

# DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE (DISEC)



## Lyon Model United Nations 2018 Study Guide

**Topic A : The use of non-conventional weapons by ISIS and other non-state-actors**

**Topic B : Tackling nuclear proliferation in Asia**

Greetings Honourable Delegates,

We are grateful to be welcoming you to our annual LyonMUN conference. As always, our conference is catered to those interested in diplomacy, international relations, politics and human rights, while allowing space for healthy debate. Over the next four days, we will be discussing the following topics: the use of non-conventional weapons by ISIS and other non-state entities, and tackling nuclear proliferation in Asia.

Topic A peers into terrorist organizations like ISIL/Da'esh, and the weapons or agents that are used against the public in pursuit of a radical religious nation. Delegates will deliberate over the legality and containment of non-state entities using agents like chemical weapons, biological weapons, and nuclear weapons. Later pages of this guide will list the different definitions, and the origins of some non-state entities.

Topic B discusses the DPRK, which has been increasing their Nuclear capacity rapidly and dangerously, especially following their withdrawal from the Nuclear Proliferation Treaty in 2003. Through this the power balance on the Asian continent has been threatened and following several rounds of successful and failed talks, the world looks to the Korean peninsula and possible denuclearization.

The following pages of this document will function as an informative guide on the basics of the discourse. However, we strongly encourage you investigate the further reading sections of each topic, and research your Member State's own views. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact either the LyonMUN organizers [EMAIL] or our own personal emails, which are listed below. We wish nothing more for you to have a safe and enjoyable Conference! Here's to fruitful debate!

Your Chairs,  
Philippe Lefevre, Zeynep Başaran

I am Zeynep Basaran, currently a graduate student of M.A. in International Relations at Universiteit Leiden, The Netherlands while obtained B.A. degree in Economics from Istanbul, Turkey with a year in Alma Mater Studiorum Università di Bologna. I have been working at the political affairs division at The Permanent Mission of Turkey to NATO in Brussels, Belgium and previously, at Istanbul Policy Center - Sabanci University, specialising on migration, Middle-East and EU-Turkey-Germany Relations.

Hello Delegates, My name is Philippe Lefevre and I will be one of your three chairs for the 2018 edition of LyonMUN's Disarmament committee. Recently declared the best medium-sized conference in Europe I am certain you will have an amazing and productive time debating and making friends throughout your time in the conference. Personally LyonMUN will be my 15<sup>th</sup> conference and my 5<sup>th</sup> chairing position so I am also looking forward to participating just as much as you are. I am a second year History and Politics student at the Pantheon-Sorbonne in Paris, on an Erasmus exchange from the University of York, where I have escaped the apocalypse that is Brexit. My other activities other than MUN, the few I have, are with the Youth Association for a Greater Europe where I run a cultural theatre project and vice-chair their think tank. Alongside this I am helping organise the first edition of Paris Model European Union which will be another lovely avenue to spend what little time and energy I have left!

We are very happy to have the privilege to serve you as chairs and we hope LyonMUN will be a valuable and exciting experience for you. LyonMUN will surely leave you with great memories, and we, your Chair, are going to work to provide you with all a wonderful experience!

Looking forward to the fruitful debates in the committee in May,

## **Disarmament and International Security Committee**



During this year's edition of LyonMUN you will be taking part in a simulation of the DISEC. In this simulation, there will be an emphasis on the deliberation and debate, rather than fully engaging in all the intricacies of the United Nations legal system and procedure. The required knowledge, preparation and time we have at our disposal do not allow us to do so. Therefore, our goal in this simulation is to give participants the feeling of what is like to represent a country as an ambassador, and how it feels to conduct negotiations in the DISEC. To do this properly, it is crucial to know what the roles and capacities of the United Nations are and how the DISEC functions within the structure of the UN. Being familiar with its structure and function will help you make better use of the peculiarities of the system and help you in the debates.

