

TARBUTMUN 2023 United Nations Security Council UNSC

Topic A: Addressing NATO's Strategic Placement of Nuclear Weapons Near Russian Borders

Topic B: Addressing the North Korea - Japan Crisis

Dear Delegates,

It is a great pleasure, as your chairs, to welcome you to TarbutMUN 2023, and to the

Security Council Committee.

Currently, the geopolitical scenario finds itself at the highest level of intensity since

the Cold War, with many major conflicts now threatening our global stability, it will be

our mission as a committee to find the best solutions for them. Our current political

climate is as exciting as it is tragic. We are living through the first major armed

conflict in Europe since World War II, the previous conflicts in the Middle East and

Asia still persist and escalate, poverty and corruption haunt underdeveloped nations

all over the world, and the global economy has taken the biggest toll from it all.

The United Nations Security Council is, and has been since its creation, responsible

for solving the most influential and threatening crises the world faces. Those that

make global order and stability shiver and threaten lives all over the planet. And the

job of solving these crises will fall upon your hands as delegates. In this committee,

you will face the responsibility of returning our world to its order and stability, and of

ensuring peace and well-being for all its citizens.

We are entirely sure that all of you will do an amazing job, and will successfully solve

any issues that may come your way. We hope that TarbutMUN 2023 will be a very

enjoyable experience for all of you, and we look forward to working together.

Best of luck to all!

Your Chairs,

President: Moy Sacal (moysacals@gmail.com)

Moderator: Jacqueline Malca (<u>jaxmalcave@gmail.com</u>)

Secretary: Abby Nitza Abadi (abbynitzaabadib@gmail.com)

Participating Countries

- Federal Republic of **Germany**
- **French** Republic (Permanent member and veto power)
- Islamic Republic of Iran
- Japan
- People's Republic of **China** (Permanent member and veto power)
- State of Israel
- Democratic People's Republic of **Korea** (North Korea)
- Islamic Republic of Pakistan
- Afghanistan
- Italian Republic
- Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- Kingdom of Sweden
- Swiss Confederation
- Republic of India
- Republic of Poland
- **Russian** Federation (Permanent member and veto power)
- Ukraine
- United Arab Emirates
- **United Kingdom** of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (Permanent member and veto power)
- United **Mexican** States
- **United States** of America (Permanent member and veto power)
- Republic of **Korea** (South Korea)
- Republic of **Turkey**
- Republic of **Finland**
- Republic of **Belarus**
- Canada

The United Nations Security Council

History: The United Nations Security Council is a permanent committee made in October 1945. Even so, it waited until January 1946 for its first session. It must be mentioned that it is one of the six leading organs of The United Nations and was made right after World War 2. The purpose was basically to guarantee the safety of citizens all around the world.

The Security Council works in the following way: every country in the world that belongs to The United Nations has the right to be a member, though not a permanent one. There are 188 countries that rotate through two-year terms to be part of the SC. The objective of the constant changes of members is to perceive the points of view of countries from all over the world that face unalike obstacles.

However, there are currently five permanent members, which means that they don't rotate and that they have the privilege of staying in the council every single year. This rule applies to the following countries: the United States of America, the People's Republic of China, the French Republic, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the Russian Federation. It is essential to mention that the 5 permanent countries previously mentioned have veto power. This means that they have the right to refuse to approve a solution. Therefore, if any of the permanent members uses its veto power, the solution that was proposed becomes instantly invalid. In total, counting the permanent as well as the 10 non-permanent members that are constantly changing, the committee contains 15 members.

Without any doubt, The Security Council is one of the most relevant, respected, and prestigious committees of The UN. This is due to the amount of impact that the solutions that are chosen start having. We must remember that The Security Council lives up to its name by protecting civilians, its most precious possession.

Mission: This council's primary missions are to seek global security and to maintain peace. Nonetheless, it also possesses the power to authorize military actions and to aloud international sanctions.

