



34th Annual

BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE

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Welcome to the 34th annual Brigham Young University Model United Nations Conference (BYUMUN). I am thrilled by your participation in the conference where you will grow a deeper understanding of our international communities, current issues being faced, and effective methods to create meaningful and lasting changes through resolutions.

My name is Estelle Robbins, and I am delighted to be director of the United Nations General Assembly (GA). I am currently a Junior at BYU majoring in International Relations and minoring in Mandarin Chinese. I have always loved being a part of Model United Nations in high school and at BYU. I served as the chair of the GA for BYUMUN30. I also prepared to represent China on the Economic and Financial Committee (Second Committee) of the GA in 2020. Having been a part of the GA in several conferences I have gained insight to the importance of the issues we discuss on all Member States and their citizens. As delegates you have the opportunity to research, prepare speeches, and develop policy to combat some of the major threats our global community is facing.

This year, the issues before the General Assembly are as follows:

- I. Addressing the Risk of AI to International Security
- II. Nuclear Nonproliferation for the Next Decade

The GA is the primary governing body of the United Nations (UN) and plays a critical role in achieving the mission of the UN. While this background guide only includes the basic information on these issues, it is meant to be used as a starting point for your research. As you conduct your research, prepare for the conference, and develop innovative solutions, please consider your member state's position on these issues and they will impact their future.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. I look forward to working with you on these pressing issues.

Respectfully,

Estelle Robbins
Director, General Assembly First Committee
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Committee Background

Introduction

The UN was founded in 1945 as a response to the devastating outcomes of World War II. In an attempt to create a more peaceful and secure international community, the UN was designed as a way for Member States to come together to discuss and create resolutions for the world's most challenging issues. The UN currently has 193 member states and is divided into six main bodies.¹

The GA is the main “deliberative, policymaking and representative organ of the UN.”² Unlike other UN bodies, the GA is represented by all Member States allowing a wide array of topics to be discussed and debated. Within the GA there are six main committee including: the Disarmament and International Security Committee (First Committee); the Economic and Financial Committee (Second Committee); the Social, Humanitarian and Cultural committee (Third Committee); the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee); the Administrative and Budgetary committee (Fifth Committee); and the Legal Committee (Sixth committee).³ For the purpose of this conference we will not be a specific committee within the GA, however the issues we will debate align most closely with the First Committee.

Mandate, Functions, and Powers

It is important to understand the mandate, functions, and powers of the GA in order to know how to properly address the issues on the agenda. Since the GA is the primary location for multilateral negotiations to occur, they make many recommendations to States on issues under their direction. In the GA each Member State has a single vote.⁴ Decisions are made by achieving a simple majority.⁵ However if there is a specific important issue, on topics such as peace and security, a two-thirds vote is necessary. The GA meets annually from September to December and can call special sessions as needed.

The GA plays a very critical role in the progress of the United Nations as a whole and works very closely with the Security Council and Secretary-General. However, it is important to note the GA does not have authority to enforce laws, but rather to suggest appropriate actions and recommendations. While these recommendations are not binding, Member States understand acting in accordance with them is in their best interest. Since any resolution passed in the GA is not binding and only seen as a suggestion, Member States must be very intentional when drafting working papers in order to magnify their powers and stay within the limits of their function.

¹ “United Nations Charter (1945).” National Archives and Records Administration, www.archives.gov/milestone-documents/united-nations-charter. Accessed 21 June 2023.

² “Main Bodies.” United Nations, www.un.org/en/about-us/main-bodies. Accessed 21 June 2023.

³ “United Nations, Main Body, Main Organs, General Assembly.” United Nations, www.un.org/en/ga/about/background.shtml. Accessed 21 June 2023.

⁴ “United Nations, Main Body, Main Organs, General Assembly.” United Nations, www.un.org/en/ga/about/background.shtml. Accessed 21 June 2023.

⁵ “United Nations, Main Body, Main Organs, General Assembly.” United Nations, www.un.org/en/ga/about/background.shtml. Accessed 21 June 2023.

Recent Sessions and Current Priorities

In the past year, as conflict in the world has drastically increased, the UN has felt a call to “upgrade” themselves and the GA.⁶ This strong desire to use the multilateral institution of the UN in finding resolutions to these difficult challenges rests greatly on the GA. In his briefing for the GA on Priorities for 2023, Secretary-General António Guterres mentioned climate destruction, the Russian invasion of Ukraine, greater peace between Palestine and Israel, women’s rights in Afghanistan, risk of nuclear war, and cyberattacks as the most pressing issues today.^{7 8} In this conference, we are aligning our priorities with Secretary-General Antonio Guterres by creating innovation resolutions for topic 1 and 2.

Conclusion

The GA places a critical role in the UN and generates more peace for our international community. Because each Member State is represented and has a vote, the GA creates the ideal platform for discussion on these pressing issues regarding artificial intelligence and nuclear nonproliferation.

⁶ “United Nations, Main Body, Main Organs, General Assembly.” United Nations, www.un.org/en/ga/revitalization/index.shtml. Accessed 21 June 2023.

⁷ “Secretary-General’s Briefing to the General Assembly on Priorities for 2023 Secretary-General.” United Nations, www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/speeches/2023-02-06/secretary-generals-briefing-the-general-assembly-priorities-for-2023. Accessed 21 June 2023.

⁸ Hub, IISD’s SDG Knowledge. “UN Secretary-General Outlines Priorities for the UN for 2023: News: SDG Knowledge Hub: IISD.” SDG Knowledge Hub, sdg.iisd.org/news/un-secretary-general-outlines-priorities-for-the-un-for-2023. Accessed 21 June 2023.

Annotated Bibliography

Hub, IISD's SDG Knowledge. "UN Secretary-General Outlines Priorities for the UN for 2023: News: SDG Knowledge Hub: IISD." SDG Knowledge Hub, sdg.iisd.org/news/un-secretary-general-outlines-priorities-for-the-un-for-2023. Accessed 21 June 2023.

This article talks about the press release given by Secretary-General Antonio Guterres where he outlines his priorities for 2023. There are many priorities he highlights here including cyber attacking, which is a major risk of AI on international security, and nuclear warfare, emphasizing the importance of addressing nuclear non-proliferation. Both of our topics for this conference are among his priorities.

"Main Bodies." United Nations, www.un.org/en/about-us/main-bodies. Accessed 21 June 2023.

From the United Nations website, this explains the main bodies of the UN, their structure, and functions. Since this comes from the UN's primary website, it is a very helpful, clear, and reliable source. It gives a great overview of the GA and its role with the UN.

"Secretary-General's Briefing to the General Assembly on Priorities for 2023 Secretary-General." United Nations, www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/speeches/2023-02-06/secretary-generals-briefing-the-general-assembly-priorities-for-2023. Accessed 21 June 2023.

This article gives additional information about Secretary-General Antonio Guterres' priorities for 2023. Coming from the same press release mentioned in another cited resource, this source has his speech completely written out, rather than a summary. Hearing Secretary-General Antonio Guterres' words firsthand puts his priorities into a different perspective that the summary doesn't.