The Disarmament and International Security Committee also known as the First Committee was established in the United Nations Charter, under Charter Article IV, with intentions of advocating, debating, and solving matters of international disarmament and security. All 193 UN member states are eligible as representatives in DISEC's body with equal vote. Although DISEC has significant importance when it comes to international security but it cannot precisely mandate individual state action, sanctions or armed intervention, hence it can however can advocate these actions to the Security Council.

The majority of DISEC's funding is acquired from the United Nations' organ, the General Assembly. The General Assembly's Administrative and Budgetary Committee allocates funds for political affairs, international justice and law, cooperation for development, humanitarian affairs, support services, and capital expenses that all contribute to the General Assembly's work in the international community. DISEC, with its importance promoting the goal number 16 in 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) within the United Nations Structure and the international community, had a nearly \$5.4 billion in its budget, to "Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels."

DISEC collaborates with UN organizations, such as the United Nations Disarmament Commission(UNODA), and the ,as well asvarious international and non-governmental organizations that contribute significant groundwork and insight to DISEC's work.

## **TOPIC A: The use of non-conventional weapons by ISIS and other non-state-actors**

### **Definitions**

- **Armed Conflict:** There are three types of armed conflict: international, internationalized, and non-international conflict. Per the Geneva Convention of 1949, international conflict is the when two clear, legal armed forces of two or more different states engage in violence. An example of this would be the North Korean/South Korean war of 1950. An internationalized armed conflict is a war between two factions fight internally, but are supported by 2 different states. Inquiries Journal uses the Democratic Republic of the Congo's creation in 1998 as an example of an internationalized armed conflict. Finally, a non-international conflict is, according to the Geneva Convention, a violent encounter where at least one of the parties is non-governmental in nature. This does not apply to riots or isolated events, thus creating an ambiguity as to which acts are considered exceptional conflicts. <sup>1</sup>
- **Biological weapons:** agents that disperse disease-causing organisms or toxins with the intent to harm or kill humans, animals, or plants. They are comprised of two parts: the agent and the delivery mechanism. Any disease-causing entity (bacteria, viruses, fungi etc) or toxin (poison derived from animals, plants, microorganisms or synthetic substances) can be used as bio-weapons. Historically, producers of biological weapons have attempted to produce, among others, foot-and-mouth disease, plague, ricin, smallpox. <sup>2</sup>
- **CBRN:** acronym for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, (and) Nuclear weapons.
- **Chemical weapon:** non-living, artificial agents combined with a system of diffusion that, when activated, produces, debilitating or deadly effects on either humans, animals, or plants. They take three forms: gas, solid (aerosol), or liquid, and dispensed via inhalation, ingestion, or absorption by the skin. Chemical agents are different from choking agents (like chlorine), injuring agents (mustard gas), blood agents (cyanide) and nerve agents <sup>2</sup>
- **Toxic Industrial Chemicals (TICs):** compounds used in industrialized settings are often toxic. While the lethal toxicity of TIC is lower much lower than chemical weapon agents (between 10 to 100 times lower), there are significantly more TICs, and easier access to TICs than chemical weapons. There are roughly 70 main-chemical weapon agents, while approximately 70,000 TICs. <sup>2</sup>
- **Nuclear Weapons:** explosives whose structure of atoms release great bursts of energy. This results in a radioactive blast wave, thermal radiation, and initial and residual radiation. <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Chelimo, G. (2011). *Defining Armed Conflict in International Humanitarian Law*. [online] Inquiries Journal.

<sup>2</sup> Members Research Service of the EU (2015). *ISIL/Da'esh and 'non-conventional' weapons of terror*. European Parliament, pp.1-10.

## **History of International Regulation of Chemical Weapons and their use by Non-State entities**

Awareness of non-state entities controlling CBRN agents arose to the international level around 1991, a decade after the fall of the USSR. The fear of “Loose Nukes” and abandoned research institutes falling into the wrong hands was pertinent in the outskirts of cities and controversial border territories. However, little was done to affect change, simply monitor. The first EU-level response to the international threat was in December of 2003, with the European Security Strategy, after the events of 9/11. A decade later, in December of 2015, the European Parliament enacted an Action Plan Against Illicit Trafficking in and Use of Firearms and Explosives, to stop terrorists from accessing these materials through reinforced importation controls into and throughout the EU. That same session, the “Directive on Terrorism” was enacted, thus criminalizing preparatory acts of terrorism. Such acts include training, traveling abroad with the intent to commit, aiding, abetting, and attempting terrorist attacks. While the actions of people have been legislated to prevent further injustices, as of 2016, no EU legislation targeting or seeking control of CBRN ingredients exists.

