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Group (2) Assignment

Nuclear Weapons (Politics behind International Security)

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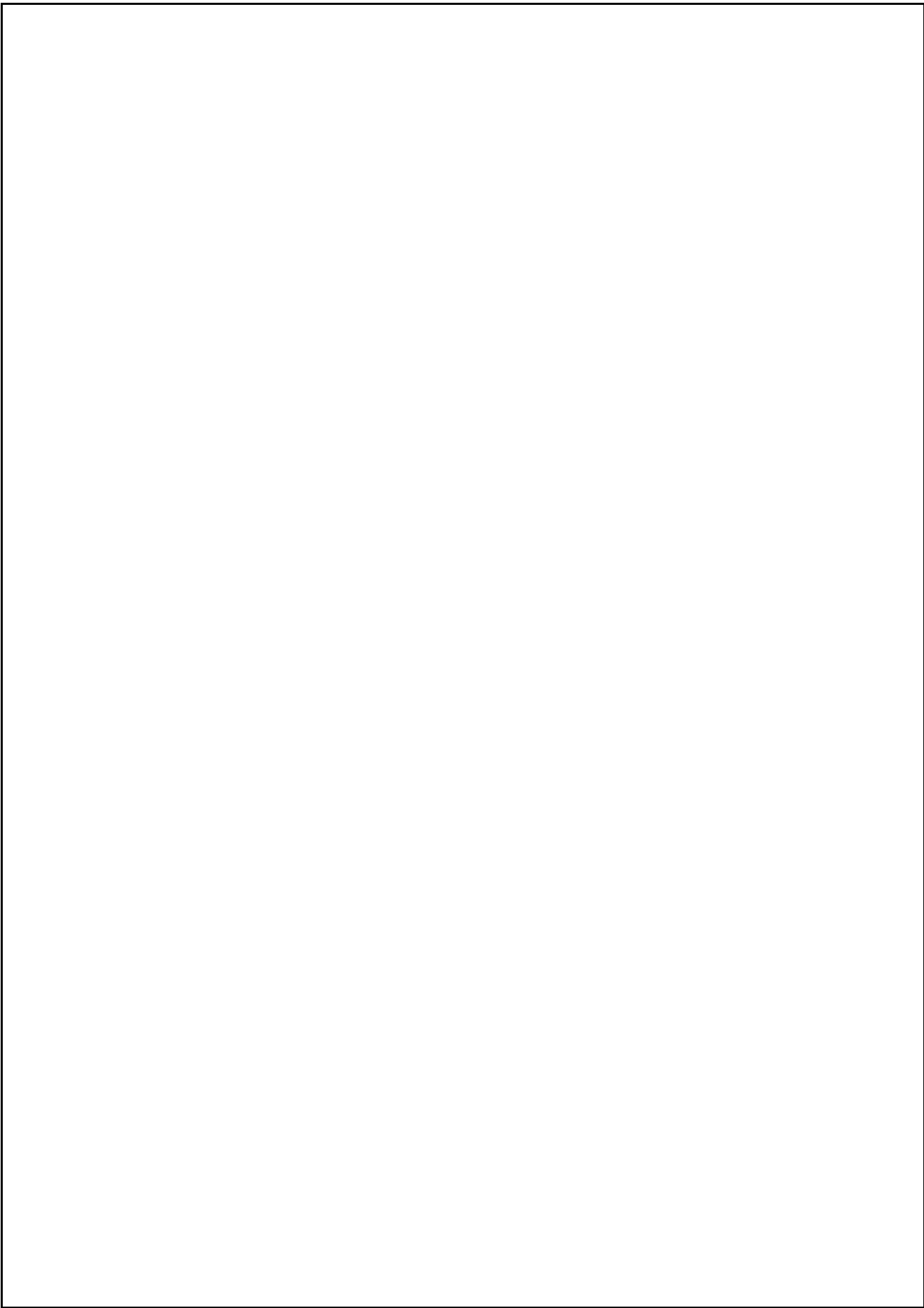
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Delegation of Tasks

1. Mary M Mudachi- The Politics Behind Nuclear weapons
2. Lauren S Omollo-Nuclear weapons as a threat to security
3. Chelsea Chemweno-International law and Nuclear Weapons
4. Hani Muhumed- Treaties by the UN on Nuclear Weapons.

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Declaration.