The SC has additional missions such as investigating disputes or even discussions among countries that might lead to possible belic conflicts, selecting along with the General Assembly the Judges of the International Court of Justice, and can refer matters regarding the International Criminal Court.

Topic A: NATO's Strategic Placement of Nuclear Weapons Near Russian Borders

Key Words

- Nuclear weapons: A bomb or missile that requires nuclear energy to make an explosion.
- Non-Proliferation Treaty: International Treaty made by The United Nations in 1968 to furtherly achieve global disarmament, to prevent the creation of more nuclear weapons, and to encourage peaceful uses of nuclear technology.
- NATO: The North Atlantic Treaty Organization.
- **Belic conflict:** Armed confrontation between two nations or more.
- **Nuclear threat:** A specific point in a belic conflict in which nuclear weapons are brought up.
- Nuclear sharing: A policy created by NATO which allows the division of nuclear weapons within the territories of its member states.

Conflict Explanation

Understanding the complexity of this issue inevitably redirects us to the current Russia-Ukraine crisis. This conflict is the biggest we have faced since World War II, and many experts agree that humanity has not been as close to nuclear armageddon since the Cold War. Evidently, this conflict has put global stability at the highest of risks, and tensions between Russia and the west are at the highest they've been in decades.

A conflict of such a scale can be compared to a game of chess between both sides, in which each player moves their pieces and generates strategies to benefit their interests. The geopolitical situation surrounding Ukraine is the same. There are many players who wish to gain the most from it. Whether it be influence or economic gain, all of them seek to strengthen their position.

The Russia-Ukraine conflict sets the stage for a competition to gain power and influence in the region. Russia seeks to increase its territory, and gain a bigger military presence in Europe. This is with the objective of competing with NATO's (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) constant growth in Europe. Russia sees NATO's growth and expansion as a threat to its military and political control in the region, this is because Russia doesn't want NATO members near its borders, which is understandable from a Russian point of view. And in starting the conflict with Ukraine, they want to increase their influence and presence in the region.

But many experts agree that Russia's strategy has somewhat backfired, causing Sweden and Finland to join NATO. This is a devastating blow to Russia, because now two economic powers have joined NATO, and not only that, but they are also amongst the closest members to Russia's borders. And, of course, the conflict has also resulted in a major economic isolation of Russia. All of this has left them cornered, and Vladimir Putin has resorted to his biggest weapon, which is Russia's nuclear arsenal.

With approximately 6,200 nuclear weapons, Russia holds the largest nuclear arsenal in the world, and NATO's constant progress in Europe has left Putin with no choice but to threaten to use nuclear weapons if his efforts in Ukraine don't turn out as planned. NATO has realized the vulnerable position most of its members would be in if Russia decides to use nuclear weapons, so they've started developing new strategies to defend themselves from any possible Russian attack.

The way in which NATO seeks to fight back is by placing their nuclear weapons strategically in Europe, so Putin realizes that the same force of destruction he uses will return to him. Legally, NATO is allowed to place its nuclear weapons in the territories of its member states, which is known as <u>nuclear sharing</u>, and even though this weakens Russia's position, they can't do anything about it, which takes us to Poland.

Poland was probably the most affected country in World War II, and while many people remember that it was a German invasion of Poland that triggered the war, it

was also a Soviet invasion. This episode in Poland's history has caused a major anti-Russian sentiment among the Polish population. And this isn't a posture adopted by the people only, but also by the government. Poland has been one of the most outspoken anti-Russian governments since the start of the conflict in Ukraine.

This anti-Russian sentiment has resulted in Poland offering the United States to place its nuclear weapons in its territory. This allows them to be even closer to Russia if needed, claiming that this would be necessary to guarantee their security. This isn't the first time that the Polish government has made an offer to the western allies that could be considered as a direct affront to Russia. At the start of the conflict, they also offered to send all of their fighter jets to Ukraine, so that they could keep up with the Russian air force. An offer that was immediately shut down by Washington, due to it being too dangerous.

