

IASMUN

Background Guide



General Assembly 1



Letter from The Dias:

WE ARE THRILLED TO EXTEND AN INVITATION TO YOUR ESTEEMED INSTITUTION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MUCH-ANTICIPATED IASMUN 2025. THIS PREMIER MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE, ORGANIZED BY THE DIAS COMMUNITY, PROMISES TO BE AN ENRICHING PLATFORM FOR STUDENTS TO HONE THEIR DIPLOMATIC, CRITICAL THINKING, AND PUBLIC SPEAKING SKILLS.

DELEGATES AT IASMUN 2025 WILL REPRESENT NATIONS, DELIBERATE ON GLOBAL ISSUES, AND COLLABORATIVELY DEVELOP RESOLUTIONS THAT ADDRESS SOME OF THE WORLD'S MOST PRESSING CHALLENGES. THIS EXPERIENCE IS NOT JUST AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ACADEMIC ENGAGEMENT BUT ALSO A CHANCE FOR PARTICIPANTS TO NETWORK WITH LIKE-MINDED PEERS AND GAIN INSIGHTS INTO INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

WE BELIEVE YOUR STUDENTS WOULD GREATLY BENEFIT FROM THIS IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE, AND WE ENCOURAGE THEIR PARTICIPATION. REGISTRATION DETAILS, EVENT GUIDELINES, AND COMMITTEE ALLOCATIONS WILL BE SHARED IN DUE COURSE.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOUR INSTITUTION'S DELEGATES TO IASMUN 2025 AND WITNESSING THEIR INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE EVENT. SHOULD YOU HAVE ANY QUERIES, PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT US.

SINCERELY,

DANIYAL ALI

CEYRA JACKSON



GA1 (DISEC) Background Introduction

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FIRST COMMITTEE (GA1), ALSO KNOWN AS THE DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE (DISEC), IS ONE OF SIX MAJOR COMMITTEES OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY. GA1, WHICH INCLUDES ALL 193 UN MEMBER STATES, SERVES AS A BROADLY INCLUSIVE PLATFORM FOR GOVERNMENTS TO ENGAGE ON GLOBAL PEACE AND SECURITY CONCERNs. (UNITED NATIONS, “GENERAL ASSEMBLY”).

THIS COMMITTEE ADDRESSES A WIDE RANGE OF CRITICAL ISSUES, INCLUDING NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT, CONVENTIONAL ARMS REGULATION, AND NOVEL THREATS SUCH AS CYBERSECURITY. IT FOCUSES ON KEEPING PEACE BY URGING GOVERNMENTS TO IMPLEMENT DISARMAMENT AND PEACEFUL SECURITY POLICIES. THESE DISCUSSIONS SEEK TO LESSEN THE DANGER OF ARMED CONFLICT AND PROMOTE A SAFER INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT (SWISS MISSION TO THE UN, GA HANDBOOK).

IN ADDITION TO TRADITIONAL DISARMAMENT ISSUES, DISEC INVESTIGATES HOW SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL BREAKTHROUGHS INFLUENCE GLOBAL STABILITY. IT ASSESSES THE HAZARDS AND OPPORTUNITIES PRESENTED BY DEVELOPMENTS IN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, TELECOMMUNICATIONS, AND CYBERSECURITY. OTHER SIGNIFICANT CHALLENGES INCLUDE COMBATTING SMALL WEAPONS TRAFFICKING, PREVENTING TERRORISM, AND INCREASING MILITARY BUDGET TRANSPARENCY. DISEC ADDRESSES THESE DIFFICULTIES TO ENSURE THAT TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES AND NATIONAL SECURITY PROGRAMS CONTRIBUTE TO INTERNATIONAL STABILITY (UNITED NATIONS DIGITAL LIBRARY, “DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY”).

THE COMMITTEE WORKS CLOSELY WITH OTHER UN BODIES, INCLUDING THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR DISARMAMENT AFFAIRS (UNODA) AND THE UNITED NATIONS DISARMAMENT COMMISSION (UNDC). THESE ORGANIZATIONS PROMOTE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DISARMAMENT MEASURES AND MAINTAIN ONGOING INTERACTION WITH IMPORTANT PROBLEMS RAISED IN GA1 (THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR DISARMAMENT AFFAIRS).



Agenda 1:

ELECTRONIC WARFARE AND AI: REGULATING THE INTERSECTION OF TECHNOLOGY AND GLOBAL SECURITY

AGENDA OVERVIEW:

IT'S AN UNDERSTATEMENT TO SAY THAT TECHNOLOGY ADVANCES QUICK, WITH TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPING AT FASTER RATES EVERY DAY IT TENDS TO INFLUENCE A LOT OF THINGS IN THE GLOBAL SPECTRUM. ELECTRONIC WARFARE (EW), WHICH TRADITIONALLY FOCUSED ON RUINING COMMUNICATIONS LIKE RADARS, NOW BENEFITS FROM AI'S FEATURE OF PROCESSING INCREDIBLE AMOUNTS OF INFORMATION AND INTERPRETING IT IN REAL TIME. AI WITH THIS FEATURE REJUVENATES COUNTRIES' OFFENSIVE AND DEFENSIVE CAPABILITIES WHICH ALSO INCLUDES THINGS LIKE CYBERATTACKS AND AUTONOMOUS DECISION MAKING AS WELL AS ADAPTIVE ELECTRONIC COUNTERMEASURES.

NOW AS GOOD THESE ADVANCEMENTS MIGHT BE THEY HAVE THEIR RISKS AS WELL. AI-INTEGRATED ELECTRONIC WARFARE LEADS TO ESCALATIONS OF WAR, BREACHES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW WHICH INVOLVES CIVILIAN INFRASTRUCTURE BEING IMPACTED. NON-STATE ACTORS, SUCH AS TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS AND CYBERCRIMINALS, ARE ALSO INCREASINGLY EXPLOITING THESE TECHNOLOGIES, POSING A SIGNIFICANT CHALLENGE TO STATE-CENTRIC REGULATORY EFFORTS.

ALSO, ADDED TO THIS PROBLEM IS THE FACT THAT AI HAS A MILITARY AND CIVILIAN APPLICATIONS, THEREFORE LAW MAKERS FIND IT CHALLENGING TO DETERMINE WHICH LAWS TO APPLY. MANY CIVILIAN AI ADVANCEMENTS THAT MAY INCLUDE NATURAL LANGUAGE PROCESSING AND FACIAL RECOGNITION ARE USED MILITARILY OR FOR SURVEILLANCE. THIS OFTEN MEANS THAT CLEAR INTERNATIONAL NORMS CANNOT BE CREATED EASILY AND POWERFUL ENTITIES, BOTH STATE AND NON-STATE CAN MANIPULATE THESE TOOLS FOR THEIR OWN AGENDA.



