Committee: Disarmament and International Security Committee

Issue: Reevaluating the Nuclear and Missile Programs of D.P.R.K.

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Position: Co-chair

INTRODUCTION

A region of profound isolation and internal conflict, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea a country birthed within the aftermath and the devastating effects of the Second World War in 1948, has faced an overwhelming deal of criticism by the international community due to its extremely repressive policies and notable obscurity in regard to political affairs. Its "nominally communistic" practices and nuclear aspirations, as well as the events that occur within its borders, are alienated from the rest of the world, and distinct uncertainties arise respective to the situation inside of its territory.

To this day, nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation has been one of the most important goals of the UN, but states like DPRK firmly support the possession of nuclear weapons. As the country itself has stated and experts have confirmed numerous times, has been interested in manufacturing and developing nuclear weapons as a means of self-defense. The existence of these weapons, however, constitutes a possible threat to global security, since their misuse could lead to thousands or maybe millions of lost lives. Such nuclear objectives and incertitude give rise to the concern of the plausibility of war, and the inadequate acknowledgement toward human rights. And so the question remains: What should be done regarding the nuclear weapons program of the DPRK?

Taking into account the complexity and the importance of the issue in hand it is of the outmost importance to understand all aspects of the matter. If any inquires arise please feel free to contact me for further information and explanations at my e-mail address (lamprossmallios@gmail.com).

Important note from the chairs' team

In order for the chairs to fully understand the dynamics of the committee, discovering any misunderstanding prior to the debate and for the better preparation of the delegates you are asked to proceed as indicated below;

1) Conduct your chairs via email and informing them about your mun experience so that they can know what exactly to expect of you.
2) Prepare and send your chairs by 11:59 of the 6th of November one position papers for each of the topics you are going to discuss during the conference. You can conduct the expert chair, of each topic for further information concerning your country's policy if

needed, and for general guidance when it comes to your position papers (word limit structure etc). You are going to receive general comments during the lobbying for your position papers as well as personal feedback and grades for your papers. The points you will receive will add up to your general score which is one of the factors that determine the best delegate award. If you for any reason fail to send your papers before the final deadline you will not be eligible for any award.

DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

Nuclear weapons[1]

Is a device designed to release energy in an explosive manner as a result of nuclear fission, nuclear fusion or a combination of the two processes. Nuclear weapons produce enormous explosive energy. For example, the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima, Japan, in 1945, containing only about 64 kg of highly enriched uranium, released energy equaling about 15 kilotons of chemical explosive. That blast immediately produced a strong shock wave, enormous amounts of heat, and lethal ionizing radiation. Convection currents created by the explosion drew dust and other debris into the air, creating the mushroom-shaped cloud that has since become the virtual signature of a nuclear explosion. In addition, radioactive debris was carried by winds high into the atmosphere, later to settle to Earth as radioactive fallout. The enormous toll in destruction, death, injury, and sickness produced by the explosions at Hiroshima and, three days later, at Nagasaki was on a scale never before produced by any single weapon. In the decades since 1945, even as many countries have developed nuclear weapons of far greater strength than those used against the Japanese cities.

Nuclear disarmament[2]

Nuclear disarmament is the process of reducing and eradicating nuclear weapons, as well as ensuring that countries without nuclear weapons are not able to develop them. The movement to denuclearize hopes to eliminate the possibility of nuclear war because of its potential for catastrophic consequences, as demonstrated by the United States' bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki during World War II. This movement holds that there is never a legitimate use for nuclear weapons, and peace will only come with complete disarmament.

Light water reactor[3]

A term used to describe reactors using ordinary water as coolant, including boiling water reactors (BWRs) and pressurized water reactors (PWRs), the most common types used in the world.

Sanctions[4]

[1] Brionne Frazier, https://www.thoughtco.com/nuclear-disarmament-4172458, 25 May 2019
[2] https://www.thoughtco.com/nuclear-disarmament-4172458
[3] https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/basic-ref/glossary/light-water-reactor.html
[4] https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/sanction

An official order, such as the stopping of trade, that is taken against a country in order to make it obey international law.

