



# **DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE**

## **— STUDY GUIDE —**

Enhancing International Non-Proliferation  
Efforts for Weapons of Mass Destruction  
(WMDs), with an emphasis on the Treaty on  
the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

**ANNUAL WORLD SUMMIT 2025**

# LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Delegates, we, the Executive Board of the Disarmament and International Security Committee (UNGADISEC), welcome each of you to the 14th edition of the Annual World Summit, Jamnabai Narsee School.

For many of you, this may be your first MUN experience, a major milestone, as daunting as it is formative. This study guide aims to ease the burden by collating much of the relevant information for your research into one document for your convenience.

Please note – this study guide only provides surface-level knowledge on most topics relevant to the agenda. Every delegate is expected to gain an in-depth understanding through individual research.

While an MUN conference is, at its core, a formal event, we promise that there will be a fair share of fun and that DISEC offers a meaningful role for every delegate, whether a first-timer or a seasoned debater.

An important point to remember is that the Executive Board exists solely to support you. Do not hesitate to reach out to any of us should you require clarification on any matter.

We look forward to hosting you over the course of two days and hope to see enthusiastic participation, intellectually stimulating arguments and the spirit of fair play from all.

Regards, The Executive Board of UNGA-DISEC

**Aditya Shekhar Bhattacharya (Chairperson)**

**Navya Bohra (Vice-Chairperson)**

**Ruhaani Badve (Moderator)**

**Aanya Ganatra (Rapporteur)**

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# INTRODUCTION TO MODEL UNITED NATIONS RULES OF PROCEDURE

**POINT OF INFORMATION** – A “point of information” is addressed to a fellow delegate after his or her speech has concluded. The point must be framed as a question for the aforementioned delegate to answer. It must address a point raised by the delegate in his or her speech. Points of information are preferred to be short, direct and precise.

**POINT OF PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY** – This point is to be addressed to the Chair or any present member of the Executive Board. Points of parliamentary inquiry may include questions about the rules of procedure and paperwork, among other procedural matters.

**POINT OF ORDER** – A point of order is to be addressed to the Executive Board. It can be raised when a fellow delegate has either stated a blatant factual inaccuracy, or has hurt the sentiments of the nation a delegate represents, or the sentiments of the delegate himself or herself.

**POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE** – This point supersedes all the aforementioned points in terms of priority. It is addressed to the Executive Board. It is the only point that can be used to interrupt a delegate’s speech without facing a penalty. A point of personal privilege can be raised to address a delegate’s own physical or mental discomfort at a given moment (e.g., a delegate requesting that the A/C be turned off, or that he or she be allowed to visit the restroom).

**GENERAL SPEAKERS’ LIST (GSL)** – The General Speakers’ List is an inexhaustible list of delegates who are to speak. It is typically between 60–90 seconds and the delegate speaking may address any issue that he or she deems to be relevant, considering the agenda at hand. It is a mandatory list, which means that every single delegate in the committee will have to deliver a speech when it is their turn on the General Speakers’ List.

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# INTRODUCTION TO MODEL UNITED NATIONS RULES OF PROCEDURE

**MOTION FOR A MODERATED CAUCUS** – A moderated caucus is an opportunity to discuss and debate a specific portion of the vast agenda at hand. It is not a mandatory list like the General Speakers' List, so delegates who believe they have something valuable to add to the discussion may have their countries added to the Moderated Caucus Speakers' List. The length of each speech is subject to the Chair's consideration. Points of information may be raised to question a delegate after his or her moderated caucus speaking time has elapsed.

**MOTION FOR AN UNMODERATED CAUCUS** – An unmoderated caucus is a period of time (usually ranging from 3–15 minutes) during which every delegate is free to move about the conference room, build diplomatic relationships, form alliances, collaborate on paperwork and engage in productive negotiations. Delegates are strongly encouraged to engage in lobbying if and when a motion for an unmoderated caucus is passed by the Chair.

**MOTION FOR A 1V1/2V2** – A 1v1/2v2 is a heated debate between 2–4 delegates representing contrasting beliefs. No delegate other than those involved in this motion may speak until the time has elapsed. Note: Offensive remarks, retaliatory comments and blatant disrespect will be penalised.