Poland certainly places a dilemma on the United States and NATO. For they could be a very valuable ally if the conflict continues to escalate, but they could also be the reason it keeps escalating. Whether or not the US chooses to place its nuclear weapons in Poland, the Russian threat, and affirmation that they will use all means necessary to defend their newly annexed territories, including nuclear weapons, persists.

It's very important to keep in mind that placing American nuclear weapons in Polish territory could be the detonator for a Russian invasion of Poland. But there's only a limit of Russian military actions that NATO can witness without intervening directly, and a Russian intervention in Poland would be the detonator of a major global conflict. This is why it is of the utmost importance for this situation to be solved as soon as possible.

If both sides are not capable of reaching a resolution that satisfies both of their interests, that conflict could escalate, and it will certainly persist. Ending and ruining more lives. Therefore, it will be your responsibility as delegates to end the tensions, and ensure that a peaceful solution is achieved by both sides cooperating and working together. Our current geopolitical climate is at its most dangerous point in decades, you all have an important job on your hands, and you must act quickly,

before the situation worsens, for the ones that will suffer are the innocent lives caught in the middle.

Past Global and UN Actions

Surely, one of the most damaged sectors because of the Russian-Ukraine conflict is the global energy system. In 2021 before the war started, Russia was considered the number one exporter of natural gas and oil. But since the war broke out, energy markets have been severely affected. The Russian gas company, Gazprom, has announced that it is completely closing the gas tap to the European Union as a sanction for NATO's support regarding Ukraine.

Ukraine faces lasting effects that will affect the country for the following couple of years. However, the economic consequences not only affect Ukraine and Russia. It is currently hurting the growth and the increasing prices of metal, wheat, energy, and other commodities. This is creating slower growth and higher inflation in the world's economy.

Regarding Ukraine, the citizens are the ones that receive the major consequences. Ukrainians are forced to live in critical conditions by not having access to clean water, healthcare, food, and other supplies that are considered essential to survive. Additionally, Ukraine has experienced mass destruction in its most important cities, along with thousands of deaths caused by the Russian Military. Besides, the citizens of Ukraine are not able to return home since their cities are in constant threat.

Russia has received repercussions for its actions too. Russia finds itself in a food crisis. Even so, the United States, among the rest of NATO, has imposed particular sanctions. These sanctions include the full blocking of Russia's greatest private bank, the full blocking of state-owned enterprises, the prohibition of new investments for this particular federation, personal sanctions for Vladimir Putin and his family, and the US prohibition of debt payments.

Since the United Nations cannot do a lot about this particular conflict, it has provided humanitarian aid to Ukraine, it has developed some sort of an independent international commission of inquiry. Also, an assembly in which a resolution passed that specifically mentioned not recognizing the regions that Russia has recently claimed.

Block Analysis

Nations that have allowed the placement of nuclear weapons near Russian Borders

Countries that allow NATO's placement of nuclear weapons in their countries, understand the importance of safeguarding the alliance's interests. These weapons would only be used in response if Russia used weapons of mass destruction. Countries are on edge about an escalation of conflict with Putin, knowing that he is known for his harsh behavior. Russia keeps threatening with nuclear force, and these countries take it seriously, so they are taking measures that could end in severe consequences for Russia.

Nations that have prohibited the placement of nuclear weapons near Russian Borders

Russia borders 14 countries, of which 5 of them belong to NATO. The remaining countries will not allow the placement of nuclear warheads because these actions could place Russia on alert, which could result in a worldwide conflict.

All these preventions are meant to keep this conflict in a safe point in which Russia is contained but not heavily oppressed, resulting in nuclear attacks on the alliance and its members.

Countries that have no intervention policy in the placement of nuclear weapons near Russian Borders

Countries that have no possession of any kind of nuclear weapons and are not planning to do any kind of intervention. Due to nuclear treaties and the lack of resources, many of the countries do not have access to any nuclear warheads,

which does not allow them to have this type of weapons either inside or outside their country, it's evident they won't have nuclear threats to Russia due to the lack of resources.

