



**Committee: Disarmament and International Security**  
**Agenda Item: Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)**

**Letter From Secretary General;**

**Dear Distinguished Future Participants of Sakıp Sabacı Anatolian High School Model United Nations Conference 2020,**

On behalf of my beloved Secretariat, as the Secretary General, it is my pleasure to welcome you all to the first annual session of Munsa'20.

At MUNSA, we strongly believe in the core value of bringing out the best in our MUN delegates. In other words, every step that we are taking is taken for you. We want every single delegate to have the opportunity to speak, participate and learn in a rigorous and supportive environment so we have chosen experts who work with us to provide topics on the dynamic global challenges and changes addressed in our committees. And I personally promise you to provide an environment for each of my delegates to do such things.

The Academic team that we have made from scratch is organized by your needs. We are aware of what you want to see in the academically advanced conference. And we made sure that in incredible 4 days what we are going to make you spend you will find what you're looking for. Every member of my team is focused on you and your needs. We want to learn from you, but also we want to teach you and make sure you experience things that you never have before.

Therefore, our academic team is combined with experienced people who are eager to teach you. It's my promise to you that you came before us in MUNSA.

I can ensure you with the amount of work and studying that we are doing these 4 days is going to be remarkable for you. Our staff in the organization team are skilled committee facilitators, experienced conference organizers, and most importantly, resourceful mentors with a strong passion for giving you the best mun experience.

Therefore, they will be there for you whenever you need. We work with unique people who are dedicated to you and only you. And when this team contains people I trust and love, you can take me saying it's going to be incredible as my word and promise to all of you.

**-Ayberk Görmüş**

## Introduction

Nuclear weapons have been a threat for mankind for decades a lot of people lost their home, life, and loved ones in nuclear weapon attacks.

Nuclear weapons, whose terrible effects are suffered, indiscriminately and inexorably, by military forces and civilian population alike, constitute, through the persistence of the radioactivity they release, an attack on the integrity of the human species and ultimately may even render the whole earth uninhabitable.

The treaty was the result of mutual agreement by Latin American and Caribbean countries to keep their region of the world free of nuclear weapons. That is, the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis catalyzed the creation of the Tlatelolco Treaty as Latin American countries recognized the importance of shielding their nations from the possibility of nuclear conflict under the Cold War.

On 14 February 1967, Latin American and Caribbean nations (with the exception of Cuba) came together in the Tlatelolco district of Mexico City for a uniquely innovative initiative: to sign a treaty banning nuclear weapons from their continent. Although Antarctica had been declared a nuclear-weapon-free zone under the 1959 Antarctic Treaty, the Tlatelolco Treaty (or Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean) was the first to establish such a zone over a densely populated region.

Costa Rica was the first regional state to propose a Latin American nuclear arms control arrangement at an Organization for the American States (OAS) Council meeting in 1958, which sought to prevent the manufacture of nuclear arms or their acquisition from the nuclear-weapon states (NWS). Other proposals were unsuccessfully floated within the OAS context during 1958-1960.

French nuclear weapon testing in the Sahara in 1960, together with the South African apartheid regime's interest in nuclear arms, led the African states to issue a call for an African NWFZ, which was endorsed by the UN General Assembly in 1961. Alone among Latin American states, Brazil supported the African NWFZ resolution and proposed a similar zone within its region. The efforts of Alfonso Garcia Robles, as Mexican ambassador to Brazil, eventually led, in March 1963, to Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, and Ecuador joining Mexico in supporting a Latin American NWFZ.