History:

1. EARLY CONCEPTS OF ELECTRONIC WARFARE

THIS GROUP OF CONFLICTS HAS ITS HISTORY ROOTED IN THE WORLD WAR II AS RADAR JAMMING, SIGNAL INTERCEPTION AND EVEN ENCRYPTION BREAKING PROVED TO BE FATALLY EFFECTIVE WAYS OF FIGHTING IN THIS TYPE OF WAR. THE COLD WAR SAW YET ANOTHER GROWTH IN THE ROLE OF EW AS THE SUPERPOWERS SOUGHT FOR CAPABILITIES TO GATHER INFO FROM A TARGET'S COMMUNICATION, DEGRADE OR DENY THE USE OF ENEMY'S RADAR EQUIPMENT OR TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE FLAWS IN ONE'S OWN OR AN OPPONENT'S ELECTRONIC NETWORKS.

2. INTRODUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF ELECTRONIC WARFARE WITH THE USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

THE FURTHER ENHANCEMENT OF AI IN EW BECAME MORE ACTIVE IN THE RECENT DECADE, 2010. IT ONLY TOOK ABOUT TWO MINUTES FOR THE AI SYSTEMS TO PROCESS A MASSIVE AMOUNT OF DATA, SEEMING CONTINGENT ON DECODING ENEMY COMMUNICATIONS, CREATING THE BEST SIGNAL JAMMERS, AS WELL AS ESTIMATING ELECTRONIC THREATS WITH GREAT PRECISION. SOME TECHNOLOGIES SUCH AS DEEP LEARNING, AND NEURAL NETWORK WOULD ENABLE AUTOMATION TO VERY HIGH LEVELS, CHANGING THE WAY WAR IS WAGED.



History:

3. ROLE OF NON-STATE ACTORS

AS AI TOOLS CAN BE PURCHASED FROM COMMERCIAL MARKETPLACES, AS WELL AS BEING AVAILABLE AS OPEN SOURCE, NON-STATE ACTORS, INCLUDING TERRORIST GROUPS AND CYBER CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS, HAVE BEEN ABLE TO EMPLOY EW. ALAS, THESE ACTORS HAVE NO INTERNATIONAL LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY AND DO NOT FIT INTO THE CONVENTIONAL CONFLICT-SOLUTION PARADIGM.

4. GLOBAL INEQUALITY

AS THE DIVIDE BETWEEN TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED NATIONS AND THE LESS ADVANCED NATIONS EXISTS, SO DOES VULNERABLE INEQUALITY. THE THRESHING OF AI-ENABLED CYBERATTACKS DEAR TO DEVELOP NATIONS INDICATES THAT THESE AREAS HAVE NO ACCESS TO ADEQUATE RESOURCES AND TOOLS FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE CRUCIAL STRUCTURES OR ESTABLISHMENT; AS A RESULT; THEY RELY MORE ON THE POWERS FROM THE EXTRANEous COUNTRIES.



Latest Developments:

- CYBERSECURITY THREATS WITH AI

ADVANCED PERSISTENT THREATS, AI-POWERED MALWARE, AND NEW GENERATION ASSAULTS HAVE ATTACKED POWER COMPANIES, HEALTHCARE FACILITIES, AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS. THESE INCIDENTS SHOW THAT THERE IS AN INCREASING COMPLEXITY OF AI APPLICATIONS IN EW.

- MILITARY INTEGRATION OF AI

AI IS ALREADY TRENDING WITH THE ADVANCED MILITARIES IN THEIR EW STRATEGIES. FOR INSTANCE, THE UNITED STATES' DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE IS CURRENTLY USING PROJECT MAVEN TO USE MACHINE LEARNING TO STUDY BATTLEFIELD INFORMATION; BUT ON THE OTHER HAND, CHINA HAS ALREADY STARTED APPLYING AI FOR ELECTROMAGNETIC SPECTRUM WARFARE. THESE DEVELOPMENTS SHOW THE APPLICATION OF OPERATIONALIZATION OF AI IN CONFLICT AREAS.

- INTERNATIONAL TENSIONS

OBSESSION WITH LEVERAGING POWER OF AI IN EW CONTINUES TO ESCALATE GEOPOLITICAL ACRIMONY, MOST RECENTLY OVER SOUTH CHINA SEA AND EASTERN EUROPE. THIS THE ACCIDENTAL TRIGGERING OF AI COUNTERMEASURES, MISUNDERSTANDINGS OF ELECTRONIC SIGNALS COULD EVEN TRIGGER FULL-SCALE WEAPONS USE.

- REGULATORY EFFORTS

IN RECENT YEARS, HOWEVER, REGULATORY SYSTEMS OF THE GLOBAL FINANCIAL MARKET REMAIN DISPERSED. THESE ISSUES LEARNED CHALLENGES, BUT SYSTEM HAS TRIED TO ADDRESS THEM THROUGH UN GROUP OF GOVERNMENTAL EXPERTS ON LETHAL; HOWEVER, IT DOES NOT HAVE ENFORCEMENT MECHANISMS WHICH LEAVE A MAJOR GAP IN THE AREA OF MONITORING.



Possible Solutions:

- OVERARCHING INTERNATIONAL SYSTEMS

FOR THIS PURPOSE, THERE IS A NECESSITY IN CREATION OF NORMS IN THE FORM OF BINDING TREATIES THAT REGULATE THE APPLICATION OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN ELECTRONIC WARFARE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE UN OR OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. SUCH TREATIES MAY ALSO BAN SOME USES, AS THE USE OF DRONES IN CONDUCTING PRE-EMINENT ATTACKS ON CIVILIAN INSTALLATIONS, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME ENHANCING OPENNESS.

- ETHICAL AI OVERSIGHT BODIES

SETTING UP INTERNATIONAL ETHICAL SUPERVISORY COMMITTEES TO SET THE STANDARD FOR AI IN EW DEVELOPMENT AND UTILIZED. SUCH BOARDS COULD BE MADE UP OF GOVERNMENTS, COLLEGES, AND UNIVERSITIES, AND INDIVIDUAL COMPANIES.

- TECHNOLOGICAL SAFEGUARDS

PASS ENCOURAGE OF RESEARCH IN THE AREA OF EXPLAINABLE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TO MAKE THE PERFORMING DECISIONS TRANSPARENT. ENSURE MEASURES ARE PUT IN PLACE THAT WOULD PREVENT ACCIDENTAL ESCALATION ARISING FROM THE EW SYSTEMS DRIVEN BY ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.

- CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES (CBMs)

CALL FOR MORE COOPERATION THROUGH INCREASING THE ENGAGEMENT IN BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL MILITARY TRAINING AND INFORMATION EXCHANGING TO DECREASE CIVIL MISUNDERSTANDINGS OF EW ACTIVITIES.

- STRENGTHENING INSTITUTIONS

ESSENTIAL FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES GIVE GRANTS TO THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN ORDER TO IMPROVE THEIR CYBER SECURITY AND STRENGTHEN THE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SYSTEMS OF THE COUNTRIES. THIS COULD BE ACHIEVED THROUGH AGREEMENTS WITH INTERNATIONAL BODIES AND GROUP AS WELL PRIVATE SECTOR VENTURES.



Possible Solutions:

- THREAT DETECTION:

AI TOOLS ARE CAPABLE OF ANALYZING AND DETECTING IRREGULARITIES WITHIN A NETWORK NEARLY INSTANTANEOUSLY — NOT MINUTES OR HOURS — THUS MAKING IT EASIER FOR SECURITY OFFICIALS TO RESPOND TO CYBER TAMPERING.

- ADAPTIVE COUNTERMEASURES:

AI SYSTEMS ARE CAPABLE OF LAUNCHING COUNTERMEASURES OR CONTAINING THE INFECTED SYSTEMS ON ITS OWN THUS REDUCING THE VULNERABILITY.

- PREDICTIVE ANALYSIS:

ALGORITHMS HELP ANTICIPATE WEAKNESSES BY STUDYING RECORDS WHICH ALSO HELPS ORGANIZATIONS STRENGTHEN THEIR STANDING. INTERESTINGLY, AI HAS BEEN USED TO FIGHT STATE-SPONSORED CYBERATTACKS LIKE THE OPERATION BY RUSSIA IN EUROPE'S CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURES.

HOWEVER, ITS EFFECTIVENESS IS LIMITED BY A WEAK COOPERATION IN SHARING THREAT INTELLIGENCE AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL. ANOTHER IMPORTANT QUESTION THAT NEEDS TO BE ANSWERED BY DELEGATES IS PROSPECTS FOR ACHIEVING COOPERATION WITHOUT SURRENDERING SOVEREIGNTY.

- REGULATING NON-STATE ACTORS IN AI-DRIVEN EW

ANOTHER CHALLENGE THAT ARISES IS THAT MANY ACTORS ARE INVOLVED; SOME ARE TERRORISTS AND OTHERS CYBERCRIMINALS. WHILE STATE ACTORS ARE BOUND BY THE INTERNATIONAL LAW AND MOSTLY USE AI IN PREDETERMINED AND LEGAL WAYS, NON-STATE ACTORS USE THE AI TOOLS TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE FACT THAT THEY MOSTLY ARE NOT REGULATED. KEY CONCERN INCLUDE:



Possible Solutions:

- WEAPONIZATION OF AI:

SOME GROUPS SUCH AS ISIS HAVE BEEN SAID TO HAVE USED THREATS OF DRONES AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE GADGETS IN SUBVERTING MILITARIES.

- RANSOMWARE AND CYBERATTACKS: CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS HAVE EMPLOYED AI IN AUTOMATION OF PHISHING AND AVOIDING THE NOTICE OF THEIR ACTIVITIES. FOR INSTANCE, THE RECENT MAY, 2017 WANNACRY RANSOMWARE ATTACK DEMONSTRATED THE EXTENT OF THE ACTIVITIES GLOBALLY.
- PROXY CONFLICTS: THERE IS A HIGH PROBABILITY THAT STATES MAY USE NON- STATE ACTORS TO CONDUCT EW OPERATIONS, AND HENCE IT BECOMES CHALLENGING TO DETERMINE WHO IS TO BLAME.

BETTER REGULATION THEN WOULD ENTAIL INCREASING THE CAPACITY OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, MONITORING THE EXPORT CONTROLS OF SPECIFIC TECHNOLOGIES WITH CIVIL AS WELL AS MILITARY USES, AND IMPROVING INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS OF IMPOSING STATE RESPONSIBILITY FOR NON-STATE ACTOR ACTIONS.

1. THE ROLE OF ETHICAL DECISION-PROMPTING IN CONCERNING AUTONOMOUS DECISIONS

AUTONOMOUS SYSTEMS POWERED BY AI ARE INCREASINGLY USED IN ELECTRONIC WARFARE, BUT THEY RAISE SIGNIFICANT ETHICAL CONCERNS, INCLUDING:

- LOSS OF HUMAN OVERSIGHT:

AS WITH THE US'S "LOYAL WINGMAN" DRONE PROJECT, THERE IS SELDOM ANY HUMAN INTERVENTION IN AN AI SYSTEM'S DECISION-MAKING, WHICH CALLS INTO QUESTION THE SOUNDNESS OF SUCH A SYSTEM.



Possible Solutions:

- TARGETING CIVILIANS:

WHEN TARGETS ARE MISIDENTIFIED, OR THE AI SYSTEMS ARE IMPLEMENTED IN ENVIRONMENTS WITH LOW QUALITY DATA, CIVILIAN HARM IS MORE LIKELY TO HAPPEN.

- ACCOUNTABILITY: IF THE ERRORS OCCUR, THE GENERAL RESPONSIBILITY CAN BE SHARED WITH THE DEVELOPER WHILE THE OPERATOR AND STATE.

CURRENT DEBATE AT THE UNITED NATIONS INCLUDES THE CALL FOR A NEW INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON AUTONOMOUS WEAPON SYSTEMS BUT THE PROCESS HAS BEEN DRAGGED DOWN BY DIFFERENCES IN POLICY AMONG WORLD SUPER POWERS. DELEGATES HAVE TO ARGUE EITHER THE INCREASED SEVERITY OF RESTRICTIONS IS NECESSARY, OR THE RESTRICTION OF SOME APPLICATIONS MUST BE COMPLETE.



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5. BALANCING INNOVATION WITH GLOBAL STABILITY

THE ADVANCEMENT OF AI AND ELECTRONIC WARFARE PROGRAMMING HAS TREMENDOUS APPLICATIONS IN MILITARY AND NON-COMBATTING SITUATIONS, HOWEVER, THE UNCONTROLLED PROGRESS IN PROGRAMMING CAN BE HAZARDOUS FOR WORLDWIDE PEACE. DELEGATES SHOULD CONSIDER:

- AI ARMS RACE:

AI TECHNOLOGIES DRIVING WARFARE ARE A MENACE, AND THE SUPERPOWERS' STRUGGLE TO POSSESS THEM DIVIDES ATTEMPTS FOR FOSTERING WORLD PEACE. FOR INSTANCE, THERE IS COMPETITION BETWEEN CHINA AND AMERICA OVER AI DEVELOPMENT IN ELECTROMAGNETIC SPECTRUM DOMINATION.



