Jr. Security Council

SPsMUN 2026

Head Chair

Valentina Villarroel

Co-Chairs

Antonio Natale
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LETTER FROM THE DAIS

Dear delegates,

It's a pleasure to meet you. It is with great excitement that we welcome you to the 2026 edition of the SPsMUN conference and to its Junior Security Council! In this committee, your chairs will be: Valentina Villarroel, Tattva Sharma, and Antonio Natale. We couldn't be more thrilled to serve as your chairs!

During the conference, representing your respective delegations, you will have the opportunity to immerse yourselves in the world of politics and debate a topic chosen with great care and dedication. Our goal is to promote a respectful, fun committee, where everyone learns. Given that this is a junior committee, this matters even more, as it will be delegates' first impressions of how MUN is before joining a senior committee. Overall, we wish to foster an inclusive and positive environment, always encouraging everyone to engage and participate.

We will open the debate with the following topic: "Discussing the maintenance of nuclear weapons in nations and the risks to society." Briefly: Some more developed nations have decks of powerful nuclear weapons that may put thousands of lives at risk with a single bomb. Several countries are facing problems negotiating with others that possess such equipment due to the risk of entering in conflict and putting people in risky situations. These more powerful nations are making the international community unbalanced and manipulating the world to benefit them—as their power defines the rhythm of development. This makes politics unfair and silences even more nations which are battling to make their voice heard. We believe this topic will yield diplomatic discussions and resolutions consistent with reality.

As chairs, we hope you all read the study guide carefully and take key points to understand the topic as a whole! Though this study guide is meant to assist you, your position paper should not be a paraphrased version of it. We highly encourage independent research.

Do not hesitate to contact any of us, either by email or during our committee sessions. Together, we will try to make this committee a memorable experience!

Sincerely,

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INTRODUCTION TO THE JUNIOR SECURITY COUNCIL

The UN Security Council is in a meeting. Photo: Thierry Tardy / AFP via AA

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations (UN). It is established to ensure peace and security among states. It was created in 1945, just after World War II, to answer the need for a more robust structure that could prevent future large conflicts. Unlike the League of Nations, too weak to prevent a war, the UNSC was constructed to be more effective and proactive in responding to threats to global peace.

There are 15 total members on the council. Five are permanent: China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States. It holds veto power, so any of the five members can vote against a resolution and it fails. Still, a veto is effective only if the country can prove that the proposal does not comply with international law so, to do so in this committee, they need to go up to the chairs and specifically mention which articles are being broken. The remaining ten members are appointed by the UN General Assembly for two year terms, with aspirations to achieve fair geographic representation.

The UNSC is the UN"s principal crisis-management mechanism, aimed at maintaining international peace and security across borders. It has the mandate to take authoritative decisions that are binding on all of its 193 member states, when it sees fit. Such actions can range from military intervention to diplomatic techniques, organized when peace is not secured or comes under assault by a nation or an armed political group. The Council can also authorize peacekeeping—as in sending United Nations forces to conflict zones to help sustain ceasefires, stabilize situations on the ground, and protect civilians.

These mechanisms enable the UNSC to influence states to abide by international law and prior agreements, whether through financial, political, or military pressure. To carry out these functions, the Council meets regularly twice a year at UN Headquarters, on the date as it decides.

Discussing The Maintenance of Nuclear Weapons in Nations and the Risks Posed to Society

Peace activists wearing masks of Russian President Vladimir Putin and U.S. President Joe Biden pose with mock nuclear missiles in front of the U.S. Embassy in Berlin on Jan. 29, 2021. Photo: John MacDougall/AFP via Getty Images

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Introduction: Global significance of nuclear weaponry

Nuclear weaponry has been one of the most significant issues, if not the most, in the modern world ever since the end of WW2. Today, nine countries currently possess nuclear weapons, including: the United States, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, France, China, India, Pakistan, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) and Israel, however Israel does not publicly admit their possession of weapons. All of these countries also undertook intensive nuclear modernization programmes in 2024, upgrading existing weapons and adding newer versions. Of the estimated 12,241 warheads recorded in 2025 that all the countries above had, majority is owned by the USA as well as the Russian Federation.