**CHAIRS' DISCRETION** – Throughout the course of the conference, the decisions made by the Executive Board, regarding any occurrence that takes place during formal committee sessions, are final and binding.

**APPROPRIATENESS OF LANGUAGE AND BEHAVIOUR** – No foul or offensive language will be tolerated in the committee. Failure to comply with this rule may result in the contravening delegate being debarred. Delegates are expected to maintain silence at all times except during unmoderated caucuses and to respect every delegate as he or she speaks.

**WI-FI, AI AND PLAGIARISM** – The paperwork and all speeches will be GPT-proofread and any delegate found using artificial intelligence at any time will be penalised and marked down. The use of Wi-Fi (without Executive Board approval) during formal committee sessions is also prohibited.

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# INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMITTEE: UNGA-DISEC

The Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC) is the First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly. It deals with disarmament, global challenges and threats to peace that impact the international community, while also attempting to find solutions to the challenges faced by the international security regime. The mandate of DISEC is highlighted as:

“to promote the establishment and maintenance of international peace and security with the least diversion of the world's human and economic resources for armaments.”

The First Committee works in close cooperation with the United Nations Disarmament Commission and the Geneva-based Conference on Disarmament. It takes into account the general principles of cooperation in maintaining international peace and security, as well as the principles governing disarmament and the regulation of armaments; promotion of cooperation through agreements and actions for collaboration, including those concerning international security under the Charter, or with the powers and functions of any other UN organ.

Keep in mind that all resolutions passed by this committee are non-binding and must be formatted as recommendations to the 193 nations represented in the committee. Furthermore, given its direct association with the United Nations General Assembly (being a subsidiary organ as authorised under Article 22), it retains the powers and responsibilities of the General Assembly as outlined in Chapter IV of the Charter of the United Nations.

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# LIST OF KEY TERMS

- **NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION:** Nuclear proliferation is the spread of nuclear weapons, fissionable material and information that enables the production of nuclear weapons to nations not recognised as “nuclear-weapon states.”
- **NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY (NPT):** An internationally recognised treaty aimed at preventing the spread of nuclear weapons and promoting disarmament amongst signatory nations.
- **TREATY ON THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS (TPNW):** An international treaty that prohibits the production, use and distribution of nuclear weapons.
- **NUCLEAR DETERRENCE:** The strategy of maintaining a nuclear arsenal to deter or dissuade potential adversaries from using nuclear weapons.
- **NUCLEAR ARSENAL:** A country's collection of nuclear weapons.
- **COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY (CTBT):** A treaty that bans all nuclear explosions for both civilian and military purposes.
- **STRATEGIC ARMS REDUCTION TREATY (START):** A series of agreements between the United States and Russia aimed at reducing their respective nuclear arsenals.
- **MISSILE TECHNOLOGY CONTROL REGIME (MTCR):** An international effort to control the proliferation of missile technology.
- **BIOLOGICAL AND TOXIN WEAPONS CONVENTION (BTWC):** An international treaty that prohibits the development and use of biological and toxin weapons.
- **NUCLEAR UMBRELLA:** The security assurance provided by a nuclear-armed ally to its non-nuclear-armed allies.

# INTRODUCTION AND HISTORY OF THE AGENDA

- Through the course of history, certain narratives serve as stark reminders of humanity's relentless quest for power. However, few narratives in the history of geopolitics are as morally charged as the discussion surrounding Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs).
- A WMD can be defined as a nuclear, biological, or chemical weapon capable of causing widespread devastation and loss of life.
- Weapons of mass destruction, in essence, encapsulate a specific category of armaments designed with the predominant intention of causing extensive death, destruction and suffering on a large scale.
- Concerning nuclear weaponry, the genesis of these arms can be traced back to the Manhattan Project, a covert initiative launched by the United States, the United Kingdom and Canada in 1942. This collaborative effort culminated in the successful Trinity test in New Mexico in 1945, a milestone that marked the onset of the nuclear age.
- The urgency to gain a strategic edge against Nazi Germany expedited the project and the devastating bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki subsequently triggered a global race for nuclear dominance.