Possible Solutions:

- TECHNOLOGICAL DISPARITIES:

AS IT STOOD, DEVELOPING NATIONS COULD FIND THEMSELVES EXPOSED TO THREATS LEAVING THEM WITH NO MEANS OF APPLYING BETTER AND MORE SOPHISTICATED AI SYSTEMS IN DEFENSE THUS INCREASING THE EXISTING GAP IN THE GLOBAL SECURITY STATUS QUO.

- CIVILIAN USE OF AI: SEVERAL AI TECHNOLOGIES ARE APPLICATION-DEPENDENT, AND THEIR USEFULNESS CAN BE APPLIED IN USEFUL AS WELL AS UNLAWFUL WAYS, SUCH AS FACIAL RECOGNITION AND NATURAL LANGUAGE PROCESSING.

A POSSIBLE SOLUTION IS THE INTERNATIONAL STRATEGIC COOPERATION IN R&D THAT CAN CREATE CONDITIONS FOR RESTRAINED INNOVATION TOGETHER WITH OPENNESS AND SHARE. THE EU'S HORIZON 2020 PROGRAM FOR JOINT PROJECTS IS AN EXAMPLE OF THE COMBINATION OF SECURITY NEEDS WITH INNOVATIONS.



Questions to address:

- 1. WHAT KIND OF INTERNATIONAL LAW DEVELOPMENT CAN BE ADOPTED TO COPE WITH THE NEW ROLES PLAYED BY AI IN ELECTRONIC WARFARE?**
- 2. WHAT MEASURES ARE ADOPTABLE TO PREVENT SUCH SYSTEMS FROM LOCK DECIDING ON CIVILIAN STRUCTURES OR UNWITTINGLY DEEPENING THE CONFLICT?**
- 3. ARE THERE USES OF AI IN WARFARE THAT SHOULD BE RESTRICTED AND IF SO WHAT IS THE CORRECT APPROACH TO DEFINE AND REGULATE IT AT A GLOBAL LEVEL?**
- 4. WHAT ARE THE DISPOSITIONS OF ETHICAL NATURE THAT SHOULD BE ACCCOMPANIED WITH THE USE OF AUTONOMOUS DECISION-MAKING SYSTEMS IN ELECTRONIC WARFARE?**
- 5. WHAT MEASURES CAN BE TAKEN BY THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY TO ENSURE STATES ARE MADE TO ANSWER FOR THEIR CONDUCT IN DEPLOYING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN ELECTRONIC WARFARE?**
- 6. AS THE ARTICLE EXCELLENTLY DEMONSTRATED, TO WHAT EXTENT DO CURRENT AND EXISTING STRUCTURES IN THE GOVERNANCE AND REGULATION OF AI HINDERS NON-STATE ACTORS INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO TERRORIST GROUPS, CYBERCRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS FROM ACCESSING AI AND WEAPONIZING IT?**
- 7. IT WILL ALSO BE PERTINENT TO DETERMINE ON HOW PARTICIPATION OF THE SMALLER AND THE DEVELOPING NATIONS CAN BE GIVEN PROMINENCE IN THE MANAGEMENT AS WELL AS CONTROL OF THESE ADVANCED TOOLS OF COGNITIVE EW AIDED BY ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.**



Recommended Websites:

[CSIS – CENTER FOR STRATEGIC AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES](#)

[CARNEGIE FOR ENDOWMENT AND PEACE](#)

[UNODA](#)

[NATO](#)

[EUROPEAN DEFENSE AGENCY](#)

[MIT TECHNOLOGY REVIEW](#)

[IEEE – TECHNOLOGY INSIDER](#)

[DEFENSE ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECT AGENCY](#)



Agenda 2:

PREVENTING ARMED CONFLICT THROUGH DIPLOMACY: A SHIFT FROM MILITARY BUILD-UP TO NEGOTIATION

AGENDA OVERVIEW:

PREVENTING ARMED CONFLICT REQUIRES A DELIBERATE SHIFT FROM RELYING ON MILITARY STRENGTH TO PRIORITIZING DIPLOMACY AND NEGOTIATION AS THE PRIMARY TOOLS FOR ADDRESSING DISPUTES. MILITARIZATION OFTEN ESCALATES TENSIONS, DRAINS NATIONAL RESOURCES, AND WORSENS HUMANITARIAN CRISES, CREATING A CYCLE OF INSECURITY THAT IS DIFFICULT TO BREAK. THIS AGENDA FOCUSES ON THE NEED TO ADDRESS THESE ISSUES BY PROMOTING PEACEFUL ALTERNATIVES THAT EMPHASIZE DIALOGUE, COOPERATION, AND TRUST-BUILDING. EARLY-WARNING SYSTEMS AND PROACTIVE CONFLICT PREVENTION STRATEGIES ARE ESSENTIAL TO IDENTIFYING POTENTIAL FLASHPOINTS BEFORE THEY EVOLVE INTO CRISES. SIMILARLY, MEDIATION EFFORTS, GUIDED BY NEUTRAL PARTIES OR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, CAN HELP DE-ESCALATE DISPUTES AND CREATE PATHWAYS FOR COMPROMISE.

TO BUILD LASTING PEACE, FOSTERING TRUST THROUGH ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS, TRANSPARENCY IN MILITARY ACTIVITIES, AND OPEN LINES OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN NATIONS IS VITAL. THESE MEASURES NOT ONLY REDUCE MISUNDERSTANDINGS BUT ALSO DISCOURAGE THE AGGRESSIVE POSTURING THAT OFTEN ACCOMPANIES ARMS RACES. DRAWING LESSONS FROM SUCCESSFUL EXAMPLES OF DIPLOMATIC RESOLUTIONS, THE DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS HOW SUCH STRATEGIES HAVE BEEN EFFECTIVE IN ADDRESSING EVEN THE MOST ENTRENCHED CONFLICTS. ULTIMATELY, THE SHIFT FROM MILITARY BUILD-UP TO NEGOTIATION REPRESENTS A COMMITMENT TO RESOLVING DISPUTES IN WAYS THAT PRIORITIZE HUMAN SECURITY, ECONOMIC STABILITY, AND THE COLLECTIVE GOOD, ENSURING THAT PEACE BECOMES A SUSTAINABLE REALITY RATHER THAN A TEMPORARY REPRIEVE.