The theory of deterrence and Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD):

Deterrence is the main idea which countries use to justify their stockpile of nuclear weaponry. Deterrence, in simple words, is a military strategy in which one power uses the threat of retribution effectively to prevent an attack from an opposing power. This theory was further developed during the Cold War, being named "Mutually Assured Destruction" (MAD), which is credited with preventing nuclear warfare between large powers, for example the United States and the USSR. However, it is argued that MAD's success is limited, as it relies on a delicate balance, and has never been actually tested in an actual, full scale nuclear exchange. It also carries the hazard of accidental launch or miscalculation, with a notable event being the Cuban Missile Crisis, which in turn nearly sparked a huge nuclear war.

Financial implications:

Furthermore, maintaining nuclear weaponry requires a huge financial investment as well as a high level of technology. The nine main countries stated above spend approximately over $100 billion annually on maintaining their nuclear stockpiles. Some critics argue that these funds could be directed towards sectors that will benefit citizens of these countries, such as healthcare, education, agriculture and disaster relief, among many others.

Societal and environmental risks:

Moreover, nuclear weaponry can cause problems outside warfare towards society. For example, the storage and how countries transport radioactive material can greatly increase thefts, spillages, leakages or accidents. These can have significant and long-term consequences, such as increased cancer rates, long-term environment contamination, and can make infrastructure very vulnerable to collapse as nuclear arms require a large amount of energy.

International efforts and disarmament:

There have been examples of international resolutions being created to combat this, such as the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) and the Treaty on the Prohibition on Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). These demonstrate steps toward the right direction, however various countries have refused to sign the TPNW, due to increasing fear of the new era of warfare. Due to these countries not signing the treaty, disarmament is slowing down, and is creating hostility between powers such as Russia and NATO, as well as the USA and China.

CURRENT SITUATION

Recent years have been filled with global concerns regarding nuclear weapons, which are being modernized at an accelerating pace and placed under weakening controls. All nine nuclear-armed countries (United States, Russia, China, France, the United Kingdom, India, Pakistan, Israel, and North Korea) now have technologically advanced and new weapons systems, and have done so despite repeated agreements under the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). In 2025, the SIPRI Yearbook (2000) reported approximately 12,241 warheads including over 3,800 deployed and operationally ready for possible use. Hence, several emergency debates in the UN Security Council (UNSC) about how to manage nuclear risks and prevent a renewed arms race have taken place.

An important UNSC session was held on September 29th, 2020, where Antonio Guterres, the UN Secretary General, told delegates that modernizing nuclear weapons “threaten a qualitative nuclear arms race, not to increase the number of weapons but to make them faster, stealthier and more accurate". He emphasized the growing overlap of multiple threats: more missile testing, vulnerabilities in nuclear command systems, and decaying inspection arrangements. Most importantly, he emphasized the profound distrust among leading powers around the world: "Polarization and a lack of trust are a dangerous mix, one which we cannot afford to ignore”. Thus, it has been made evident that the risk of a miscalculation, be it due to a misinterpreted warning or unauthorized launch, are now larger than any time since 1962’s Cuban Missile Crisis.

Furthermore, Russia's actions have been a focus in the Security Council. After invading Ukraine in February 2022, Russia formally ended all New START inspections in 2023 and began violating treaty limits in 2024. The Kremlin has been fielding other strategic systems, most notably the hypersonic glide vehicle known as *the Avangard*, the *Sarmat (RS-28) ICBM*, and the nuclear-powered underwater drone known as *the Poseidon drone*. During April 2024, satellite intelligence data provided to the Security Council indicated activities occurring at nuclear storage facilities in Kamchatka, Kaliningard, and Murmansk. This resulted in a response from NATO members, who strengthened their own forces and military presence along the alliance’s *Eastern Flank*, particularly in Poland, the Baltic states (Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania), Slovakia, Bulgaria, and Romania.

A satellite image from October 2022 that shows Russia is building additional storage spaces at its Kamchatka naval base / Photo: By Matthew Loh, Google Earth Screenshot.

