



DISEC: Nuclear Power and Nonproliferation

Hello Delegates!

My name is Gavin and I am a sophomore at La Jolla Country Day School. I am very excited about being the head chair of this DISEC committee on nuclear power and nonproliferation. I have been an active member of TorreyMUN since 8th grade. My nine conferences have helped me grow as a delegate and, now, as a chair. MUN offers invaluable skills such as writing papers, public speech, and policy analysis - all necessary for an enjoyable MUN experience. During this conference, I will be actively encouraging public speech and discussion development for all members of the delegation. The topic of this committee touches on the most fundamental of our securities: the survival of the human race on Earth. While nuclear technologies provide heat and light to millions, they also challenge us to embrace peace permanently before we destroy our home. Complex problems require complex solutions. My vice chair, Reed, and I can't wait for the special opportunity to see your insightful thoughts on this topic.

Sincerely,

Gavin Li
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Hello, Delegates!

My name is Reed and I am a senior at La Jolla Country Day School. I am looking forward to being the vice chair of the DISEC committee on nuclear power and nonproliferation. I have been a part of MUN since my sophomore year. The conferences under my belt will hopefully allow me to be a great vice chair and give comprehensive feedback for you all. As delegates, you will be tasked with navigating these competing interests—energy security, disarmament obligations, regional stability, and technological innovation. The discussions in this room should not only reflect the positions of your countries, but also strive to bridge divides, propose realistic safeguards, and reaffirm the shared responsibility to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons. I am looking forward to seeing how all of you tackle such challenging topics. I hope every delegate can collaborate with one another and can come up with inclusive resolutions.

Sincerely,

Reed Gasser

Reed.gasser@ljcds.org

Position Paper Expectations

- a. 1 Page
- b. Times New Roman 12pt font
- c. 1-inch margins (note: Google docs default to 1.25)
- d. Header
 - i. Committee:
 - ii. Delegation:
 - iii. Delegate Name:
 - iv. School:
 - v. Date:
- e. Paragraphs:
 - i. Background of the issue (based on background guide)
 - ii. Character stance (How would your character view this issue?)
 - iii. Proposed solutions (How would your character find a solution to this issue?)

Key Terms:

DISEC - Otherwise known as the First Committee the Disarmament and International Security Committee, is an United Nations body that is dedicated to promoting global peace and addressing issues such as disarmament and arms control

Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons - The first international agreement to prohibit nuclear weapons

Nagasaki and Hiroshima - Locations of two atomic bomb droppings during World War II, killing 150,000 to 246,000 civilians

Mutually Assured Destruction - A military strategy that uses full scale nuclear war for complete annihilation

Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action - An agreement reached in 2015 in attempts to restrain Iran's nuclear program

International Atomic Energy Agency - An intergovernmental organization that works toward peaceful use of nuclear energy, preventing its use for any military purpose

Nuclear Weapon Free Zones - A territory in which countries agree to ban any manufacturing, possession, testing, or transportation of nuclear weapons

Antarctic Treaty - Prohibits any form of nuclear testing or use in the Antarctic Continent.

Limited Test Ban Treaty - Signed in 1963, this Treaty prevents testing in atmospheric, outer space, and underwater environments

Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty - An international agreement that completely bans nuclear weapons tests in any environment

International Monitoring System - An unique global network of monitoring stations and satellites that help detect nuclear explosions around the world

United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs - Focuses on promoting nuclear disarmament and strengthening existing nuclear banning treaties

Nuclear Supplier Group - A group of 48 countries that promote nuclear proliferation by controlling exports of nuclear equipment and technology

Nuclear “Power” Background:

Ever since man harnessed the atom in the mid-20th century, humanity has admired and feared the two branches of nuclear capability. Nuclear power provides essential sustainable energy, energizing society in a safe and relatively clean manner. On the contrary, nuclear weapons create a status hierarchy with nuclear nations more powerful than those without nuclear weapons. Thus, countries possessing nuclear weapons have created international tensions in the past.