"United Nations Charter (1945)." National Archives and Records Administration, www.archives.gov/milestone-documents/united-nations-charter. Accessed 21 June 2023.

This is an important resource because it is the official charter of the UN. Sourced from the National Archives, this is a primary source document. Being the foundational document of the UN, all powers, functions, and mandates can be found in it for the GA and any other UN committee.

"United Nations, Main Body, Main Organs, General Assembly." United Nations, www.un.org/en/ga/about/background.shtml. Accessed 21 June 2023.

This resource defines the specific functions of the GA. It goes over the structure, functions, powers, decision making process, and other specific aspects of the committees. This source comes directly from the UN's official website and summarizes information about the GA from the charter.

"United Nations, Main Body, Main Organs, General Assembly." United Nations, www.un.org/en/ga/revitalization/index.shtml. Accessed 21 June 2023.

This article explains efforts of the GA to be more effective and have a greater impact. Benign another resource directly from the UN's official website it is a trusted and well-articulated article. They explain how things can be enhanced today based on its start in 1949.

I. Addressing the Risk of AI to International Security

“If we are to harness the benefits of artificial intelligence and address the risks, we must all work together - governments, industry, academia and civil society - to develop the frameworks and systems that enable responsible innovation. [...] We must seize the moment, in partnership, to deliver on the promise of technological advances and harness them for the common good.”

- UN Secretary-General António Guterres, *AI for Good Global Summit, Geneva, 2019*

Introduction

Artificial intelligence (AI) began in the mid-20th century, but it wasn't until an academic conference held at Dartmouth College in the United States that AI was formally founded and the term coined.⁹ Simply defined “artificial intelligence is a machine’s ability to perform the cognitive functions we usually associate with human minds.”¹⁰ AI as we know it today, has developed greatly since its formalization and now plays a more significant part globally than ever before. There are several forms of AI including generative AI where new content is created, however for the sake of this conference we will be discussing AI broadly.

Since its start, AI continues to spread globally influencing many. For example “97% of mobile users are using AI-powered voice assistants”¹¹ and it is predicted that AI will grow annually by 37.3% in the next 7 years.¹² Another major catalyst of AI occurred when ChatGPT was launched and “gained one million users just 5 days after its launching in November” of 2022.¹³ These are examples of how AI has impacted many personal lives however this is not where its impact ends. AI influences several aspects of international security through “cybersecurity, information security, economic and financial tools of statecraft, defense, intelligence, homeland security, diplomacy and development.”¹⁴

With this exponential growth of AI and broad spectrum of influence, conversations are starting globally on how to control this tool. It is critical that Member States come together to address these risks in order to mitigate future problems and concerns that may arise.

⁹ Lewis, Tanya. “A Brief History of Artificial Intelligence.” LiveScience, 4 Dec. 2014, www.livescience.com/49007-history-of-artificial-intelligence.html.

¹⁰ “What Is Ai?” McKinsey & Company, 24 Apr. 2023, www.mckinsey.com/featured-insights/mckinsey-explainers/what-is-ai.

¹¹ Watters, Ashley. “30+ Artificial Intelligence Statistics and Facts for 2023.” Default, 13 Jan. 2023, connect.comptia.org/blog/artificial-intelligence-statistics-facts.

¹² Haan, Kathy. “24 Top AI Statistics and Trends in 2023.” Forbes, 15 June 2023, www.forbes.com/advisor/business/ai-statistics/.

¹³ Buchholz, Katharina, and Felix Richter. “Infographic: Chatgpt Sprints to One Million Users.” Statista Infographics, 24 Jan. 2023, www.statista.com/chart/29174/time-to-one-million-users/.

¹⁴ Horowitz, Michael, et al. “Artificial Intelligence and International Security.” Center for a New American Security (En-US), www.cnas.org/publications/reports/artificial-intelligence-and-international-security. Accessed 21 June 2023.

Risks of AI on International Security

International security refers to mutual safety between Member States in several areas including their military, diplomatic relations, technology, economics, and social concerns. The greatest threats to international security have drastically changed over the years especially with the increase of technology. For the purpose of this topic during our conference, we will focus on international security as it relates to AI. However, nearly all aspects of international security have implemented AI into it. Since AI has fingerprints on all parts of international security it is important to address now.

While AI is very effective in many of its efforts to complete tasks only humans once could do, it is not always completely reliable. This is why a primary concern of AI is trusting the systems to perform necessary tasks accurately. Situations where AI doesn't complete tasks accurately or where AI produces misinformation are caused by several different elements including failure in the algorithm itself and situations where the algorithm is poisoned internally or externally. Other points of vulnerability of AI which would lead to inaccurate results and misinformation includes, "adversarial attacks,... reward hack, and other types of failures."¹⁵ With a rise in the use of AI many Member States can anticipate adversarial attacks to become increasingly more common. Anyone who interacts with AI is susceptible to these type issues arising which ultimately compromises the AI systems and functions.

Attacks on governments and security globally is not a new or upcoming phenomenon, rather it is unfortunately a regular occurrence in history. One of the largest data breaches in the world occurred in 2018 by Aadhaar. The World Economic Forum's Global Risks Report 2019 stated, "The largest (data breach) was in India, where the government ID database, Aadhaar, reportedly suffered multiple breaches that potentially compromised the records of all 1.1 billion registered citizens."¹⁶ This breach negatively impacted many individuals and India's government creating major security risks. While many breaches happen internally the possibility of an external breach to an adversarial Member State is probable. At the time of the Aadhaar breach however, AI had not been developed to the degree it is today. AI has many capacities and capabilities beyond what could be done in 2018 meaning Member States' security is at a greater risk.

"The main privacy concerns surrounding AI is the potential for data breaches and unauthorized access to personal information."¹⁷ This was the situation for Aadhaar in 2018 and it continues today at an even greater rate. According to Statista, "During the first quarter of 2023, more than six million data records were exposed worldwide through data breaches [and] the highest number of exposed data records was detected in the fourth quarter of 2020, nearly 125 million data

¹⁵ Horowitz, Michael C, et al. "Policy Roundtable: Artificial Intelligence and International Security." Texas National Security Review, 24 Aug. 2022, tnsr.org/roundtable/policy-roundtable-artificial-intelligence-and-international-security/.

¹⁶ Sapkale, Yogesh. "Aadhaar Data Breach Largest in the World, Says WEF's Global Risk Report and Avast." *Moneylife NEWS & VIEWS*, 19 Feb. 2019, www.moneylife.in/article/aadhaar-data-breach-largest-in-the-world-says-wefs-global-risk-report-and-avast/56384.html.