History:

THE HISTORY OF USING DIPLOMACY TO PREVENT ARMED CONFLICT HAS IMPORTANT MILESTONES WHERE THE WORLD SAW THE VALUE IN NEGOTIATION OVER MILITARY ACTION. THIS REFLECTS A SIGNIFICANT SHIFT IN THINKING, EMPHASIZING PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS INSTEAD OF ESCALATING TENSIONS.

1. **THE TREATY OF WESTPHALIA (1648):** THIS TREATY BROUGHT THE THIRTY YEARS' WAR IN EUROPE TO AN END AND IS OFTEN SEEN AS A KEY MOMENT IN THE HISTORY OF DIPLOMACY. IT SET OUT IMPORTANT IDEAS ABOUT SOVEREIGNTY AND NON-INTERFERENCE, HELPING TO CREATE A DIPLOMATIC APPROACH THAT FOCUSES ON SOLVING CONFLICTS THROUGH NEGOTIATION RATHER THAN THROUGH MILITARY ACTION
2. **THE CONCERT OF EUROPE (1815):** AFTER THE NAPOLEONIC WARS, EUROPEAN COUNTRIES CAME TOGETHER TO CREATE THE CONCERT OF EUROPE. THIS DIPLOMATIC FRAMEWORK WAS INTENDED TO KEEP THE BALANCE OF POWER IN EUROPE AND AVOID MAJOR CONFLICTS BY USING DIPLOMACY AND JOINT EFFORTS. IT WAS ONE OF THE FIRST SIGNS OF COUNTRIES WORKING TOGETHER TO PREVENT WARS.
3. **THE HAGUE CONFERENCES (1899, 1907):** THE HAGUE CONVENTIONS HOLD SIGNIFICANT HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE AS THEY SOUGHT TO ESTABLISH EXPLICIT REGULATIONS GOVERNING WARFARE AND PROMOTE MECHANISMS FOR CONFLICT PREVENTION. THE INAUGURAL CONFERENCE PRIMARILY CONCENTRATED ON THE PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION AS A MEANS TO CIRCUMVENT MILITARY ENGAGEMENT. DURING THIS PERIOD, THE CONCEPT OF EMPLOYING DIPLOMACY AS A MEANS TO AVERT CONFLICTS BEGAN TO GARNER INCREASED ENDORSEMENT AND SUPPORT.



History:

1. THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS (1920): FOLLOWING WORLD WAR I, THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS WAS ESTABLISHED WITH THE MISSION OF MAINTAINING PEACE AND PREVENTING ANOTHER GLOBAL CONFLICT. ALTHOUGH THE LEAGUE ULTIMATELY FAILED TO PREVENT WORLD WAR II, IT REPRESENTED A SIGNIFICANT SHIFT AWAY FROM RELYING SOLELY ON MILITARY POWER AND TOWARDS USING INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND DIPLOMACY TO MANAGE DISPUTES.
2. THE UNITED NATIONS (1945): AFTER THE DEVASTATION OF WORLD WAR II, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS MARKED A MAJOR STEP FORWARD IN THE SHIFT FROM MILITARY BUILD-UP TO DIPLOMATIC CONFLICT RESOLUTION. THE UN CHARTER, WHICH EMPHASIZES PEACEFUL CONFLICT RESOLUTION, COLLECTIVE SECURITY, AND THE USE OF DIPLOMATIC MEANS TO ADDRESS DISPUTES, HAS BEEN A CORNERSTONE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS EVER SINCE. THROUGH PEACEKEEPING MISSIONS, NEGOTIATIONS, AND CONFLICT PREVENTION EFFORTS, THE UN HAS PLAYED A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN PREVENTING MANY POTENTIAL CONFLICTS.
3. THE COLD WAR ERA (1947–1991): DURING THE COLD WAR, BOTH THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION BUILT MASSIVE MILITARY ARSENALS, CREATING THE POTENTIAL FOR NUCLEAR CONFLICT. HOWEVER, DIPLOMACY REMAINED CRUCIAL IN PREVENTING DIRECT CONFRONTATION, WITH SIGNIFICANT ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS SUCH AS THE STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION TALKS (SALT) AND THE INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES (INF) TREATY SERVING AS PRIME EXAMPLES OF HOW DIPLOMACY, RATHER THAN MILITARY ESCALATION, COULD PREVENT LARGE-SCALE CONFLICT.



History:

1. POST-COLD WAR DIPLOMACY (1990s–PRESENT): In the post-Cold War era, we've seen diplomacy play a key role in resolving conflicts in places like the Balkans, the Middle East, and Africa. Organizations such as the UN and regional groups like the African Union have stepped up their efforts in peacebuilding and conflict resolution. There's been a growing emphasis on preventive diplomacy and the idea of "human security," which shifts the focus toward tackling the root causes of conflict—such as poverty, human rights abuses, and governance problems—rather than just depending on military force.

Historically, the focus has moved from building military power to using diplomacy as the main way to prevent conflicts. While military force is still a part of international relations, diplomatic engagement, peacekeeping, and working together with other countries have become key strategies for avoiding wars and achieving lasting peace.



Discourse:

- **TRANSITION TO DIPLOMACY:**

MODERN CONFLICT RESOLUTION EMPHASIZES THE NEED TO SHIFT FROM MILITARY BUILD-UP TO NEGOTIATION AS A MORE EFFECTIVE AND SUSTAINABLE METHOD. THIS APPROACH RECOGNIZES THAT WHILE MILITARY STRENGTH MAY PROVIDE SHORT-TERM LEVERAGE, LASTING PEACE IS ACHIEVED THROUGH CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE AND COOPERATION.

- **HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:**

IN THE PAST, MILITARY POWER WAS SYNONYMOUS WITH SECURITY, LEADING TO ARMS RACES AND HEIGHTENED REGIONAL TENSIONS. HOWEVER, HISTORY HAS SHOWN THAT THIS APPROACH OFTEN EXACERBATES CONFLICTS RATHER THAN RESOLVING THEM, CREATING A CYCLE OF MISTRUST AND INSTABILITY.

- **FOCUS ON DIPLOMACY:**

DIPLOMACY PROVIDES A PLATFORM FOR NATIONS TO ENGAGE IN DIALOGUE, BUILD MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING, AND RESOLVE DISPUTES WITHOUT RESORTING TO VIOLENCE. BY FOSTERING TRUST AND PRIORITIZING COOPERATIVE SOLUTIONS, IT REDEFINES SECURITY AS A SHARED GOAL RATHER THAN A COMPETITION.