## **Contemporary Discussion**

ISIL is a splinter branch of the infamous terrorist group Al-Qaeda. Their goal is to create an Islamic state which practise 8<sup>th</sup> century Islamic Law. However, the success of ISIL can be contributed to their use of social media to terrorize and recruit the public. There are a milieu of beheadings, crucifixions, and public executions of “enemies of the Islamic State,” despite many of these victims being civilians and foreign journalists.

It's commonly regarded that ISIL reached its height in 2014, but is very much still active. Four years ago, it was estimated that ISIL occupied roughly 34,000 square miles (almost 90,000 km), but a January 2018 report states that 98% of territory controlled by ISIL has been recaptured a US-led coalition (See Figure 1). However, the Islamic state has sympathizing affiliates as far reaching as the Philippines (See Figure 2). While ISIL may have lost physical territory, the soldiers of the Islamic State have increased the deadliness of their attacks. Originally relying on automatic weapons to commit acts of terror, ISIL has recruited young scientists,<sup>3</sup> and created a variety of unconventional weapons- from a neurotoxin explosive, to a shrapnel bomb on live animals.<sup>4</sup>

## **Timeline of ISIL/Da'esh attacks**

- 2004 - Abu Musab al-Zarqawi establishes AliQaeda in Iraq (AQI).<sup>5</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Giuntella, I. (2015). ISIL unconventional weapons and skills. [online] Eastwest.eu.

<sup>4</sup> Walker, M. (2017). ISIS using 'unconventional' weapons as footage shows drones dropping grenades. [online] mirror.

<sup>5</sup> CNN. (2017). *ISIS Fast Facts*. [online].

- Oct. 2006 - Al-Masri announces the creation of Islamic State of Iraq (ISI), and establishes Abu Omar al-Baghdadi as its leader.
- April 2013 - Al-Baghdadi says that his group will now be known as Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL or ISIS).
- June 2013 - UN releases report stating more than 1 million Iraqis have been displaced <sup>6</sup>
- June 2014 - ISIL controls Falluja, Mosul, and Tikrit.
- July 2014 - International Atom Energy Agency releases information that ISIL has stolen low-grade nuclear material from a university in Iraq.
- Aug. 2014 - The laptop of a Tunisian university graduate working with ISIL is recovered-20-page document found with instructions on creating bubonic plague.
- April 2015 – Iraqi forces take control of Tikrit.
- Aug. 2015 - ISIL steals more nuclear material in Basra, Australian government confirms information that ISIL has used mustard gas on civilians in Syria, as well as chlorine chemical warfare.
- Oct. 2015 - Paris/Brussels/Ankara attacks- over 530 people injured or killed. Orchestrated with car bombs, suicide belts, and automatic weapons.
- Feb. 2016 - Moroccan government confirms that ISIL agents in Libya have created a biological weapon with neurotoxins and explosives. Most ingredients were commonly found (rusty nails, lemons, rotting meat) with the intent to make a tetanus toxin.
- July 2016 - Suicide car bomb attack in Baghdad- 490 casualties- deadliest attack since 2003.
- Feb. 2017 – ISIL releases video of ISIL soldiers setting up shrapnel bomb attached to a young dog, with the intent to send dog into crowded area. <sup>7</sup>
- April 2017 - US drops most powerful non-nuclear bomb on ISIS in Afghanistan.
- May 2017 - UN announces more than 200 civilians murdered by  
ISIL in Mosul, committing a variety of “war crimes.” <sup>8</sup>

