on its nuclear weapons program is because Pyongyang sees nuclear weapons as necessary to ensure regime survival and deter an invasion by Western powers. Thus, the importance of its nuclear weapons program forces North Korea to take heavy UN Security Council sanctions for its missile tests and proliferation.

North Korea is seen as the biggest threat to the peaceful existence of nuclear weapons as they frequently boast the nuclear ability with missile tests. North Korea does this because in order for nuclear weapons to serve as an effective method of deterrence, nations must believe that North Korea has the capability to initiate a nuclear strike. In 2017 alone, 6 nuclear tests were conducted, which included the firing of 3 Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs) that have ranges that can cross around the world. Shorter-range weapons have also been flaunted by North Korea, as over a dozen tests of this style of weapon were conducted in 2019 alone. Moreover, in October of 2020, North Korea showcased the Hwasong-15, one of

the largest ICBMs that can hold multiple warheads during a military parade, and most recently, in January of 2021, a submarine-launched ballistic missile was unveiled and declared “the world’s most powerful weapon”, serving as a reminder to world leaders about the devastation North Korea’s arsenal can cause.

While North Korea is seen as a destructive force in the nuclear weapons arena, countries have also peaceful policies like the No First Use policy (NFU). The NFU is a pledge made by states that hold nuclear weapons to never initiate a nuclear strike, and this policy was first made public by China in 1964. China is currently the only nuclear-weapon state to have an unconditional NFU policy. This is because the threat of a first strike deters other forms of aggression, such as biological, chemical, or conventional warfare. Thus, most states have policies that allow them to strike first with a nuclear weapon. While an NFU pledge was considered in 2018 by the United States, former President Donald Trump retained the United States’ right to use a nuclear weapon first.

In conclusion, policies for nuclear weaponry vary across the world, with countries violating and leaving key international treaties that governed disarmament in the past decade. The provocative uses of nuclear weapons that states are exercising to use as a deterrence mechanism only heightens the chances of miscalculation, highlighting the need for more effective nuclear management in the status quo.

Stances of Parties

Russia

Russia is known to own 6,490 warheads, including around 2,000 that need to be dismantled for disarmament. Since the USA imposed nonproliferation sanctions in 2014, Russia increased its warhead entities instead, causing a decline in the US-Russian relations. Russia did not sign or ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) and has consistently voted against an annual UN General Assembly resolution since 2018 that welcomes the adoption of the TPNW and calls upon all states to sign, ratify, or accede to it “at the earliest possible date”.

In March 2022, Russia started to expand its use of nuclear weapons in the war with Ukraine as Russian forces struggled to advance into Ukraine. Putin threatened Ukraine and the west that Russia could use nuclear weapons and that western intervention would lead to Russia wrecking worst consequences.

Germany

Germany, like Russia, has not yet signed or ratified the TPNW and has been unwilling to do so. However, Ambassador Michael Biontino, the permanent representative of Germany to the DISEC, reported that Germany commits to the goal of disarming the world of nuclear weaponry and believes this goal requires a pragmatic step-by-step approach that consider the prevailing security environment.

A public opinion poll conducted by YouGov in 2019 found that 68% of Germans believe that their government should join the TPNW and just 12% opposed. Furthermore, a poll by Kantar in 2020 found that 83% of Germans want US nuclear weapons to be removed from German territory – a requirement of the TPNW. More than 100,000 Germans have signed a petition calling on the government to sign and ratify the TPNW.

USA

The US secretary of state, Antony Blinken, reported in December 2021 that the country does not support the TPNW because it does not contribute to the development of customary international law. USA has called on all potential signatories to the TPNW “to reflect seriously on its implications for international peace and security”.

The USA is the only country with a record of using nuclear weapons in war. At the end of World War II, USA used two atomic bombs in the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, killing more than 200,000 people. Multiple thousands more died in the years following the attacks because the atomic bombs brought radiation illnesses.

USA currently possesses approximately 5,600 nuclear weapons, which it can launch from missiles, submarines, and aircraft. In 2020, the United States spent an estimated \$37.4 billion to build and maintain its nuclear forces. USA sees Iran's missiles as the world's biggest threat. The US secretary of state, Antony Blinken, met with Israel's leader and reassured Israel and its Gulf allies that Iran will never develop actual atomic weapons.

France

France disapproves TPNW because it does "not accept any claim that [the TPNW] contributes to the development of customary international law". It actively discouraged other states, especially its former colonies, from supporting the resolution.

France owns approximately 290 nuclear weapons, which it can launch from submarines or missiles dropped from aircraft. In 2020, France invested US\$5.7 billion to building and maintaining its nuclear forces. For six years since 1960, France conducted 210 nuclear tests in Algeria and French Polynesia.