In early 2024, worries about Russia's nuclear posture had extended far beyond land, air, and sea means. On the 14th of February, 2024, US officials privately briefed Congress and European allies on newly acquired intelligence that indicated Russia was trying to develop a space-based nuclear anti-satellite weapon. The weapon was not yet operational, and did not immediately pose a threat to US territory, yet US lawmakers have said it is a "serious national security concern," particularly as it could target global communication and early-warning satellite networks. Moreover, representative Mike Turner, the Republican Chair of the House Intelligence Committee publicly called for "US President Joe Biden to declassify all information pertaining to this threat so that Congress, the Administration and our allies can have an open discussion on what actions need to be taken in response." Subsequent reports from the New York Times and ABC News confirmed that US intelligence suspected Russia was considering detonating a nuke in space—a move that would be against the terms negotiated under the 1967 Outer Space Treaty, of which both the US and Russia are signatories. Although US officials were aware the weapon wasn't deployed, this revelation supported Washington's message that Russian nuclear plans are going beyond what is expected under traditional strategic or protective behavior.

Since June 2025, Middle East tensions have increased when Israel attacked Iran's nuclear facilities. The attacks targeted the Natanz, Esfahan, and Fordow sites—key elements of Iran's enrichment program—and were said to have been launched with the support of the US. Since then, Iran has denied the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) requests to access or inspect their damaged facilities, leaving many worried in regard to their transparency.

A leaked IAEA report in October 2025 admitted that the agency had lost "continuity of knowledge" on Iran's stockpile of 60% enriched uranium, which it estimated had been about 400 kilograms before the June strikes. "How do we know the quantities of uranium and its compounds or materials, if any are transferred to a place not declared to the agency or to another location already declared by Iran?" Rafael Grossi, the IAEA's director general, asked in a Security Council briefing on Wednesday of what he called a "serious proliferation risk." "We don't have access; we don't have monitoring," Grossi said. Iran's ambassador soon took a stance to UN Reza Najafi, mentioning that the new IAEA resolution calling for access "voided" a previous agreement. Later, on the 21st of November, 2025, Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said that Iran has not resumed enrichment since the attacks, but it wasn't a political decision, but rather because of physical destruction: "We're not enriching for now because we can't." "As for zero enrichment, it's our clear position—[lack of enrichment] is not possible." During an interview, Araghchi told *The Economist:* "Zero nuclear weapons is something we can live with."

PAST UN ACTIONS

Opened for signatures in 1968, the NPT (Non-Proliferation Treaty) aims to prevent the excessive spread and use of nuclear weapons and the sharing of nuclear technologies among blocs. One of the main goals of the treaty is to reach full nuclear disarmament worldwide, with the mission of prioritizing international security above all else. It was signed in Geneva, Switzerland, and sponsored by the United Nations.

More than just disarmament, the treaty proposed that signatories should help each other by sharing practices of responsible and beneficial use of nuclear energy, defending the right to peacefully use nuclear technology.

Here, it follows the first two operative clauses of the document:

Article I

Each nuclear-weapon State Party to the Treaty vows not to transfer, to any recipient whatsoever, nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices or control over such weapons or explosive devices directly, or indirectly; and not in any way to assist, encourage, or induce any non-nuclear-weapon State to manufacture or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, or control over such weapons or explosive devices.

Article II

Each non-nuclear-weapon State Party to the Treaty vows not to receive the transfer, from any other party whatsoever, of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices or of control over such weapons or explosive devices directly, or indirectly; not to manufacture or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices; and not to seek or receive any assistance in the manufacture of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.

This initiative showcases the urgency of the problem and the effort of several nations that are eager to make the world a more peaceful place. Of the 190 countries that signed, some are: the United States of America, Japan, and the Republic of France. On the other hand, India, Pakistan, Israel, and North Korea (which ratified at the beginning, but withdrew after) are examples of non-signatories.

North Korean Nuclear Program

The DPRK's nuclear program consolidated itself among others as one of the biggest nuclear programs worldwide. Although the North Korean Nuclear Program is not an initiative conducted by the United Nations or an international organization, it achieved massive attain and deserves recognition.

Their deck includes fission devices (atomic bombs), staged thermonuclear weapons (mostly used during WW2), and hybrid weapons. Korean military troops conduct missile tests in inhabited lands, while hundreds of scientists aid the government in developing research and prototyping new models of weapons. Before the Second World War, the country had a volunteer program for the military. But with time and after a giant crisis regarding the lack of such volunteers, the Korean government created the official national army—which counts with rigorous phases of testing and aims to select only the ones that would honor the most the oriental flag.