In 1945, the United States introduced the rest of the world to the first use of nuclear “power.” With the attacks on Nagasaki and Hiroshima, atomic bombs opened a new era of technology. Shortly after the nuclear arms race began, the USSR developed a plutonium-driven nuclear bomb. Soon the dominoes began to fall and countries such as China started heavily investing in a nuclear program. With the power to destroy a city and kill hundreds of thousands in moments, the bomb drove international tensions to an all-time high. Significant nuclear crises arose in the years that followed. The USSR deployed nuclear arms to Cuba, resulting in the Cuban Missile Crisis. The Cuban Missile Crisis shaped the understanding of nuclear war by introducing the concept of Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD).

However, these conflicts did not go unnoticed. The United Nations saw the danger nuclear weapons represented and sought to reduce the number of countries with nuclear capabilities or, at least, prevent the weapons’ spread. Despite repeated efforts to control nuclear technologies as detailed below, the nuclear threat has continued to spread. In particular, nations which claim to want a peaceful nuclear energy program sometimes develop nuclear weapons using the materials they buy for their energy plants. North Korea demonstrated its nuclear capabilities in the 21st century, for instance, conducting nuclear tests in 2006. Iran strives to

become a nuclear power, in complete violation of many agreements made between the United Nations and Iran. Examples such as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action with Iran (JCPOA) have had little success as Iran continued to build its arsenal potential. UN inspectors reported that Iran successfully enriched uranium to weapons-grade levels as of 2023. Concerns about Iranian nuclear labs prompted a tactical strike in 2025. Clearly, the challenge of nuclear proliferation continues.

As of the autumn of 2025, the UN recognizes nine nuclear powers. But history shows that a nuclear nation need not remain so. South Africa built a nuclear arsenal in the 1980s. It then committed to decommissioning its program and dismantled all nuclear weapons. UN action has also prevented many countries including Germany, Australia, Brazil, and Japan from pursuing a nuclear weapons program. Other looming threats pose significant dangers to the international community. Military doctrines such as Mutually Assured Destruction continue to pressure nuclear powers' ongoing threats of nuclear disaster prove that the UN must continue to bring nations together as a way to limit nuclear war.

Weapons pose only one of the threats of nuclear technology though. Even nuclear energy, clean and relatively cheap, poses real risks to the international community once reactors are built. Three-Mile Island, Chernobyl, and Fukushima Daiichi all show that nuclear energy presents three related concerns. First, clearest in the narrative above, is that a nuclear energy program is only a smokescreen for a nuclear weapons program. Second is the possibility of a meltdown. Nuclear energy is a form of power. That power can mean that one nation has cleaner, cheaper energy than another, with all the economic and political results that follow. But it can also mean that neighbors live in fear of the consequences of a failure in the nuclear reactors across the border. The third concern relates to that possibility not as an accident but as a weapon.

Cybercriminals threaten to hack the highly technical operating systems of nuclear reactors, sending them into a destructive spiral that - at the very least - blacks out a city or region. But war itself can also threaten nuclear energy. In the Russian-Ukrainian war, repeated threats to the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant show how vulnerable such a facility can be in a war zone. Advocates of nuclear power argue that it saves the environment and offers the best path forward for an energy-hungry world. But nuclear power is nuclear and it is power. The UN must consider it as part of the question of international cooperation on nuclear technology.

Committee Overview

The Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC), also known as First Committee and established in 1945, has worked tirelessly to promote peaceful international relations and nuclear disarmament for the safety of the entire world. This, of course, evokes significant resistance. Many military powers consistently oppose solutions proposed by DISEC including “Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.” Other nations, even those without nuclear weapons, argue that nuclear energy offers benefits so substantial that they justify the threat of nuclear war. Despite the magnitude of the challenge, DISEC must find ways to balance the promise of nuclear energy against the dangers of nuclear conflict. It must encourage safe, peaceful nuclear technologies while regulating nuclear programs that may expand the body of nuclear nations. This is the task before DISEC on September 27, TorreyMUN 2025.