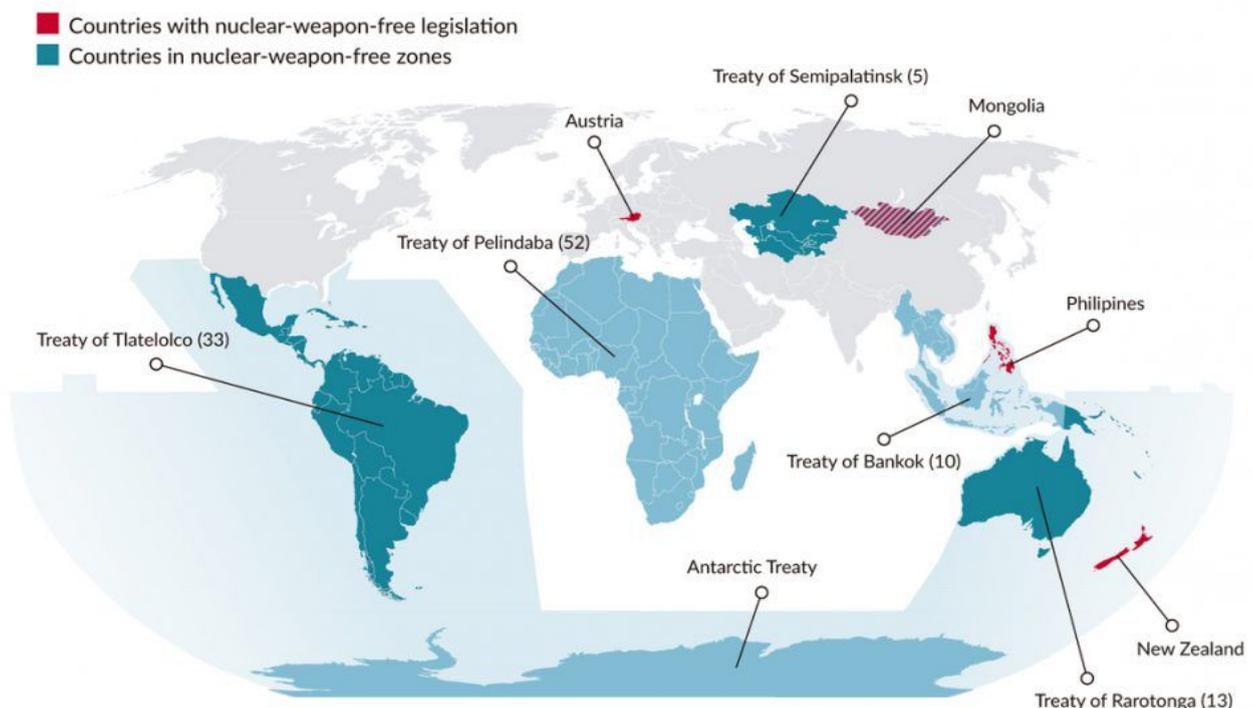
Treaty made effective on 22 April 1968 and was the very first treaty of its covers a populated area of the world, but now around 40% of the world's population lives in a Nuclear-weapon-free zone.

The treaty prohibits Latin American Parties from acquiring or possessing nuclear weapons and storing or deploying weapons from other states on their own territory. There are two zones in the treaty covered by protocols I and II.

*Additional Protocol I* provides for the application of the status of denuclearization in territories for which, *de jure* or *de facto*, France, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and the United States are internationally responsible, and which lie within the limits of the geographic zone established by the treaty. All four states have acceded to Protocol I. Signed: France on 2 March 1979, the Netherlands on 15 March 1968, the United Kingdom on 20 December 1967, and United States on 26 May 1977. Ratified: France on 24 August 1992, the Netherlands on 26 July 1971, the United Kingdom on 11 December 1969, and the United States on 23 November 1981.

*Additional Protocol II* obliges all NWS officially recognized by the international community to respect the status of denuclearization of the relevant geographic zone and commits them not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against parties to the treaty. All five NWS acceded to the protocol. Ratified: France on 22 March 1974, China on 2 June 1974, the United Kingdom on 11 December 1969, the United States on 12 May 1971, and USSR on 8 January 1979.

States with nuclear material are obligated to use these materials strictly for peaceful purposes. The treaty also prohibits states who encourage other states to break components of the Treaty. The Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (OPANAL) performs inspections to ensure compliance.



The nuclear arms race and the *1962 Cuban Missile Crisis* inspired Latin American governments to begin a process that would ensure that the region would never again become the scene of a nuclear conflict. These efforts culminated in the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (also known as the Treaty of Tlatelolco), which established the first Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (NWFZ) in a highly-populated area. The Treaty has been critical to advancing regional peace and security as well as creating a precedent and inspiration for subsequent NWFZs and giving impetus to the universal elimination of nuclear weapons.