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# INTRODUCTION AND HISTORY OF THE AGENDA

- Various nations, most notably the Soviet Union, acquired nuclear capabilities through espionage networks. The Quebec Agreement, a confidential pact between the UK and the US, played a pivotal role in their joint nuclear endeavours. Independently, France and China developed their nuclear arsenals and conducted their inaugural tests in 1960 and 1964, respectively.
- In the Middle East, nuclear proliferation emerged with Egyptian President Nasser's interest in nuclear weapons, which eventually led to the construction of Israel's Dimona reactor, aided by French expertise. Iran's nuclear program began in the 1950s under the Shah, with support from the US's "Atoms for Peace" initiative. Iraq's aspirations for nuclear capability were thwarted by Israel's Operation Opera in 1981, when the Osirak reactor was targeted. Syria's covert nuclear facility faced a similar fate in 2007, when it was destroyed by Israel.
- Understanding this historical context and the dynamics of nuclear proliferation is essential for grasping the global landscape of nuclear weapons and their far-reaching implications.

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# IMPORTANT TREATIES AND DOCUMENTS

## **ABM TREATY (Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty)**

- Signed: 1972
- Purpose: To limit anti-ballistic missile (ABM) systems.
- Status: The United States withdrew in 2002.

## **TREATY OF RAROTONGA**

- Signed: 1985
- Major Signatories: Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and other Pacific nations.
- Purpose: To establish a South Pacific Nuclear-Free Zone.
- Status: In force; however, the US, France and the UK have not ratified the protocols.

## **TREATY OF BANGKOK**

- Signed: 1995
- Major Signatories: Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.
- Purpose: To establish a Southeast Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone.
- Status: In force; major nuclear states have not ratified the protocols.

## **TREATY OF PELINDABA**

- Signed: 1996
- Major Signatories: South Africa, Egypt, Nigeria and most African states.
- Purpose: To establish an African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone.
- Status: In force, with the majority of African nations as parties.

## **SEABED ARMS CONTROL TREATY**

- Signed: 1971
- Major Signatories: United States, United Kingdom, Soviet Union (now Russia), France and China.
- Purpose: To ban the emplacement of nuclear weapons or weapons of mass destruction on the ocean floor beyond a 12-mile coastal zone.
- Status: In force; ratified by over 90 countries, including all known nuclear-armed states.

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# TREATY ON PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

**[TPNW]**

The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons is an international treaty aimed at completely banning nuclear weapons. Adopted by the United Nations in 2017, the treaty prohibits the development, testing, production, stockpiling and use of nuclear weapons. It entered into force on January 22, 2021, after being ratified by the required 50 countries. However, none of the nuclear-armed states or their allies have joined the treaty, which limits its practical impact. Nations That Have either not ratified/signed - United States, Russia, United Kingdom, France, China, India, Pakistan, Israel, North Korea. In addition to the nine nuclear-armed states, many countries under the "nuclear umbrella" provided by the United States, such as members of NATO, as well as Japan and South Korea have neither signed nor ratified the treaty.

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# NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY

## The Three Pillars of the NPT

### PREVENTING THE PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

The first pillar of the NPT represents a firm commitment to preventing the spread of nuclear weapons and related technologies to states that do not already possess them.

### FACILITATING NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

The second pillar of the NPT emphasises the responsibility of nuclear-armed states to take concrete, irreversible steps toward disarmament. It acknowledges that the existence of nuclear weapons is an ongoing global challenge that demands gradual and verifiable reductions in nuclear arsenals.

### PROMOTING PEACEFUL NUCLEAR COOPERATION

The third pillar affirms the right of all signatory states to access and use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, such as electricity generation, medicine and scientific research. This right is accompanied by a strict obligation to implement safeguards that ensure nuclear materials and technologies are not diverted for military use.

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# PAST RESOLUTIONS

## Resolution 2231 (2015)

Date: July 20, 2015

Proposed By: P5+1 (United Kingdom, France, China, Russia and Germany)

Core Material: Endorsed the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), aimed at limiting Iran's nuclear program.