¹⁷ "AI and Privacy: The Privacy Concerns Surrounding AI, Its Potential Impact on Personal Data." *The Economic Times*, 25 Apr. 2023, economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/how-to/ai-and-privacy-the-privacy-concerns-surrounding-ai-its-potential-impact-on-personal-data/articleshow/99738234.cms?from=mdr%5C.

sets.”¹⁸ This is evidence that data breaching isn’t going away and AI could make relations between Member States worse if no actions to regulate are taken. As the GA, each Member State must take into account how the power of AI could be used to threaten their governments security.

Since AI is utilized in many Member States’ governments, there are many spots of vulnerability. Major areas of vulnerability include, “privacy, security, fairness, transparency and explainability, safety and performance and third-party risks.”¹⁹ Each of these areas have substantial impacts to a Member State and their citizens. In June of 2023 it was reported that, “Several US federal government agencies have been hit in a global cyberattack by Russian cybercriminals that exploits a vulnerability in widely used software, according to a top US cybersecurity agency.”²⁰ It is reported that from this attack organizations, companies and health systems were impacted by the consequences and left many in sports of vulnerability.

Another informal consequence from these cyber-attacks is between the relations of the countries at play. The US and Russia currently have strained relationships and the use of AI to damage international security only adds tension. This also creates a threat for the UN because both the US and Russia are two of the five permanent members on the UN Security Council.

Hacking of governments is not a new concept to the global community as noted above. Since AI is growing and becoming more powerful, the risks associated with it are also increasing. This concern is the reason for creating guides and potential regulation on AI.

UN and Global efforts

AI regulations have only begun to be passed in the last few years. In 2021 the first-ever global agreement on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence was adopted in the UN by 193 countries (SHS/BIO/PI/2021/1).²¹ This recommendation attempted to define the basics of AI and ensure healthy development in the field.²² This recommendation was an important catalyst for further conversations on AI and regulations and in 2022 37 bills related to AI were passed globally.²³

¹⁸ Petrosyan, Ani. “Data Records Breached Worldwide 2023.” *Statista*, 27 June 2023, www.statista.com/statistics/1307426/number-of-data-breaches-worldwide/.

¹⁹ Osakwe, Dr. Fene. “Council Post: The Risks and Rewards of Artificial Intelligence in Cybersecurity.” *Forbes*, 23 May 2023, www.forbes.com/sites/forbestechcouncil/2023/05/22/the-risks-and-rewards-of-artificial-intelligence-in-cybersecurity/?sh=254909cd96db.

²⁰ Lyngaas, Sean. “Exclusive: US Government Agencies Hit in Global Cyberattack | CNN Politics.” *CNN*, 16 June 2023, www.cnn.com/2023/06/15/politics/us-government-hit-cybeattack/index.html.

²¹ “193 Countries Adopt First-Ever Global Agreement on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence | UN News.” *United Nations*, news.un.org/en/story/2021/11/1106612. Accessed 21 June 2023.

²² “193 Countries Adopt First-Ever Global Agreement on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence | UN News.” *United Nations*, news.un.org/en/story/2021/11/1106612. Accessed 21 June 2023.

²³ Cathy Li Head, and Cathy Li. “Global Push to Regulate AI, plus Other AI Stories This Month.” *World Economic Forum*, www.weforum.org/agenda/2023/05/top-story-plus-other-ai-stories-to-read-this-month/#:~:text=Stanford%20University's%202023%20AI%20Index,AI%2Drelated%20laws%20in%202022. Accessed 21 June 2023.

Additionally, there have been many discussions and summits on how to fully harness the use of AI to achieve the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).²⁴ “AI can enable the accomplishment of 134 targets across all the goals.”²⁵ With 169 targets across the 17 goals AI has incredible potential to advance the progress of all people across the world. Some of the goals that AI can specifically help target include SDG 4 by using AI to teach and tutor, have more personalized learning, greater assessment of an individual's progress, as well as increasing the overall accessibility to education for many.²⁶ Being so versatile, it is valuable to note that AI has many different functions and ways to create change. SDG 4 is just one example of many where AI can have a positive impact.

While there are many ways that AI can enable progress with the 2030 SDG there are several points of potential problems that the GA must be aware of. AI “may also inhibit 59 targets.”²⁷ Some of these targets are linked to SDG 4. As mentioned above, AI has a great deal of potential in helping everyone have quality education, but in the same way it could be very harmful due to some of its limitations. Limitations may include lack of accessibility, misuse and misinformation, or bias in the AI.²⁸ SDG 4 is just one example of the impact of AI on the greater mission and efforts of the UN.

While AI has a great deal of potential for positive change, there are also several limitations and challenges that impact international security, a critical part of the UN’s efforts and mission. International security can be closely linked with several of the SDGs including SDG 11 sustainable cities and communities and SDG 16 peace justice and strong institutions. Some of the ways AI would limit the progress of these SDGs is through “privacy violations, deepening the digital divide, social surveillance and automating discrimination.”²⁹ Privacy violations could occur on a Member State’s citizens but also could occur between Member States and their governing bodies. This violation of privacy could impact communities, peace, justice, and institutions.

Additionally, another risk of AI comes from algorithm bias. Due to the way AI is programmed, it can often imitate human biases. This fosters greater inequalities which deepens the digital divide. With a greater digital divide there is less equality in cities and communities, a major focus of all

²⁴ “About.” AI for Good, 25 May 2022, aiforgood.itu.int/about-ai-for-good/.

²⁵ Vinuesa, Ricardo, et al. “The Role of Artificial Intelligence in Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.” *Nature News*, 13 Jan. 2020, www.nature.com/articles/s41467-019-14108-y.

²⁶ Duque, Cristian T. “The Role of Artificial Intelligence in Achieving UN Sustainable Development Goals and SDG 4.” *eLearn Magazine*, 28 Apr. 2023, www.elearnmagazine.com/outcomes/ai-un-sdg-4-education/#:~:text=Going%20forward%2C%20while%20it's%20difficult,that%20would%20yield%20measurable%20progress.

²⁷ Vinuesa, Ricardo, et al. “The Role of Artificial Intelligence in Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.” *Nature News*, 13 Jan. 2020, www.nature.com/articles/s41467-019-14108-y.

²⁸ Duque, Cristian T. “The Role of Artificial Intelligence in Achieving UN Sustainable Development Goals and SDG 4.” *eLearn Magazine*, 28 Apr. 2023, www.elearnmagazine.com/outcomes/ai-un-sdg-4-education/#:~:text=Going%20forward%2C%20while%20it's%20difficult,that%20would%20yield%20measurable%20progress. Accessed 7 July 2023

²⁹ Abbey, Olivia. “The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.” *Artificial Intelligence, Bias, and the Sustainable Development Goals*, 2023, sdgs.un.org/sites/default/files/publications/21252030%20Agenda%20for%20Sustainable%20Development%20web.pdf.

the SDGs especially SDG 11 and 16. Social surveillance is another risk of AI on international security because it could pull personal data, private information from another Member State. (I could add another sentence here).

The UN is greatly concerned with developing appropriate regulations that enhance AI's positive potential while limiting its negative risks. If this balance can be properly harnessed through a resolution incredible progress will be made in advancing the SDGs.