On 23 October 2002, the Tlatelolco Treaty came into *full force* in the region when Cuba, the only state which had not ratified the treaty, deposited its instrument of ratification. Currently, all 33 states in the region of Latin America and the Caribbean have signed and ratified the treaty. The Tlatelolco Treaty has served as a model for all future nuclear-weapon-free zone (NWFZ) agreements.

The Latin American countries other than Cuba all signed the treaty in 1967, along with Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago, and all of these ratified the treaty by 1972. The treaty came into force on 22 April 1968, after El Salvador had joined Mexico in ratifying it and waived the conditions for its entry into force in accordance with its Article 28.

Argentina ratified in 1994, more than 26 years after signature, and was thus unprotected by the zone during the Falklands War.

Other English-speaking Caribbean nations signed either soon after independence from the U.K. (1968, 1975, 1983) or years later (1989, 1992, 1994, 1995), all ratifying within 4 years after signing. However, as British territories, they had been covered since 1969 when the U.K. ratified Protocol I.

The Netherlands ratified Protocol I in 1971; Suriname signed the Treaty in 1976 soon after independence from the Netherlands but did not ratify until 1997, 21 years after signing. The U.S. signed Protocol I applying to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands in 1977 and ratified in 1981. France signed Protocol I applying to its Caribbean islands and French Guiana in 1979 but only ratified in 1992. All five NPT-recognized nuclear-weapon states ratified Protocol II by 1979.

Cuba was the last country to sign and to ratify, in 1995 and on 23 October 2002, completing signature and ratification by all 33 nations of Latin America and the Caribbean. Cuba ratified with a reservation that achieving a solution to the United States hostility to Cuba and the use of the Guantánamo Bay military base for U.S. nuclear weapons was a precondition to Cuba's continued adherence.

The Mexican diplomat Alfonso García Robles received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1982 for his efforts in promoting the treaty.

#### *Signatories of the treaty:*

33 states - Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela

Duration: The treaty is of a permanent nature and shall remain in force indefinitely.

### **Key Terminology**

Nuclear Weapon: Nuclear weapon, a device designed to release energy in an explosive manner as a result of nuclear fission, nuclear fusion, or a combination of the two processes. Fission weapons are commonly referred to as atomic bombs. Fusion weapons are also referred to as thermonuclear bombs or, more commonly, hydrogen bombs; they are usually defined as nuclear weapons in which at least a portion of the energy is released by nuclear fusion.



OPANAL: In order to ensure compliance with the obligations of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, the Contracting Parties established in 1969 the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL). The Agency is responsible for holding meetings among the Member States related to the purposes, provisions, and procedures established by the Treaty. The Treaty of Tlatelolco establishes the General Conference, the Council, and the Secretariat as principal organs of OPANAL. The Secretary-General is the highest officer of the Secretariat. OPANAL may establish subsidiary bodies as the General Conference may deem necessary, such as the Committee on Contributions and Administrative and Budgetary Matters (CCAAP). By the provision of Article 7 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, OPANAL headquarters is located in Mexico City. OPANAL is the only regional body in the world devoted entirely to the achievement of nuclear disarmament and the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

nuclear-weapon-free zone (NWFZ): A nuclear-weapon-free zone (NWFZ) is defined by the United Nations as an agreement which a group of states has freely established by treaty or convention that bans the use, development, or deployment of nuclear weapons in a specific area, that has mechanisms of verification and control to enforce its obligations, and that is recognized as such by the General Assembly of the United Nations. NWFZs have a similar purpose but are distinct from, the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to which most countries including five nuclear weapons states are a party. Another term, nuclear-free zone, often means an area that has banned both nuclear power and nuclear weapons, and sometimes nuclear waste and nuclear propulsion, and usually does not mean a UN-acknowledged international treaty.

IAEA: The IAEA is widely known as the world's "Atoms for Peace" organization within the United Nations family. Set up in 1957 as the world's centre for cooperation in the nuclear field, the Agency works with its Member States and multiple partners worldwide to promote the safe, secure and peaceful use of nuclear technologies.

Cold War: a state of extreme unfriendliness existing between countries, especially countries with opposing political systems, that expresses itself not through fighting but through political pressure and threats. The expression is usually used for the relationship between the US and the Soviet Union after the Second World War.

