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| <u>Forum:</u> | Treaty on Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons |
| <u>Issue:</u> | establishing a framework for the discovery of nuclear stockpile sizes. |
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| <u>Position:</u> | Chair, Co-Chair |

Introduction:

In this age of technological advancement nuclear weaponry is still a major issue. To ensure that we as a planet can survive and don't initiate mutually assured destruction, there is a necessary implementation of fail-safes. To accomplish this, we first need to know how many nuclear weapons are present in each country.

Definition of Key Terms

Treaty on Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) is an international treaty, which countries agreed to reduce its nuclear arsenal as well as to promote peaceful use of nuclear energy and to refrain from using nuclear weapons against other member states. As of today, there are five nations that have yet to sign or withdraw from this treaty. These nations are DPRK, Iran, South Sudan, India, and Pakistan.

Plutonium and Uranium

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Plutonium and Uranium are the two main components in producing a fissile isotope reaction. These natural elements can be found all across the globe and nations. Possessing these two elements have an unfair advantage when it comes time to producing fission devices such as nuclear reactors, and nuclear bombs. Regulation of plutonium and uranium is key to prevent proliferation of nuclear weaponry.

Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)

It is an agreement between UN (including the P5 nations) and EU that ensures

non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in Iran in return for lifting US' sanctions imposed on Iran. The main purpose of this action is to eliminate the stockpiling of uranium, and reduce the enrichment of uranium.

Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)

Various types of weapons currently exist, but WMD are considered to be the deadliest of all. Any weapon manufactured with the purpose of causing death or serious physical injury through the dissemination of toxic substances can be categorized as a WMD. It also refers to any weapon that has the capability to release radiation at a level that is unconditional to sustain human life. In general, WMDs often cause large-scale damages to humans and the environment. These following qualities often characterize Weapons of Mass Destruction: chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive (CBRNE). The most common WMD would be the nuclear, which has been a threat to the international community for more than a decade.

Ballistic Missiles

A type of missile that follows a ballistic trajectory and aims warheads at a specific target is called a ballistic missiles. They can fly for a longer range above the atmosphere and are harder to intercept than regular missiles of the same size. Only requiring fuel for the initial liftoff and using gravity to propel the final approach to its target, the ballistic missiles can deliver much larger payloads compare to that of other missiles.

General overview

On August 6th 1945, an atomic bomb was dropped for the first time on the city of Hiroshima by US forces. An estimated 90.000-166.000 people are believed to have died within four months after the explosion, either directly or as a result of injury and radiation. The blast created an enormous shockwave, immense heat and lethal ionizing radiation, killing around 50.000 more in the five years following the drop.

Three days later another bomb, 'Fat Man', was dropped on another Japanese city, Nagasaki. This one caused 80.000 deaths within four months. Japan surrendered to the United States on August 14th 1945. The use of weapons of mass destruction in warfare has been limited to these two bombings, however there have been hundreds of different sorts developed and thousands of nuclear warheads are ready to be deployed by different nations. In the period directly after WWII until the fall of communism in 1989, the USA was at war with the Soviet Union (The Cold War). Although there were no direct battles or attacks, both parties were fully prepared for armed combat. The concept of nuclear deterrence was put into practice, where an

enormous nuclear stockpile was created in order to protect the nation against attacks from abroad, following the principle of mutually assured destruction. In the event one party would decide to initiate an attack, the other would be strong enough to withstand the first blast and strike back immediately. The response would inevitably be much bigger so that the attacker would suffer 'assured destruction'. Among the Soviet Union and the United States of America that still account for 93% of all operational warheads, China, France and the United Kingdom are the three other legally recognized nuclear weapon states. This, however, does not mean that there aren't any other states in the possession of nuclear weapons: India, Pakistan, Israel and North Korea are also known to hold nuclear warheads. The main reason nuclear weapons are still in our world today is due to the earlier explained concept of deterrence: the old sentiments have not completely disappeared.

The first resolution that was adopted by the General Assembly in 1946 established a commission to deal with the problems raised by the discovery of atomic energy. The commission was to make suggestions on the insurance of the safe use of nuclear energy and have a controlling function in the execution of these measures, and make proposals for the complete abolition of all weapons of mass destruction. Numerous treaties have since been established to encourage nuclear disarmament and ensure non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. This standpoint has recently been strengthened by the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, which was signed by 122 states on July 7th 2017. The conference was boycotted by all nine nations known to harbour nuclear weapons. But at the end of the day we have no real way of knowing how many nuclear weapons each country has.

Timeline of key events

16 July 1945 The first nuclear test was executed by the United States.

6 August 1945 Little boy was dropped on Hiroshima.

9 August 1945 Fat man was dropped on Nagasaki.

24 January 1946 The United Nations calls for the establishment of a commission to deal with the problem raised by the discovery of atomic energy in the first resolution that is passed by the General Assembly.

