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Since Lise Meitner and Otto Frisch first discovered the idea of splitting an atom in 1938, uranium has become one of the most popular elements in the periodic table due to its possibilities of advancing the medical industry, forming and destroying alliances of nations through war, and being used as a power source. With international concerns like these, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) was created. The IAEA’s main topics to address are combatting against the threat of nuclear terrorism, using nuclear energy as an alternate source of energy, and implementing and enforcing the nuclear program in Iran. With the IAEA’s headquarters being based in Vienna, Austria, as the Austrian delegate I am responsible for combating these issues while considering Austria’s economic, social, and political interests.

A threat that puts many innocent lives in jeopardy is nuclear terrorism. Nuclear terrorism can be defined as the use of radioactive material to cause harm/ death to a body, or cause substantial damage to the environment or to property to compel a person, state, or international organization to refrain from doing an act. The country Austria feels strongly about resolving the issue of nuclear terrorism. This was clearly shown when Austria launched the Global Initiative to combat nuclear terrorism and Proliferation Security Initiative. In addition to this, the Convention for the Physical Protection for Nuclear Material was taken under Austria’s leadership in 1980. Because the threat of nuclear terrorism is an international one, many steps will need to be taken in order to resolve the issue (both direct and indirect methods will be taken to resolve the issue). First off, it is important to examine which countries have uranium. Canada, Australia, and Kazakhstan have 70% of the world’s uranium. It is important that these countries do not trade their supply of uranium to organizations or states that intend to use it for non-peaceful purposes, and that the countries themself do not create nuclear weapons. It is for this that I will ask that these nations sign an agreement to ensure that nuclear terrorism can be limited. In addition to this I will also request that these nations assist me in my next step to reducing nuclear terrorism. In general, terrorism results in the animosity created between organizations or individuals with other countries. For example, many members of ISIS are former Guantanamo bay prisoners who are enraged by the tortures they faced thanks to the United States government. For that reason, the animosity between individuals/ organizations with other countries must be reduced. This can be done by helping re-build nations. I will ask that the three countries I requested to sign the agreement in regards to utilizing or trading uranium for non-peaceful purposes, as well as the United States of America assist me in my partnership with UNICEF to build markets, hospitals, and refugee camps in Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Yemen, and Israel. Not only will this help reduce the animosity civilians in different nations have with the US and other powerful countries, but it will also remove a burden from these middle eastern countries and Somalia’s government. The government will have much of its civilian’s requests and issues taken care of as a result of this project, and in addition to this they will be able to focus more on creating laws that will punish and prevent acts of terrorism from being carried out in their countries. Specifically, in Somalia the government can also solidify laws to control piracy which is important for another idea that I intend to use to combat nuclear terrorism. Somalia is a country that’s piracy issue is more infamous than its terrorism issue, and is geographically not too far away from the Middle East. Once Somalia has been aided in the previous project of building markets, hospitals, and refugee camps, the Somali government can focus on combating its piracy issue at sea. I will ask that in return Somalia provide naval support to limit terrorism activity in the Middle East. Somalia can simply send ships near the Middle Eastern border and patrol this area. This way it is not only stopping pirates going from its country to the Middle East, but it can also limit terrorists that choose to travel by sea, or perhaps seize large shipments of weaponry. While this will help in combatting nuclear terrorism, the problem must also be addressed at its root. And this lies in the Black Sea. Because nuclear weapons are so expensive terrorists often try to find cheaper and smaller weapons on the black market. The most infamous spot for where illegal transactions of weaponry are made is the Black Sea. Russia refuses to state how many warheads it truly owns. Part of the reason is because they have been illegally purchasing warheads through the black market. And so for this I will ask for permission from Ukraine to use their country as a means of travelling to and sending in boats in the Black Sea to monitor and prevent illegal transactions from being made, and I will ask Ukraine, France, Italy, and Greece also send in boats to aid in this mission. I will especially focus on areas near Russia and Turkey as this is most likely where many warheads from the Black Sea are going to. And so through these actions, nuclear terrorism will first be limited, but then perhaps almost extinct.