### **Previous Resolutions - Bloc Positions**

Security Council Adopts Resolution 2325 (2016), Calling for Framework to Keep Terrorists, Other Non-State Actors from Acquiring Weapons of Mass Destruction, called on all States to strengthen national anti-proliferation regimes in implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) — which seeks to keep non-State actors from acquiring nuclear, biological and chemical weapons of mass destruction. It called for greater assistance for building collateral state capacity in that regard, including through voluntary contributions, and for greater cooperation among all stakeholders, civil society and academia among them, in order to increase legally binding measures adopted by

<sup>6</sup> Laura Smith-Spark and Chelsea J. Carter, C. (2014). *Iraq crisis: More than 1 million displaced, UNHCR says - CNN*. [online] CNN.

<sup>7</sup> O'Brien, Z. (2017). *ISIS strap suicide vests to PUPPIES in horror footage of sick front line bomb tactic*. [online] Express.co.uk.

<sup>8</sup> Schams Elwazer and James Masters, C. (2017). *ISIS kills more than 200 civilians, UN says, citing 'credible reports'*. [online] CNN

States with the aim of preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, but also a lack of progress towards securing the production, use, storage and transportation of materials related to chemical and biological threats.

United Kingdom, emphasizes that anti-proliferation efforts must be targeted to the most important areas, it should be highlighted the 1540 regime to advance with the emergence of new technologies, and encouraged cooperation with civil society and academia. Calling for full implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), UK would continue its efforts to work with all stakeholders in that regard.

Ukraine, supports measures were needed to strengthen the framework against the use of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons by non-State actors, terrorists in particular, since the world faced increasingly complex threats posed by, among other things, the rapid technological developments. The erosion of the existing global order, violations of international law as well as ongoing conflicts weakened the architecture of the biological, chemical and nuclear weapons non-proliferation framework as a whole.

Russian Federation indicates the need for continuing positive momentum in implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) with resources and focus on the part of Member States as well as cooperation with the 1540 Committee. Russia welcomes its focus on the need to make greater use of international and regional organizations in cooperation with the 1540 Committee, that ISIL/Da'esh and other terrorist groups were using chemical weapons in Syria.

Uruguay, Colombia and Venezuela describe the negotiations on the resolution as admirably inclusive, emphasized the pre-eminence of international law and the United Nations Charter in facing threats to use weapons of mass destruction, underlining that the risk of weapons of mass destruction being used by non-State actors represented a major threat to international security. All States must live up to their disarmament and proliferation responsibilities, including those related to the need for the elimination of all such weapons.

France, condemns the development of nuclear weapons by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, as well as the use of chemical weapons in Syria. Preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction by terrorists must be an international priority, emphasizing the need to strengthen implementation of existing tools by raising awareness, building capacity and updating legal frameworks, as France had done. Regarding that France prioritizes the security of nuclear and related materials, calls for international unity in the pursuit of advances in all such critical areas.

United States noted the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction remained the gravest threat to international peace and security, emphasizing that an attack by non-State actors could not be prevented without cooperation between States and relevant organizations. The proliferation of weapons of mass destruction was an expanding threat, as demonstrated by the use of chemical weapons by non-State actors in Syria, emphasizing that such a threat did not require a new

mechanism, but more effective implementation of existing instruments. Non-State actors like private companies could contribute to such efforts, whereas comprehensive review process had been a success.

Republic of Korea stands from a point that, challenges from non-State actors, including terrorist groups and violent extremists continued to arise at breakneck speed, stresses the importance of raising awareness on that resolution, with two nuclear tests conducted in the current year alone, “North Korea is now nearing the final state of nuclear weaponization”. Given that country’s “track record in illicit arms trade and black-market smuggling”, it could become a willing supplier of weapons of mass destruction technology or materials to non-State actors.

Afghanistan has been surrounded by a number of nuclear countries and had consistently called for total elimination of all weapons of mass destruction. As a State party to relevant treaties and conventions, Afghanistan had also joined the Group of Friends of Resolution 1540 (2004). Urges all States to strengthen national measures, as appropriate, to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery, and materials and technologies related to their manufacture.