France has taken significant steps toward disarmament. It decreased its warhead count to half compared to its Cold War peak, does not deploy nuclear weapons on its aircraft carrier anymore, and adheres to a principle of "strict sufficiency" to keep its nuclear arsenal at the lowest possible level in accordance with the strategic context.

UK

The United Kingdom did not sign or ratify the TPNW for the same reason as France. The UK possesses approximately 225 nuclear weapons. In 2020, the UK spent an estimated US\$6.2 billion to build and maintain its nuclear forces. In 2021, the UK announced that it would put a ceiling on the size of its nuclear arsenal for the first time in decades. By putting this limit, the UK now intends to increase its stockpile to 260 warheads.

In the UK, only the Prime Minister can authorize the use of our nuclear weapons even if deployed as part of a NATO response. The UK announced that it would consider using nuclear weapons only in extreme circumstances of self-defense and defense for NATO allies.

China

Although China has not yet signed or ratified the TPNW, China said in October 2020 that it "has always been advocating complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons, which is fundamentally in line with purposes of TPNW". China calls for other countries to sign and ratify the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) and the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) as soon as possible.

China possesses approximately 350 nuclear weapons, which it can launch from missiles, submarines, and aircraft. Between 1964 and 1996, it conducted 45 nuclear tests on its territory. In 2020, China spent an estimated \$10.1 billion to build and maintain its nuclear forces. However, China limits its development of nuclear weapons with a view to eventually eliminating nuclear weapons. China believes nuclear disarmament needs a gradual reduction that sticks to the principles of "maintaining the global strategic stability" and "not compromising the security interest of any country".

India

India is also not a signatory or ratifier to the TPNW. India possesses approximately 160 nuclear weapons, and it tested them three times between 1974 and 1998. In 2020, India spent an estimated US\$2.4 billion on its nuclear forces.

India opposed to signing the NPT, which it views as discriminatory. The country has long stated that it desires a world free of nuclear weapons but has developed weapons to be on equal standing with other world powers. Its 1999 Draft Nuclear Doctrine asserted "global, verifiable, and non-discriminatory nuclear disarmament is a national security objective."

Pakistan

Pakistan is one of the nations that did not yet sign or ratify the TPNW. It opposed signing the NPT as a non-nuclear weapon state as long as India has nuclear weapons. It possesses approximately 165 nuclear weapons, which it can launch from missiles and aircraft. Pakistan conducted two nuclear tests in 1998. In 2020, Pakistan spent an estimated US\$1 billion to build and maintain its nuclear weapons.

DPRK

The DPRK is a Non-NPT State with nuclear explosive devices. It possesses approximately 45 nuclear weapons, which it may be able to launch from missiles. It conducted six nuclear tests between 2006 and 2017, making it the only state to have conducted such tests in the 21st century. In 2020, North Korea spent an estimated US\$667 million on its nuclear forces.

North and South Korea signed the 1992 Joint Declaration on the Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, where both states agreed not to "test, manufacture, produce, receive, possess, store, deploy, or use nuclear weapons." On January 23, 2013, North Korea formally voided the 1992 Joint Declaration with South Korea. It is perhaps unsurprising, as the country repeatedly violated the NPT as well. The United Nations Security Council has issued several resolutions (USNCRs 1718, 1874, 2094, 2270 and 2321) condemning North Korea's nuclear tests and imposing sanctions in response.

Iran

Iran has always promoted universal adherence to the TPNW. In a statement to the United Nations in September 2017, the former minister of foreign affairs of Iran, Mohammad Javad Zarif, said that Iran supports the “overall objective” of the TPNW and believes “that it will reinforce the nuclear disarmament regime”. In October 2021, Iran described the adoption of the TPNW as “a right step in the right direction” and complementary to the NPT of 1968. But it said that the TPNW “should also be complemented by the urgent commencement of negotiations and the conclusion of a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons”.

US intelligence predicted in August 2005 that Iran could have the ingredients needed to complete a nuclear weapon by 2015. Israel and some western governments fear that Iran’s nuclear programme will lead to its development of nuclear weapons, while Iran says it is aimed solely at producing electricity.

Ukraine

After the collapse of the USSR in 1991, Ukraine agreed to sign the Budapest Memorandum with the UK, USA, and Russia in 1994. The memorandum stated for Ukraine’s weapons to all be given up to Russia, where they would be separated and safely dismantled. While it was definitely due to international pressure, the pressure was due to the fact that after the USSR’s collapse, Ukraine became the third nation with most nuclear supplies, which could lead to a potential international threat. Regardless, all of the weapons were given up by Ukraine; Ukraine, by trade, was promised its national sovereignty by the other three nations, and was also promised not to be attacked.

