

StamfordMUN I 2026

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CHAIR REPORT

Security Council

SC

Prepared by: Kihyun, Smriti and Twisha

1. Letter from the Chairs

Dear Delegates,

Our names are Twisha, Kihyun and Smriti and we would like to welcome you to Stamford MUN '26! All of us are highly experienced with the Security Council, and look forward to chairing your debate about nuclear weapons. Each of us have roughly 5 years of experience, and we are extremely passionate about MUN. The Security Council is an extremely important part in our modern world, as their treaties are legally binding and debate is done clause by clause. We will be debating a relevant issue in our world today: the issue of the use of biological, chemical and nuclear weapons in warfare.

The three of us look forward to seeing all of you and your preparations! Good luck, and keep preparing, see you soon. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to email gohil115350@gapps.uwcsea.edu.sg, chang105567@gapps.uwcsea.edu.sg, or sures113929@gapps.uwcsea.edu.sg.

Sincerely,

Twisha, Kihyun, and Smriti

Chairs, Security Council

Please feel free to contact us via emails stated above.

2. Committee Overview

2.1 Committee History and Purpose

The Security Council was established in 1945 by the main Allied powers of World War 2 in order to prevent a return of global war and to maintain peace and security. It was formally established as part of the UN Charter in June 1945, with it moving into action in October 1945. It currently stands as one of the six principal organs of the United Nations.

2.2 Powers and Limitations

It is the only UN body capable of creating resolutions that are legally binding for all member nations under Chapter VII and SC is able to authorize military force. However, these resolutions can only be limited to matters in the UN Charter and do not stretch to cover all areas of international policy.

2.3 Voting Procedures

The SC contains fifteen members, five of which are permanent. These P5 nations are the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Russia, and China, and these nations have veto power. This means if even a singular one of the P5 nations disagrees with a substantive resolution, it does not pass even if the other fourteen other members vote in favour.

3. Topic Introduction

3.1 Topic Overview

The proliferation or spread of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) is a widespread grave threat to international security. A nuclear or biological attack at the scale of a WMD would not only cause immense civilian casualty and injury but can also pose a threat to the environment and cause economic and political instability. Such an attack could cause overwhelmed healthcare systems, cause extensive displacement, and exacerbate existing conflicts.

Despite a range of current global agreements such as the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), proliferation continues to pose a threat to global peace. The main issues regarding such treaties are the violations of obligations, weak export regulations, and nations lacking the capacity to implement effective control and inspections. Rapid technological advancements further hinder states' abilities to monitor activity and close regulatory loopholes. Some of the primary solutions to this pressing issue is the implementation of sanctions, thorough inspections of goods, and requires enforcement. Since the Security Council is the only legally binding UN body, the topic is handed to it in the hopes of creating a legally binding resolution requiring all member states to partake in these strategies.

3.2 Key Terms and Definitions

Term	Definition
Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)	A weapon of mass destruction is a device capable of causing widespread death or injury, generally classified as nuclear, biological, chemical, or radiological
Non-Proliferation	International efforts to prevent additional states or non-state actors to acquire WMDs
Non-State Actors	An individual or organisation that has significant political influence but is not allied to a particular state such as non-governmental organisations and militant organisations
Dual-Use Technology	Technology that can both be used for ordinary civil applications but can also be used for the development of WMDs
Fissile	Materials capable of sustaining a nuclear fission chain reaction when bombarded by low-energy neutrons, materials that are able to undergo nuclear fission
New START	New START (Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty) is an agreement between the United States and Russia focused on nuclear arms control, by limiting warhead deployment, having caps on certain weaponry, and on-site inspections.

CTBT	CTBT, or the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, has been adopted since 1996 and bans all nuclear explosions for both military and civilian usages. It is not yet currently in full force because important nations like the US and China have not ratified it.
NPT	NPT, or the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, promotes peaceful nuclear energy use with countries divided into those committed into disarmament and countries pledged not to acquire nuclear weaponry. It is signed and ratified by nuclear-bearing states like US, China, and Russia, but remained unsigned by states like India and Pakistan.