- **PREVENTIVE DIPLOMACY:**

THIS PROACTIVE APPROACH ADDRESSES THE ROOT CAUSES OF CONFLICT—SUCH AS TERRITORIAL DISPUTES, RESOURCE COMPETITION, OR POLITICAL GRIEVANCES—BEFORE THEY ESCALATE. PREVENTIVE MEASURES, SUCH AS MEDIATION, CONFIDENCE-BUILDING INITIATIVES, AND EARLY-WARNING SYSTEMS, ARE KEY TO AVERTING VIOLENCE AND PROMOTING STABILITY.

- **GLOBAL ADVOCACY:**

INTERNATIONAL BODIES LIKE THE UNITED NATIONS PLAY A PIVOTAL ROLE IN ADVOCATING FOR DIPLOMACY OVER MILITARIZATION. THROUGH PEACEKEEPING MISSIONS, CONFLICT RESOLUTION FRAMEWORKS, AND SUPPORT FOR NEGOTIATIONS, THEY CHAMPION THE USE OF DIALOGUE TO PREVENT WAR, PROMOTE DEVELOPMENT, AND ENSURE GLOBAL STABILITY.



Latest Developments:

EFFORTS TO PREVENT ARMED CONFLICT THROUGH DIPLOMACY HAVE INTENSIFIED, FOCUSING ON NEGOTIATION AND EARLY INTERVENTION RATHER THAN MILITARY RESPONSES. KEY STRATEGIES INCLUDE THE UN'S ENHANCED USE OF PREVENTIVE DIPLOMACY, SUCH AS DEPLOYING SPECIAL ENVOYS TO MEDIATE DISPUTES, SUPPORTING REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS LIKE THE AFRICAN UNION IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION, AND EMPLOYING EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS TO DE-ESCALATE TENSIONS. THE UN HAS ALSO INTEGRATED ARMS CONTROL MEASURES, RECOGNIZING THE CRITICAL ROLE OF REGULATING WEAPON FLOWS IN PREVENTING VIOLENCE. THESE APPROACHES underscore the growing emphasis on addressing root causes of conflicts through dialogue, governance reforms, and international collaboration.

Possible Solutions:

To prevent armed conflict through diplomacy and shift from military build-up to negotiation, several solutions can be proposed:

1. **STRENGTHENING PREVENTIVE DIPLOMACY:** Enhance the capacity of international and regional organizations like the UN, African Union (AU), and OSCE to mediate and resolve disputes before they escalate. This includes deploying special envoys and investing in early warning systems to detect potential conflicts.
2. **INTEGRATING ARMS CONTROL:** Implement measures to regulate arms flows and address illicit weapons transfers. Tools like the Arms-Related Risk Analysis Toolkit by UNIDIR can identify arms-related risks and support negotiation efforts by reducing the capacity for conflict.



Latest Developments:

1. **INCLUSIVE DIALOGUE AND MEDIATION:** PROMOTE INCLUSIVE PEACE PROCESSES THAT INVOLVE CIVIL SOCIETY, WOMEN, AND MARGINALIZED GROUPS. THIS HELPS TO ADDRESS THE ROOT CAUSES OF CONFLICT, SUCH AS INEQUALITY AND GOVERNANCE CHALLENGES, AND ENSURES THAT NEGOTIATIONS REFLECT DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES
2. **ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL INCENTIVES:** PROVIDE ECONOMIC AID OR POLITICAL SUPPORT TO ENCOURAGE PARTIES TO CHOOSE NEGOTIATION OVER VIOLENCE. ADDRESSING SOCIO-ECONOMIC GRIEVANCES THROUGH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS CAN MITIGATE CONDITIONS THAT LEAD TO CONFLICT.
3. **STRENGTHENING GOVERNANCE:** ENCOURAGE INSTITUTIONAL REFORMS IN FRAGILE STATES TO PROMOTE ACCOUNTABILITY, TRANSPARENCY, AND THE RULE OF LAW. THIS HELPS PREVENT POWER STRUGGLES THAT OFTEN LEAD TO ARMED CONFLICT
4. **ENHANCING MULTILATERAL COOPERATION:** FOSTER GREATER COLLABORATION AMONG STATES AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO SHARE INTELLIGENCE, COORDINATE DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS, AND JOINTLY RESPOND TO EARLY SIGNS OF INSTABILITY.

THESE SOLUTIONS REQUIRE SUSTAINED INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS TO ENSURE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION AND LONG-TERM PEACEBUILDING.



Possible Solutions:

- **STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS:**

EMPOWER ORGANIZATIONS LIKE THE UNITED NATIONS AND REGIONAL ALLIANCES TO MEDIATE DISPUTES, PROVIDE PLATFORMS FOR NEGOTIATION, AND ENFORCE AGREEMENTS, ENSURING DIPLOMACY REMAINS THE PRIMARY TOOL FOR CONFLICT RESOLUTION.

- **EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS:**

DEVELOP MECHANISMS TO IDENTIFY POTENTIAL CONFLICTS EARLY BY MONITORING POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL TENSIONS. THIS ALLOWS FOR TIMELY INTERVENTIONS THROUGH DIALOGUE AND MEDIATION BEFORE ESCALATION.

- **ECONOMIC INCENTIVES AND SANCTIONS:**

USE TRADE AGREEMENTS, DEVELOPMENT AID, AND SANCTIONS TO ENCOURAGE PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES, MAKING CONFLICT LESS ATTRACTIVE AND COOPERATION MORE BENEFICIAL.

- **DEMILITARIZATION AGREEMENTS:**

ADVOCATE FOR ARMS REDUCTION TREATIES AND AGREEMENTS THAT LIMIT MILITARY BUILD-UPS, SHIFTING THE FOCUS TO DIALOGUE AND NON-VIOLENT CONFLICT MANAGEMENT.

- **INCLUSIVE PEACE PROCESSES:**

ENSURE THAT ALL STAKEHOLDERS, INCLUDING MARGINALIZED GROUPS, ARE PART OF NEGOTIATIONS TO ADDRESS THE ROOT CAUSES OF CONFLICTS COMPREHENSIVELY AND EQUITABLY.