## **Chronology of Important Events**

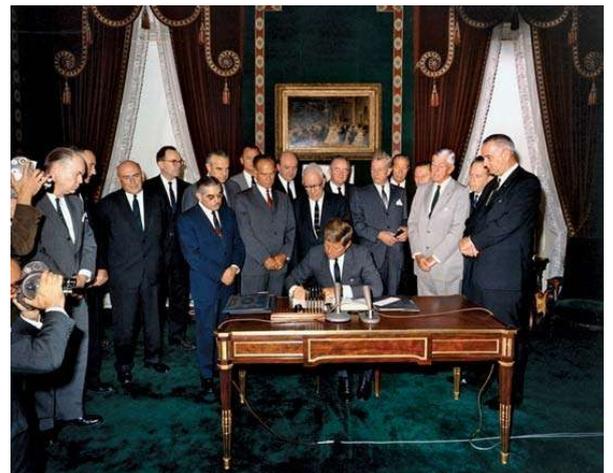
### *Cold War (1942- 1991)*

**Cold War**, the open yet restricted rivalry that developed after World War II between the United States and the Soviet Union and their respective allies. The Cold War was waged on political, economic, and propaganda fronts and had only limited recourse to weapons.

The Cold War reached its peak in 1948–53. In this period the Soviets unsuccessfully blockaded the Western-held sectors of West Berlin (1948–49); the United States and its European allies formed the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), a unified military command to resist the Soviet presence in Europe (1949); the Soviets exploded their first atomic warhead (1949), thus ending the American monopoly on the atomic bomb; the Chinese communists came to power in mainland China (1949); and the

Soviet-supported communist government of North Korea invaded U.S.-supported South Korea in 1950, setting off an indecisive Korean War that lasted until 1953.

From 1953 to 1957 Cold War tensions relaxed somewhat, largely owing to the death of the longtime Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin in 1953; nevertheless, the standoff remained. A unified military organization among the Soviet-bloc countries, the Warsaw Pact, was formed