One way DISEC intervenes in global nuclear affairs appears in its support of nonproliferation treaties. The First Committee’s push for the prohibition of nuclear weapons has allowed the United Nations to identify possible threats as well as to maintain alliances with its strongest members. For example, the UN served as a zone of proxy conflict during the Cold War, allowing the Soviet Union (USSR) and United States (USA) to engage in debate around global issues within a forum devoted to diplomacy rather than conflict. In other more specific cases, DISEC and other UN bodies intervened directly or brokered treaties to modify or reduce the nuclear threat.

An example of UN action related to nuclear technology emerged in the early years of the Cold War, as scientists transformed nuclear weapons experiments into a new way to generate energy. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) was established in 1957 to promote nuclear energy as the main use of nuclear power. Additionally, the IAEA works to inhibit its use

for military purposes. This organization was created by the UN to oversee the use of nuclear reactors around the world in a sustainable manner. At times, as in the case of Iran's nuclear program and the allegations of nuclear materials in Iraq in 2003, the IAEA provides necessary oversight of emerging nuclear energy (and by extension, possible weapons) programs. The IAEA collaborates with the UN General Assembly and UN Security Council, and is commonly used to help identify countries that do not follow safety regulations or advance in nuclear military capabilities.

A second example of UN action relates to the most immediate danger of nuclear technology: the bomb. The Treaty on the Non Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons provides one example of several in which the UN seeks to control the spread, use, testing, and dangers of such weapons. Originating in 1970, this treaty has been permanent since 1995. The United Nations is proud to say that 191 states have currently signed the treaty. While four states remain outside the treaty - India, South Sudan, Israel, and Pakistan, almost all other member nations joined together to regulate nuclear dangers. In total, five nuclear states have ratified the treaty. This effort had the sole focus of reducing the number of atomic weapons in the world, for the ultimate goal of complete disarmament. The NPT treaty is reviewed every five years by all its members to add extensions that address current problems. However, with rising global tensions, meetings between members of the NPT treaty have become less and less effective, with the 2015 Review Conference drawing to a close without any new extensions.

The Nuclear Weapon Free Zones (NWFZs) establish areas of the globe where no nuclear weapons can exist. This program ensures that these territories, mostly in the Southern Hemisphere and Central Asia, have a special status. NWFZs are an important and effective way of stopping nuclear proliferation. Ultimately, these regions limit the possession, placement, and

testing of nuclear weapons. In recent years NWFZs have worked on formalized agreements with nuclear states. These agreements prevent nuclear states from threatening the use of nuclear weapons. A related agreement, the Treaty of Tlatelolco, inhibits the use of nuclear weapons in Latin American countries and the Caribbean. The Treaty of Rarotonga, signed in 1985, focuses on nuclear free zones around the South Pacific region. The Treaty of Bangkok, signed in 1995, protects countries around Southeast Asia from nuclear threat. The African continent has developed its own negotiations by creating the Treaty of Pelindaba, signed in 1996. Larger efforts have been made in the close past to connect these NWFZs with broader treaties such as the Treaty on a Nuclear Weapon Free Zone in Central Asia signed in 2006. Clearly, UN-sponsored or UN-assisted agreements and organizations seek to limit the spread of nuclear weapons geographically.

Concerns about the spread of nuclear weapons join concerns about fallout and other environmental or human costs related to development and testing. In those areas, too, the UN acted to protect the global community. The Antarctic Treaty is a prime example of a consistent nuclear agreement. Signed in December 1959, The Antarctic Treaty prohibits any form of nuclear testing or use in the Antarctic continent. The goal is to keep the Antarctic protected from nuclear contamination. Further expansions of the treaty provisions prevent countries from disposing of radioactive waste in Antarctica. However, prior to 1959, numerous weapons in the Arctic area by the USSR and testing in the Pacific Ocean by the United States allowed radioactive isotopes such as chlorine-36 and beryllium-10 to be found in the ice. The Antarctic Treaty is not only an effective Treaty, it is a symbol of country collaboration on this topic.