Turkey had adopted the necessary legislation to fully implement its international obligations, and collaborated closely with the Counter-Terrorism and the ISIL and Al-Qaida Sanctions Committees. As growing proliferation concerns and the scale of global commerce placed unprecedented responsibilities on Member States, it welcomes the 1540 Committee’s recommendations for better assistance to Member States in the areas of export and transshipment controls. Turkey prioritized adopting realistic and applicable methods to strengthen export controls, while emphasizing the need for equitable burden-sharing. As the gaps and inconsistencies in the Syrian regime’s declarations on its chemical stockpiles remained unsolved, its undeclared weapon capabilities continued to be a serious concern.

United Arab Emirates welcomes all efforts to increase cooperation on implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), with supporting that the only way to end the threat of weapons of mass destruction, however, was to work for their elimination. A nuclear-weapon-free zone would strengthen security in the region, also by calling Israel to join in efforts for that purpose. calls for the end of the use of chemical and other prohibited weapons in Syria and Iraq, and cited Iran for its military support to non-State groups, which might result in the proliferation of both conventional and more dangerous weapons.

Jordan regards that the danger of using weapons of mass destruction by non-State actors was alarming, as an example terrorist group Da’esh using mustard gas in Syria and Iraq, where it has taken specific steps in abiding by resolution 1540 (2004) and had adopted several laws to control and prevent biological, chemical and nuclear weapons and their means of delivery falling in the hands of non-State actors. Welcomes the continued cooperation between the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the Committee to update information of terrorist groups and their ability to use

weapons of mass destruction, and emphasized the need for States to strengthen cooperation in industrial, parliamentary, and private and academic sectors.

Algeria urges establishing an appropriate balance between the need for peaceful uses of technologies for development and the concern to protect against any misuse of those technologies by uncontrolled or improper sources. Nuclear States owed it to the world to start fulfilling their commitment to disarmament and to allow equitable access for the peaceful use of the linked technologies.

Democratic People's Republic of Korea strongly supports that nuclear issue was the consequence of the hostile policy of the United States. If that country had not threatened his country with nuclear weapons, the nuclear issue would not have existed on the Korean Peninsula. It is DPRK's intent to avoid the danger of a nuclear war by the United States by relying on deterrence, which was being used as a self-defence measure. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea would continue to bolster its nuclear forces and not use those weapons first unless other States used their nuclear weapons, committed to non-proliferation.

Syria willing to cooperate with any international effort to keep terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction, being committed to a nuclear-weapons-free zone in the Middle East and had acceded to international mechanisms countering other dangerous weapons, including chemical weapons. In regard to the latter, the country had complied with all requests of the OPCW, and that fact had been recognized by the Council.

### ***Questions resolution should answer***

What may be the motivation behind non-State actors' capacity to develop and use chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear (CBRN) improvised weapons in attacks and their humanitarian consequences?

What actions may United Nations' organs take against the Islamic State's (ISIS) acquisition of chemical, biological or even nuclear weapons?

How can UN member states can integrate military installation with information, notification and response capabilities with local, state, and federal intelligence, law enforcement, and emergency response activities?

How may the collaboration between policy, law enforcement, defense, industry, science, and academia can be improved, in order to ensure modernization?

How may the likelihood of future attacks be decreased, in spite of the cooperation of EU and North-Atlantic Treaty Organization? What needs to be done as a matter of urgency and strategy?

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## **TOPIC B: Tackling nuclear proliferation in Asia**

### **Definitions**

When it comes to Nuclear Proliferation in Asia, we must first define the main sections of the question and the status of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) and which Asian countries it relates to.

The NPT Most essentially states in article 1: “Each nuclear-weapons state (NWS) undertakes not to transfer, to any recipient, nuclear weapons, or other nuclear explosive devices, and not to assist any non-nuclear weapon state to manufacture or acquire such weapons or devices”

There are currently 191 State parties who have signed the treaty and it is sincerely considered the most important text relating to the question of Nuclear Proliferation.

The only NWS officially recognised in Asia is the People’s Republic of China, which maintains a “minimum deterrent posture” of an estimated 260 warheads.