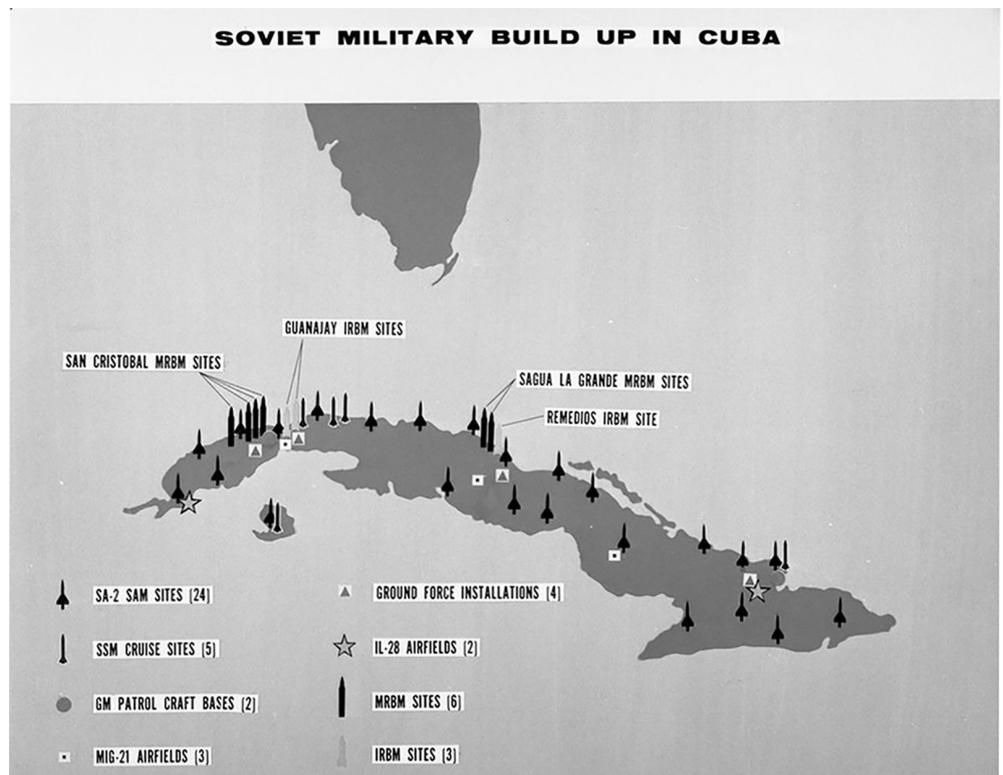


in 1955; and West Germany was admitted into NATO that same year. Another intense stage of the Cold War was in 1958–62. The United States and the Soviet Union began developing intercontinental ballistic missiles, and in 1962 the Soviets began secretly installing missiles in Cuba that could be used to launch nuclear attacks on U.S. cities. This sparked the Cuban missile crisis (1962), a confrontation that brought the two superpowers to the brink of war before an agreement was reached to withdraw the missiles.

### 1962 - Cuban Missile Crisis

During the Cuban Missile Crisis, leaders of the U.S. and the Soviet Union engaged in a tense, 13-day political and military standoff in October 1962 over the installation of nuclear-armed Soviet missiles on Cuba, just 90 miles from U.S. shores. In a TV address on October 22, 1962, President John Kennedy (1917-63) notified Americans about the presence of the missiles, explained his decision to

enact a naval blockade around Cuba and made it clear the U.S. was prepared to use military force if necessary to neutralize this perceived threat to national security. Following this news, many people feared the world was on the brink of nuclear war. However, disaster was avoided when the U.S. agreed to Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev's (1894-1971) offer to remove the Cuban missiles in exchange for the U.S. promising not to invade Cuba. Kennedy also *secretly* agreed to remove U.S. missiles from Turkey.



1969

The Treaty entered into force on 25 April, after 11 states of the region ratified it and exercised the right to waive requirements laid down in Article 28. Subsequently, it became effective for each additional state individually after that state ratified the Treaty and exercised its right of waiver.

1990

On 3 July, V Special Session of the General Conference Resolution 267 (E-V) (1990) amended Article 7, relating to the legal denomination of the Treaty. Once into force, the Treaty was to be titled "Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean" but was to continue to be recognized as Treaty of Tlatelolco.

1991

At the XII Session of the General Conference of OPANAL, Resolution 268 (XII) amended paragraph 2 of Article 25, following the wording of Article 8 of the OAS Charter, making possible the adherence to the System of Tlatelolco of those countries which previously impeded to do so.

1992

General Conference Resolution 290 (E-VII) (1992) amended Articles 14, 15, 16, 19 and 20, reassuring the confidentiality of industrial secrets of Member States in nuclear matters and establishing how the IAEA shall intervene in the special inspections referred to in Article 12 and 13 of the Treaty.

1995

On 25 March, Cuba signed the Tlatelolco Treaty and subsequently signed its amendments in December. However, Cuba did not ratify the treaty. By this point in time, all 33 states in Latin America and the Caribbean had become signatories of the treaty. It took the treaty nearly 30 years to secure universality of membership in the region.

2002

On 23 October, Cuba ratified the Tlatelolco Treaty. With its ratification, the treaty came into full force throughout all 33 states within the region. Cuba had announced to the UNGA that it would accede to the NPT and ratify the Tlatelolco Treaty on 14 October.

2002

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2005

On 26-28 April, the Conference of States Parties and Signatories of Treaties that establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones was held in Tlatelolco, Mexico. The Conference adopted a declaration, reaffirming that nuclear weapons constitute a threat to humanity, urging nuclear weapons states to adopt negative security assurances, and stressing the importance of the right to peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

2010

On 31 October, the General Secretariat of OPANAL recommended that Article 18 of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, which permits peaceful nuclear explosions for the purpose of technological development, be studied and revised. In support of this recommendation, the General Secretariat memorandum observed that nuclear explosions had proven “unnecessary for the development of nuclear technology” and noted that the treaty’s 33 member states were opposed to nuclear testing of any kind.

## Past Treaties and Solution Attempts

### *Treaty of Tlatelolco (1968)*

<http://disarmament.un.org/treaties/t/tlatelolco/text>

According to the treaty, the states parties who agreed to prohibit and prevent the *"testing, use, manufacture, production or acquisition by any means whatsoever of any nuclear weapons"* and the *"receipt, storage, installation, deployment and any form of possession of any nuclear weapons."*

There are two additional protocols to the treaty: Protocol I binds those overseas countries with territories in the region (the United States, the United Kingdom, France, and the Netherlands) to the terms of the treaty. Protocol II requires the world's declared nuclear weapons states to refrain from undermining in any way the nuclear-free status of the region; it has been signed and ratified by the USA, the UK, France, China, and Russia.