## Resolution 1540 (2004)

Date: April 28, 2004

Proposed By: United States

Core Material: Required states to prevent non-state actors from acquiring Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs).

## Resolution 1887 (2009)

Date: September 24, 2009

Proposed By: United States

Core Material: Focused on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, aiming to prevent their spread and use.

## Resolution 2118 (2013)

Date: September 27, 2013

Proposed By: United States, Russia

Core Material: Called for the elimination of Syria's chemical weapons arsenal following the Ghouta chemical attacks.

## Resolution 2325 (2016)

Date: December 15, 2016

Proposed By: Spain

Core Material: Strengthened the implementation of Resolution 1540 and expanded efforts to prevent non-state actors from acquiring WMDs, including nuclear weapons.



# BLOC POSITIONS

## The United States of America

The United States has long been an active participant in international arms control and non-proliferation efforts. It has signed and ratified key treaties like the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), which commits to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

Additionally, the US has negotiated arms reduction treaties with Russia, such as the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (New START), aimed at reducing deployed strategic nuclear weapons. As the only country in history to have used nuclear weapons—by dropping atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki during World War II—the US plays a unique role in global nuclear diplomacy. In the modern era, while pursuing disarmament, the US maintains a nuclear deterrence strategy, relying on its nuclear arsenal to deter potential adversaries and assure its allies of its commitment to their security under the US nuclear umbrella.

The US Nuclear Posture Review outlines the role of nuclear weapons in national security. A key element of this strategy is the country's "second strike" capability, meaning that in the event of a nuclear attack, the US can retaliate but not initiate the use of nuclear weapons.

The US is actively engaged in efforts to prevent the spread of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs) to hostile actors. These efforts include diplomatic initiatives, sanctions using various acts and legal frameworks and export controls to dissuade countries from pursuing nuclear weapons and other WMDs for the global good.

The US has a long-standing history of participating in arms control treaties. It has signed agreements with other nuclear-armed states, such as Russia, to reduce the number of deployed nuclear weapons and enhance transparency. However, the approach to arms control can vary depending on the administration in power and the decisions made by Congress.

# BLOC POSITIONS

## Democratic People's Republic of Korea

North Korea remains, as of 2023, one of the most unpredictable and volatile actors in the sphere of Weapons of Mass Destruction, with special emphasis on its robust, unregulated development and testing of nuclear weaponry. In recent years, the DPRK has actively conducted a vast number of missile tests, including intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) capable of reaching the western mainland. The country's blatant disregard for treaties and antagonistic actions pose a significant risk to global security and threaten to destabilise the Korean Peninsula and beyond.

The DPRK has rebuffed diplomatic overtures and sidestepped sanctions, aligning most closely with China and Russia. The main tensions arise with South Korea, Japan and especially the waters surrounding the Korean Peninsula. While the country remains isolated from the rest of the world through the 'figurative fortress,' it continues its keen interest in military dominance and the development of its nuclear capabilities by expanding its arsenal. Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un is steadfast in his vision, regardless of political talks and aims to dissuade further progress.

While the country faces a dire economic crisis, with famine and a lack of resources for its citizens, sanctions imposed by nations like the United States further damage its economic abilities.

# BLOC POSITIONS

## **India**

India's foreign policy surrounding WMDs is primarily focused on regional security and strategic balance, particularly against its nuclear neighbours, Pakistan and China. While India is yet to sign the NPT, it generally adheres to a 'No First Use Policy' (NFU) as a nuclear deterrent.

On the global stage, India allies with like-minded democracies such as the US and certain EU nations. However, its refusal to join the NPT keeps it at arm's length from these nations on the issue of nuclear non-proliferation. Therefore, India stands as a pivotal but complex player in the WMD landscape. Political tensions arise from the fact that China, Pakistan and India are three contending nuclear powers and India's influence in the ASEAN-controlled Indo-Pacific region also adds complexity.

## **Pakistan**

Pakistan is a critical actor in the global landscape of Weapons of Mass Destruction, primarily due to its nuclear capabilities and refusal to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, despite its history of agitating the geopolitical landscape on multiple occasions. Its historic and continually strained relationship and rivalry with neighbouring India add a layer of volatility.