The other state we will talk about in this guide is one frequently related to nuclear warheads, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) also known as North Korea. North Korea was a part of the NPT however rejected it in 2003. Since then, it has been somewhat of a topic of discussion in international circles, to say the least.

Two more states that are important to consider, but will not be a main focus of this topic, are India and Pakistan who are not signatories of the NPT but do have a nuclear arsenal each. Owing to the fact that they are part of the Southern Asia UN geoscheme and this topic focuses mostly on the Eastern Asia geoscheme.

### **History of the Topic & Bloc Positions**

#### **People’s Republic of China**

Whilst not the main country in focus in this topic, the similarities between the People’s Republic of China and the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea are deep and a good knowledge of both is essential.

Firstly we shall quickly note on the history of Chinese nuclear weapons before moving onto the more pressing troublesome neighbour. Following the First Taiwan strait crisis of 1954-55 Chairman Mao Zedong decided to construct uranium enrichment plants in 1958 to build the bombs and increase his diplomatic credibility. This was supported by the Soviet Union in the beginning however was halted in 1960 as the Sino-Soviet split widened. The first Chinese nuclear

test was code-named 596 and took place in 1964. Their last nuclear test was on July 29 1996 after 45 tests overall.

The development of Chinese nukes also coincided with China reaching the global stage after splitting ideologically from the Soviet Union. As it has gradually functioned successfully with the growing capitalist system there have been less diplomatic issues than with the certain Korean neighbour to the south. However, it is notable that at the time that China developed its nuclear arsenal, similar calls of it becoming a “great menace in the future to humanity” were used by United States officials. Nuclear weapons were considered “paper tigers” by Mao and were never a part of the core military strategy of his country, especially as later leaders opened up the country to the west. Nevertheless the parallels are significant and not without reason.

### Democratic People’s Republic of Korea

The Korean Peninsula was divided following the Second World War as it was under the defeated Japanese rule. Following the Yalta conference in 1945 and Soviet advancement into the peninsula, the US decided to propose the 38<sup>th</sup> parallel as a line of demarcation between two occupied zones, the South and the North. This was surprisingly accepted and signed on the 17<sup>th</sup> August 1945 after Japan surrendered, which in turn followed the nuclear bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki which killed around a hundred thousand Japanese people.

The DPRK itself was then proclaimed 3 years later on September 9<sup>th</sup> 1948 by Kim Il-Sung, who remains the “Eternal president of the Republic” and spearheaded the DPRKs cult of personality and heavily autocratic regime until his death in 1994. The real borders of the DPRK were decided during the Korean War (1950-53) as the North invaded the South.

Whilst the fighting ended in 1953 the war has technically never been over as no peace treaty was signed. Instead, a Demilitarized zone was created between the two. Following this the North recovered relatively quickly but became more insular when Mar Zedong died and China began opening itself up to the west. By the 80s the economy started to decline and almost completely collapsed after the USSR collapsed and aid was less forthcoming. Since then China has been by far and away the most important donor to North Korea.

After Kim-il Sung’s death in 1994 Kim Jong-Il took over and started an overhaul of North Korean society and government. Foreign aid and oil was restricted and a large-scale famine affected the country until 1998. Appeasement of the North from the South was evident from the Sunshine Policy of Kim Dae-Jung but this did not yield many results and its attempts at denuclearisation will be detailed below.

Since the turn of the century almost all news of the North has been because of its nuclear program. In 2003 they left the NPT, although having never allowed compliance since they signed it in 1985.

However, tensions between the North and South remained tight and the sinking of the Cheonan by the North and shelling Yeonpyeong Island did not help the easing of this relationship.

Kim Jong-Il died late 2011 and was replaced by his son Kim Jong-Un. His regime has been punctuated by purges of the inner part, including his uncle in 2013. In 2016 it was estimated around 300 people have been purged by Kim Jong-un. His regime has been described as a woeful abuse of human rights by UN commissions of Inquiries.

The only other serious point around Kim Jong-un is his love of Nuclear weapons which we shall detail below.

