

Forum:	General Assembly 1
Issue:	Disarming and sanctioning countries no longer complying with nuclear deals
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Introduction

Amidst rising international tensions between countries, there is no doubt that the use or possession of nuclear arms played a role in it, especially with the tension between Iran and the rest of the world. Majority of nations around the globe possess weapons not to instigate warfare, but to defend against attacks from other countries. However, there have been cases where nuclear weapons were used as an attempt to start warfare. To stop this from happening, countries all around the world come together to talk about methods to establish complete disarmament of nuclear weapons and impose sanctions on those who have violated the agreed upon treaty.

Definition of Key Terms

Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)

More commonly known as Non-Proliferation Treaty or NPT, NPT is a treaty with main objectives to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons, and weapons technology, and promote peaceful use of nuclear energy – non-weaponry use. United Nations member-states that have not signed the treaties are India, Israel, North Korea, Pakistan, and South Sudan. Countries that possessed nuclear weapons prior to the signing of NPT are considered as “Nuclear Weapons States” and are the current P5 countries of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC).

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

The IAEA is an international organization that inhibits the use of nuclear weapons, but instead promotes its peaceful cooperation between countries to establish and advance the use of nuclear energy.

Sanctions

Sanctions are political and economic choices that are imposed by countries or international organizations as a diplomatic effort to target a state, group, or an individual.

Nuclear proliferation

Nuclear Proliferation is defined as the spread of nuclear weapons and technology to nations that are not a recognized Nuclear Weapons States by the NPT.

Nuclear disarmament

Nuclear Disarmament is the act of reducing or eliminating the possession of nuclear weapons. The term, denuclearization, is also used to describe the process of total nuclear disarmament.

Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)

JCPOA, most commonly known as the Iran nuclear deal, is an agreement reached by the P5 nations of the UNSC, Germany, and the European Union (EU) regarding the Iranian nuclear program on July 14th, 2015. Although the United States is one of the P5 nations, they withdrew from the JCPOA on May 8th, 2018.

Background Information

Nuclear Deals

Nuclear deals are agreements created between a country and another country or an organization. There are various reasons as to why a country or an organization might strike a nuclear deal on another country. One main reason is for the safety and the welfare of neighboring nations. As widely known, if nuclear energy is used in an adverse manner, millions of civilians will be in risk of grave danger. However, if nuclear energy is used in a constructive

manner, a country's energy spending could drop drastically and it would also contribute to the green energy campaign.

Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)

NPT is one of the most widely known treaties regarding the regulation of nuclear weapons. The NPT dictates that countries that held nuclear weapons prior to the treaty signing date, July 1st, 1968, will be the only recognized Nuclear Weapons State (NWS) henceforth. There are a total of three pillars that forms the foundation: non-proliferation, disarmament, and the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

First Pillar (Non-Proliferation)

The first article of the NPT states "nuclear-weapon states pledge not to transfer nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices to any recipient or in any way assist, encourage or induce any non-nuclear-weapon state (NNWS) in the manufacture or acquisition of nuclear weapons." This bars NWS nations to not transfer ownership of nuclear weapons to NNWS or aid in any way for them to develop nuclear weapons.

Second Pillar (Disarmament)

Article VI dictates, "all Parties undertake to pursue good-faith negotiations on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race, to nuclear disarmament, and to general and complete disarmament." This particular article is worded vaguely as to imposing total disarmament of nuclear weapons. A side note presented by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) states that although this article includes all members of the NPT, it does not present itself with a specific time frame of total disarmament.

Third Pillar (Peaceful Use of Nuclear Energy)

NPT Article IV acknowledges that sharing and developing knowledge regarding peaceful or non-combatant use of nuclear energy with the goal of benefitting the greater community with conformity with their nonproliferation obligations.