Regional Efforts

At a regional level, the European Union (EU) on June 14, 2023, took even further steps by passing the first draft of laws to regulate AI. This draft attempts to propose necessary regulation to the potential risks of AI on individuals as well as governments.³⁰ While there is more to be done in this process before these laws have been established, these drafts are forging the way for future policy and regulations.

Discussions and drafts have also begun in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) which consists of 10 Member States. In February of 2023 they discussed a need to create a guide on AI for “the region of 668 million people”³¹ that they encompass. This document would be a significant advancement in global regulations and have influence on other major Member States including China, who is a critical partner with Malaysia.³² China is one of the leading countries in AI therefore making their connection with these Member States more critical than ever.

Similar to ASEAN and the EU, the African Union (AU) has also begun drafts on an AI guide for sustainable AI usage.³³ These drafts began at a workshop at the beginning of 2023. They expect adoption of this version in January of 2024.³⁴

Secretary-General António Guterres stated in a press conference on June 12, 2023, “The scientists and experts have called on the world to act, declaring AI an existential threat to

³⁰ “Europe Moves Ahead on AI Regulation, Challenging Tech Giants’ Power.” *The Washington Post*, 21 June 2023, www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2023/06/14/eu-parliament-approves-ai-act/.

³¹ Person, and Panu Wongcha-um Fanny Potkin. “Exclusive: Southeast Asia to Set ‘guardrails’ on AI with New Governance Code ” Reuters, 16 June 2023, www.reuters.com/technology/southeast-asia-set-guardrails-ai-with-new-governance-code-sources-2023-06-16/.

³² “New Opportunities Open up between China and ASEAN in Ai Exchange.” *United States*, 19 Apr. 2023, www.prnewswire.com/apac/news-releases/new-opportunities-open-up-between-china-and-asean-in-ai-exchange-301801222.html.

³³ “Artificial Intelligence Is at the Core of Discussions in Rwanda as the AU High-Level Panel on Emerging Technologies Convenes Experts to Draft the Au-Ai Continental Strategy: Auda-NEPAD.” NEPAD Home, www.nepad.org/news/artificial-intelligence-core-of-discussions-rwanda-au-high-level-panel-emerging. Accessed 21 June 2023.

³⁴ “Artificial Intelligence Is at the Core of Discussions in Rwanda as the AU High-Level Panel on Emerging Technologies Convenes Experts to Draft the Au-Ai Continental Strategy: Auda-NEPAD.” NEPAD Home, www.nepad.org/news/artificial-intelligence-core-of-discussions-rwanda-au-high-level-panel-emerging. Accessed 21 June 2023.

humanity on a par with the risk of nuclear war."³⁵ As mentioned above it is the goal of the General Assembly to align itself with Secretary General Guterres' priorities. Therefore as the General Assembly, we have a similar call and need to take action on mitigating potential risks of AI specifically regarding international security.

Conclusion

AI is on the brink of being a major tool for good and positive change or being a destructive weapon on international security. Since technology is developing rapidly and AI is playing a more pertinent role globally, it is extremely important the risks of AI are addressed now because attacks of AI are becoming more consequential threatening security and international relations. Because resolutions from the GA are only recommendations, all Member States must come together to support one another to protect international security. It is up to each Member State to carefully factor the greatest risks AI is posing on them and the impact it has on the global community.

Questions to Consider

1. What are appropriate regulations that protect but not limit AI?
2. How can the GA be an example to states of ways to protect security from risks of AI?
3. How can existing drafts of AI regulations be expounded upon to mitigate risks to security?

³⁵ "Press Conference: António Guterres, United Nations Secretary-General on His Information Integrity on Digital Platforms Policy Brief | UN Web TV." United Nations, media.un.org/en/asset/k1y/k1yqlq21r8. Accessed 21 June 2023.

Annotated Bibliography

“193 Countries Adopt First-Ever Global Agreement on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence | UN News.” United Nations, news.un.org/en/story/2021/11/1106612. Accessed 21 June 2023.

This resource talks about one of the first ever resolutions on AI ethics from the UN. It is an important document because of its pioneering effect in this area of expertise. It also gives insights into the ways different Member States are finding to work together for the greater good of the international community.

Abbey, Olivia. “The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.” Artificial Intelligence, Bias, and the Sustainable Development Goals, 2023, sdgs.un.org/sites/default/files/publications/21252030%20Agenda%20for%20Sustainable%20Development%20web.pdf. Accessed 21 June 2023.

This is an informative article written about the SDGs and AI. It discusses risks and gives great explanation to algorithm bias and the impacts that will have. It also takes into account the rapid development of AI and how proper utilization of it is imperative.

“About.” AI for Good, 25 May 2022, aiforgood.itu.int/about-ai-for-good/. Accessed 21 June 2023.

This is a part of a website the UN has for their initiative of using AI for good to complete the SDG 2030 agenda. AI for Good is a platform to be used to discuss and address concerns of AI and its direct impact on the SDG goals. The SDG goals are a critical part of the mission of the UN, which makes this resource very important in understanding the direction AI is going.

“AI and Privacy: The Privacy Concerns Surrounding AI, Its Potential Impact on Personal Data.” The Economic Times, 25 Apr. 2023, economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/how-to/ai-and-privacy-the-privacy-concerns-surrounding-ai-its-potential-impact-on-personal-data/articleshow/99738234.cms?from=mdr%5C. Accessed 21 June 2023.

This is a really great article to review about AI and Privacy. Since it was published recently it takes on a very relevant lens on the impacts of the risks of AI specifically to personal data. The understanding of AI’s risks on personal data can be transferred to the ways AI can risk international security.

“Artificial Intelligence Is at the Core of Discussions in Rwanda as the AU High-Level Panel on Emerging Technologies Convenes Experts to Draft the Au-Ai Continental Strategy: Auda-NEPAD.” NEPAD Home, www.nepad.org/news/artificial-intelligence-core-of-discussions-rwanda-au-high-level-panel-emerging. Accessed 21 June 2023.

This resource discusses how the African Union is making efforts to create a guide for AI. ai is a very important part of their discussions especially for Rwanda. In this article they talk about the potential AI could have for Africa and the best ways to harness and utilize that potential.

Buchholz, Katharina, and Felix Richter. “Infographic: Chatgpt Sprints to One Million Users.” Statista Infographics, 24 Jan. 2023, www.statista.com/chart/29174/time-to-one-million-users/. Accessed 21 June 2023.

This article explains the effects of Chatgpt specifically upon its release in November. It also compares this to other major launches of tech platforms and how users have rapidly used them. This article gives context to the presence of digital media in currently.

Cathy Li. “Global Push to Regulate AI, plus Other AI Stories This Month.” World Economic Forum, www.weforum.org/agenda/2023/05/top-story-plus-other-ai-stories-to-read-this-month/#:~:text=Stanford%20University’s%202023%20AI%20Index,AI%2Drelated%20laws%20in%202022. Accessed 21 June 2023.