Juche[5]

The Juche ideology emphasizes North Korea's political, economic, and military self-reliance. It became the state ideology and sole guiding principle of the government following the rise of a one-party communist state in the country following World War II. Juche asserts that the individual is the master of one's destiny and encourages North Koreans to work as masters of revolution and construction. This political ideology is based on the idea that man is the master of everything who decides everything.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The introduction of nuclear weapons to DPRK: 1950s – 1970s

After Soviet occupation in North Korea and the Korean War (1950-1953) had ended, a strong alliance had been built between the newly-formed state of the DPRK and the USSR. Through a series of cooperative agreements between the two, North Korea eventually started receiving information, expertise and training regarding the development of nuclear technology and consequently constructing the Yongbyon Nuclear Research Center. The initiation of the program the international community, since its level of security and the avoidance of accidents (due to the fact that the nuclearwepons were unstable due to relatively low expertise) could not be verified by anyone. Progress was made regarding the safety of the program when a significant part of the research facilities were brought under the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) safeguards in 1977.

The Six-Party Talks and the 1st Nuclear Test: 2001-2008

Under the Bush administration, the USA went through a review of their policy towards the DPRK, with President Bush himself calling them a member of the "Axis of Evil". The two countries repeatedly accused each other of not fulfilling their responsibilities under the Agreed Framework, which had practically collapsed by the end of 2002. On the 10th of January of 2003 the DPRK expelled all IAEA inspectors from the country and announced its withdrawal from the NPT, to which the Secretary General Kofi Annan stated that he "regrets the announcement ... and strongly urges reconsideration". In August of the same year the DPRK, South Korea, Japan, China, Russia and the USA met in Beijing to discuss the denuclearization of the DPRK. These talks, which were named the Six-Party Talks, have served as the main platform for discussion on the nuclear weapons of the DPRK and took place a total of 6 times from 2003 until 2007.

From the 13th until the 19th of September of 2005, after the DPRK stated that they had produced nuclear weaponry, the Six-Party countries agreed on a Statement of Principles, under which the DPRK would abandon all their nuclear weapons it had manufactured, allow IAEA safeguards to be applied, return to the NPT and receive a LWR from the USA. However, the USA froze a number of assets of the commercial bank Banco Delta Asia, which was

[5] https://www.worldatlas.com/articles/what-is-the-juche-ideology-of-north-korea.html

closely tied to North Korea, thereby hindering economic transactions to and from the country and resulting in the DPRK to refuse the application of the Statement of Principles not umtil the freeze was lifted. Tensions increased further with the DPRK's first nuclear test on October 9th 2006, which the KCNA officially announced and which produced a small yield of less than 1 kiloton. The Security Council condemned the test a few days later through Resolution 1718, which imposed a number of sanctions on North Korea, mostly meant to limit the country's access to nuclear technology. In 2007 the process of denuclearizing the DPRK gained speed, since an Action Plan and a Second Action Plan regarding the Statement of Principles of 2005 were agreed upon by the DPRK, the freeze on Banco Delta Asia was lifted and the DPRK shut down its facilities in Yongbyon.

Further Nuclear Tests: 2009-2016

Due to controversy regarding the DPRK's rocket program, the country decided to expelle IAEA and US inspectors in 2009 and rebuilt the facilities it had previously demolished. On May 25th 2009 the second nuclear test took place, this time producing a bigger yield of 4 kilotons, as detected by South Korean and American sources. The Security Council reacted by adopting resolution 1874, which imposed further sanctions on the country and set up a Sanctions Committee, while the DPRK refused to return to the Six-Party Talks. The relations between North Korea and the international community were tested once more in 2010 due to military conflicts between North and South Korea and due to the North's statement on the construction of a LWR, which would grant them access to higher and as result possibly more dangerous nuclear compounds. Although the DPRK agreed to suspend their nuclear programs when they were promised food aid by the USA in 2012, the agreement was cancelled due to the DPRK decision to put a satellite into orbit, which was considered a violation of resolutions 1718 and 1874. A few months later, on the 12th of February of 2013, the DPRK carried out its third nuclear test, which caused an earthquake with a magnitude of 5,1 on the Richter scale and produced a yield of 6-9 kilotons, as detected by China. Resolution 2094 imposed even heavier sanctions, but remained true to the Security Council's statement that there would be no use or threat of force. Three years later, on January 6th 2016, the DPRK conducted their fourth nuclear test, which the KCNA claimed was a hydrogen bomb, one of the most dangerous nuclear weapons ever created. The magnitude of the earthquake of the underground detonation was, however, 5,1 Richter, similar to the test of 2013, leading to experts doubting the characterization of the bomb as a hydrogen bomb. Even heavier sanctions were imposed through Resolution 227 on activities related to the arms and nuclear weapons programs of the DPRK, which were characterized as "quite harsh" but necessary in order for progress to be made in initiating dialogue with the DPRK. Some of these measures were the expulsion of DPRK diplomats suspected of supporting the nuclear programs, as well as the imposition of sanctions on all arms and on anything related to nuclear technology, except from food and medicine. On September 9th 2016, DPRK conducted its fifth, largest and most recent nuclear test, resulting into a 5 magnitude earthquake and an explosive yield of 10 kilotons, reflecting significant improvement in DPRK'S capacity to build a functional nuclear warhead. In early October 2016, the 28 North Group, run by JH University's School of Advanced International Studies, reported high activity around North Korea's nuclear test site, adding to the global unease with DPRK's increased ability for and frequency of nuclear tests.