Being able to utilize nuclear energy as a power source is an idea as promising as it is dangerous as cross species genetics was in The Amazing Spiderman movie. Nuclear energy would be able to supply enough electricity for millions of homes. In addition to this, utilizing nuclear energy would greatly mitigate the effects of climate change.However, it is due to the fears that many countries, including Austria, is against using nuclear energy. The Fukushima incident in 2011, as well as being able to dispose of nuclear waste is the main concern. Austria has passed a law which prevents the use of nuclear energy as a power source in their nation due to these fears the country has. However, if the country did not have to worry about such issues, nuclear energy could be utilized as a power source in the country. And if other countries were to see that Austria, a country that has received much media attention for its ban of nuclear energy all of a sudden start using nuclear energy, it would greatly promote the idea of using this non-renewable source. However, actually storing nuclear waste is a huge concern. Countries like France cannot properly contain the waste which is giving them issues. Meanwhile countries like Finland are storing the waste in underground storage deposits. The issue that may arise with this is that if the waste were to possibly leak into the ocean, or some other valuable product. For that reason it is important not to have these underground storage facilities in countries that frequently have tectonic plates moving underneath their surface (movement of tectonic plates leads to earthquakes, tsunamis, and other natural disasters). It is also important that the nuclear waste is not near an ocean as this would cause a huge biological issue in our oceans, and this would affect industries like the fishing industry as fish would be radioactive if nuclear waste were to seep into the oceans. Finally, it is important that the radioactive waste does not contaminate or affect other underground resources. Specifically, it should not affect aquifers. An aquifer is an underground water source. And so for this reason, I will suggest that the world Water development committee (a subcommittee of the UN) does an updated report of the location of aquifers in countries that wish to build nuclear reactors solely for peaceful purposes. This way the countries are informed where there aquifers are and will not destroy their water source. But because countries need to be motivated to actually build nuclear reactors, the country of Austria will build its own reactor. We will build a small reactor to supply power to 1.5 million people. In regards to the disposal of waste I will request that the country Czech Republic disposes the waste in their own country, and in return our nuclear reactor will supply 1 million people in Czech Republic for the next 10 years. This is nearly a tenth of the population. This should not be a huge financial issue for Austria, but nonetheless the wind and solar panels that were once used to supply 1.5 million people in Austria will be taken care of and sold to countries with a very small population who would not be interested in nuclear energy (Mauritius, Vatican city, and French Polynesia). I will also ask that the Water development committee provide a large quantity of hippo water tanks to Rwanda, Tanzania, and Burundi on the condition that these countries agree to build one large nuclear reactor that will supply power to homes and buildings in a 2000km radius. The reactor will be built in Rwanda and will generate homes in all three of these nations. The funding for this will be provided by different members of the IAEA (through a public directive) but primarily by the three African nations. This agreement is highly beneficial for both sides. In the perspective of the IAEA not only is one of our tasks being effectively dealt with, but we are also creating strong bonds with the UN, Rwanda, Burundi, and Tanzania. In the perspective of the African nations, first off many citizens in these nations will now have access to clean and healthy water. The hippo tank is a barrel like device that is easy to transport thanks to its handle bars, but it also purifies the water. It also relieves head/ shoulder pain that African citizens normally experience when carrying the water from the source over a long distance. Finally, the hippo tank allows one to carry much more water than a mere pot/ jug can carry. And with the nuclear reactor being built, many jobs will be created which will benefit the economy of these nations, and the nuclear reactor itself will be able to provide electricity to many homes. With the building of this reactor there will be a large spike in the economic growth and citizen happiness in Rwanda, Burundi, and Tanzania. From here the goal is for other countries to be inspired and see the benefits of utilizing nuclear energy as a power source. And so by building a nuclear reactor in Austria and taking on a huge project to build a reactor in Africa, countries will eventually come to their senses and proceed with utilizing nuclear energy as a power source. This will be most certainly effective in promoting nuclear energy as a power source.

The final issue that the IAEA needs to address is implementing and enforcing the nuclear program in Iran. Austria is greatly in favour of having Iran join the nuclear program, To implement the program in Iran an indirect but diplomatic approach must be taken. Portugal used to be infamous for its drug crime rates. Their drug crime rates were among the worst in the world. However, what they then did was legalize drugs like marijuana and cocaine and make it available in small quantities. They then used the money that had to combat drugs to instead provide treatment for drugs (hospitals, medicines, therapy). As a result, Portugal’s crime rates have severely gone down, Present day, only 3 of 1,000,000 portuguese citizens die yearly due to an overdosage of drugs. Currently, it is Iran who has the most severe drug crime rates. Heroin alone is 14.32% per capita in Iran, and the UN only provides them with 13 million dollars to combat against drugs. What I intend to do is request that the UN provides a larger sum of money to Iran for its drug issue, but that Iran legalise small quantities of drugs like heroin, cocaine, and marijuana just like Portugal did, and use the money provided by the UN to treat drugs instead of fight it. There will be a large sum of remaining money as a result of this. I would like Iran to utilize this money to study isotopes of Uranium that can be used in the medical industry. A team of scientists from Austria would like to collaborate with Iran to study and patent a technique/ product for the medical industry using uranium. This will strengthen the bonds I have with Iran. From this point I would ask Syria, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, United Arab Emirates,Afghanistan and Iran to sign a peace treaty for them not to declare war on any nation for the next 50 years. This will be extremely effective if all the countries sign the multilateral treaty as Syria and Saudi Arabia fear that the nuclear program the IAEA is trying to implement in Iran is making Iran hostile and will eventually cause the country to declare war on multiple nations. Iran feels threatened by its bordering nations and for that reason it is building nuclear weapons. If countries realized no one wants to attack each other, then there would be no need for fear, and there would also be no need for Iran to build nuclear weapons. If Iran does not need nuclear weapons, then they would have no problem in having the nuclear program implemented in their nation. And so by first helping the people and government of Iran with their drug issue, then making peace with Iran and its bordering nations, the implementation of the nuclear program in Iran can be done.

Though the IAEA’s issues will be difficult to address they can be done if the right approach is taken. Primarily an indirect but diplomatic approach must be taken in order to resolve these issues. It is also key that alliances are formed with various nations as simply coercing a nation will not solve the issue at hand. This was clearly shown when the European Union and UN placed sanctions on Iran. However, by motivating, and assisting other nations to address their issues will in turn solve your issues. This strategy will be implemented to address nuclear terrorism, utilizing nuclear energy as a power source, and implementing the nuclear program in Iran. Together bonds between countries will be formed, as bonds between atoms are split.

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