Similarly, the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space, and Under Water was signed in 1963. This sought to control the effects of nuclear testing and

weapons on the environment. This Treaty was created after the United States explosion test in the Bikini Atoll, which accidentally contaminated a Japanese fishing vessel called the Lucky Dragon and caused extreme radiation sickness. Japan has also felt the consequences of a Soviet hydrogen bomb test causing radioactive rain to fall on Japan.

Another example of UN action on nuclear weapons relates to the development of new examples or types of nuclear weapons. The Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) bans any nuclear weapons test in any environment. It also created the CTBT Organization, located in Vienna. The CTBT Treaty effectively limits the marketable amount of nuclear material and imposed laws that limit how much fissile material a country can buy. The Organization, and by extension the Treaty, is divided into three parts: verification, compliance, and amendments. The CTBT uses an International Monitoring System (IMS), which allows on-site inspections of nuclear laboratories and institutions. The compliance sector allows the CTBT to measure and address violations of the Treaty by any country. The CTBT is recognized as indefinite, similar to the NPT. Every member has the right to ask for amendments of the Treaty, and even withdrawal, should it wish to do so.

An ultimate example represents a more recent effort to control nuclear proliferation. At a General Assembly convention in 2017, UN members created the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). This treaty strictly prohibited any nuclear weapons activities, including testing, production, and stockpiling. Furthermore, the Treaty prevented the use of nuclear weapons on national territory. The UN recognizes the sovereignty of all member nations. In this case, however, the body as a whole considers nuclear technology (especially, but not exclusively, nuclear weapons) so dangerous to the world as a whole that it transcends national boundaries and justifies UN intervention across national borders. In the event of nuclear conflict,

it is expected that all members of the Treaty are to give adequate assistance and humanitarian aid to members affected by nuclear weapons. As of now, the treaty is indefinitely open to signatures, with only 94 signatories and 73 countries officially ratifying the treaty. Unfortunately, most nuclear powerhouses, including the United States and the Russian Federation, have not signed or ratified the Treaty. Ultimately, those absent signatures limit the effectiveness of the Treaty.

Finally, the UN supports organizations that advocate for peace. The Geneva Branch of the Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) is a UN organization that supports disarmament, arms control, and nonproliferation efforts. UNODA has many foci including biological weapons to landmines. The branch meets in meetings such as Conference on Disarmament, Biological Weapons Convention, and Convention on Cluster Munitions. UNODA has made treaties such as the Arms Trade Treaty. Like UNODA, The Nuclear Supplier Group (NSG) is a coalition of 48 nuclear suppliers who work with the UN to limit the proliferation of nuclear weapons. The NSG Guidelines focus on preventing nuclear exports to ensure trade of nuclear equipment does not contribute to the continued creation of nuclear weapons. Many major nuclear-participating governments such as France, China, the United Kingdom, and the United States have been major players in the further development of this NSG organization. The goal is to allow safe, clean nuclear energy, without permitting nuclear weapons development.

But is that really possible? This committee, concerned primarily with international security, must ask: is any nuclear power truly safe? And since nuclear power - in the form of energy production - can easily become nuclear power - in the form of weapons - can the UN permit any nuclear technology to exist without regulation, oversight, and limitation? DISEC's task in committee is to debate this question. And what are the obligations of the UN and its member nations in the face of technologies that could end humanity as we know it?