However, what makes Pakistan particularly concerning in this context are the risks associated with internal instability, an unstable form of government, terrorism and longstanding corruption and economic violations. The security of Pakistan's nuclear arsenal is a point of international concern. Pakistan's complex alliances, notably with China, further complicate efforts for global non-proliferation.

Therefore, Pakistan remains a pivotal and problematic player in any discussions related to WMDs.

# BLOC POSITIONS

## Iran

Iran stands as a pivotal nation in the debate surrounding Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs), especially with its controversial nuclear program. Iran's consistent claim is that its nuclear ambitions are peaceful and aimed at energy production; however, its ongoing feud with Israel and the West, especially the United States, casts a shadow of doubt on these assertions. Iran is a signatory to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), but it has been accused of violating the treaty's terms, leading to a slew of economic sanctions.

From a support standpoint, Iran typically aligns with Russia and China, nations that offer political and economic support. This bloc often finds itself in opposition to the US and its allies, including Israel and several European nations.

Iran's strategic location, straddling the Middle East and South Asia and its influence over several non-state actors like Hezbollah, make it a key player in any WMD discussions. The major controversy is the Iran Nuclear Deal, which is an attempt to bring Iran into compliance with international norms, but the deal's future remains uncertain.

As such, Iran's policies and alliances make it an indispensable but contentious participant in global conversations surrounding WMD.

# BLOC POSITIONS

## The United Kingdom

The United Kingdom is a key Western player in the field of Weapons of Mass Destruction, particularly as a recognised nuclear weapons state under the NPT. Aligned with the United States and other NATO members, the UK forms part of the security umbrella that seeks to promote non-proliferation while maintaining a nuclear deterrent.

As a permanent member of the UN Security Council, the UK holds significant sway in shaping international policy on WMDs, including sanctions and peacekeeping efforts. It

plays a balancing role in the West-East divide on WMD policy, often acting as a mediator between the US and more diplomatically cautious EU nations.

The UK's status as a nuclear-armed state and its role in international diplomacy make it a significant actor in discussions regarding WMDs.

## France

As a nuclear-armed nation and a signatory to the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), France advocates for responsible nuclear conduct and has been a vocal supporter of various disarmament initiatives. However, its stance is often viewed as hypocritical, given that France maintains its robust nuclear arsenal.

France falls under the umbrella of the West, aligned with the United States and the United Kingdom, among others. This bloc generally pushes for international controls and regulations on WMDs, particularly when aimed at countries perceived as rogue states. Nevertheless, France's own nuclear capabilities and its reluctance to disarm create a noticeable double standard.

The country's argument for the necessity of nuclear deterrence in maintaining its national security stands in contrast to the collective message of the Western bloc, which often pressures other nations to limit their WMD programs.



# BLOC POSITIONS

## China

China maintains a controversial stance surrounding biological weapons, following accusations regarding the origin and intent of the COVID-19 virus that stemmed from Wuhan. The censorship of Chinese media and restricted access to the country during the pandemic only furthered suspicions. However, these are mere allegations made by member nations and political figureheads.

On the other hand, as a recognised nuclear power under the NPT, China maintains a policy of minimal deterrence, aiming to keep its capabilities at the lowest level necessary for national security. However, the veil of secrecy surrounding China's military programs, including its WMD capabilities, creates an atmosphere of uncertainty and mistrust.

This lack of transparency stands in sharp contrast to the more open postures of Western democracies and adds a layer of complexity to global non-proliferation efforts.

China's influence extends beyond its borders, often providing diplomatic cover and economic support to countries like North Korea, which has its own controversial WMD program.

This makes China a pivotal part of the East-Asian bloc alongside Russia and North Korea, often in opposition to Western powers led by the United States. China's policy of strategic ambiguity, its regional influence and its UN Security Council seat collectively make it a key player in the international conversation around WMDs.