Now in the 2020s, Ukraine is now a main victim of attack and war. The flaw of the memorandum - the fact that the memorandum stated “promise” instead of “guarantee” led to the manipulation, causing Ukraine to be jeopardized in its existence. Ukraine shows a severe example of how nuclear weaponry is sometimes the only way to guarantee a nation’s sovereignty and security.

Israel

Partly from France’s distribution of nuclear warheads in the 1950s, Israel currently has about 80 to 400 nuclear warheads the nation. That being said, until the present day, Israel did not sign the NPT, and still has nuclear warheads. However, they are dormant in terms of using the weaponry, and have not identified any nuclear programs or research that were conducted. Israel is believed to be possessing nuclear weapons as a defensive strategy to defend its country and deter other nations from their potential attack on the nation. Accordingly, most believe that Israel is holding these weapons due to its weak military to support and defend its nation’s security and sovereignty.

Palestine

As stated in the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) in the second article, Palestine has consistently declared to the UN secretary about the nation does not possess any nuclear material or weapons of sorts. Palestine is definitely a member nation supporting the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons. Palestine has also signed and ratified treaties such as the NPT as well as the TPNW.

Due to its intensified current relationship with Israel, Palestine is in consistent jeopardy of being destroyed with nuclear weapons by Israel. However, fortunately, Palestine has never been attacked with nuclear weapons by the Israeli military.

ROK

While it is true that the nation possesses the materials and technology required to make a nuclear weapon, South Korea does not have and is not making any nuclear weapons at the current state. Instead of having its own nuclear weaponry, South Korea's national sovereignty and security are guaranteed by missiles and US military technologies including nuclear weapons.

South Korea is highly included in the problem of nuclear weaponry, as the nation itself had many problems with North Korea possessing and testing nuclear weapons multiple times. The nation is consistently attempting to denuclearize North Korea and is consistently keeping the stance of believing in denuclearization and nonproliferation.

Iraq

Currently, Iraq does not have any nuclear weapons or technology required to create such weaponry. Unlike Iraq's current reality though, Iraq definitely desired to possess nuclear weapons throughout history. During Saddam Hussein's control of Iraq, Hussein highly desired the development of nuclear weapons in the nations, as he believed the weapons would be able to give more power to the nation when trying to "find lost Arabian territories" and expand the nation.

However, unlike its desires, after Iraq invaded Kuwait territory in 1990, the nation suffered in trying to develop the technologies required to build a nuclear weapon. The hinder to nuclear development is still continuing to the present day, as Iraq is not able to make any nuclear weapons or plutonium.

Saudi Arabia

Just like many Middle East nations, Saudi Arabia does not have any nuclear weapons or programs in operation. The nation does not have the technology to utilize radioactive elements (e.g. plutonium, uranium) from basic facilities such as power plants to nuclear weapons and ballistics.

While the nation has not yet ratified the TPNW, Saudi Arabia has shown its clear state of being a non-nuclear-weapon state by signing the NPT, as well as creating agreements with the IAEA. The nation has not yet been threatened throughout history by other nations with nuclear weapons.

Possible Solutions

Solution #1 Treaty

A solution that the committee could use is to create another international treaty that reinforces and emphasizes the ceiling of use of the nuclear resource, as well as nuclear testing. The treaty could have the effect of emphasizing such content and bringing back the focus in regards to nuclear proliferation, just like the past treaties such as the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) did when it was established. While this could be a valid solution that the committee could make, it is definite that the solution most likely cannot stand alone. As history shows its clear failure, using a treaty alone as a solution will not block and prevent every nation from not using their nuclear weapons. For instance, even though the NPT was signed by numerous nations, nations such as DPRK and Iran still managed to breach the treaty, invalidating its purpose of the treaty. Therefore, if this solution is to be used, the committee must use it alongside a strong supporting solution that will ensure that every nation will be prevented from using an overt amount of nuclear resources.

Solution #2 Periodic Reports

While it is not an entire solution, a method that the committee could use to constantly monitor the progress of nations is to use periodic reports. Periodic reports are basically reports sent to the committee based on a certain period, where the report has an analysis and document about the nation's progress and development in a certain area. In this case, periodic reports can be used to constantly monitor the progress of the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in each nation. The reports can also write regarding whether the nation has shown any signs of breaching the treaty, such as going over the ceiling of the usable amount of nuclear resources. While periodic reports can simply report the progress of nations to the committee, the committee can connect this mechanism to another system that helps or pressure nations hindering in following international treaties regarding the area. The reports can also be a great indicator to show the progress and efficacy of the solution from the committee.