BLOC Positions:

The European Union (EU): As a whole the EU has had a strong stance in supporting the restriction of nuclear weapons. The EU continues to play a major role restricting the use and spread of nuclear weapons with the development of branches such as the Special Envoy for Disarmament and Non Proliferation. This organization actively prevents the spread and stockpiling of nuclear weapons as well as monitors the development of nuclear agents in other countries. Legislatively the EU has followed its belief in multilateralism and democratic means to prohibit the use and stockpiling of nuclear weapons. Within its member states the European Union continues to reinforce nonproliferation efforts such as the NPT, CTBT, and TPNW. The European Union has also transitioned from nuclear weapons to more passive means such as clean energy usage. As of now the EU depends on nuclear power to create about a quarter of its electricity usage, showing that clean nuclear energy is the future.



The African Union (AU): The AU has opposed the further development of nuclear weapons

internationally. Past actions include the creation of The

African Nuclear Weapon Free Zone Treaty or the

Pelindaba Treaty by 43 State Parties. This Treaty

prohibits the research, development, testing and

stockpiling of any nuclear weapons. Furthermore, this

treaty prevents nuclear powers from dumping nuclear

waste on the African continent. The AU has started to

work with the United Nations and EU to establish organizations such as the IAEA to create the clean and

stable nuclear technology needed for economic development.



The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN):

Like the EU, the ASEAN is committed to preventing

nuclear weapons from causing mass destruction in its

region. It further continues to promote proliferation of

nuclear weapons to trading partners and members. On

December 15, 1995 the ASEAN Member States signed

the Treaty of Southeast Asian Nuclear Weapon- Free

Zone, showing their commitment to preserve the Southeast region.



The Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR):

MERCOSUR, like its EU counterpart, has maintained its stance of nuclear proliferation within its countries. To show their devotion to this cause, MERCOSUR signed the Treaty of Tlatelolco in 1967. This treaty completely prohibits Latin American Countries from acquiring, possessing, or developing nuclear weapons.



Country Positions:

The United States of America:

The United States of America has maintained its position as a leader in the growth of nuclear weapons.

Along with Russia, the United States has around 5044 nuclear weapons. The United States has ratified large treaties such as the NPT treaty. On the other hand, the United States has consistently voted against larger efforts for the disarmament and removal of all nuclear



weapons. The United States is uncooperative while voting with the CTBT Treaty. The United States has taken the stance of wanting to keep its nuclear arsenal while also pushing for disarmament.

The Russian Federation:

The Russian Federation has the largest nuclear weapon arsenal, boasting around 5500 nuclear warheads. The Russian military doctrine has fully integrated the use of nuclear weapons as a deterrent. The Russo - Ukrainian war has seen continuous threats by the Russian



Federation about nuclear use. As of November 2024, the Russian Federation officially adopted a more threatening nuclear doctrine. This doctrine states that Russia could launch nuclear weapons due to territory invasions by non nuclear armed states. Although Russia signed the NPT treaty as one of its initial ratifiers, it has strongly repelled the CTBT Treaty and the TPNW Treaty.

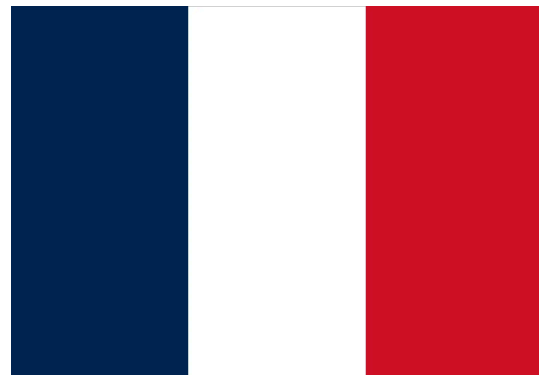
The People's Republic of China:

China has been a rising power in the nuclear field for the past decades. Rising to the relevance that challenges both the United States and Russia militarily. With approximately 600 nuclear weapons with high probabilities of further production. This is extremely threatening as China is notoriously known for being the only country actively producing nuclear weapons that signed the NPT Treaty. However, China has signed the CTBT Treaty, although not ratifying it. In contrast, China has not yet signed or ratified the TPNW Treaty. The Chinese Government has refused to bring transparency to its nuclear capabilities. While at the same time, China has sought for further isolation and independence from Western influence.