Subtopics:

CHALLENGES IN TRANSITIONING FROM MILITARY BUILD-UP TO NEGOTIATION:

A. TRUST DEFICITS

- **MUTUAL SUSPICION:** CONFLICTING PARTIES OFTEN QUESTION EACH OTHER'S MOTIVES, FEARING DECEPTION OR EXPLOITATION DURING THE NEGOTIATION PROCESS. THIS LACK OF TRUST HAMPERS PROGRESS.
- **HISTORICAL GRIEVANCES:** PAST BETRAYALS, UNRESOLVED CONFLICTS, OR FAILED PEACE AGREEMENTS DEEPEN DISTRUST, MAKING PARTIES HESITANT TO COMMIT TO TALKS.
- **FEAR OF NON-COMPLIANCE:** EACH SIDE WORRIES THAT THE OTHER MAY NOT HONOR AGREEMENTS, PARTICULARLY IN WITHDRAWING TROOPS OR SCALING DOWN MILITARY ACTIVITIES.

B. ESCALATED TENSIONS

- **HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT:** MILITARY BUILD-UPS CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE OF AGGRESSION, AMPLIFYING EMOTIONS LIKE FEAR AND ANGER, WHICH UNDERMINE RATIONAL DECISION-MAKING.
- **HARDENING OF POSITIONS:** THE ACT OF MILITARIZATION REINFORCES ADVERSARIAL MINDSETS, WITH PARTIES VIEWING CONCESSIONS AS A SIGN OF WEAKNESS.
- **INCREASED RISK OF ACCIDENTAL CONFLICT:** HIGH MILITARY ACTIVITY RAISES THE CHANCES OF UNINTENTIONAL SKIRMISHES, FURTHER COMPLICATING DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS.



Subtopics:

C. PERCEPTION OF WEAKNESS

- **DOMESTIC POLITICAL PRESSURES:** LEADERS OFTEN FACE CRITICISM FROM POLITICAL OPPONENTS OR THEIR OWN POPULATIONS FOR ENGAGING IN NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH MAY BE SEEN AS CAPITULATING TO ADVERSARIES.
- **LOSS OF LEVERAGE:** SCALING DOWN MILITARY FORCES MIGHT BE VIEWED AS LOSING BARGAINING POWER, MAKING PARTIES RELUCTANT TO REDUCE THEIR POSTURE.

STRENGTHENING MULTILATERAL EFFORT IN CONFLICT PREVENTION

A. ENHANCING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

- **SHARED RESPONSIBILITY:** ENCOURAGING NATIONS TO WORK TOGETHER UNDER INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORKS LIKE THE UNITED NATIONS TO ADDRESS SHARED SECURITY CONCERNs.
- **RESOURCE SHARING:** POOLING FINANCIAL, TECHNOLOGICAL, AND LOGISTICAL RESOURCES TO STRENGTHEN CONFLICT PREVENTION MECHANISMS.
- **COLLECTIVE DECISION-MAKING:** PROMOTING INCLUSIVITY IN GLOBAL FORUMS TO ENSURE DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES IN CREATING EFFECTIVE PREVENTION STRATEGIES.

B. IMPROVING INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

- **STRENGTHENING GLOBAL ORGANIZATIONS:** ENHANCING THE CAPABILITIES OF INTERNATIONAL BODIES LIKE THE UN, AFRICAN UNION, AND ASEAN TO MEDIATE CONFLICTS AND ENFORCE PEACE AGREEMENTS.
- **EXPANDING PEACEKEEPING MISSIONS:** INCREASING FUNDING AND EFFICIENCY OF PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS TO PROVIDE ON-GROUND STABILITY IN VOLATILE REGIONS.
- **DEVELOPING EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS:** BUILDING ROBUST MECHANISMS TO DETECT AND RESPOND TO POTENTIAL CONFLICTS BEFORE THEY ESCALATE.



Subtopics:

c. FOSTERING REGIONAL COLLABORATION

- **ENCOURAGING REGIONAL ALLIANCES:** STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS LIKE THE EUROPEAN UNION, SAARC, AND ECOWAS IN MANAGING DISPUTES WITHIN THEIR REGIONS.
- **CROSS-BORDER DIALOGUE:** FACILITATING COMMUNICATION AND COOPERATION AMONG NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES TO RESOLVE DISPUTES LOCALLY.
- **PROMOTING REGIONAL TREATIES:** ADVOCATING FOR AGREEMENTS THAT COMMIT STATES TO PEACEFUL CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND MUTUAL SECURITY GUARANTEES.

ADDRESSING ROOT CAUSES: SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL DIMENSIONS OF CONFLICT

A. SOCIO-ECONOMIC INEQUALITIES

- **POVERTY AND UNEMPLOYMENT:** ADDRESSING ECONOMIC DISPARITIES THROUGH JOB CREATION, EQUITABLE WEALTH DISTRIBUTION, AND ACCESS TO BASIC SERVICES CAN REDUCE GRIEVANCES THAT LEAD TO CONFLICT.
- **RESOURCE COMPETITION:** MANAGING NATURAL RESOURCES FAIRLY AND TRANSPARENTLY TO PREVENT DISPUTES OVER LAND, WATER, AND MINERALS.
- **EDUCATION AND OPPORTUNITIES:** PROVIDING EDUCATION AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT TO MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES TO REDUCE SOCIO-ECONOMIC EXCLUSION.

B. POLITICAL MARGINALIZATION

- **INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE:** PROMOTING PARTICIPATION OF ALL GROUPS, ESPECIALLY MINORITIES, IN POLITICAL DECISION-MAKING TO FOSTER REPRESENTATION AND REDUCE FEELINGS OF EXCLUSION.
- **ADDRESSING GRIEVANCES:** RECOGNIZING AND RESOLVING HISTORICAL INJUSTICES OR POLITICAL OPPRESSION TO REBUILD TRUST IN STATE INSTITUTIONS.



Subtopics:

- **STRENGTHENING DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS: ENSURING FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS, THE RULE OF LAW, AND ACCOUNTABLE LEADERSHIP TO CREATE A STABLE POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT.**

C. CULTURAL AND SOCIAL TENSIONS

- **BUILDING SOCIAL COHESION: ENCOURAGING DIALOGUE AND COOPERATION AMONG DIVERSE ETHNIC, RELIGIOUS, AND CULTURAL GROUPS TO PROMOTE MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND REDUCE PREJUDICES.**
- **COUNTERING EXTREMISM: ADDRESSING IDEOLOGIES THAT FUEL VIOLENCE THROUGH EDUCATION, COMMUNITY PROGRAMS, AND MEDIA CAMPAIGNS.**
- **RECONCILIATION EFFORTS: SUPPORTING POST-CONFLICT TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION INITIATIVES TO HEAL SOCIETAL DIVISIONS AND PREVENT CYCLES OF VIOLENCE.**