Korea's nuclear program has a long history that made the current development possible. It all started during national conflicts in the Soviet Union, which had a strong alliance with North Korea. In 1956, the USSR began to train DPRK soldiers, helping them to understand the path to construct a well-structured nuclear program, and in 1958, after a bombing in South Korea, the DPRK decided to propose to Soviet officials a nuclear cooperation agreement that would ensure the country is ready for conflict in case what happened in nearby territories escalated to theirs. This was accepted "just" one year later, in 1959, and it ended at the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991. Nowadays, North Korea continues to conduct a new command and control system in inhabited lands and continues to be considered a nuclear superpower and a huge danger in conflicts.

United Nations Security Council Resolution 1737

Approved in 2006, the resolution aimed for the suspension of some sensitive nuclear activities in Iran. Moreover, the council also decreed that all countries involved in Iranian nuclear tests were going to suffer sanctions and were going to be frozen (it means suspension). The Council gave Iran a period of 60 days to stop **<u>all</u>** nuclear activities in regions close to its borders, in order to protect foreign territories.

Iran's Foreign Ministry stated directly to the council that the same "cannot affect or limit Iran's peaceful nuclear activities but will discredit the decisions of the Security Council, whose power is deteriorating." The country's president disagreed and mentioned that all nations in favour of that would lose their "friendship with Iran".

The Security Council applied strong economic sanctions right after the answer and again demanded them to stop. This time, they had more success, and Iran— instead of stopping nuclear tests— at least agreed on moving the areas of nuclear tests to regions that were not so close to borders.

This resolution impacted the international community in a massive way, as the fear of getting suspended was placed in all nations that conducted nuclear tests. Ultimately, it showed that some countries in the world were already preparing themselves for possible conflicts, in order to stand out among others when the topic being discussed is the advancement of nuclear decks.

A globe with Iran highlighted in green. Photo: Wikipedia via/Generic Mapping Tools

MAJOR BLOCS POSITIONS

North Korea

North Korea consolidates itself as one of the countries with the most powerful nuclear weapons. Their nuclear weapons program is one of the pillars that sustains the search for survival, as the arsenal is a protection against foreign invasions—especially from nation-enemies. Research revealed that, for the DPRK, the continuous advancement of nuclear equipment is of utmost importance. The government of North Korea asserts that calls for denuclearization represent a repudiation of its sovereign right to self-defence and has codified its nuclear status in law.

North Korea conducts missile tests in near and inhabited territories: this intensifies pressure upon other nearby countries and the international community. Officials from the country affirmed that multilateral discussions on dismantling the deck of weapons had taken place, but progress was nonexistent.

Kim Jong Un views his nuclear arsenal as enriching the DPRK's influence, so he aims not only to maintain it but also to protect national sovereignty and ensure that the DPRK's nuclear forces can defend and preserve civic identity.

Japan

At the beginning of the Second World War, Japanese officials confirmed the existence of tests with nuclear fission as a preparation for the conflict, including atomic bombs and nuclear weapons. The program had its roots and was inspired by the Nazi Nuclear Program, which developed one of the first formulas for atomic weapons. During this period, Yoshio Nishina was named "the founding father of modern physics research in Japan" and consolidated his position as one of the leaders in the development of Japan's nuclear program.

On the 6th and 9th of August 1945, an event that shocked the international community occurred: the atomic attack on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The United States of America dropped two atomic bombs in Japanese territory—marking the first and only use of nuclear weapons in combat/war in history. An American military aircraft (Boeing B-29) named

Enola Gay released a uranium-235 bomb called *Little Boy*; it was dropped on the city of Hiroshima on the sixth of August 1945. Just three days later, on August 9, another bomb named "*Fat Man*" was dropped on the city of Nagasaki by another B-29. Instantly, both killed thousands and turned cities into uninhabited territories. To reconstruct the towns, the Japanese government invested vast sums to repair the damage.

Nowadays, Japan has ratified the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and stands firmly against the use of nuclear weapons.

China

With a strictly regulated but continuously upgraded nuclear arsenal, China establishes itself as one of the world's leading nuclear powers in the international community. China presents its strong nuclear capability as a strategic tool which is built around long-term viability, responsibility as a major power and also national sovereignty. For example, the city of Beijing has previously stated that their nuclear weapons are intended for defense purposes only, and would only be used in the event of any foreign action militarily towards China.