The Republic of France:

France is known to have the fourth largest nuclear arsenal in the world with around 290 nuclear warheads. France has been an active member in the movement to gradually decrease the use of nuclear weapons. France has actively been recognized to support the NPT as well as the CTBT Treaty. However, similar to other countries, France has continued to consistently go against the TPNW Treaty. Although internal French councils such as the French Polynesia assembly have urged France to join the TPNW.



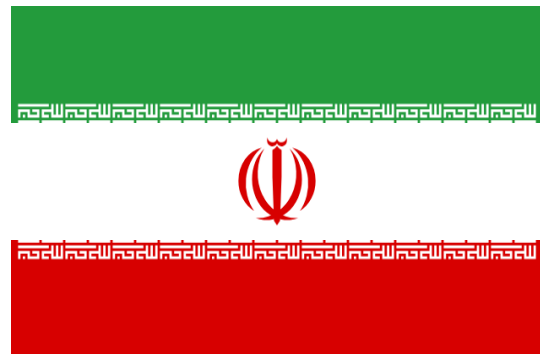
The Republic of India:

The Republic of India has rapidly expanded its government funded nuclear power program. Officially, India is the sixth country to complete a successful weapons test. As of now, India continues to be one of the rare nuclear states to not be a signatory or ratifier of the NPT Treaty. India continues to violate the key goals of the United Nations of disarmament by developing its ICBM and SLBM capabilities. The Republic of India has made constant efforts to access nuclear technologies of other countries via the NSG organization. However, big suppliers such as China and the United States have prevented other NSG committees from shipping large quantities of nuclear technology to India.



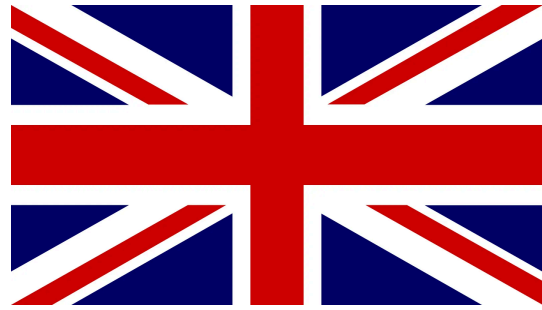
The Islamic Republic of Iran:

Iran has positioned itself as an upcoming nuclear power in the past few decades. Overall, the country continues to pursue a secretive nuclear program under Tehran, according to some U.S. intelligence assessment. Although international opinion has continued to prevent Iran from continuing its nuclear program. Treaties such as the 2015 Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) that put multiple economic restrictions have failed to fully halt Iran's ability to sustain a nuclear program. Although Iran has signed and ratified the NPT Treaty, multiple attempts have been made to withdraw from the Treaty. Iran perceivably continues its nuclear program contradicting its signing of the CTBT Treaty in 1996.



The United Kingdom:

The United Kingdom has been participating in disarmament of its own nuclear inventory ever since the Cold War. The UK has continued to fully support the NPT Treaty and has fully committed and achieved a 65% reduction in its overall nuclear stockpile. The UK



continues to hold on to certain nuclear weapons such as its Trident Nuclear Submarine system assigned to the defense of Europe and by extension NATO. The United Kingdom continues to support the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty along with France, showing its clear goal of the reduction in nuclear weapons.

The Republic of Pakistan:

Pakistan has made large recent developments to achieve its nuclear program. Pakistan focuses on using its own supply of indigenous uranium to supply its nuclear program. Although Pakistan never signed the NPT Treaty, making it excluded in nuclear components and technology. China in recent years have become large



supporters of Pakistan's nuclear development in the form of peaceful nuclear technology. As of the present, China has helped create a grand total of six operable reactors in Pakistan. Pakistan, like some other nuclear powers, has not signed or ratified the TPNW.