This research paper we have presented and submitted to Mrs Esther Kibe is our Original work and has not been submitted for the award of a degree in any other University

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Abstract

The overall objective of this study is to explain the politics behind nuclear weapons with a focus on international law, the threats by the UN on nuclear weapons, the way in which nuclear weapons threaten security and the nations that threaten our security. On the latter, we focused on nuclear super powers.

The study also shades light on the treaties of nuclear proliferations that have been signed over the years and the damages of Nagasaki and Hiroshima, showing how much destructive the nuclear weapons are. It will make the readers understand why they are called 'weapons of mass destruction'.

We also make the readers understand the military aspects of nuclear weapons and their importance in security. After the study we have come up with our recommendations on how nuclear weapons should be handled.

INTRODUCTION

Background of the study

In 1945 at Mexico it was considered to be the first place when bombing begun . It was later then followed closely by the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombing that happened in Japan which as a result of this it resulted to the death of more than 130,00 people . This initiative therefore forced the vital powers to conduct a test ban for this nuclear weapons . India conducted the largest nuclear technology lead by its President Jawaharlal Nehru.

The USA , USSR ,UK,France and China were now considered to be nuclear weapon countries . In Geneva 1994 North Korea and America sat down to solve the matter on the Korean peninsula. (Ramesh ,2015).They both signed and agreed to wrap up the case behind the proliferation of nuclear weapons . Later on the 12th December 1995 the United Nations (UN) started on a mission of nuclear test banning and focus on disarmament on nuclear weapons .

After the United Nations making this declaration much could be seen that greatly changed . Some of this changes include first, ¹⁶ Bangkok treaty which established the Southeast Asia Nuclear_weapon_Free zone . Secondly on the 10th September 1996 the UN adopted a comprehensive test ban treaty which made the USA become the first one to sign it . Thirdly, North Korea was considered by the UN to be reducing on the proliferation of nuclear weapons .

In general therefore ²² in order to minimize the proliferation of this nuclear weapons other ¹⁹ sanctions came it to place not only politically but also economically . A good example is the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank controlled by the USA controlled the

donor conditionality to states if they did not met the policy of disarmament . This policy was lifted un 2001 when the USA needed a helping hand from Pakistan and India to support it in fighting the Al_Qaeda group in Afghanistan.(Ahmed ,1999)

14
George W Bush named North Korea, Iraq and Iran the major axis of evil .(Ramesh ,2015)

This is seen clear because of their production of major weapons of destruction that clearly detoriated the development of the world in one way or two .

After this declaration by George W Bush North Korea then made it nuisance to the extent that on October 2006 it conducted a nuclear test that was more as compared to the Hiroshima and Naggasaki bomb . The missiles in North Korea one would simply describe it as to have bomb Korea ,Japan as well as the Chinese territories at a go .

Simply as years go by the proliferation of nuclear weapons tend to increase so as the power of those nuclear weapons . The USA is considered to be among the greatest in producing nuclear weapons followed closely by North Korea and Japan . Other than that the constructivism theory some how eradicated how this nuclear weapons came to be .

Theory behind the nuclear weapon (constructivism theory)

Constructivism is simply when actors change their values and behaviour which then automatically changes their identity and behaviour and later on changes their interactions and actions. In short , the actors interest and is constructed by their principles ,norms and values . A good example is the Al-Shabaab , they value their religion Islam more than any other that is Christianity and for this therefore their interest have therefore changed . Their interest now becomes to bomb any particular region where there are non_muslims and to convert more and more different religions to Islam . That can even explain the reason behind all this proliferation of nuclear weapon on the basis of these nuclear weapons .

INTERNATIONAL LAW AND NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Ever since the launch of nuclear weapons that caused the death of many lives the International Community has come up with laws to end this. This arena especially goes to the focus on the International Humanitarian Law (IHL) which has clearly stated its implications and consequences for that matter. It is quite absurd that all this can be avoided with the use of the Law and the policy of disarmament. However, will all the nuclear power states look keenly on this issue.

Military aspects of nuclear weapon

The military uses nuclear weapons to protect both the state and individual security. Just as it was seen during the world war period it is the military which used to go for war. The USA during World War II had a well-polished military with very good nuclear weapons that made it succeed after the Soviet Union. It is then quite clear that a military with good nuclear weapons will definitely protect both individual and state security.

Security aspects of nuclear weapon

Indeed, both state and individual security have to be protected at all cost. According to realists mostly they think of the use of nuclear weapon to achieve that.