# BLOC POSITIONS

## **Russia**

Russia is historically familiar with Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs), including nuclear, chemical and biological weapons. A permanent member of the United Nations Security Council and a signatory to the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), Russia holds considerable sway over international discussions on WMDs. Russia holds the highest number of stockpiled nuclear weapons and remains the global leader in terms of the number of nuclear warheads in its possession post the Cold War. In recent years, Russia has been modernising and upgrading its nuclear arsenal and testing new forms of weaponry, like the "Poseidon" nuclear-powered torpedo — a move that has heightened concerns among Western countries. This comes amid a backdrop of increasing geopolitical tensions, particularly with the United States and its infiltration of Ukraine only adds to concerns. Russia has also been accused of using chemical weapons, most notably in the poisoning of former Russian spy Sergei Skripal on British soil, which further complicates its stance on non-proliferation and disarmament.

The country often aligns with China and, to some extent, North Korea, forming a bloc that counters Western ideology and representation. This bloc is generally seen as more tolerant toward the development of WMDs, especially for purposes of deterrence. Russia's current actions and policies are a source of significant tension and its role is crucial in the negotiation and success of any international conventions aimed at controlling WMDs. Its modernisation efforts, evidenced by recent tests of hypersonic missiles and low-yield nuclear weapons, contribute to heightened global tensions. Russia's involvement in Ukraine raises concerns about the potential use of WMDs in conflict zones. Adding to this complexity is Russia's assertion that it retains the right to use WMDs in self-defence — a stance that further complicates international disarmament efforts and raises the stakes in an already volatile security landscape. This includes operational warheads for delivery via Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs), submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs) and strategic bombers, as well as those in reserves or awaiting dismantlement.

# BLOC POSITIONS

## Ukraine

Given the rampage at the hands of the Russian Federation, the question surrounding the fate of Ukraine and its ability to retain defence measures remains the question of the hour. Its involvement and course of action may help provide crucial remedial measures.

Ukraine is a non-nuclear weapon state and a signatory to the NPT. While historically the country had the third-largest stockpile and active warheads of nuclear armaments, after the United States and Russia, this was after its independence from the Soviet Union in 1991.

However, a historic decision caused the country to renounce its nuclear arsenal, showcasing its dedication toward the non-proliferation of these weapons.

Due to the rising tensions and strained climate between the country and the Russian Federation, which owns nuclear weaponry, the discussion becomes even more pressing.

The imminent fear is that with continued Russian aggression, Ukraine may resort to proliferating or developing its arsenal to combat Russia's strikes.

## Palestine

While not possessing nuclear, biological, or chemical weapons, Palestine has long been a focus of international attention due to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Israel, its neighbour, is widely believed to possess nuclear weapons, although it maintains a policy of "nuclear ambiguity."

The issue of WMDs is relevant to Palestine not only due to its proximity to a likely nuclear state but also due to instances of chemical and conventional military weapons being utilised in combat in the ongoing conflict, occasionally by non-state actors or rebel groups.

Rocket attacks from Palestinian territories often provoke discussions about the proliferation of low-grade weaponry and its categorisation under the broader umbrella of WMDs.

In terms of bloc alignment, Palestine often finds support among countries that are critical of Israel's policies, such as Iran and other nations sympathetic to the Palestinian cause. It faces trouble due to Israel's strong alliance with global superpowers like the United States. However, its lack of full statehood status complicates its role in international conventions related to WMDs.

# BLOC POSITIONS

## **South Sudan**

Given the country's dynamic history of activities such as the smuggling of small arms and other weaponry as supplies within the conflict zones, South Sudan may seek the backing of countries like China and Russia, who have often opposed Western interventionism. Both China and Russia might perceive a strategic advantage in having an ally in the resource-rich African region, as well as represent the facades of instability in correlation to the proliferation of WMDs and act as a representation of an African state on the agenda. Noting its proximity to countries of concern in this area, South Sudan could play either a positive or a detrimental role in the control of WMDs, not as a current holder of nuclear weaponry or biological weaponry but as a potential hotspot for proliferation by third-party organisations or nations. Given its detrimental state and relatively new progression, this might also spark a notable swing-state topic about funding for Western nuclear programs over aid, etc., by other nations during crises if not protected by the umbrella of the West.