Further Reading

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Topic B: Addressing The North Korea - Japan Crisis

Key Words

- Ballistic missiles: A high-arched trajectory missile that requires projectile motion to deliver warheads to a specific target.
- Industrialization: The development of the economy in a nation.
- Sanctions: A penalty for disobeying a law.
- Nuclear Testings: Experiments carried by nuclear warheads.
- **Stalemate:** A conflict in which further action by involved parties seems impossible.

Conflict Explanation

The conflict between North Korea and other countries in the region dates back to almost two millennia. Particularly to the Japanese period of colonial rule in the Korean Peninsula, which lasted from 1910 to 1945, and has since left a bad flavor in all its inhabitants. Since the end of World War II, and of Japanese control in the region, relations between Japan and North Korea have been defined by constant tension, disagreement, and military provocation. Also, the growing resentment North Koreans feel towards Japan, remembering the colonial times, has left diplomacy



between the two countries at a stalemate. It is true that during their control over the peninsula, the Japanese played a major role in the industrialization and economic development of Korea. However, these economic benefits did not reach all of the population. The Japanese authorities imposed heavy restrictions on the

Korean people. They weren't allowed to collect any economic benefits from their activities, and when Japan found itself at war, Koreans were the first to be called as conscripts for the Japanese army.

Immediately after Japan's defeat in World War II, the United States and the Soviet Union both took control of one side of the Korean peninsula, dividing it into north and south. The southern part was ruled by a capitalist regime, led by Syngman Rhee, and backed by the United States and the United Nations, and the northern one by a communist regime, led by Kim II Sung, and backed by the Soviet Union and China. Both sides engaged in a belic conflict, which was known as the Korean War, and lasted for three years, from 1950 to 1953. The conflict was one of the bloodiest and most violent seen by the region since World War II. And by the end of it, there was no clear winner, so both sides agreed on a cease-fire. This agreement ended the armed conflict, however, it did not end the ideological one, nor did the tensions between both sides. Japan offered its support to South Korea's capitalist policies, and offered both economic and military support to the South during the war.

This pattern of constant tension between the two sides continued until the start of Kim Jong Un's mandate. There were a few failed attempts to establish negotiations throughout the years, but as mentioned, they weren't successful, and the usual state of tension was resumed. But it was under Kim Jong Un's mandate that relations between the two started to worsen notably. This was mostly noted in 2013, when North Korea started developing its nuclear program, and upon its first launch, Japan started its now-known economic sanction policy against them. And in that same year, they, together with the US and the UN, sponsored a human rights commission to investigate abuses in North Korea. The following year, relations between the two seemed to improve, while both sides decided to resume diplomatic talks in Stockholm, and Japan agreed to lift some of their sanctions.

But of course, this short state of peace with tension didn't last for long. It ended when North Korea decided to begin its nuclear and ballistic development program, beginning to undertake test launches on their neighboring countries' waters. Japan reopened its committee to investigate human rights violations in North Korea, and encouraged the Security Council to refer them to the International Criminal Court. In response to this, North Korea stated that, "If Japan continues behaving as now, it would disappear from the world map for good." Afterward, North Korea decided to dissolve and forbid any further human rights investigations in its territory, in

retaliation for Japan's new sanctions, after North Korea violated Security Council resolutions by engaging in nuclear testing.

After this, North Korea rapidly accelerated its nuclear program's development, creating a major concern for Japan. Tensions raised to a record high in 2017, when two intermediate range ballistic missiles flew over Japanese territory, causing Japan to emit various alerts throughout its territory and placing its defense systems and military at the highest alert. The constant military threat caused Japan to be a full supporter of President Trump's policy of maximum pressure against North Korea, but eventually, the tensions between Pyongyang and Washington lowered, and negotiations were established. But Japan was somewhat left out of this, North Korea engaged in negotiations with various countries, amongst these were South Korea, the US, Russia, and China. But none were held with Japan.