4. Historical Background

4.1 Origins of the Issue

Wars have existed since the beginning of civilisation. Countries and groups have always tried to improve their weaponry to gain an advantage in warfare. Biological warfare has existed in some form for many millennia, in multiple different ways, such as contaminated arrowheads and spearheads. Large scale chemical weapons were first used in warfare in 1915 in World War I by Germany, where they used chlorine, phosgene and mustard gas to immobilise soldiers. Chemical weapons were used in World war II as well, but less so, as their use was prohibited in 1925 in the Geneva protocol. Nuclear weapons were introduced near the end of World War II, supposedly as a means to end the war by making nuclear weapons before Germany could. These bombs were then detonated in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, causing widespread damage whose impacts are still felt today. After this event, countries decided to regulate and limit the use and prevalence of nuclear weapons. However, tensions are still rising as more countries gain access to this weapon of mass destruction, and some are trying to produce hydrogen bombs which are a type of nuclear weapon many times more powerful than current nuclear technology. Some reports state the use of chemical weaponry in the Russo-Ukrainian war, however Russia is still to confirm this accusation.

4.2 Key Historical Events

- Antiquity and Middle Ages - Early reports of the use of biological weapons; soldiers poisoning water sources and arrows with diseases to make enemy soldiers ill and deplete their army.
- 1915 - Germany and the Allied Powers first used large scale chemical weapons in war.
- 1925 - Geneva protocol was first introduced, prohibiting the use of biological and chemical weapons in warfare, but not their development. It also prevents their use on a no-first-use basis.
- 1945 - The first ever atomic bomb was created and tested, as part of the Manhattan project, involving the United States, Canada and United Kingdom. Later in the year, atomic bombs were used in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

- 1985 - Creation of the Australia Group, consisting of 43 countries that aim to prevent the proliferation of biological and chemical weapons
- 2022 - Most recent use of chemical weapons. Reports indicate that Russia used illegal chemical weapons in Ukraine

4.3 Evolution of International Response

There have been numerous attempts and regulations set around this issue, since it concerns the safety of multiple countries. Over time, the urgency regarding this issue has increased substantially. There are new issues that are arising, as technology improves, and AI is introduced into weaponry. The introduction of regulations surrounding these issues were mostly surrounding the prevention of the proliferation of these weapons and their use, but now countries must work towards placing measures to place measures to control and possibly prevent another unrestrained arms race from occurring.

5. Current Situation

5.1 Present-Day Overview

The threat posed by nuclear, chemical, and biological (NBC) weapons is one of the greatest challenges to international peace and security. The matter at hand is not diminishing with the intensifying power competition around the world. On the nuclear end, the expiry of the New START (Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty) in February 2026 marks what many define as a “Historic Low.” For the first time since 1972, there is no legally binding treaty capping U.S. or Russian nuclear warheads. China is on track to produce over 1000 warheads by the end of the decade. Iran continues to expand its enriched uranium stockpile well beyond the abolished JCPOA limits, with the monitoring party (IAEA) reporting a significant loss of monitoring capabilities over Iranian nuclear facilities. Furthermore, North Korea’s nuclear arsenal has grown faster than most international estimates have previously projected through U.S. military commanders have assessed that Russia is expanding its sharing of nuclear and missile-applicable technology with North Korea, reportedly in exchange for military assistance in Ukraine. Regarding chemical weapons, Syria is the most prominent threat. Despite the fall of the Assad government in late 2024 and joining the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) in 2013, OPCW assessments confirm that Syria’s chemical weapons declaration remains incorrect, and undeclared stockpiles are believed to exist.

5.2 Key Stakeholders

P5 Nations: All five nations, China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States, are modernising their nuclear arsenals. Out of all of them, Russia’s decision to suspend New START in 2023 and China’s rapid arsenal expansion have changed the strategic landscape for the remaining western nations. These states hold the greatest responsibility in terms of disarmament; however, they continue to justify their arsenals through nuclear deterrence doctrines, prioritising national security over multilateral disarmament commitments.

Non-NPT Nuclear States: None of these countries are a part of the NPT, meaning they are outside the NPT's boundaries and inspections. However, these countries, such as North Korea, require the most immediate attention, rejecting denuclearisation. India and Pakistan are both expanding their weapons programmes, and Israel neither confirms nor denies having nuclear weapons.