This article talks about the AI regulations from the Global Summit. It reviews how in May of 2023 there has been a global push to regulate AI. It also highlights different effects AI has been having on societies globally.

“Countries Leading the Way in Ai.” Xaltius, 9 June 2023, xaltius.tech/countries-leading-the-way-in-ai/. Accessed 21 June 2023.

This article gives insights into leading countries in AI, specifically the US and China. US and China are major players on the stage of AI and its advancing technology. It also ranks other countries on an AI readiness index.

Duque, Cristian T. “The Role of Artificial Intelligence in Achieving UN Sustainable Development Goals and SDG 4.” eLearn Magazine, 28 Apr. 2023, www.elearnmagazine.com/outcomes/ai-un-sdg-4-education/#:~:text=Going%20forward%2C%20while%20it’s%20difficult,that%20would%20yield%20measurable%20progress. Accessed 7 July 2023

This resource goes over the specific impacts of SDG 4 on AI. Having been published in the past few months it is very current in the role AI can play in getting quality education to everyone globally. This article lists several different facets on both the challenges and limitations of AI with education.

“Europe Moves Ahead on AI Regulation, Challenging Tech Giants’ Power.” The Washington Post, 21 June 2023, www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2023/06/14/eu-parliament-approves-ai-act/. Accessed 21 June 2023.

This is a great resource on the important progress made by the European Union on AI regulations. This article says how Europe is leading the charge for AI regulations in the ever-changing environment with AI. The US has taken note because they are a counterpart.

“The Global AI Index.” Tortoise, www.tortoisemedia.com/intelligence/global-ai/. Accessed 21 June 2023.

The Global AI Index measures AI in 62 different countries. Each country is measured on the level of investment, innovation and implementation of AI. It also discusses ChatGPT and the effects it has had internationally.

Haan, Kathy. “24 Top AI Statistics and Trends in 2023.” Forbes, 15 June 2023, www.forbes.com/advisor/business/ai-statistics/. Accessed 21 June 2023.

This article discusses different statistics on AI. These states highlight many aspects of life including common AI use, self-driving cars, business productivity, misinformation, GDP, workforce, and job loss. This article gives a really good all-encompassing perspective on the impacts of AI.

“History of Artificial Intelligence - Artificial Intelligence - Www.Coe.Int.” Artificial Intelligence, www.coe.int/en/web/artificial-intelligence/history-of-ai#:~:text=1940%2D1960%3A%20Birth%20of%20AI,of%20machines%20and%20organic%20beings. Accessed 21 June 2023.

This article gives an overview of the origins of AI. Explaining the beginnings of AI this article puts into context the rapid growth it has grown at. It also talks about several different phases of the development of AI.

Horowitz, Michael C, et al. “Policy Roundtable: Artificial Intelligence and International Security.” Texas National Security Review, 24 Aug. 2022, tnsr.org/roundtable/policy-roundtable-artificial-intelligence-and-international-security/. Accessed 21 June 2023.

This is a great resource about AI and its impact on international security. It explains the potential AI has to shape and change the nature of war. It also clearly outlines risks and challenges of AI as applicable to international security.

Horowitz, Michael, et al. “Artificial Intelligence and International Security.” Center for a New American Security (En-US), www.cnas.org/publications/reports/artificial-intelligence-and-international-security. Accessed 21 June 2023.

This is a great resource about AI and its impact on international security. In this article they go more in depth with cyber security, information security, economic and financial tools, defense, intelligence, homeland security, and diplomacy and humanitarian missions. While this article primarily focuses on the US the principles can be applied to many other Member States and be a very valuable starting point for further solutions.

Lewis, Tanya. “A Brief History of Artificial Intelligence.” LiveScience, 4 Dec. 2014, www.livescience.com/49007-history-of-artificial-intelligence.html. Accessed 21 June 2023.

This article gives an overview of the origins of AI. It connects the history of AI to ancient Greece, China, and Egypt. This helps individuals gain a deeper understanding of AI and its functions.

Lyngaas, Sean. “Exclusive: US Government Agencies Hit in Global Cyberattack | CNN Politics.” CNN, 16 June 2023, www.cnn.com/2023/06/15/politics/us-government-hit-cybeattack/index.html. Accessed 21 June 2023.

This is a really incredible resource detailing a current cyberattack from Russia on the US. It puts the risks of AI on international security into reality allowing the reader to better understand how this occurs, what it looks like and what the potential consequences are. It also discusses different ways that the incident was handled and taken care of, which is very valuable information for Member States when drafting a working paper.

“New Opportunities Open up between China and ASEAN in Ai Exchange.” United States, 19 Apr. 2023, www.prnewswire.com/apac/news-releases/new-opportunities-open-up-between-china-and-asean-in-ai-exchange-301801222.html. Accessed 21 June 2023.

This article talks about China’s relations with ASEAN as well as ASEAN’s AI efforts. China is a major superpower in the world and has significant powers in the UN. That makes this article very important in understanding China’s view on AI regionally.

Osakwe, Dr. Fene. “Council Post: The Risks and Rewards of Artificial Intelligence in Cybersecurity.” Forbes, 23 May 2023, www.forbes.com/sites/forbestechcouncil/2023/05/22/the-risks-and-rewards-of-artificial-intelligence-in-cybersecurity/?sh=254909cd96db. Accessed 21 June 2023.

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Person, and Panu Wongcha-um Fanny Potkin. “Exclusive: Southeast Asia to Set ‘guardrails’ on AI with New Governance Code .” Reuters, 16 June 2023, www.reuters.com/technology/southeast-asia-set-guardrails-ai-with-new-governance-code-sources-2023-06-16/. Accessed 21 June 2023.

This resource reviews AI regulation efforts in Southeast Asia. This really helps understand how Member States in this region view AI and the need to control it. They are beginning to find control through guardrails.

Petrosyan, Ani. “Data Records Breached Worldwide 2023.” Statista, 27 June 2023, www.statista.com/statistics/1307426/number-of-data-breaches-worldwide/. Accessed 21 June 2023.

This is a statistical analysis of data records being breached worldwide. The information is displayed in a graph format with some text explaining the data from this year. It is relevant information which will help delegates understand the pertinence of this issue.

“Press Conference: António Guterres, United Nations Secretary-General on His Information Integrity on Digital Platforms Policy Brief | UN Web TV.” United Nations, media.un.org/en/asset/k1y/k1yqlq2lr8. Accessed 21 June 2023.

This a press from the UN explaining needs for digital platforms. This resource has both a video recording and transcription of his speech. Secretary-General António Guterres talks very strongly about the pressing nature of these issues and need for immediate attention.

Sapkale, Yogesh. “Aadhaar Data Breach Largest in the World, Says WEF’s Global Risk Report and Avast.” Moneylife NEWS & VIEWS, 19 Feb. 2019, www.moneylife.in/article/aadhaar-data-breach-largest-in-the-world-says-wefs-global-risk-report-and-avast/56384.html. Accessed 21 June 2023.