The treaty also provides for comprehensive control and verification mechanism, overseen by the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL), based in Mexico City.



### *Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (1968)*

<https://www.un.org/disarmament/wmd/nuclear/npt/text>

Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, also called Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, agreement of July 1, 1968, signed by the United Kingdom, the United States, the Soviet Union, and 59 other states, under which the three major signatories, which possessed nuclear weapons, agreed not to assist other states in obtaining or producing them. The treaty became effective in March 1970 and was to remain so for a 25-year period. Additional countries later ratified the treaty; as of 2007 only three countries (India, Israel, and Pakistan) have refused to sign the treaty, and one country (North Korea) has signed and then withdrawn from the treaty. The treaty was extended indefinitely and without conditions in 1995 by a consensus vote of 174 countries at the United Nations headquarters in New York City.

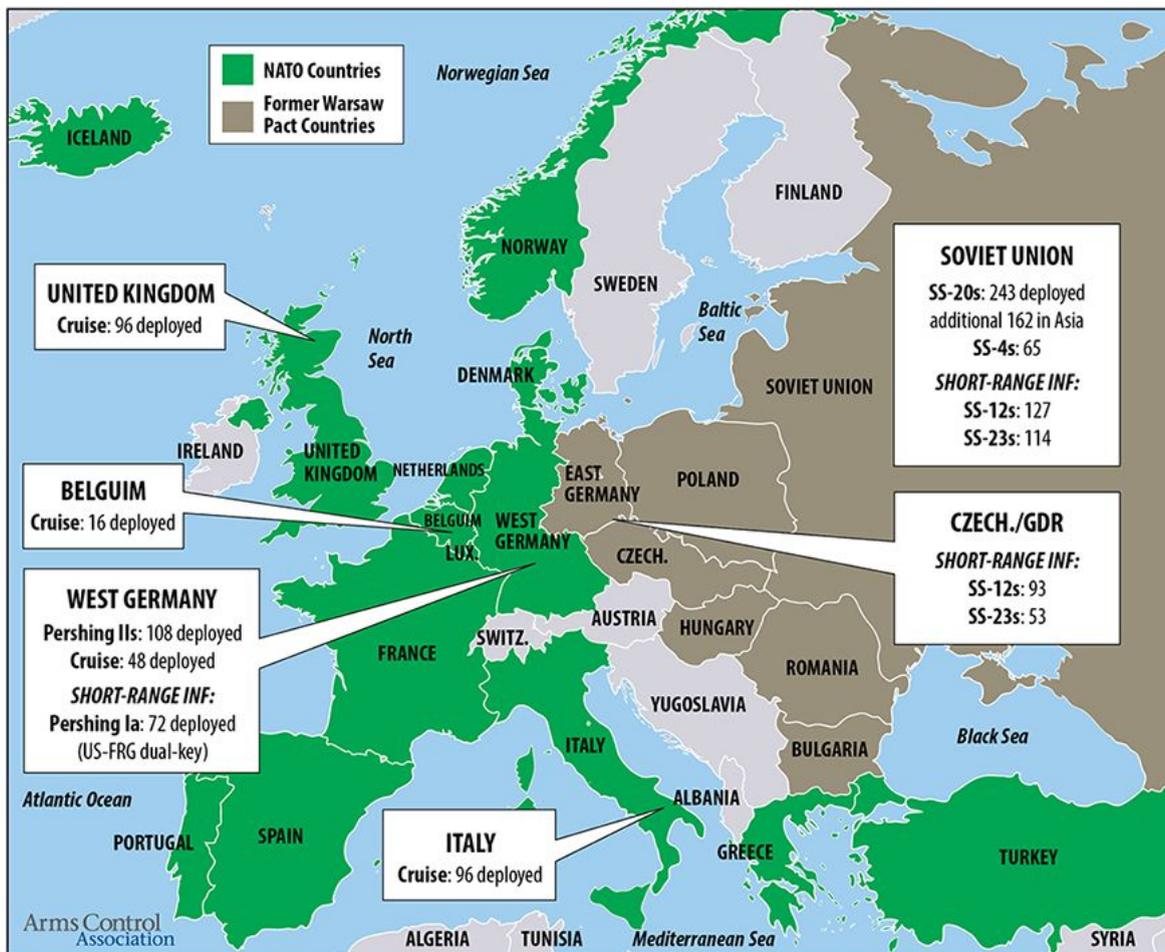


*Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (1987)*

<https://2009-2017.state.gov/t/avc/trty/102360.htm#text>

The 1987 Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty required the United States and the Soviet Union to eliminate and permanently forswear all of their nuclear and conventional ground-launched ballistic and cruise missiles with ranges of 500 to 5,500 kilometres. The treaty marked the first time the superpowers had agreed to reduce their nuclear arsenals, eliminate an entire category of nuclear weapons, and employ extensive on-site inspections for verification. As a result of the INF Treaty, the United States and the Soviet Union destroyed a total of 2,692 short-, medium-, and intermediate-range missiles by the treaty's implementation deadline of June 1, 1991.

*Missile Deployments Eliminated by the INF Treaty*



## Possible Solutions

Nuclear weapons have been serious issues for a long time some countries who are not completely economically developed is in the side of the prohibition of nuclear weapons for the sake of the humankind

The treaty was the very first treaty which created a nuclear-weapon-free-zone (NWFZ) which is a big step towards the peace and the end of the arms race

In the name of their peoples and faithfully interpreting their desires and aspirations, the Governments of the States which sign the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America,