4. HUMANITARIAN DIPLOMACY AND ITS INFLUENCE ON ARMED CONFLICT PREVENTION

A. PROMOTING ACCESS TO ESSENTIAL SERVICES

- **FACILITATING HUMANITARIAN AID: ENSURING UNHINDERED DELIVERY OF FOOD, MEDICINE, AND OTHER ESSENTIALS TO VULNERABLE POPULATIONS IN CONFLICT ZONES.**
- **PROTECTING CIVILIANS: ADVOCATING FOR ADHERENCE TO INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAWS TO SAFEGUARD CIVILIANS AND PREVENT ATROCITIES DURING ARMED CONFLICT.**
- **STRENGTHENING LOCAL CAPACITIES: COLLABORATING WITH LOCAL ACTORS TO BUILD RESILIENT COMMUNITIES CAPABLE OF MANAGING CRISES WITHOUT ESCALATING VIOLENCE.**



Subtopics:

B. ADVOCACY AND NEGOTIATION

- **ENGAGING STAKEHOLDERS:** MEDIATING BETWEEN CONFLICTING PARTIES TO ALLOW HUMANITARIAN OPERATIONS AND REDUCE HOSTILITIES.
- **RAISING AWARENESS:** HIGHLIGHTING THE HUMAN COST OF CONFLICT THROUGH GLOBAL ADVOCACY CAMPAIGNS TO MOBILIZE INTERNATIONAL ACTION.
- **LEVERAGING NEUTRALITY:** USING THE IMPARTIALITY OF HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS AS A TOOL TO OPEN DIALOGUE AND BUILD TRUST AMONG WARRING Factions.

C. ADDRESSING UNDERLYING VULNERABILITIES

- **DISASTER RISK REDUCTION:** PREPARING COMMUNITIES FOR CRISES THAT COULD EXACERBATE TENSIONS, SUCH AS NATURAL DISASTERS OR PANDEMICS.
- **HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCACY:** PROMOTING THE PROTECTION OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AS A CORNERSTONE FOR LASTING PEACE AND STABILITY.
- **CONFLICT-SENSITIVE ASSISTANCE:** ENSURING AID DOES NOT UNINTENTIONALLY FUEL DIVISIONS BUT INSTEAD FOSTERS COOPERATION AND RECONCILIATION

1. DISARMAMENT INITIATIVES AND THEIR IMPACT ON MILITARY BUILD-UP

A. REDUCTION OF ARMED CONFLICT RISKS

- **ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS:** PROMOTING TREATIES LIKE THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY (NPT) AND THE ARMS TRADE TREATY (ATT) TO LIMIT THE PRODUCTION, PROLIFERATION, AND TRADE OF WEAPONS.



Subtopics:

- COEXISTENCE.
- DE-ESCALATION MEASURES: INITIATIVES LIKE DEMILITARIZED ZONES OR LIMITS ON TROOP DEPLOYMENTS HELP LOWER TENSIONS AND PREVENT UNINTENTIONAL ESCALATION.

B. PROMOTING ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

- REALLOCATION OF RESOURCES: DIVERTING MILITARY EXPENDITURES TO DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS LIKE EDUCATION, HEALTHCARE, AND INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVES SOCIETAL WELL-BEING.
- DEMILITARIZED SOCIETIES: REDUCING THE PREVALENCE OF ARMS MINIMIZES THE LIKELIHOOD OF VIOLENCE, FOSTERING SAFER AND MORE STABLE COMMUNITIES.
- ENCOURAGING GLOBAL COOPERATION: DISARMAMENT EFFORTS OFTEN INVOLVE COLLABORATIVE INTERNATIONAL ACTION, STRENGTHENING GLOBAL PEACE AND SECURITY NETWORKS.

C. CHALLENGES AND SUSTAINABILITY

- COMPLIANCE AND VERIFICATION: ENSURING THAT PARTIES ADHERE TO DISARMAMENT AGREEMENTS REQUIRES ROBUST MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT MECHANISMS.
- BLACK MARKET THREATS: THE ILLICIT ARMS TRADE UNDERMINES FORMAL DISARMAMENT EFFORTS, NECESSITATING STRICTER CONTROLS AND INTERNATIONAL POLICING.
- SUSTAINED POLITICAL WILL: LONG-TERM SUCCESS DEPENDS ON CONSISTENT COMMITMENT FROM GOVERNMENTS AND STAKEHOLDERS TO UPHOLD DISARMAMENT INITIATIVES.



Questions to address:

1. WHAT ARE THE PRIMARY CAUSES OF ARMED CONFLICTS, AND HOW CAN DIPLOMACY ADDRESS THEM?
2. HOW CAN NATIONS BALANCE THEIR SECURITY CONCERNs WHILE COMMITTING TO DIPLOMATIC NEGOTIATIONS
3. WHAT ROLE DO REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS PLAY IN MEDIATING DISPUTES AND PREVENTING CONFLICTS
4. HOW CAN ECONOMIC FACTORS SUCH AS POVERTY AND INEQUALITY CONTRIBUTE TO ARMED CONFLICT, AND HOW CAN DIPLOMACY ADDRESS THESE ISSUES?
5. HOW CAN INTERNATIONAL LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS FRAMEWORKS SUPPORT CONFLICT PREVENTION AND PEACEFUL RESOLUTION?
6. WHAT CHALLENGES DO THIRD-PARTY MEDIATORS FACE IN FACILITATING DIALOGUE BETWEEN CONFLICTING PARTIES, AND HOW CAN THEY MAINTAIN NEUTRALITY?
7. HOW CAN DISARMAMENT INITIATIVES HELP REDUCE MILITARY BUILD-UP AND PREVENT CONFLICT ESCALATION?
8. HOW DO TERRITORIAL DISPUTES, RESOURCE CONTROL, AND ETHNIC TENSIONS CONTRIBUTE TO CONFLICT, AND HOW CAN DIPLOMACY ADDRESS THESE ISSUES?
9. HOW CAN INTERNATIONAL SANCTIONS AND DIPLOMATIC PRESSURE DETER AGGRESSION WITHOUT ESCALATING CONFLICT?



Recommended Websites:

[HTTPS://DPPA.UN.ORG](https://dppa.un.org)

[HTTPS://UNIDIR.ORG](https://unidir.org)

[HTTPS://DISARMAMENT.UNODA.ORG](https://disarmament.unoda.org)

[HTTPS://AU.INT](https://au.int)

[HTTPS://STABILITYJOURNAL.ORG](https://stabilityjournal.org)

[HTTPS://OSCE.ORG](https://osce.org)

[HTTPS://EIP.ORG](https://eip.org)

[HTTPS://CRISISGROUP.ORG](https://crisisgroup.org)