This article gives details on one of the largest data breaches in the world by Aadhaar. This helps put in context what is happening around the world regarding security issues and how AI has potential to create more problems. Additionally, it draws information from The World Economic Forum’s Global Risks Report which is a very helpful resource as well.

Vinuesa, Ricardo, et al. “The Role of Artificial Intelligence in Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.” Nature News, 13 Jan. 2020, www.nature.com/articles/s41467-019-14108-y. Accessed 8 July 2023.

This article is about AI and the SDGs. The SDGs are an important part of the mission and current direction of the UN. It also helps to understand the wide impact of AI on many different issues.

Watters, Ashley. “30+ Artificial Intelligence Statistics and Facts for 2023.” Default, 13 Jan. 2023, connect.comptia.org/blog/artificial-intelligence-statistics-facts. Accessed 20 June 2023.

This is a very good article with statistics on AI for the year of 2023. It covers a wide range of stats about machine learning, voice search, impact on jobs, chatbots, and where AI is used today. It also briefly covers the future of AI.

“What Is Ai?” McKinsey & Company, 24 Apr. 2023, www.mckinsey.com/featured-insights/mckinsey-explainers/what-is-ai. Accessed 20 June 2023.

This gives a basic explanation of what AI is. It begins by defining machine learning, generative AI and deep learning and it covers sectors that will benefit from these things. They also cover limitations and how they can be mitigated.

“What Is the History of Artificial Intelligence (AI)?” Tableau, www.tableau.com/data-insights/ai/history. Accessed 21 June 2023.

This article gives an overview of the origins of AI. It gives a thorough explanation of AI, its history and different developmental stages in its growth. With all of that context they give a forward-looking perspective of what the future holds.

“The World Needs an International Agency for Artificial Intelligence, Say Two AI Experts.” The Economist, www.economist.com/by-invitation/2023/04/18/the-world-needs-an-international-agency-for-artificial-intelligence-say-two-ai-experts?utm_medium=cpc.adword.pd&utm_source=google&ppccampaignID=172105

91673&ppcadID=&utm_campaign=a.22brand_pmax&utm_content=conversion.direct-response.anonymous&gclid=Cj0KCQjw7aqkBhDPARIsAKGa0oIShe35R454swaAsX1-uFpkvJU54uNd6BtY5tUCJreCHt86CkpHy1caAprREALw_wcB&gclsrc=aw.ds. Accessed 21 June 2023.

This discusses how AI could be a problem by creating misinformation. It proposes that an international agency is created specifically for AI. This would be needed because of how fast AI is growing.

II. Nuclear Nonproliferation for the Next Decade

“Nuclear weapons are the most destructive power ever created. They offer no security — just carnage and chaos. Their elimination would be the greatest gift we could bestow on future generations.”

- *UN Secretary-General António Guterres, International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons conference, 2022*

Introduction

Nuclear nonproliferation refers to preventing the spread of nuclear weapons. For the purpose of this conference, nuclear weapons refers to “any device that uses a nuclear reaction to create an explosion. This explosion is much more powerful than that of conventional explosives.”³⁶ nuclear weapons have a very large capacity of destruction. Much of this destruction is due to the consequences of the weapons which include death, injury, radiation sickness, contamination, and blindness.³⁷ Because the threats of nuclear weapons are so high, all Member States must come together to find realistic solutions that will protect the international community.

Warfare has always been a huge threat to societies since the beginning of human history. Over many years the nature of war has developed. Today threats of nuclear war are more prevalent than ever before, making this topic extremely important to the protection and promotion of peace internationally. Rumors of a nuclear war have circulated for many years and people have tried to predict the effects and consequences it may have globally. Ultimately the goal of all nuclear nonproliferation is to maintain and increase peace and security internationally.

This goal was underscored by UN Secretary-General António Guterres at a conference held for International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons in 2022. He “underscored the need for a new vision for nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, pointing to his New Agenda for Peace. It calls for meaningful disarmament and developing a common understanding of the multiple threats facing the international community.”³⁸ Since one of the only binding commitments to nuclear nonproliferation is the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) more work and better efforts need to be achieved to protect the international community.

UN and Global Efforts

Being one of the oldest discussed topics at the UN, nuclear nonproliferation has been a pressing issue for the UN and the GA resulting in several resolutions and treaties to be developed. Many of these resolutions include A/RES/77/54 (2022), A/RES/76/34 (2021), A/RES/75/40 (2020), A/RES/74/41 (2019), A/RES/73/48 (2018), A/RES/71/258 (2016), A/RES/70/33 (2015),

³⁶ “Nuclear Weapon.” *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*, 16 Dec. 2019, www.cdc.gov/nceh/multimedia/infographics/nuclear_weapon.html. Accessed 10 July 2023

³⁷ “Nuclear Weapon.” *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*, 16 Dec. 2019, www.cdc.gov/nceh/multimedia/infographics/nuclear_weapon.html. Accessed 10 July 2023.

³⁸ “Un Chief Calls for an End to ‘nuclear Blackmail’ and Risk of ‘Humanitarian Armageddon’ | UN News.” United Nations, 26 Sept. 2022, news.un.org/en/story/2022/09/1127961#:~:text=Guterres%20underscored%20the%20need%20for,threats%20facing%20the%20international%20community. Accessed 11 July 2023.

A/RES/69/41 (2014), A/RES/68/46 (2013) and A/RES/67/56 (2012).³⁹ While much progress has been made nuclear nonproliferation is a very complex issue because of the high risk involved, therefore all actions must be thought out very thoroughly.

1946 was the year when the first UN GA resolution was adopted. It “established a Commission to deal with problems related to the discovery of atomic energy among others.”⁴⁰ Since then there have been many other treaties all with the goal to promote peace and decrease dangers of nuclear weapons.

One of the most significant pieces of legislation written regarding nuclear non-proliferation was in 1968. The NPT was a resolution passed by the GA signed by many Member States. The creation of this document is very important “because it set a precedent for international cooperation between nuclear and non-nuclear states to prevent proliferation.”⁴¹ The NPT is a great primary source to reference when discussing issues regarding nuclear nonproliferation because it was such a strong starting point and foundation.

One of the stipulations of the NPT was that it should be reviewed every 5 years for the next 25 years. This review began in 1970 and went until 1995, where “States parties to the NPT unanimously agreed that the NPT should continue in force indefinitely.”⁴² Since this document was instituted by the GA, it is only a recommendation and has no legal weight. However, even though there was a unanimous decision to continue the institution of this document the original document was not signed by all parties. Two of the five permanent members on the Security Council, France and the People’s Republic of China, did not sign the resolution. There were also other Member States who didn’t sign the NPT but since that time those Member States have become players on the nuclear stage such as India and Pakistan.⁴³ Without the support of these Member States the NPT is not as strong as it could be. The GA needs to come together to create a resolution by finding innovative ways to strengthen the ideas developed in the NPT and gain support of more Member States.