Desiring to contribute, so far as lies in their power, towards ending the *armaments race*, especially in the field of nuclear weapons, and towards strengthening a world at peace, based on the sovereign equality of States, mutual respect and good neighbourliness,

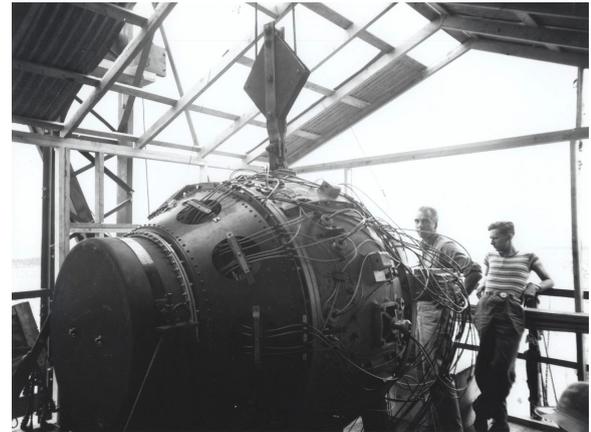
Arms Race has been so popular around the countries who are economically-developed which is basically threatening non-economically-developed countries this tension is getting higher and higher every single day. Delegates must do something about this race and prevent them as much as they can.

Denuclearization of Latin America is a great step for peace all around the world but some countries may try to break this peace for their own good. If this movement is not exactly a delegate's country's policy they must do everything to prevent this.

That the incalculable destructive power of nuclear weapons has made it imperative that the legal prohibition of war should be strictly observed in practice if the survival of civilization and of mankind itself is to be assured.

But if a country breaks the treaty? What will happen? Although some countries may sign the treaty there is also a possibility of breaking the treaty. Delegates must do something to guarantee that there is no illegal activity happening in Latin America with preventing any kinds of using, stockpiling nuclear weapons.

Delegate's main purpose should be to remain at peace and try to convince countries to support and improve the treaty as much as they can in every way. Rather, if a country is



developed or not in the United Nations no country has the right to support arming if there is no logical reason.

It is not only the government's responsibility to disarm and ban nuclear weapons there is also a public effect which is important for countries. Delegates must do something for that too to bring public awareness.

Also, delegates must make sure that there are no secret nuclear weapons in the neighbouring countries for any possibilities of armed conflict or cold war-like the Cuban Missile Crisis so they should prevent any kinds of possibility.

As The United Nations delegates first priority should be to prevent any kinds of harms to the mankind since the treaty is maintaining its dominance public may think that they are safe and they should be so when it comes to the solution delegates must be prepared for everything, every possibility about arm conflict since there are some conflicts between countries in the present time.



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