Furthermore, China is one of two nuclear armed nations—together with the country of India—to pledge using nuclear weaponry for defensive uses only. China has also signed the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, which bans all nuclear explosions. However, they have not put it in practice yet, but have not conducted a full nuclear-scale test since the signing of this treaty in 1996.

China is recognized as a nuclear state according to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, which it uses to demonstrate their "no first use" policy. Nevertheless, the government of China has repeatedly affirmed that denuclearisation as a whole is completely unrealistic and ridiculous, as countries are now starting to invest and expand more into the sector of nuclear weaponry, and no major nuclear nation would comply with a full-scale demilitarization of nuclear arms.

Russia

Russia, as heir to the Soviet Union, is itself one of the world's major nuclear superpowers, only placed second to the United States. Since 1991, it possesses the largest and most diverse nuclear stockpile. Throughout the Soviet period, nuclear dominance was viewed as essential to Moscow's external identity, therefore it invested highly into missile development, storing warheads, and the development of long-range delivery systems. This enabled them to produce the first Soviet atomic bomb in 1949 at the Semipalatinsk Test Site, called the "Red Bomb Project," during Joseph Stalin's rule. Later, Soviet leaders like Nikita Khrushchev, Leonid Brezhnev and Mikhail Gorbachev expanded but later limited the arsenal through agreements with the United States, including: *SALT, START I,* and the *INF Treaty* (later withdrawn by the US).

After the breakup of the Soviet Union in 1991, Russia inherited most of its nuclear infrastructure—aproximattley 30,000 nuclear warheads—and incorporated its nuclear forces into the core of its national security doctrine, treating them as the primary protective guarantee against external threats or any type of foreign interference. Furthermore, the Russian government worked with former Soviet republics such as Ukraine, Kazakhstan, and Belarus to return nuclear weapons to Russian territory under the *Budapest Memorandum* (1994).

In modern days, Russia views its nuclear arsenal as necessary to secure its sovereignty and ensure a strategic balance with the United States. Russian leaders emphasize nuclear deterrence in defending their nation from foreign aggression, particularly expansion by NATO and what Moscow sees as militarization (through the establishment of US military bases) by the West near its borders. Under Vladimir Putin, Russia has revitalized its nuclear systems developing the RS-28 Sarmat ICBM, Avangard hypersonic glide vehicle, Kinzhal air-launched ballistic missile, and Yars mobile ICBM. The government has also declared that it is willing to use nuclear weapons if the Russian state is threatened—a doctrine which was formalized and signed in 2020 by Putin—, a position that has recently worried international parties. Lastly, since the 2022 invasion of Ukraine, Russian officials have issued warnings suggesting they are ready to use nuclear weapons, hoping this would stop Western countries from getting more involved.

United States of America

The United States of America (USA) is one of the world's leading nuclear powers with one of the most powerful and technologically advanced nuclear arsenals. At the end of World War II, when the United States bombed Hiroshima and Nagasaki, it became the first and only country to use nuclear weapons in warfare (through the *Manhattan Project*). Since then, the US government has consistently promoted nuclear capability as an indispensable component of national security and global leadership, known as strategic deterrence.

During the Cold War, the United States significantly grew its arsenal while engaging in an arms race with the U.S.S.R. Hundreds of additional new warheads were manufactured as well as delivery systems and ballistic missile technologies. These advancements were justified as necessary to maintain a balance of power and prevent Soviet aggression.

In modern days, the United States likes to think of itself as a "leading opponent of international proliferation," repeatedly advocating for the strict enforcement of the *Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)*. Hence, the USA supports the idea that only responsible states of control under international law can possess nuclear weapons. Yet, the country has declined to declare a "no first use" policy, and is modernizing its nuclear triad on the premise that deterrence must match evolving threats from the following countries: Russia, China, Iran, and North Korea. Thus, in 2019, president Donald Trump withdrew from the *INF Treaty* citing Russian violations. Alliances are also deeply connected to American involvement. The United States provides "nuclear umbrellas" over NATO members and countries like Japan and South Korea—using its nuclear weapons as a means of protection for its allies.

Germany

Germany positions itself as a nation with a double-sided perspective on nuclear weaponry. They do not have any nuclear weapons as a country, however, they are part of NATO'S Nuclear Sharing Agreement, which in turn allows them to store some of the United States nuclear weapons in the Büchel airbase. However, Germany is a strong advocate for future disarmament.