## **South Korea**

South Korea plays a significant but nuanced role in the global conversation about Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs), particularly given its proximity to North Korea, a known nuclear power with an unstable and hostile regime-based leadership.

While South Korea is not a nuclear-armed state, it hosts a US military presence, including the controversial THAAD (Terminal High Altitude Area Defence) system, which forms part of a layered defence against North Korean missile threats.

South Korea is a signatory to the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and it has a robust civilian nuclear program. The country has long grappled with the tension of needing to protect itself against potential aggression from the North while upholding its commitments to international agreements and norms against proliferation. In terms of bloc alignment, South Korea stands with Western democracies, particularly the United States, though it also seeks to maintain diplomatic relations with China and Russia due to their influence on North Korea. This delicate balancing act has become more complicated with the recent advances in North Korea's nuclear and missile programs and the increasing tensions between the US and China.

# CURRENT SCENARIO

The discussion surrounding Weapons of Mass Destruction has been paramount for centuries. However, recent developments and advancements in technology and research, coupled with growing hostilities in global politics, make such discussions even more pressing. The United Nations maintains a steadfast goal of deterring the occurrence of a Third World War, which must be backed by global cooperation.

While countries like the DPRK remain undeterred in their pursuit of global power with their nuclear arsenal, other countries like Russia and Israel pose a significant threat to their militarily weaker counterparts, Ukraine and Palestine, respectively. India and Pakistan's long-standing historic feud further adds fuel to the fire, stressing the importance of abstaining from the use of WMDs and other forms of irreversible damage.

With evolutions in science and chemistry, we understand that the weapons of today are much stronger than those of decades past. While the United Nations encourages global diplomacy and the IAEA advocates semi-regular meetings and summits, the situation lies in the hands of the countries involved.

The United Nations plays a critical role in mediating the threat on the other end, initiating summits, discussions and advocating for transparency regarding the possession of nuclear weapons.

While some countries like France and the UK have stated no interest in expanding their nuclear ambitions, other countries continue to test and develop new forms of carriers, rockets and missiles for the likelihood of conflict.



# PAST ACTION TAKEN BY THE UNITED NATIONS

The United Nations has consistently led global efforts to address Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs) and nuclear proliferation due to their serious implications for international security. A key achievement in this regard is the establishment of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in 1957, an autonomous body tasked with promoting the peaceful use of nuclear energy while preventing its use for weapons development. The IAEA enforces compliance through strict inspections and safeguards at nuclear facilities worldwide. The 1968 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), a cornerstone of the UN's disarmament agenda, aims to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons while encouraging disarmament and peaceful nuclear cooperation, with periodic review conferences to evaluate progress. The UN Security Council has also played a vital role through resolutions like Resolution 1540 (2004), which requires states to prevent the spread of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and their delivery systems. Sanctions have been used as a tool to enforce non-proliferation norms, notably against countries like North Korea and Iran. Additionally, the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) of 1996, though not yet in force, reflects the UN's commitment to eliminating nuclear testing. The UN has responded actively to chemical weapons use, such as in Syria, by overseeing the dismantling of declared chemical arsenals in 2013–2014. Ongoing concerns, such as North Korea's nuclear program and the 2015 Iran Nuclear Deal (JCPOA), highlight the UN's role in diplomatic efforts and international cooperation to manage WMD threats. Overall, through its specialised agencies, Security Council actions and diplomatic frameworks, the UN remains a central force in preventing WMD proliferation, advancing disarmament and promoting global peace and security, despite ongoing complexities and challenges.

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# FURTHER STUDY MATERIAL

- 1.UN - NPT
- 2.NPT, 1968
- 3.THE IAEA AND NPT
- 4.TPNW
- 5.TPNW NTI
- 6.DISEC introduction and mandate
- 7.First Committee
- 8.Russia nuclear update
- 9.India on TPNW
- 10.Cold War arms race

# RESOLUTION GUIDELINES

## Format:

1. Use 12-point Times New Roman and 1.0 spacing throughout.
2. Do not exceed four pages in length, for the committee's convenience.
3. The heading at the top of the resolution must include three main components, in the following order: COMMITTEE; QUESTION OF; MAIN AUTHOR + 2 CO AUTHORS.
4. After the title of the resolution, a single line spacing is placed, followed by the full name of the committee written in capital letters with a comma at the end.
5. Acronyms and abbreviations are spelt out the first time they are mentioned, in the following manner: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).
6. Use formal, 3rd person, diplomatic language at all times.