Key Issues

Sanctioning

Sanctioning is defined as “the act of penalizing an organization or a country for disobeying a law of a rule.” Sanctioning a country for violating a treaty is not an uncommon action. Sanctions can come in many forms: diplomatic sanctions, economic sanctions, military sanctions, and sport sanctions.

Diplomatic Sanctions

Diplomatic sanctions include any form of interruptions of diplomatic relationships with the targeted country, or the withdrawal of diplomatic representatives, or diplomats.

Economic Sanctions

Economic sanctions take form in ways such as implementing a trade embargo on the targeted country, increasing import tariffs with aims to decrease purchasing of the targeted country's products.

Military Sanctions

Military sanctions range from targeted military strikes to decreasing the weapons trade between the two countries to cut off their weapons supply.

Disarmament

As mentioned above, disarmament is defined as decreasing the use and possession of weapons. Disarmament for countries that breach nuclear deals have always been a challenge in terms of economical and legal factors.

Economic Factors

Disarming a nuclear weapon used by submarines costs approximately 2 million US dollars each while 400 nuclear missiles such as B61 costs almost 10 billion US dollars. According to the international law, it is the targeted country of the nuclear disarmament to be responsible for the overall cost of nuclear disarmament. However, although there are countries that are well off enough to cover the cost on their own, some countries are not as well off to pay the large sum to secure the nuclear weapon.

Legal Factors

Although treaties are formed agreements between parties, it does not hold legal authority in the international courts. Therefore, implementing sanctions against the targeted country in hopes that they would start disarmament of nuclear weapons is the one of the only few ways to lead a country to full disarmament.

Major Parties Involved and their Views

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

As an organization whose main goal is to promote peaceful use of nuclear energy, they support the stance of disarmament of nuclear weapons to the countries who's nuclear deal was breached. Although the IAEA is a non-combatant organization that does not deal with nuclear weaponry regulation, they did provide an opinion regarding this issue.

Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)

As one of the deals that has been receiving a lot of criticisms on the media, the JCPOA is the nuclear deal that was agreed upon the P5 nations of the UNSC and the European Union with Iran.

Timeline of Relevant Resolutions, Treaties, and Events

Date	Description of Event
01/24/46	UN calls for elimination of atomic weapons – in its first resolution, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) called for the complete disarmament of nuclear weapons after witnessing the lethal dropping of nuclear bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945.
02/17/58	UK disarmament campaign formed – the Campaign For Nuclear Disarmament in the UK held their first ever meeting.
07/01/68	NPT signed – countries agreed that non-nuclear-weapon states agree never to acquire nuclear weapons.
07/08/96	World Court is says nuclear weapons illegal – the International Court of Justice (ICJ) provided an advisory opinion that stated that the use of nuclear weapons should be illegal.

Evaluation of Previous Attempts to Resolve the Issue

One of the most prominent and infamous nuclear deal was between the P5 countries of the UNSC and the European Union against the Iranian nuclear programs. This treaty, as mentioned multiple times throughout the report, is more commonly referred to as the JCPOA. When it came to light that the Iranian breached the treaty, various parties implemented sanctions to stop the Iranian from further breaching the treaty. Some of the sanctions included is the banking sanction that restricts listed Iranian nationals from engaging in monetary transactions with American citizens.

Possible Solutions

As mentioned above, coming to a consensus on appropriate sanctions and proper measures of disarmament is crucial. However, what is more important is creating a nuclear deal that would be deemed favorable to both parties. Delegates are advised to think about ways to think of ways to make nuclear deals favorable to both parties to hinder the possibility for the targeted country to breach the agreement. Furthermore, delegates should also consider the possibility that the sanctions imposed might be illegal or might bring considerable damage to the targeted country's civilians to the extent of infringement of basic human rights. Additionally, delegates should also consider, in their resolutions, creating a specialized committee within the UN that only specializes in the eco-friendliest way of disposing of

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disarmed nuclear weapons and generating funds for the process. I wish all delegates good luck, and I cannot wait to meet you all at Hangzhou!

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