TREATIES BY THE UN ON NUCLEAR WEAPON

Quite a number of treaties have been put in place ever since to at least minimize the proliferation of this nuclear weapons. Some of these treaties include :

Treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons

The Treaty is basically the core of all treaties in the global arena. Its main goal was on the disarmament of nuclear weapons or rather stop the production of nuclear weapon in other words. It simply made states like the North Korea to stop competing in the production of these nuclear weapon.

Treaty on proliferation of nuclear weapon

On this treaty it mainly focuses on prohibiting states on producing, testing or even acquiring these nuclear weapons . This treaty also makes sure that those affected incase of any nuclear weapon major destruction they are greatly compensated at all cost. Also in a case of environment degradation the nuclear weapon parties should look for an alternative in bring it back or making it better incase of a nuclear weapon destruction.

Comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty

This treaty has an organization that was formed in the year 1994 for the purpose in maintaing the proliferation of the nuclear weapons . The organization goes by the name Commission of Comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty. The main aim of this treaty was to simply provide a forum for all individuals to attain the arge in disarmament of nuclear weapons .

Those are just but a few treaties made by the UN in order to maintain the proloferation of these nuclear weapons in order to maintain peace and security in the global arena .

THE POLITICS BEHIND NUCLEAR WEAPONS

According to Centre W (2018), for countries that are advanced with strong, military capabilities, for example, the united states of America ¹ nuclear weapons are decreasing in importance. Countries with advanced military capabilities would rather use their military capabilities then restore to the use of ¹⁵ nuclear weapons. As nuclear weapons are the most dangerous weapons on earth. The only time in the history of the world that nuclear weapons have ones been used was by the United States of America during the world war two to attack Japan cities- Maunley, Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

The United States of America face many problems in the world today, but they cannot be resolved by using nuclear weapons because of the grave consequences caused to human

beings and to the environment, for example, children born with limbs, legs and arms and nuclear weapons cause rivers to dry up and grass to stop growing in the affected areas.

Iraq was invaded by the USA in March 2003 motivated by the belief that Iraq possessed weapons of Nuclear Mass destruction (WMD) programs. In December 2003, sensing how dangerous it had become to own WMD, development program the late Libyan dictator Mohammed Quaddafi agreed to the United States request for Libya to end up its nuclear and chemical weapons program; unfortunately, four years later after Mohammed Quaddafi gave up his nuclear program has been overthrown by the Libyan people with extensive Western support, and killed in his home town with extensive Western support, and killed by a mob in his hometown. Syrian leader Bashar al-Assad has successfully managed to deter Western intervention in his own country in part by threatening to use his remaining stocks of chemical weapons. Meanwhile, in North Korea, the country underwent a peaceful leadership transition from late 2011 to early 2012 when Kim Jong Un became Supreme Leader following the death of his father, Kim Jong II. North Korea conducted its first nuclear test in 2006 and its second in 2009.

First, the leadership of countries that harbour nuclear ambitions particularly Iran, Korea may hold harder to those ambitions because of the above occurrences. Following these events, authoritarian leaders by now understand that, although having a nuclear weapons development program involves the risk of military action and crippling sanctions, leaders who acquire both nuclear and WMD capability have a freer hand to violently end domestic dissent and stir up trouble. This may lead to a death sentence if they give up nuclear or other WMD program.

The past decade has seen a sessions development associated between nuclear programs and national leaders' personal fates. Of this observation gains mileage in the future, this new

individual strategy ¹ to nuclear policies may hinder the Obama and Trump administration's efforts to stop or roll back Iran's and North Korea's nuclear weapons.

NUCLEAR WEAPON AS A THREAT TO INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

On August 1945 marks the beginning of the use of all this nuclear weapons. The USA bombed Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan . This really threatened the international security at large because it caused the death of over 130,000 people.

The Hiroshima and Nagasaki radiations caused major health effects to those people and it was against the international humanitarian law. This therefore resulted to the UN to come to place and form treaties especially on disarmament . This was in late 1946

Despite all this occurrences there were still atomic bomb testing being done by different vital powers . In 1949 ,Russia ² carried out its first nuclear bomb test . In 1952 the United Kingdom did the same but eventually it was found out that the USA still carried the crown . USA race arms acceleration hit up until it conveyed to the development of a hydrogen bomb that was able to produce twice as much effect as compared to the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombing by the USA .

