



# **Topic A: Nuclear Proliferation and Treaty Enforcement amid Stalled U.S.-Russia Dialogue**

Security Council



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## I. INTRODUCTION

**Dear delegates of the Security Council (SC),**

During this debate, you will discuss the current topic: **Nuclear Proliferation and Treaty Enforcement amid Stalled U.S.-Russia Dialogue.**

Nuclear weapons continue to be the most destructive weapons ever developed, with long lasting global consequences. Although they have only been used twice in history, current geopolitical tensions reflect the urgency of ensuring strict control over nuclear arsenals. The lack of diplomatic communication between the United States and Russia, who possess the majority of the world's nuclear weapons, has weakened trust in arms control efforts. This situation threatens the stability of existing treaties and raises the possibility of renewed proliferation. Therefore, cooperation and treaty enforcement have become critical to maintaining international peace and security. The Security Council is deeply concerned about this topic and expects strong, well researched solutions during this debate. The main objective is to analyze the current challenges and work toward mechanisms that reinforce global nuclear security.

Welcome to the Olinca Model United Nations (OLINMUN) 2026.

Yours sincerely,

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Head of Committee of SC

**Karla Valeria Pi  a Ruiz**

Chair of SC

**Ra  l Ju  rez Nieto**

Moderator of SC

**Enrique Sandoval Lugo**

Deputy Chair of SC

**NOTE: We highly recommend you thoroughly read the following document and the Delegate Handbook. We expect they will provide an overview of the topics discussed and allow you to acquire crucial information about the rules of procedure.**

## II. OVERVIEW

### A. COMMITTEE'S BACKGROUND

The Security Council is one of the main organs of the United Nations. It is responsible for peacekeeping, publishing international sanctions and authorizing military interventions all around the globe. With World War II, the League of Nations ended up in failure. To address this issue, the United Nations was created and with it, the Security Council too.



The Security Council has 15 Members, five that are permanent: France, the Russian Federation, the United States of America, the United Kingdom, and China. These five members have veto power, which allows them to override a resolution, provided by Article 27 of the UN Charter. Even if a resolution has a minimum of nine votes, if a country with veto power votes against it, the resolution does not pass. The ten remaining members are non-permanent, as the General Assembly elects them for a term of two years.

The Security Council determines the existence of an act of aggression or threat to peace. It also calls upon the parties to a dispute to solve and settle this act of aggression by peaceful means. It recommends terms of settlement or methods of adjustment. In some cases, the Security Council can resort to imposing actions or authorizing the use of force to restore or maintain international peace and security.

The functions and powers of the Security Council are under the United Nations Charter, and these are:

- To maintain international peace and security in accordance with the principles and purpose of the United Nations.
- To investigate any dispute or situation which might lead to international conflict.
- To recommend methods of adjusting such disputes or the terms of settlement.
- To determine the existence of a threat to peace or act of aggression and to recommend what action should be taken.
- To call on Members to apply economic sanctions and other measures not involving the use of force to prevent or stop aggression.
- To take military action against an aggressor.
- To recommend the admission of new Members.
- To recommend to the General Assembly the appointment of the Secretary General and, together with the Assembly, to elect the Judges of the International Court of Justice.



The Security Council has authorized fifty-nine peacekeeping operations responding to failing states, civil armed conflicts, or complex humanitarian emergencies and deploying to conflict zones in the absence of cease-fires or party's consent.

## B. COMMITTEE'S ACHIEVEMENTS

Throughout history, the Security Council has reached more than 2,500 resolutions with the objective of preserving peace in the world by avoiding major conflicts or stopping smaller ones from spreading. Unlike other UN organs, the Security Council is allowed to sanction different countries when they commit a dishonest act. The Council has also given

authorization to more than 70 missions to maintain peace in the most dangerous regions of the world. These missions have been one of the most important achievements of the Council since most of them have been successful and have avoided great tensions that could have triggered even larger conflicts.

It should be noted that although the committee has an important number of achievements related to world peace, it also has its own limitations since each country is free to accept a resolution from this organ or not. Being a committee with few members also represents a limitation since certain countries may not feel represented.

### III. NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION AND TREATY ENFORCEMENT AMID STALLED U.S.-RUSSIA DIALOGUE



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The international community is currently facing a period of increasing uncertainty regarding nuclear weapons and arms control. While the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) remains the cornerstone of the global nuclear order, its effectiveness has been increasingly challenged. Rising geopolitical tensions, rapid technological advancements, and weakened cooperation among major powers have made enforcement more complex and less reliable, resulting in the risk of nuclear proliferation and escalation growing significantly.