1 July 1968 The Non-Proliferation Treaty is signed.

24 September 1994 The Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban is signed.

9 October 2006 North Korea conducts its first nuclear test.

30 April 2007 ICAN (International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear weapons) is founded.

7 July 2017 The Nuclear Weapon Ban Treaty is adopted by the United Nations.

Majorly involved parties

United States of America

The US was the first and only country to ever use nuclear weapons in conflict. It engaged in an arms race with the Soviet Union a few years after the first conflict, and its stockpile was at its peak in 1967 with an arsenal of 31,255 nuclear warheads. In 2014 this number had dropped to 7,300, with some of them being tactically located in other NATO countries. In addition to the Non-Proliferation Treaty, the US is party to multiple other treaties with the intent to cut back nuclear stockpiles.

Russia/Soviet Union

The Soviet Union, too, reached its maximum stockpile of nuclear weaponry in the Cold war, with a peak of 35,000 nuclear warheads in 1986. The U.S.-Soviet Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, known as START, was signed in 1991 by presidents of both countries. It ensured strategic balance and set a framework for further reductions of their nuclear arsenals. The limits set by this treaty quickly became outdated, which is why it was replaced by START II, NEW START, in 2010. This treaty restricts both the United States and Russia to 1,550 warheads each.

North Korea

North Korea's nuclear weapons program is by far not as extensive as one of the above-mentioned nations: it is estimated that the country has developed 6-8 nuclear weapons. The country's leader, Kim Jong-un has announced that the entire US mainland is within his missiles' reach, and that the launch button is always on his desk. North Korea withdrew from the Non-Proliferation Treaty in 2003 and started its nuclear testing program in 2006. There are no signs that the country is planning to disarm in the near future.

Israel

Israel is widely believed to be the sixth country in the world to develop nuclear weapons, but it has not acknowledged its nuclear forces. It had "rudimentary, but deliverable" nuclear weapons available as early as 1966. Israel is not a party to the NPT. Israel engages in strategic ambiguity, saying it would not be the first country to "introduce" nuclear weapons into the region, but refusing to otherwise confirm or deny a nuclear weapons program or arsenal. This policy of "nuclear opacity" has been interpreted as an attempt to get the benefits of deterrence with a minimum political cost.

According to the Natural Resources Defense Council and the Federation of

American Scientists, Israel likely possesses around 75–200 nuclear weapons. The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute estimates that Israel has approximately 80 intact nuclear weapons, of which 50 are for delivery by Jericho II medium-range ballistic missiles and 30 are gravity bombs for delivery by aircraft. SIPRI also reports that there was renewed speculation in 2012 that Israel may also have developed nuclear-capable submarine-launched cruise missiles.

India

India is not a party to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. India tested what it called a "peaceful nuclear explosive" in 1974 (which became known as "Smiling Buddha"). The test was the first test developed after the creation of the NPT, and raised new questions about how civilian nuclear technology could be diverted secretly to weapons purposes (dual-use technology). India's secret development caused great concern and anger particularly from nations, such as Canada, that had supplied its nuclear reactors for peaceful and power generating needs.

Indian officials rejected the NPT in the 1960s, arguing that it created a world of nuclear "haves" and "have-nots", and that India would not accede to international control of their nuclear facilities unless all other countries engaged in unilateral disarmament of their own nuclear weapons. The Indian position has also asserted that the NPT is in many ways a neo-colonial regime designed to deny security to post-colonial powers. Even after its 1974 test, India maintained the stance that its nuclear capability was primarily "peaceful", but between 1988 and 1990 it apparently weaponized two dozen nuclear weapons for delivery by air. In 1998 India tested weaponized nuclear warheads ("Operation Shakti"), including a thermonuclear device.

Pakistan

Pakistan is also not a party to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Pakistan covertly developed nuclear weapons over decades, beginning in the late 1970s. Pakistan first delved into nuclear power after the establishment of its first nuclear power plant near Karachi with equipment and materials supplied mainly by western nations in the early 1970s. Pakistani President Zulfikar Ali Bhutto promised in 1971 that if India could build nuclear weapons, then Pakistan would too. According to him: "We will develop Nuclear stockpiles, even if we have to eat grass."

It is believed that Pakistan has possessed nuclear weapons since the mid-1980s. The United States continued to certify that Pakistan did not possess such weapons until 1990, when sanctions were imposed under the Pressler Amendment, requiring a cutoff of U.S. economic and military assistance to Pakistan. In 1998, Pakistan conducted its first six nuclear tests at the Ras Koh Hills in response to the five tests

conducted by India a few weeks before.

In 2004, the Pakistani metallurgist Abdul Qadeer Khan, a key figure in Pakistan's nuclear weapons program, confessed to heading an international black market ring involved in selling nuclear weapons technology. In particular, Khan had been selling gas centrifuge technology to North Korea, Iran, and Libya. Khan denied complicity to the Pakistani government or Army, but this has been called into question by journalists and IAEA officials, and was later contradicted by statements from Khan himself.

As of early 2013, Pakistan was estimated to have had a stockpile of around 140 warheads, and in November 2014 it was projected that by 2020 Pakistan would have enough fissile material for 200 warheads.

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