Japan:

Japan is the only country in history to be affected by weapons of mass destruction. As of now, Japan has remained distant from the possibility of a nuclear program, especially for weapons. Diplomatically Japan has followed the “Atomic Energy Basic Law” which prohibits the creation of non peaceful nuclear activities. Recently Japan has promoted the creation of nuclear power plants for clean energy. As of December 2024, Japan officially announced the goal of achieving 20% of all energy coming from nuclear power by 2030. In the eyes of the public, Hibakusha or survivors of the atomic bombings have pushed for the disarmament of nuclear weapons in the entire world.

**The Republic of Germany:**

Germany understands the danger that comes with weapons of mass destruction. As of April 15, 2023, Germany has officially phased out nuclear power in the form of weapons. Instead, it is redirecting its investments into clean energy in hopes of competing against a global energy crisis. Germany heavily focuses on the industrialization of Small Modular Reactions (SMRs) for its efficiency in creating clean energy. However, with Russia becoming a further nuclear threat, Germany has seen nuclear deterrence as a possibility to deter aggression.



The Republic of South Africa:

South Africa has been a cornerstone of the IAEA ever since 1957. As of now, South Africa stands as a leader for disarmament and protection of the African Union (AU). Standing proudly as the only country to voluntarily give up nuclear weapons by the work of President F. W. de Klerk. South Africa has continued to be a key player and supporter of the NPT Treaty. Further contracts such as the Additional Protocol in 2002



continues to protect relationships between South Africa, United Nations, and the IAEA. South Africa recently joined as a member of the NSG Group. However, this capability is heavily regulated by the South African Council.

Canada:

Canada has no record of any nuclear, chemical, or biological weapons. However, Canada does play an active role in nonproliferation export control regimes. As a member of the NSG, Canada's control over its large exportation of Molybdenum - 99 can limit or catalyze a country's advancement with nuclear technologies, especially in sectors of the medical field and sustainable energy. In the aspect of nuclear weapons, Canada remains as one of the largest uranium producers in the world. Canada continues to



be strongly devoted to the NPT Treaty. However, although the House of Commons voted unanimously for deeper engagement with the TPNW Treaty, Canada's government continues to ignore the need for action, remaining unratified and not a signatory.

The Republic of Korea:

Ever since the Korean War, South Korea has maintained extremely close connections with the United States. With connection has allowed extended security alliances such as nuclear deterrence and missile defense. South Korea as a country is fully capable of creating a nuclear weapon having the right materials and technologies. Yet it has chosen not to, proven by the signing of the Joint Declaration of Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula in 1992. South Korea remains one of the leaders of civilian nuclear technology in the Asian continent.



Kazakhstan:

Kazakhstan has been an active player in supporting nuclear weapons related policies. Having signed and ratified the TPNW Treaty, along with the NPT Treaty. Kazakhstan continues to play a major role in the containment of nuclear power in the Asian continent. Kazakhstan is known for supplying 43% of the world's uranium supply alone, making it a key player in the production of nuclear weapons.



Namibia:

Namibia is an original ratifier of the TPNW along with the NPT Treaty. Namibia with the United Nation Human Rights Council, have collaborated to encourage other countries to join both of the TPNW and NPT. Furthermore, Namibia's reserves in uranium mines have allowed the country to focus on developing nuclear plants with the help of other countries. Namibia and its actions have made it a leader and model for all African countries to follow in the extent of nuclear power.

**The Republic of Finland:**

Finland has not managed a policy of nuclear weapons. Being the 31st member of the NATO alliance as of April 4 2023, Finland has consistently voted against the TPNW Treaty, reasoning that nuclear weapons could be an active deterrent that could protect NATO countries against threats. However, Finland continues to fully support efforts in the NPT Treaty, becoming a prominent promoter of this agreement. Furthermore, Finland has continued to invest heavily in sustainable energy sources such as reactors. As of now, Finland has amassed a total of 5 operating nuclear reactors.