Another important treaty with less success was the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) which “bans all nuclear explosions, whether for military or peaceful purposes.”⁴⁴ This treaty was adopted on September 10, 1996, and signed by a large group of the GA however it was never ratified and implemented. This treaty was under negotiation for nearly 2 years; however, they were ultimately not able to come to a solution that received necessary support. In order for effective change and progress to be made with nuclear nonproliferation there needs to be a very strong consensus between Member States on the solution, especially the great powers

³⁹ “Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.” *United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs*, disarmament.unoda.org/wmd/nuclear/tpnw/. Accessed 10 July 2023.

⁴⁰ “Disarmament.” *United Nations*, www.un.org/en/global-issues/disarmament. Accessed 10 July 2023.

⁴¹ “The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), 1968.” *U.S. Department of State*, history.state.gov/milestones/1961-1968/npt. Accessed 10 July 2023.

⁴² “Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons - Main Page.” United Nations, legal.un.org/avl/ha/tnpt/tnpt.html. Accessed 10 July 2023.

⁴³ “Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons - Main Page.” United Nations, legal.un.org/avl/ha/tnpt/tnpt.html. Accessed 10 July 2023.

⁴⁴ “Text of the Treaty.” *CTBTO*, www.ctbto.org/our-mission/the-treaty. Accessed 10 July 2023.

who have nuclear weapons. This is one of the challenges with nuclear nonproliferation that must be overcome.

Although a foundation had been laid by the NPT and other attempts at the UN made with the CTBT in 1996 the GA still felt there was more progress that needed to be made. In 2017 the GA convened for a conference focused on nuclear weapons and their total elimination. The treaty developed at the conference was The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). The TPNW requires States to “not to develop, test, produce, acquire, possess, stockpile, use or threaten to use nuclear weapons.”⁴⁵ The primary goal of this treaty is to have a world free of nuclear weapons. Many Member States are serious about this issue allowing the treaty to be ratified on October 24, 2020, and entered into force on January 22, 2021.⁴⁶ Since that time there was a conference held in June of 2022 to review the progress and create an action plan and there will be another meeting at the end of 2023.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) “is the world's central intergovernmental forum for scientific and technical co-operation in the nuclear field.”⁴⁷ They are also highly involved and committed to the NPT making them an influential player with nuclear nonproliferation. One focus of IAEA is to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. One way they are doing this is through supporting several of the UN’s 2030 SDGs. Since their beginning in 1956 the IAEA has been a continual support to the UN and its mission.⁴⁸

Regional Efforts

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is an alliance of several Member States in North America and Europe founded in 1949. They play a significant role regionally and have great influence internationally. One of NATO’s major focuses is regarding nuclear nonproliferation. NATO, like many other organizations, has the goal for greater peace and a safer world. They accomplish this goal by being “committed to arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation, but as long as nuclear weapons exist, [they] will remain a nuclear alliance.”⁴⁹ NATO has outlined their goals in a 2022 Strategic Concept which was “adopted by Allied Heads of State and Government at the 2022 Madrid Summit.”⁵⁰ This is significant for the world because many powerful Member States are a part of NATO and have adopted this treaty.

The EU is another important alliance who has taken measures to address nuclear nonproliferation. One of the top priorities of the EU currently is to promote the CTBT for entry

⁴⁵ “Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.” *United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs*, disarmament.unoda.org/wmd/nuclear/tpnw/. Accessed 10 July 2023.

⁴⁶ “Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.” *United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs*, disarmament.unoda.org/wmd/nuclear/tpnw/. Accessed 10 July 2023.

⁴⁷ “IAEA About Us.” IAEA, 8 June 2016, www.iaea.org/about/overview. Accessed 10 July 2023.

⁴⁸ “Disarmament, Non-Proliferation and Arms Export Control.” *What We Do: Policies and Actions*, 16 Aug. 2022, www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/disarmament-non-proliferation-and-arms-export-control-0_en#:~:text=The%20EU%20promotes%20peace%20and,%2C%20biological%2C%20and%20conventional%20weapons. Accessed 10 July 2023.

⁴⁹ Nato. “NATO’s Nuclear Deterrence Policy and Forces.” *NATO*, 28 Apr. 2023, www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_50068.htm. Accessed 10 July 2023.

⁵⁰ Nato. “NATO’s Nuclear Deterrence Policy and Forces.” *NATO*, 28 Apr. 2023, www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_50068.htm. Accessed 10 July 2023.

into force. This is because they believe testing of nuclear weapons needs to stop in order to have more peaceful societies. While the CTBT is not completely ratified and enforced, each Member State of the EU has ratified the CTBT. The EU are also close allies to The Comprehensive Test-Ban-Treaty Organization (CTBTO) and offer support financially.

While several regions have approached the issue through various treaties, some regions have become nuclear weapon-free zones (NWFZ). Today there are currently 5 NWFZ covering various territories of land. Within the NWFZ countries are prohibited from “acquisition, possession, placement, testing and use of such weapons.”⁵¹ The 5 NWFZ are in Central Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa, the South Pacific, and Southeast Asia. Each of these NWFZ were established through the following treaties Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia (2006), Treaty of Tlatelolco (1967), Treaty of Pelindaba (1996), Treaty of Rarotonga (1985), and the Treaty of Bangkok (1996).⁵² It is important that Member States who are within a NWFZ maintain the integrity of their commitment and carry that forward as they support additional resolutions and treaties.

Current Challenges of Nuclear Nonproliferation

There have been many efforts over the last century to protect the world from nuclear destruction, however despite all the efforts it still remains a looming problem today. Prevention from this destruction comes through nonproliferation, the spread of nuclear weapons, and disarmament, the reduction of nuclear weapons. One of the biggest challenges is noncompliance. This noncompliance often comes from tension between nuclear weapon states (NWS) and non-nuclear weapons states (NNWS). States who are armed with nuclear weapons are often reluctant to disarm because unless all NWS disarm themselves, the State who does disarm themselves is put at a disadvantage and may have less security than they previously did.⁵³ For total disarmament all Member States need to work together in finding a solution that is mutually agreed upon.

Currently the major NWS include the United States, Russia, France, China, the United Kingdom, India, Israel, Pakistan, and North Korea. Many of these NWS are reluctant in complete disarmament which decreases the likelihood of their signature and ratification on various resolutions and treaties. Another challenge from some Member States and compliance with nuclear nonproliferation stems from polarization and nationalism.⁵⁴ These elements continually create barriers to a more secure and peaceful international community.

⁵¹ “Overview of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones Platform for Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones.” *United Nations*, www.un.org/nwzf/content/overview-nuclear-weapon-free-zones. Accessed 10 July 2023.

⁵² “Overview of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones Platform for Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones.” *United Nations*, www.un.org/nwzf/content/overview-nuclear-weapon-free-zones. Accessed 10 July 2023.