And ever since this, diplomatic relations between the two countries have remained in the same constant state of tension. With both sides refusing to engage in further diplomatic talks. But this year, things changed. In 2022, tensions between North Korea and Japan have reached a point they haven't been at since the 2017 crisis.

This is because North Korea's test launches have shown the world how much their nuclear and ballistic program has been upgraded. According to Japanese sources, the most recent information obtained from North Korea's latest test launches suggests that their ballistic missiles now have the capacity to reach any point in the United



States' territory. Raising the alarm in Washington, the US has already condemned the launch, and has vowed to take "All necessary measures" to guarantee the safety of its citizens. And Vice President Kamala Harris has referred to the act as a "Brazen Violation of U.N. security resolutions."

It's needless to state that North Korea's constant military development, and their persistent test launches over neighboring countries' territory, are seen as overly provocative by Japan. Consequently, it is rising the tensions to a dangerously high

point once again. Only that this time, the United State's involvement might be more direct than ever before, due to North Korea now possessing the capacity to reach their territory directly. Pyongyang's policies are, and have been viewed as hostile by Japan and the US, as well as the UN, which has done all it can to stop North Korea from increasing the tension even more. But it seems that economic sanctions are not enough to put an end to the tensions, which continue on the rise.

As of right now, this conflict poses one of the biggest risks of a major military conflict, and the start of it would mean that, along with the Russia-Ukraine conflict, two major armed disputes would be happening at the same time. Which would certainly be the biggest crisis faced by the United Nations Security Council since its creation. It is our duty as a committee to put an end to this, to stop all military actions, and to lower the tensions before they keep escalating. We've witnessed the perils and consequences of armed conflicts more than enough in our history, and no matter the reasons, no one ever benefits from the outcome.

Past Global and UN Actions

The UN Security Council decided to make a resolution regarding the behaviors of North Korea. These resolutions were made specifically on June 25, 1950, and they have been updated a couple of times since that date. This is the resolution number #82, and it consists of 21 solutions in total. Since that date, there have been multiple resolutions concerning this country. The most relevant resolutions that regard this particular topic are that North Korea was strictly prohibited from making ballistic and nuclear tests.

Some demands that The Security Council implemented against North Korea are: North Korea should abstain from doing any kind of WMD activities, North Korea should return to listen to the Six-Party Talks, North Korea needs to return to the NPT as soon as possible, and most important regarding this topic, North Korea shall suspend every single ballistic missile activities; especially if these affect other nations.

Yet, North Korea does not tend to follow what the UN says. The most recent update of the new resolution specifies that North Korea should highly consider rejoining the Non-Proliferation Treaty for global security.

Besides, The United States and Japan had a meeting regarding security, and both nations strongly criticized North Korea's recent actions regarding their use of ballistic missiles that are being launched into the Sea of Japan. Japan finds itself in a position where the country is outraged and alarmed, but no actions have been taken yet. This news created concerns for any world leader mostly because many nations consider North Korea a great threat.

Block Analysis

Nations that are in agreement with North Korea's actions

This includes all countries that agree with missile testing and do not consider this to be a clandestine activity of North Korea in Japanese territory. Nations that are convinced that North Korea is only firing missiles for testing and can't find any repercussions this may cause.

Nations against North Korea's actions and worried about Japan

This bloc includes all countries that support Japan's decision to deny clandestine activities from North Korea in their territory. Also, all those who are worried about North Korea using its nuclear programs, and the effect it could have on Japanese citizens and their safety. Even after being forced to shelter them due to North Korea firing missiles.

Countries that have no plan to intervene in this conflict

This includes all countries that are not planning to do any sort of intervention or statement on the current crisis between Japan and North Korea, as they are completely neutral on the conflict and hold good political relationships with both nations. Countries' opinions and positions in regard to this topic may change according to what happens in the debate.

Topic B Further Reading

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