⁹ Recently on July 7th 2017 the United Nations adopted the treaty on prohibition of nuclear weapons . According to the United Nations statistics it is only 56 countries that have signed this treaty out of a possible 193 countries that are recognized by the United Nations. Some states however hold that crown of being good in nuclear production name them ;

¹² UK,USA,France ,China ,India ,Pakistan, Israel and even North Korea . Unlike in the cold war period the risk of using this nuclear weapon is much greater today . The reason is that most of this nuclear weapon countries each day by the day are of continued act of arms race that would cause mass destruction as compared to the one that happened in Japan.

² "There has been tremendous global progress on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation since the end of the Cold War, aided by the excellent work of ICAN and others," says Dr Sean O'higeartaigh, executive director of Cambridge University's Centre for the Study of Existential Risk (CSER). (David, 2009)

However over the period of years no one seem to pay close attention to the proliferation and arms race of this nuclear weapons despite even them conducting a nuclear test in Pakistan and India during the late 90's.

It is the hydrogen bomb in North Korea and the continues rattling of the US president Donald Trump to the extent of even building a wall that would subdivide its borders . This therefore has greatly cause a major threat to the international security at large . .

² As it stands, the only way to ensure a world that's free of the looming threat of nuclear war is full international disarmament. The notion of deterrence is a game theory scenario that relies on the conceit that no one would be irrational enough to launch a nuclear strike for fear of retribution and that the leadership of a country, once attacked, would see no ethical problem in launching their own nukes to ensure the annihilation of as much of its attacker's civilian population and infrastructure as possible.

² Mutually assured destruction, would affect not only the targets of mass nuclear strikes, but also the rest of the planet.

Beatrice Fihn says, "If only a small fraction of today's nuclear weapons were used, soot and smoke from the firestorms would loft high into the atmosphere – cooling, darkening and drying the Earth's surface for more than a decade. It would obliterate food crops, putting billions at risk of starvation,"

NATION STATES THAT THREATEN OUR SECURITY

Nuclear weapons according to David Barash represents a drastic discontinuation in the history of mankind ,offering avenues for more dramatic break; cancelling of the past, ending the now and negating of tomorrow.

At least four factors must be considered if one is to group the nuclear war and the urgency as well as the prospects of preventing it: Nuclear weapons are extra ordinarily powerful and devastating thus commanding so much attention. Eye witness of the Nagasaki impact described nuclear weapons: “For some 1000 yards, or three fifth of a mile, in all directions from the epicentre it was as if a malevolent god had suddenly focused a gigantic blow torch on a small section of the planet. Within that perimeter, nearly all unprotected living organisms perished instantly. Flowers, trees, grass, plants, all shrivelled and died. Wood burst into flames. Metal beams began to bubble, and the soft gooey masses twisted into grotesque shapes. Stones were pulverized, and for a second every bit of air was burned away. The people did not expose within the doomed section knew nor felt anything, and their blackened, unrecognizable forms dropped where they stood”. (Webel ,2009).

Hiroshima and Nagasaki were both hit by atomic bombs, carrying explosive power of about 20KT and 12 KT respectively. These are very small compared to the bombs and war heads now available. Bombs and war heads in the strategic arsenal of the United States (U. S) and Russia are about 1000-2000KT. In 2007, there were estimated 26,000-27,000 nuclear weapons possessed by declared nuclear states; France, China, India and Pakistan.

By undeclared nuclear states (Israel) and by a state whose fledging nuclear arsenal is the subject of intense negotiation (North Korea). It is also believed that sub national and terrorist groups, as well as possible a few non-nuclear states, have been seeking to develop, or acquire, nuclear devices.

During the first decade of the 21st century, while many westerners have become more anxious about being victims of nuclear attack by 'rogue states' and /by terrorists, there seems to be a little opposition¹⁷ to the development of a new generation of 'small' nuclear weapons by the United States to initiate a nuclear attack and/to retaliate to an attack with nuclear weapons.

By late 1990s, antinuclear peace movement activities had succeeded, at least in making it unacceptable for politicians and strategic planners to speak lightly of precipitating a nuclear holocaust. Nonetheless, there appear to be remarkably few changes in the US nuclear procurement policies or in the actual operational plans for using nuclear weapons.