Iran: Iran is a member of the NPT, through deterrence, arms control, and non-proliferation efforts, the international community has tried to manage this challenge. While efforts like the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) have established a framework with the goal of preventing the spread of weapons, it consistently raises issues of national sovereignty.

The IAEA and OPCW: They are the two main stakeholders responsible for the monitoring and verifying compliance with weapons treaties. The IAEA handles nuclear oversight, whilst the OPCW is tasked with managing chemical weapons.

Non-State Actors: Terrorist groups pose a significant threat to global security when they gain access to nuclear, chemical, or biological weapons.

5.3 Current Challenges

There are numerous current challenges. Firstly, the Arms Control Agreement previously named "New START" has collapsed, and no replacement is being negotiated on international grounds, leaving two of the largest nuclear nations unchecked. Secondly, North Korea has repeatedly rejected denuclearisation while continuing to expand both its warhead stockpile and delivery systems. Their developing relationship with Russia makes additional Security Council sanctions near impossible, as Russia would almost certainly exercise its veto powers. Finally, the CTBT still has gaps because the nuclear test ban treaty never officially came into force; key countries like the US, China, India, Pakistan, and Israel have not ratified it. However, these challenges leave a large margin for improvement and new driven solutions.

6. Past International Actions

Over the last few years, the international community has taken steps to address the spread of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons. Through the attempted use of treaties, monitoring organisations, and international cooperation, countries have tried to limit their use of weapons of mass destruction.

6.1 UN Resolutions and Declarations

In the past decades, there have been numerous resolutions and declarations passed. This includes the UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004), which was a resolution passed unanimously, requiring every country to create laws and measures in place to stop terrorist groups and non-state actors from getting hold of nuclear, chemical, or biological weapons. It also includes UN Security Council Resolution 1887 (2009). Passed during a meeting of the Security Council chaired by then-president of the United States president Obama, resolution 1887 affirmed the commitment of all fifteen Council members to a world free of nuclear weapons. Furthermore, it also includes the UN Security Council Resolution 2231 (2015), which legally endorsed the JCPOA and terminated previous Iran sanctions. It incorporates the crucial "snapback"

mechanism, enabling any JCPOA participant to reimpose UN sanctions in the event of significant non-compliance with Iran. And lastly it includes the UN General Assembly Resolution 71/258 Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear weapons. Passed by 122 states, the TPNW is the first legally binding international agreement limiting nuclear weapons through monitoring their development, production, testing, stockpiling, transfer, and use.

6.2 International Treaties and Agreements

There have been numerous international treaties and agreements in history.

Firstly, the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. The NPT, which came into force in 1970, is widely considered the foundation of global efforts to prevent nuclear proliferation. Its main goals are to stop the spread of nuclear weapons, encourage peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and promote long-term nuclear disarmament. Under the treaty, countries without nuclear weapons agree not to develop them, while nuclear-armed states commit to working toward eventual disarmament. Most countries in the world have signed the NPT. However, some important states, including India, Pakistan, and Israel have never joined the treaty. Additionally, North Korea withdrew from the NPT in 2003 and later developed nuclear weapons, showing the limits of the treaty's enforcement mechanisms.

Secondly, the (CWC, which entered into force in 1997, bans the development, production, and use of chemical weapons. The Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) enforces the treaty by conducting inspections and overseeing the destruction process. However, a few states including North Korea and Egypt are not parties. In addition, allegations of chemical weapons use in recent conflicts have raised concerns about compliance, particularly regarding the actions of non-signatory states and the effectiveness of the OPCW in enforcing the treaty.

Thirdly, the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC). The BWC, which came into force in 1975, prohibits the development, production, and stockpiling of biological and toxin weapons. It was the first international treaty to completely ban an entire category of weapons of mass destruction. Despite its importance, the convention has a major limitation: it does not include a formal verification system to monitor compliance, which raises concerns about the effectiveness of enforcement and accountability among member states.