Solution #3 Conditional Memorandum

A fundamental reason why nations, especially poor and underdeveloped ones, often put their efforts so much to have nuclear weapons and technology is the fact that nuclear weapons can defend the nation just by their existence. In order to protect their national sovereignty and security, many nations including DPRK try their hardest efforts in order to make nuclear weapons. When denuclearizing nations with these issues, it is important to guarantee their sovereignty even without possession of nuclear weapons. By making a conditional memorandum, the nation could trade their nuclear weapons and technology with a guarantee of their security and sovereignty.

Questions to Consider

1. How do the past conflicts contribute to the contemporary world's tensions regarding the use of nuclear weaponry?
2. What international actions have been taken on the agenda, and what were their drawbacks?
3. What incentives do states have to maintain their nuclear arsenals?
4. What incentives do states have to disarm their nuclear arsenals?
5. Why are nuclear weapons seen as a necessity by nuclear-weapon powers today?
6. How can states find new deterrence mechanisms to decrease the emphasis placed on nuclear weapons?

Bibliography

Biontino, Michael. "Statement on Nuclear Disarmament." Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations New York, <https://www.un.org/disarmament/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/statement-by-germany-72-nw.pdf>

Boffey, Daniel. "Russia Reasserts Right to Use Nuclear Weapons in Ukraine." *The Guardian*, 26 Mar. 2022, <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/mar/26/russia-reasserts-right-to-use-nuclear-weapons-in-ukraine-putin>.

"China." ICAN, 14 June 2022, <https://www.icanw.org/china>.

China's Position on Nuclear Disarmament. 16 Apr. 2004, <https://www.mfa.gov.cn/ce/cegv//eng/cjkk/cjblc/cjlc/t85390.htm#:~:text=China%20also%20pledged%20unconditionally%20not,contributions%20to%20international%20nuclear%20disarmament>.

"Fact Sheets & Briefs." Home, 6 June 2016, <https://www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/russiaprofile>.

"Fact Sheets & Briefs." Home, 20 Oct. 2014, <https://www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/franceprofile>.

"France." ICAN, 14 June 2022, <https://www.icanw.org/france>.

"Germany." ICAN, 25 May 2022, <https://www.icanw.org/germany>.

"History of Nuclear Weapons." ICAN, 1 Aug. 1942, https://www.icanw.org/nuclear_weapons_history.

"India." ICAN, 14 June 2022, <https://www.icanw.org/india>.

"Iran." ICAN, 8 Dec. 2020, <https://www.icanw.org/iran>.

"North Korea." ICAN, 14 June 2022, https://www.icanw.org/north_korea.

"Nuclear Weapons." UNITED NATIONS, 5 Feb. 2021, <https://www.un.org/disarmament/wmd/nuclear/>.

“Pakistan.” ICAN, 14 June 2022, <https://www.icanw.org/pakistan>.

“Russia.” ICAN, 14 June 2022, <https://www.icanw.org/russia>.

“The History of Nuclear Proliferation.” World101 from the Council on Foreign Relations, 11 Jan. 2003, <https://world101.cfr.org/global-era-issues/nuclear-proliferation/history-nuclear-proliferation>.

“The UK’s Nuclear Deterrent: What You Need to Know.” GOV.UK, <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-nuclear-deterrence-factsheet/uk-nuclear-deterrence-what-you-need-to-know>. Accessed 24 July 2022.

“Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)Related Pages.” UNITED NATIONS, 11 May 1995, <https://www.un.org/disarmament/wmd/nuclear/npt/>.

“Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear WeaponsRelated Pages.” UNITED NATIONS, 27 Mar. 2022, <https://www.un.org/disarmament/wmd/nuclear/tpnw/>.

“UN General Assembly - First Committee - Disarmament and International Security.” General Assembly of the United NationsGeneral Assembly of the United Nations, <https://www.un.org/en/ga/first/index.shtml>.

“United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs.” UNITED NATIONS, 11 Mar. 2022, <https://www.un.org/disarmament/>.

“United Kingdom.” ICAN, 14 June 2022, https://www.icanw.org/united_kingdom.

“United States.” ICAN, 14 June 2022, https://www.icanw.org/united_states.

Wintour, Patrick. “Iran Will Never Acquire Nuclear Weapons, US Promises Israel.” The Guardian, 27 Mar. 2022, <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/mar/27/iran-will-never-acquire-nuclear-weapons-us-promises-israel>.