## Preambulatory Clauses:

1. The introductory word/phrase of each perambulatory clause is italicised.
2. Only a selected set of phrases can be used as introductory words/phrases.
3. The first letter of the introductory word/phrase is capitalised.
4. No introductory word/phrase can be repeated in a resolution.
5. Commas separate the preambulatory clauses from each other.

# RESOLUTION GUIDELINES

## Operative Clauses:

1. Each operative clause is numbered: 1, 2, 3, 4, .....
2. All operative clauses and subclauses are indented.
3. The introductory word/phrase of each operative clause is underlined.
4. The first letter of the introductory word/phrase is capitalised.
5. Only a selected set of phrases can be used as introductory words/phrases.
6. The following starters are only applicable to UNSC: 'condemns', 'demands'.  
This is because DISEC is a suggestive body and cannot take action.
7. No introductory word/phrase can be repeated in a resolution (but may be re-used with the addition of "strongly" or "further" as in: "Further requests...).
8. Semicolons separate operative clauses from each other.
9. Subclauses are lettered: a, b, c, d, .....
10. Subclauses are numbered with Roman numerals: i, ii, iii, iv, .....
11. Subclauses and sub-subclauses are indented by using tabs, NOT by using individual spaces (subclauses are tabbed once and sub-subclauses are tabbed twice).
12. First letters of subclauses and sub-subclauses are not capitalised.
13. Single subclauses are not allowed.
14. A period is used at the end of the final word of the operative clause.

# RESOLUTION GUIDELINES

## WRITING A RESOLUTION FIRST WORDS OF CLAUSES

Preambulatory Clauses		Operative Clauses	
Affirming Alarmed by Approving Aware Bearing in mind Concerned Confident Congratulating Considering Convinced Desiring Encouraged by Expressing Gravely concerned Having examined Judging	Noting (with regret/ satisfaction) Observing Persuaded Reaffirming Realising Recalling Recognising Regretting Taking account of Taking into account Troubled Underlining Wishing Welcoming	Accepts Appeals Appreciates Approves Authorises Calls Commits Condemns* Decides* Declares Demands* Deplores Encourages Entreats Exhorts	Hopes Insists* Invites Praises Presses Proclaims Proposes Reaffirms Recommends Regrets Seeks Stands ready Supports Transmits Welcomes

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# ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES

## For grammar aficionados:

- The resolution is one very long sentence. It begins with the committee (the subject of the sentence), e.g. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
- After the subject, come the perambulatory clauses. These are participles (or adjectival).

Phrases modifying the subject, modifying by describing the committee's intent, motivation and frame of mind in writing the resolution.

- The operative clauses make the sentence predicate (i.e. describe the action of the resolution); thus, operative clause starters should be present-tense verbs in the third person singular.
- The last operative clause should be completed with a period to mark the end of the very long sentence.

## General points to note:

- A GSL speech lasts 90 seconds, it may address any aspect of the agenda
- The delegate may even use their GSL as an extended way to respond to comments made before the committee
- Delegates are to speak in 3rd person by addressing their country as the core voice; The delegate of the United States of America believes...
- One does not use personal pronouns in committee for the simple reason that you are not a representative of your views and personal biases, but the views of the government that represents your country
- Foul language is not permitted in committee and will lead to suspension (debarment)

*The Executive Board of DISEC is always available to provide any assistance you may require and looks forward to supporting you whenever needed. The committee wishes all the delegates the very best for an enriching experience!*

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# DRAFT RESOLUTION:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1foLocrwtr2LhVwQzF\\_1ieBsS5h0aobGt/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1foLocrwtr2LhVwQzF_1ieBsS5h0aobGt/view?usp=sharing)

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