6.3 Assessment: What Has Worked and What Hasn't

There have been both effective and ineffective efforts to denuclearise and control nuclear weapons. Some treaties have had some clear successes. Examples of these successes include the creation of norms against the use of nuclear weapons through the NPT and the CWC. Monitoring organisations like the IAEA and the OPCW have improved transparency through regular inspections. However, these systems are not perfect. One major challenge is that some countries have refused to join key treaties or have withdrawn from them. Without international cooperation, global treaties are harder to enforce. Another issue is that many treaties rely heavily on voluntary cooperation and political will, which can weaken enforcement, particularly when countries prioritise national interests over international collaboration. These gaps show a wide margin for improvement that delegates should discuss and resolve.

7. Bloc Positions and National Perspectives

This is an extremely relevant topic in today's times, as many countries are investing in their weaponry, especially with the volatility now.

7.1 Pro-Nuclear Weapons States

While these states are not directly against nuclear weaponry, they view it as important for security and deterrence. Many countries in this bloc possess nuclear weapons and focus on maintaining or strengthening their arsenals. As part of this arrangement, the United States deploys nuclear weapons in Europe. These states are also generally pro-regulation, supporting frameworks that limit proliferation while still allowing possession. However, nuclear-armed states have not ratified the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). NATO has reinforced its stance on nuclear deterrence, especially following the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

7.2 Nuclear-Armed States with Strategic Interests (Russia and Allies)

Russia has one of the largest stockpiles of nuclear weapons in the world. Russia is allied with countries such as China and maintains close ties with Pakistan. These states support the continued role of nuclear weapons in security strategy. While Russia has historically supported arms control treaties such as START and INF, it has more recently moved away from some commitments and is cautious about new restrictions that may limit its capabilities. Russia, China, and Pakistan have not signed or ratified the TPNW. Russia also formally adheres to international bans on chemical and biological weapons, although there have been allegations regarding compliance.

7.3 Non-Use States

This bloc consists of countries that oppose nuclear weapons and advocate for their non-use or complete disarmament. While some may rely on extended deterrence (nuclear protection from allies), they are against the use of nuclear weapons and strongly oppose biological and chemical weapons in warfare. These states support stricter international guidelines and treaties aimed at preventing the use and spread of weapons of mass destruction.

8. Key Questions for Debate

1. How can states be dissuaded from the use of WMDs for defensive purposes to align with non-proliferation requirements?
2. What implementation strategies should be put into place that less-economically developed nations can partake in that do not violate any sovereignty?
3. What preventative measures should nations be allowed to take with their stockpile of WMDs?
4. To what extent should the nations with the largest WMD stockpiles (e.g., Russia, China, the United States of America) have their stockpiles be controlled?

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5. How can resource allocation be conducted so as to ensure all nations are equitably developed with monitoring resources?
6. How can the committee balance the dire need for quick action with the need for concrete long-term measures?

9. Country List

To further ease research and planning, you may refer to the list of countries attending this conference below:

Nuclear Armed States/Armed in the past:

United States (Veto)
Russian Federation (Veto)
China (Veto)
France (Veto)
United Kingdom (Veto)
India
Pakistan
Israel
Libya
South Africa
Ukraine

Countries with nuclear protection:

Australia
Austria
Germany
Japan
Netherlands
South Korea
Turkey
Singapore

Countries with no nuclear weapons/Opposed to their use:

Brazil
Costa Rica
Egypt
Iran
Mexico
Morocco

10. Resources for Further Research

10.1 Official UN Resources

- [New START treaty](#) - A detailed description about the nuclear treaty between the United States and Russia, explaining the verification measures and implementation strategies.
- [CTBT treaty](#) - A description of the history of the treaty, the treaty status including members, and the latest developments.
- [NPT treaty](#) - The history of the treaty with useful embedded links for further details.

10.2 News and Current Events

- [BBC](#) - Chemical Weapons
- [OPCW](#) - Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
- [ICANW](#) - Check your countries' stance

10.3 Accessible Explainers

- [Biological Warfare summary](#) - Summarises all events involving biological weapons
- [History of nuclear weapons](#) - Brief history of nuclear weapons

10.4 Country Research Resources

Include resources that help delegates research their assigned country's position.

- [CIA World Factbook](#) (for basic country information)
- [UN Member States Portal](#)