They strongly support the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, as they attend various NPT Review Conferences and are fully committed to carrying out transparency. However, they also take a very opposing standpoint towards the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), which they have not signed due to it not being aligned with NATO as well as not addressing global nuclear security enough. Berlin states that a solution for disarmament requires major nuclear powers working together, so that alliances are not destroyed or unbalanced.

Although Germany aids the United States with the storage of nuclear weaponry, they are strong supporters of disarmament resolutions and solutions that will reduce usage of these nuclear arms. Berlin has stated previously to cooperate with major nuclear powers, like Russia and China, to minimize risks as well as prevent accidents such as miscalculations which can lead to accidental launches. Ultimately, Germany holds a dual stance towards nuclear weaponry, but believes it should be resolved in a manner where there is not complete dissolution of nuclear arms.

TIMELINE OF EVENTS

Date	Description

August 1942	American laboratories sponsored by the government started a mission to develop the first nuclear weapon in history. The program was named the **Manhattan Project**. It was kept in total secrecy between all nations that helped to develop it: the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom. Also, due to rivalry during World War 2, it was a way the governments found to try to stand out when compared to Nazi Germany. The program employed around 130,000 people and cost almost 2 billion dollars from the federal government. After the validation of the program, the same consolidated itself as the founding father of the Nuclear Age, the first official step for the development of this period.
August 6-9, 1945	As already mentioned, two bombs (Little Boy and Fat Man) were dropped under the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, in Japan. More than one hundred thousand people were killed due to the catastrophe. The bombs were dropped by an American military aircraft. Moreover, it was the first use of an atomic bomb in history..
Jul 29, 1957	On the twenty-ninth of July, 1957, the International Atomic Agency was formally created, with a mission of preserving and overseeing nuclear technologies worldwide. The agency had only one main pillar that was emphasized with precision: prevent the dangerous spread or proliferation of nuclear apparatuses.
1968-75	After a difficult period following the Cuban Missile Crisis, the idea of nuclear non-proliferation started to spread on a global scale.

	The United Nations established its first framework regarding the idea of NPTs, implementing a way of thinking first in the people—above all sovereignties. The era was also marked by the fact that two global powers (United States and Soviet Union) took their first steps regarding limiting nuclear decks. Moreover, India also obtained its first nuclear weapon—making the list of nations with nuclear possessions even bigger.
1986-2000	During the Cold War, a period that was defined by political pressure between the USA and the Soviet Union, the nuclear threat was constantly present. Heretofore, nearby countries had a significant fear of being exposed to the giant nuclear decks of such nations. After the end of the Cold War and the fall of the Soviet Union, the United Nations performed a vital role in negotiating with former Soviet countries to sign the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.
May 23, 1992	After the fall of the Soviet Union, three former territories—Belarus, Kazakhstan, and Ukraine—decided to give up their nuclear weapons. Hence, these three also decided to sign the NPT. It showcased to society that these nations were now independent and didn't have to necessarily still agree with Soviet politics. In addition, all of their nuclear weapons were transferred to Russia to be destroyed at once (as was requested by the former president of the United States).

Jan 10, 2003	After a series of debates inside the Korean Political Council, North Korea formally announced its withdrawal from the NPT. "We can no longer remain bound to the NPT, allowing the country's security and the dignity of our nation to be infringed upon," mentioned the nation's officials. Furthermore, Korea's government demanded that all agencies that took care of the overall development of nuclear tests should leave the country immediately. This withdrawal was a very important step for North Korea in order to develop an even bigger and more technological deck.
Jul 7, 2017	In 2017, there was a United Nations conference regarding the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. The conference is a tradition from the signatories in order to discuss and provide information about the process of total disarmament. All countries present had to reaffirm their commitment to ensure there was no developing, testing, selling, stockpiling, or using of nuclear weapons. The nations that didn't ratify did not have a marked presence and continued to be criticized by the foreign community.
2020-25 + Conclusion	Nowadays, nations continuously discuss if sovereignty or the protection of their population should come first. For example, the United States often conducts formal conversations with non-signatories of the NPT concerning a possible change of idea. Additionally, both Ukrainian-Russian and Israeli-Palestinian Wars experienced formal negotiation about limiting the use of

	nuclear weapons in conflicts. For the debate, the topic is proposed with the idea of making the delegates reflect upon a resolution that benefits national interests and to end international pressure regarding the acceptance of such a treaty.

DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

Nuclear Modernization

The process through which nuclear-armed states upgrade their nuclear forces.

Warheads

The explosive part of a missile or bomb, containing the nuclear material.

Deterrence

A military strategy in which a state prevents an attack by threatening devastating retaliation. Nuclear deterrence relies on the idea that no rational actor would attack a nuclear-armed state if doing so risks triggering mutually destructive consequences.

Cuban Missile Crisis

A 13-day confrontation in October 1962 between the United States and the Soviet Union after Moscow deployed nuclear missiles in Cuba. Considered the closest the world has come to nuclear war.

Stockpiles

The total number of nuclear warheads a state possesses, including deployed, non-deployed, and those awaiting dismantlement.

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

Entered into force in 1970, the NPT is the foundation of global nuclear governance. It divides states into nuclear-weapon states (U.S., Russia, China, UK, France) and non-nuclear-weapon states. Its goals are: preventing the spread of nuclear weapons, promoting peaceful nuclear energy, and achieving eventual disarmament.

Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW)

A legally binding agreement adopted in 2017 banning the development, possession, use, threat of use, and transfer of nuclear weapons. It entered into force in 2021. No nuclear-armed states or NATO members have signed it.

1967 Outer Space Treaty

A foundational international treaty that governs activities in outer space. It prohibits placing nuclear weapons or other weapons of mass destruction into orbit, on celestial bodies, or in outer space in any form. Both the U.S. and Russia are parties to this treaty.

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

A UN-affiliated organization founded in 1957 to promote peaceful nuclear energy while preventing weapons development. The IAEA conducts inspections to verify compliance with safeguards agreements and monitors nuclear programs under the NPT.

Nazi Nuclear Program

Germany's unsuccessful attempt during WWII to develop nuclear weapons.

Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT)

Adopted in 1996, this treaty bans all nuclear explosions for any purpose, including tests. It has not entered into force because key states (such as the U.S., China, India, Pakistan, North Korea, and Israel) have not ratified it.

Soviet Atomic Bomb

The first nuclear weapon developed by the Soviet Union, successfully detonated on 29 August 1949 at Semipalatinsk. The program marked the beginning of the U.S.–Soviet nuclear arms race.

INF Treaty (Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty)

A 1987 agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union banning all ground-launched missiles with ranges between 500 and 5,500 km. It eliminated nearly 2,700 missiles. The U.S. withdrew in 2019, alleging Russian violations.

Budapest Memorandum (1994)

A political agreement in which Ukraine, Belarus, and Kazakhstan relinquished the nuclear weapons they inherited from the Soviet Union. In exchange, Russia, the U.S., and the UK pledged to respect their sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Manhattan Project

The U.S.-led secret program during World War II that developed the world's first nuclear weapons.

NATO's Nuclear Sharing Agreement

A policy through which several NATO members (such as Germany, Belgium, Italy, the Netherlands, and Türkiye) host U.S. nuclear weapons on their territory. These weapons remain under U.S. control but can be delivered by allied aircraft in wartime under joint decision-making.

Little Boy

The uranium-based atomic bomb dropped by the United States on Hiroshima on August 6, 1945. It was the first nuclear weapon ever used in war and killed tens of thousands instantly.

Fat Man

The plutonium-based atomic bomb dropped by the United States on Nagasaki on August 9, 1945, three days after Hiroshima.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

- What specific impacts—environmental, societal or regional—does nuclear weaponry pose towards your delegation?

- Under what conditions, if any, does your delegation believe nuclear weapons could be used?

- How does your delegation address the humanitarian and ethical implications that come together with nuclear warfare?

- What solutions does your delegation propose to address the growing problem of the risks created through the use of nuclear weaponry?

- What is the vision of your delegation regarding the limits between protecting national sovereignty with nuclear decks and respecting international treaties and not using such weapons?

- Has your delegation been involved in military conflicts that involved nuclear weapons?

- Supposing your nation enters into a very severe conflict and your enemy has a very large amount of nuclear weapons, would your delegation try to combat with nuclear technologies or rather ask for international cooperation ***(following the NPT)***?

- Is your delegation involved with any type of nuclear programs (***in your own territory or internationally)***

- Has your delegation ratified the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons?

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