### Nuclear Program

North Korea's nuclear program began almost immediately after its declaration. In 1952 the Atomic Energy Research institute was created and a cooperative agreement was created with the Soviet Union in 1956. This led to the construction of the Yongbyon Nuclear research centre in the 1960s which became a key part of the North Korean nuclear activities. Following the failed request to share Chinese nuclear weapons technology, North Korea then began to expand its program beyond civilian applications to more military ones.

Plutonium processing was the next step which they acquired in the mid-1970s, mostly from their IRT-2000 research reactor. Alongside this mining operations began in full force around Sunchon and Pyonsan. These reactors and mining operations terminated what was known as Phase 1 of the Korean nuclear program.

Phase 2 was a period of significant expansion, with the creation of a Radiochemical laboratory, 5 MW nuclear reactor and development of the Yongbyon reactors. Around this time the Soviet Union began to weaken and the security guarantees supplied by the Soviet Umbrella began to wane. Explosive tests started from this point in force.

Following the collapse of the USSR the US began to pull their nuclear weapons out of South Korea, leading to a slowing down of the rapid militarisation of Nuclear weapons. This comes along with the International Atomic Energy Agency being allowed into the country in 1992, where they find irregularities and are consistently blocked from viewing waste sites. Annoyed at the pressure North Korea attempts to withdraw from the NPT but suspends this withdrawal after 89 days in 1993

Phase 2 ends with the important Agreed Framework by the US and DPRK in 1994. What the framework does is freeze the development of the nuclear power plant program and replaces them with light water reactors and also supplies aid and food to the country. The framework was to deliver 500'000 tons of heavy oil annually, supply two 100Mwe light water reactors by 2003 and provide assurance against nuking the country by the US. DPRK in return was to stop their

graphite nuclear reactors, remain a part of the NPT, implement the 1992 Declaration on Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and then dismantle the graphite reactors after 2003.

To this end, the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organisation (KEDO) which was a group of various states responsible for the agreement was created to pay for the project.

Unfortunately, owing to several disagreements from the US, notably George W. Bush calling the DPRK part of the Axis of Evil, including assumptions that there was uranium enrichment plant on North Korean soil. This agreement then broke down after the DPRK then withdrew from the NPT in 2003. It is still not certain who halted the agreements first; the US claimed that the North suggested it had a nuclear weapons program in 2002 and then threatens to remove oil shipments if they renounce this statement. Thus the heavy water reactors are reopened and inspectors are thrown out of the country.

Following this a dialogue was created called the Six Party talks in 2003 which halted after three rounds in 2004 due to tension between the US and the DPRK. Upon reactivation of the talks and before the fourth round in 2005 a "Statement of Principles" was signed renouncing wanting to attack North Korea and reaffirming the Declaration on Denuclearizing the Korean peninsula. However, this statement, originally hailed as a breakthrough, did not achieve any of its aims.

In 2006 the first nuclear test was conducted by the DPRK. A yield of less than 1 kiloton was reported (the Bomb dropped on Nagasaki was around 18-23 kilotons) but still this was a significant development. Immediately sanctions were announced under UNSC resolution 1718 and the Six Party talks returned in 2006 and 2007. After these North Korean bank accounts were reopened under Russian accounts and the IAEA were allowed back in. This did not last and in 2009 the second nuclear test was announced. Another resolution (UNSC 1874) was declared in response to this.

Leap ahead to 2012 where Kim-Jong UN launches a satellite, restricting US food aid due to the violation it posed to the agreements signed earlier in the year called the lead Day Agreement. The DPRK's third test was then in 2013 and over the next two years they rebuilt and developed the Yongbyon site.

In 2016 a thermonuclear device was claimed to have been detonated, most international observers are sceptical due to the low magnitude, but still another round of Sanctions were laid on the North. The 5<sup>th</sup> Test was then launched on the 9<sup>th</sup> of September 2016 and was the largest so far at around 10/20 kilotons. Unsparingly, another UNSC resolution was then adopted three weeks after the test. This then brings us onto the most contemporary developments which have gone through a wild time with President Donald J. Trump and Kim Jong-Un taking remarkably difficult stances with each other.