⁵³ “Current Issues and Challenges.” *Nuclear Threat Initiative*, tutorials.nti.org/npt-tutorial/current-issues-and-challenges/#:~:text=Noncompliance%20is%20the%20most%20serious,the%20goals%20of%20the%20treaty. Accessed 10 July 2023.

⁵⁴ Lee, Manseok, and Michael Nacht. “Challenges to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty - Air University.” *Challenges to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty*, Aug. 2020, www.airuniversity.af.edu/Portals/10/SSQ/documents/Volume-14_Issue-3/Lee.pdf.

Conclusion

The GA has the responsibility to come together collectively. Since the beginning of the UN in 1945 Member States have viewed nuclear nonproliferation and protection from this harmful form of destruction a top priority. Much work has been as conferences have been attended, discussions held, resolutions passed, and treaties signed however the international community is not yielding the desired results. Something different, unique, and innovative must be created.

Polarization, nationalism, and tension between Member States is becoming all too common. Unfortunately, these divisions are having a negative effect on the outcomes of signed treaties and written resolutions. The next ten years are very significant for the UN as 2030 approaches with the SDGs. A major focus of those goals is greater peace and security, however nuclear nonproliferation must be harnessed more in order to achieve such goals especially SDG 11 Sustainable cities and communities. In the next decade if appropriate actions are not taken, the entire international community is at dire risk.

Questions to Consider

1. How can Member States build on the work and treaties that have already been created while filling in gaps that have occurred in the past?
2. What are key elements that will mitigate the challenge of noncompliance?
3. What role and influence do Member States in NWFZ play in nuclear nonproliferation?
4. How can nuclear nonproliferation aid progression in the SDGs?
5. How can the GA, with its mandated powers create a resolution that all NWS and NNWS feel address their best interests?

Annotated Bibliography

“Current Issues and Challenges.” Nuclear Threat Initiative, tutorials.nti.org/npt-tutorial/current-issues-and-challenges/#:~:text=Noncompliance%20is%20the%20most%20serious,the%20goals%20of%20the%20treaty. Accessed 10 July 2023.

This resource discusses the current issues and challenges with nuclear nonproliferation. They share it within the context of the NPT and challenges that have been faced because of it. It also goes in more detail about nuclear disarmament, nuclear nonproliferation, and peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

“Disarmament, Non-Proliferation and Arms Export Control.” What We Do: Policies and Actions, 16 Aug. 2022, www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/disarmament-non-proliferation-and-arms-export-control-0_en#:~:text=The%20EU%20promotes%20peace%20and,%2C%20biological%2C%20and%20conventional%20weapons. Accessed 10 July 2023.

This resource is about the EU and their views regarding nuclear nonproliferation. It covers the primary goals of the EU with nonproliferation but then goes into greater detail regarding various weapons of mass destruction. This resource also discusses the EU’s relationship with CTBTO.

“Disarmament.” United Nations, www.un.org/en/global-issues/disarmament. Accessed 10 July 2023.

This is an article published by the UN about Disarmament of many types of weapons. A portion of this article discusses nuclear weapons and some of the most significant treaties that have been created and signed in the UN. It also mentions the number of nuclear weapons in circulation.

“IAEA About Us.” IAEA , 8 June 2016, www.iaea.org/about/overview. Accessed 10 July 2023.

This resource gives an overview about the IAEA. It explains what they do and their goals. The IAEA is very closely connected with the UN and the SDG. There is also information on the statute, history, budget, strategy, and partnerships.

Lee, Manseok, and Michael Nacht. “Challenges to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty - Air University.” *Challenges to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty*, Aug. 2020, www.airuniversity.af.edu/Portals/10/SSQ/documents/Volume-14_Issue-3/Lee.pdf.

This research paper goes over the challenges of nuclear nonproliferation as it specifically applies to the NPT. It addresses specific issues and challenges, reasons for the role of the NPT globally, impacts on nuclear weapon states (NWS) and nonnuclear weapon states (NNWS). At the end there are several solutions to the challenges mentioned.

Nato. "NATO's Nuclear Deterrence Policy and Forces." NATO, 28 Apr. 2023, www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_50068.htm. Accessed 10 July 2023.

This resource explains NATO's position on nuclear weapons. It also includes many resources regarding NATO's actions and strategic concepts they have developed in 2022. NATO is a current and powerful player in creating a safer world through nuclear nonproliferation and this resource gives valuable information on that.

"The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), 1968." U.S. Department of State, history.state.gov/milestones/1961-1968/npt. Accessed 10 July 2023.

This excerpt regarding the NPT gives a summary about the context of this document, what it was written about, parties involved and content of the document. Being aware of this document is foundational in understanding what progress has already been made regarding these issues. This resource also includes valuable information about the NPT and NATO.

"Nuclear Weapon." Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 16 Dec. 2019, www.cdc.gov/nceh/multimedia/infographics/nuclear_weapon.html. Accessed 10 July 2023.

This is a resource from the CDC published in 2019. It gives very clear definitions of what nuclear weapons are and what classifies a nuclear weapon. Additionally, it explains the dangers and threats nuclear weapons have on individuals. That is important to understand when drafting solutions to this harmful weapon.

"Overview of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones Platform for Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones." United Nations, www.un.org/nwzf/content/overview-nuclear-weapon-free-zones. Accessed 10 July 2023.

This resource gives a basic overview of NWFZ. It talks about the basic concept of them, the treaties that instituted them in the 5 different regions of the world and basic definitions and principles of them. This resource is very helpful in understanding the position of many different regions in the world.

"Text of the Treaty." CTBTO, www.ctbto.org/our-mission/the-treaty. Accessed 10 July 2023.

This resource explains the CTBT. It gives a summary of the treaty as well as the articles in the document. This is helpful to understand progress that has been made regarding nuclear nonproliferation.

"Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons - Main Page." United Nations, legal.un.org/avl/ha/tnpt/tnpt.html. Accessed 10 July 2023.

This resource comes directly from the United Nations website in an introductory note about the NPT. It explains some of the progress made since the initial creation of the document. This resource also includes information on procedural history, primary source documents, status, video, and photos.

“Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.” United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, disarmament.unoda.org/wmd/nuclear/tpnw/. Accessed 10 July 2023.

This resource from the UN gives an overview of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. It explains the context of the conference where the treaty was written, the details included in the treaty, and information on its signing and ratification. It also reviews the implementation of the treaty.

“UN Chief Calls for an End to ‘nuclear Blackmail’ and Risk of ‘Humanitarian Armageddon’ | UN News.” United Nations, 26 Sept. 2022, news.un.org/en/story/2022/09/1127961#:~:text=Guterres%20underscored%20the%20need%20for,threats%20facing%20the%20international%20community. Accessed 11 July 2023.

This is a news article from the UN about Secretary General António Guterres’ words from a conference on the total elimination of nuclear weapons. He talks about the destructive nature of them and the need for more actions. This article also references the NPT as well as actions to take moving forward.