The United States of Mexico:

Mexico has both ratified and signed the TPNW agreement and the CTBT Treaty.

Although Mexico has the clear capabilities to start a nuclear weapons program, the country has chosen not to under the Treaty of Tlatelolco in 1967. This treaty prohibits Latin American countries from acquiring, possessing or testing nuclear weapons.



Israel:

Israel does not acknowledge their stockpile of nuclear weapons. However, international opinion has widely believed Israel has prominent nuclear capabilities. Under the late presidency of Dwight D Eisenhower, the world was exposed to Israel's secret nuclear program located near Dimona in the Negev Desert. The possibility of this program's existence was due to the aid of France collaboration. The United States especially has remained suspicious of Israel's nuclear capabilities, as Israel has refused to sign the NPT Treaty and repealed IAEA safeguards for nuclear activities.



The Republic of Brazil:

Brazil has maintained a strong relationship with the NPT Treaty, while further agreeing with the Treaty of Tlatelolco in 1967. However, Brazil has signed but not ratified the TPNW agreement. In the sector of nuclear technology, Brazil has had a past of attempting to ascend into nuclear power while in



competition with Argentina. However, after the fall of its military government in the 1990s, the program has halted progress. In the present, Brazil has two nuclear reactors that supply around 3% of its electricity to the public. While constructing a nuclear powered attack submarine (SSN) with negotiations with the IAEA.

The Republic of Argentina:

Argentina was the first South American country to produce effective nuclear energy. With around 6% of its electricity produced by nuclear energy, the country maintains a firm stance against nuclear weapons. With joining the NPT Treaty in 1995 to signing the Treaty of Tlatelolco in 1994, this country has heavily invested in civilian nuclear power. However, from the 1960s to early 1990s, Argentina was sought to be a threatening nuclear power. In competition with Brazil, the country was actively seeking the creation of nuclear ballistic missiles.



The Arab Republic of Egypt:

Egypt is haunted by its past of looking for nuclear weapons during the Egyptian Revolution of 1952. Its past use of chemical weapons during the North Yemen Civil War continues to haunt them as well. However, Egypt is a participant in the WMD Free Zone in the Middle East and a signer of the NPT Treaty. Egypt's current investments in the creation of its first nuclear reactor named El Dabaa Nuclear

Power plant has been solidified with Russian construction investors.



The Republic of Türkiye:

Ever since Türkiye's admission into the NATO alliance, it has remained as one of the 5 members of NATO to host United States nuclear weapons. From the Incirlik Air Base, the country is capable of deploying 20 United States nuclear weapons.

With this significant projecting power, Türkiye

encourages the restricting of these 20 weapons of mass destruction. Türkiye along with the United States and other countries have made protests against the TPNW Treaty.



The Democratic Republic of Ethiopia:

Ethiopia has voted in favor of the TPNW Treaty and UN General Assembly and the country is in full support of this agreement. Ethiopian officials are working to ratify the TPNW as soon as possible. Furthermore Ethiopia has been a ratifier of the CTBT and signatory of the NPT Treaty.



The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia:

Saudi Arabia has been in deep competition with its regional competitor, Iran. Although the country has worked on a nuclear weapons program. Saudi Arabia has expressed the need to create nuclear weapons if Iran does. This has concerned nonproliferation efforts in the Middle East. As of now, the country has worked on civilian reactor plans and wants to complete them by 2040. As of September 2023, the country has started collaborating and integrating IAEA plans.



Questions to Consider:

1. How effective are the current UN frameworks around nuclear proliferation? What are major problems that have stopped countries from signing these projects?
2. How may the United Nations take effective action in the regulation of nuclear weapons programs?
3. What is the role of nuclear power and sustainable energy?
4. How might a country balance the use of nuclear technology for civilian use while creating a space for deterrence?
5. How should the international community discourage countries that are pursuing a nuclear weapons program?

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