Nuclear delivery systems are in form of bombers,⁷ intercontinental ballistic missiles, submarine launched ballistic missiles –rockets and cruise missiles. The other nuclear Super Powers-China, France, Great Britain, India, Israel, and possibly North Korea employ one or at most two 'legs' of such a triad.

⁴ "The major component of US strategic doctrine is alleged to be the deterrence, the idea that nuclear war will be prevented by the threat that any attacker would suffer unacceptable retaliation. Realizing this, the would-be attacker would therefore be deterred.¹¹ The United States and Russia still account for over 90% of the world's nuclear weapons," Charles Weber 2016.

Among the existing nuclear powers, the proliferation path has been much like a chain of dominoes: The United States initiated a nuclear program out of fear of being beaten to the Punch by Germany during World War II and to intimidate the Soviet Union,⁶ The Soviet Union followed suite, in response to the US nuclear monopoly.⁶ (Oliver et al,2016).

China mainly went nuclear fearing the USSR, India developed open nuclear weapons initially because of China; and Pakistan has built nuclear weapons power ostensibly to deter conventional and chemical attacks from its Arab neighbours.

If Iran, Syria or some other Islamic country were to develop nuclear weapons and the systems to deter them, the likely rationale would be to deter a possible attack by Israel and or the US. The Non-Proliferation Treaty has not been signed by India, Pakistan or Israel, which forgoes the nuclear ambitions.

SOLUTIONS

Some basic solutions to Nuclear weapons revolve around the implementation of certain policies amongst states as actors in the international system. One such policy is to establish policies that provide restrictions to states that produce nuclear weapons to either receive a specific amount of nuclear weapon materials or to abolish the production of nuclear weapons material that shall be used in their manufacture. Through this the states shall be discouraged from indulging in making the weapons as some shall eventually stop in the process

Another policy that can be implemented is the regular inspection of nuclear power plants. States that produce these weapons should have a specific Committee deployed to oversee and ensure the respective nuclear power plants follow the jurisdictions and regulations required for the production of the nuclear weapons

RECOMMENDATIONS

Our personal recommendations for the production of nuclear weapons is to implement the total abolishment of the manufacture and selling of nuclear weapons. This acts as a certainty that all states shall have an equal playing field in matters of protection and can be assured that no state is producing a deadly nuclear weapon that can cause dire and devastating effects to another state which was in the case of the Hiroshima bombing. Through the total disarmament

of nuclear weapons producing states should the safety of states and the individuals they host be assured.

CONCLUSION

Some governments ⁷ that harbour nuclear ambitions especially Iran and North Korea might continue to hold more onto those ambitions. Watching what recent unfolded in Iraq, Syria and Libya, authoritarian governments by now understand that although having a nuclear weapons development program involves the risk of military action and crippling sanctions, ¹ leaders who do acquire nuclear or other weapons of mass destruction capability have a much freer hand to violently put down domestic dissent and stir up trouble in their regions. Perhaps more importantly they may increasingly believe that giving up nuclear or other weapons ²¹ of mass destruction program may be a death sentence.

¹ The past decade has seen the development of a visible association between nuclear programs and national leaders' personal fates. If this association gains traction, this new, personal dimension to nuclear policies may hamper the Obama and Trump administration efforts to halt as roll back Iran's and North Korea's nuclear program.

The illegal attempts to secure useful knowledge and expertise to develop proliferation programs against those illegal attempts, we must increase our vigilance in terms of access to training, to research centres and to the most sensitive information; the fight against the transfer of proliferating goods, meaning that proliferating flows must be concretely prevented, proliferating activities must be criminalized and their financing sources must be identified and combated.

The proliferation of nuclear weapons therefore poses the most serious imaginable threats to human beings in the planet. It therefore means that all countries in the continent have fear of

a nuclear attack and the nuclear super powers have only retained their weapon out of the fear they have among themselves.

If this is true then what Roland Paris said twenty years ago might be valid; ²⁰ the assumption ⁵ that the surest foundation for peace is market democracy, that is, a liberal domestic policy and a market-oriented economy. Transplanting western models of social, political and economic organizations into war-shattered states in order to control civil conflicts, this would simply mean that post war reconstruction, avoiding nuclear proliferation, arms control and disarmament is one of the most important things that the international community needs. Building a good relationship with countries that threaten our security is vital in peace building, nation building and state building. According to the UN High Panel, 2004, the UN is devoted to post war reconstruction and deploys peace keepers to deter would-be spoilers. The UN believes that keeping peace in the international arena is their core function.

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