One of the most critical factors contributing to this instability is the deterioration of dialogue between the United States and the Russian Federation. Historically, cooperation between these two powers has been essential for maintaining strategic stability, as together they possess the majority of the world's nuclear warheads. Even during periods of rivalry, both

powers safeguarded communication and negotiated arm control agreements to reduce risks. However, in recent years, this cooperation has been stagnant.

The breakdown in dialogue has contributed to the gradual erosion of the arms control framework. Treaties such as the New START limited deployed nuclear warheads and delivery systems while providing verification mechanisms. As these agreements face challenges such as suspension or uncertainty, fewer legal constraints remain to inhibit the expansion or modernization of nuclear arsenals. This environment encourages competition rather than cooperation and raises concerns about a renewed arms race.

Simultaneously, both nuclear-weapon and non-nuclear-weapon states are investing great amounts of resources in advanced military technologies. Several countries are modernizing ballistic missile systems, developing hypersonic weapons, and expanding research into nuclear-capable delivery platforms. While often justified as defensive measures, such developments increase the rate and complexity of military decision-making. Shorter reaction times during crises raise the likelihood of accidental or unintended escalation.

Non-nuclear states are also reassessing their security strategies in response to regional and global instability. In areas of prolonged conflict, some governments perceive nuclear weapons as a guarantee of survival. This perception challenges the main objective of the NPT, which seeks to prevent the rise of nuclear weapons while promoting the beneficial uses of nuclear and eventual disarmament.

The role of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has also been affected. The Agency is responsible for monitoring compliance with safeguards and ensuring that civilian-aimed nuclear programs are not used for military purposes. However, its effectiveness depends on cooperation from member states. Political pressure, limited

access, and funding challenges weaken its authority and restrict its ability to enforce compliance.

Another concern is the perception of inequality within the non-proliferation system. Some states argue that the NPT creates an unfair divide between nuclear-weapon and non-nuclear-weapon states. Although nuclear states are required to pursue disarmament, progress has slowed down. This perceived lack of commitment reduces confidence in the treaty and weakens compliance among states. Sanctions remain a primary tool for addressing violations of nuclear agreements, however, its effectiveness is still questioned. Whilst sanctions can pressure negotiation amongst states, they also create hostilities. In some cases sanctioned states respond by accelerating military development. Technologies such as cyber warfare and artificial intelligence further complicate nuclear stability. Cyberattacks targeting early-warning systems or communication networks could also trigger decision making processes. Without updated agreements addressing the risks, the potential for conflict escalation remains high.



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In conclusion, the stalled U.S.-Russia dialogue, weakened treaty enforcement, regional conflicts, and rapid technological change altogether have created a volatile nuclear environment globally. The weakened trust threatens the effectiveness of the NPT and related institutions. Addressing these challenges will require renewed diplomatic engagement, strengthened verification mechanisms, and clear commitment by major powers to uphold international agreements. Without such efforts, the risk of proliferation and instability will continue to grow, opposing a threat to international peace and security.

#### **IV. KEY POINTS FOR DEBATE**

1. Stalled U.S.-Russia diplomatic dialogue
  - a. Suspension of inspection

- b. Collapse of previous cooperation frameworks
- 2. Treaty enforcement and verification
  - a. Role of the IAEA
  - b. Challenges monitoring nuclear activities
- 3. Modernization of nuclear arsenals
  - a. Expansion of delivery systems
  - b. Increased risk of an arms race
- 4. Regional proliferation risks
  - a. Middle East tensions
  - b. East-Asian security concerns
- 5. Global security implications
  - a. Miscalculations caused by lack of communication
  - b. Cyber threats to nuclear systems
- 6. Role of the United Nations
  - a. Promoting compliance with existing treaties
  - b. Supporting dialogue among nuclear powers
- 7. International community involvement
  - a. Technical and diplomatic assistance
  - b. Encouraging transparency measures

## IV. ANNEXES

### A. LIST OF COUNTRIES

- 1. Australia
- 2. Bangladesh
- 3. Bhutan
- 4. Brazil
- 5. Canada
- 6. China
- 7. France

8. Germany
9. India
10. Indonesia
11. Japan
12. Myanmar
13. Nepal
14. Norway
15. Pakistan
16. Russian Federation
17. South Korea
18. Sri Lanka
19. Switzerland
20. Thailand
21. United Arab Emirates
22. United Kingdom
23. United States of America



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