## **Contemporary Discussion**

On the 20<sup>th</sup> of January 2017 Donald J. Trump was inaugurated as US President. His election follows a campaign wrought with tough words on Iran and North Korea, which did not stop following his unforgivable ascendancy. Furthermore two weeks prior, Kim Jon-Un declared that the country was in its “last stage” to fire ICBMs and become a try nuclear power, believing that it was the only change to continue to be a country under the threat of the west.

The North Koreans then rapidly advanced their program and on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July 2017 North Korea tested their Hwasong-14 Ballistic missile, their first ICBM. Swiftly afterwards the most recently nuclear test was committed in September 2017, yielding 140 kilotons minimum, with maximum readings of around 250 kilotons.

The sanctions that the UN Security Council has laid on North Korea so far are incredibly punitive and have laid waste to the countries meagre economy even before. So far 8 Sanctions, and 21 overall resolutions, have been taken, embargoing a swathe of the industry of metal, energy, food and people of the country. There are not many areas of trade left to sanction from North Korea that have not already been taken by the UNSC, and different courses of non-military action have been asked for by the international community.

The Rhetoric of the debate has also warmed up significantly, with Trump declaring in August 2017 that North Korea would “be met with fire, fury and frankly power, the likes of which the world has never seen before” which was followed by a North Korean threat to attack Guam. A further quote by Trump threatened to destroy North Korea should it attack its allies, stating that “Rocket Man [Kim Jong-un] is on a suicide mission for himself and for his regime”. Rocket Man’s response was to label Trump a “mentally deranged US Dotard”, a scathing attack on all dotards out there.

Despite all this, the Winter Olympics created a “détente” between North and South Korea in early 2018. Both countries agreed to send athletes marching under a Korean Unification Flag and host a single United Korean team for women’s ice hockey. Surprisingly among this was a letter from Kim Jong-Un to the South Korean president Moon Jae-In to invite the presidents to speak in late April 2018. This will be the first time in 11 years there has been an inter-Korean summit. Furthermore in a twist of fate Donald Trump declared on March 8 that he would meet Kim Jon-Un in May. However all sanctions and maximum pressure remain according to his press secretary.

Another development has been the firing of Secretary of State Rex Tillerson from the US, who was known as being more diplomatic in regards to North Korea than Trump originally wanted. His successor, Mike Pompeo, is notably more hard-line against the country. Furthermore pressure has gone to the Japanese president Shinzo Abe as his party runs a hard line against North Korea and rejects any possibility to meeting the North Korean leader. The power balance in the region has been constantly fraught and it will take complete international efforts to mediate the upcoming debates.

The discussion over proliferation in North Korea is far more than the struggle of a divided nation. The division of the world by the NPT and the rejection of the Nuclear Prohibition treaty by around ¾ of the UN have left the question of undue western interference remarkably present. Furthermore the statements and undiplomatic reasoning of Donald Trump have led to the undermining of US presence worldwide and the often touted rise of the east is constantly discussed during the balance of power in the Korean region.

### **Previous Resolutions and Sanctions**

- Joint Declaration of South and North Korea on the Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula
- International Convention on the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism
- Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)
- Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons
- Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty
- <http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/un-documents/dprk-north-korea/>
- Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly: United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific General and complete disarmament: Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia
- Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 2016 [on the report of the First Committee (A/71/450)] 71/65. Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia
- Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 2016 [on the report of the First Committee (A/71/451)] 71/78. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific

## **Questions resolution should answer**

How can a bilateral cooperation in nuclear security between New Delhi and Islamabad, ease the tension in the area since there has been a significant increase among their stockpiles of fissile material of India and Pakistan?

What commitments in what frameworks can be made between the risks of India and Pakistan, regarding the security of the nuclear materials within their territories?

What may be the benefit of enhanced cybersecurity laws?

What may be the roles of Russia, Japan and United States of America regarding the future of North Korea's nuclear threat?

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