North Korea and Nuclear capabilities and the international threat they impose

Estimating the destructive power of the nuclear weapons of the DPRK does not only depend on the force of the weapons themselves, but also on that of the delivery mechanism. Although the international community does not possess a complete report of the DPRK's ballistic arsenal, the fact that they managed to launch a satellite into orbit in . Whether North Korea has ready nuclear missiles has been subject to some debate. It is important to summarise what exactly we know about current nuclear capabilities of North Korea in order to effectively discuss how we can limit further development of nuclear weapons. North Korea has successfully conducted several nuclear test, however, it cannot fire the missiles on it members as it needs small nuclear warheads for that purpose. The international community still debates whether North Korea has succeeded in making the warheads smaller. The information generally is quite unreliable as for obvious reasons there is no possible way to examine at what stage of development are the nuclear weapons. According to the information leaked to the press by U.S. intelligence, DPRK has developed nuclear

The first reactor is the 5MW(e), which was first used in 1986, in order to produce electricity, however it is also capable of producing weapon-grade plutonium. The fear of the use of this reactor for military purposes led to it remaining shut-down from 1994 until 2003, in accordance with the Agreed Framework of 1994, and from 2007 until 2008, when its cooling tower was ultimately demolished in accordance with the Six-Party Talks. Satellite imagery shows that the reactor was restarted and operating in 2013, while the North Korean government stated that the reactor would be used in plutonium production.

In total, if one takes into consideration the amount of plutonium produced by these reactors and the highly enriched uranium the country processes in Yongbyon, the country could have "anywhere from 20 to 100 nuclear weapons by 2020", as stated by the National Committee on North Korea in January 2016. While the yields of the nuclear tests have not been as large as the one in, for example, Hiroshima, it should be noted that the DPRK has progressively achieved better results in its tests, starting with less than one kiloton and reaching at least six in 2016.

MAJOR COUNTRIES AND ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED

Democratic People's Republic of Korea (D.P.R.K)

Since this topic revolves around the nuclear weapons program of the DPRK, the country's government plays an important role in how the denuclearization efforts will be adopted. While it can be noted that the DPRK emphasizes their right to self-defense as a reason to run this program, the country has also been open to negotiations on the issue, for example during the Six-Party Talks, when they received food aid and LWR technology in exchange for agreeing on denuclearization.

United States of America (USA)

The USA is one of the nations that has played a major role in the question of the nuclear program of the DPRK, which can easily be observed due to the numerous agreements the two countries have signed on the issue, such as the Agreed Framework of 1994 and the Six-Party Talks Action Plans. The DPRK has also often requested bilateral talks with the USA as a

precondition to enter negotiations such as the Six-Party Talks. Altogether, the USA aims towards the denuclearization of the DPRK, since their weapons could pose an international threat if they were misused, employing different policy responses ranging from bilateral talks to strategic military alliances with neighbors and UNSC imposed sanctions.

People's Republic of China (China)

China and the DPRK have been allies ever since the Korean War, when Chinese troops supported the North, but their relationship has been strained by the nuclear tests of the DPRK. China, along with Japan and South Korea, namely find themselves in the attack range of the ballistic weapons of the DPRK and would be in danger, if an attack were to happen. Additionally, the PRoC was previously accused of using its veto power in the Security Council to protect the DPRK from measures that would undermine the Kim regime's policy, but this phenomenon has not appeared in resolutions 1718, 1874, 2094 and 2270. However, the country still shows interest in the DPRK's development and humanitarian conditions, stating on numerous occasions that North Korea's sovereignty should be respected and that humanitarian and food aid should not be affected by the nuclear weapons tests.

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

The IAEA was the first international organization to be involved in the case of the DPRK's nuclear weapons, since North Korea placed its nuclear programme under IAEA safeguards in 1977. Ever since then, the Agency has been the one to oversee the implementation of its safeguards in the DPRK's nuclear facilities through inspections, declarations and monitoring of the implementation of agreements, for example of the freeze on the graphite-reactors of the Agreed Framework of 1994. However, the DPRK's withdrawal from the NPT in 2003 placed it out of IAEA safeguards, leading the international community to further worry about the safety of the programme, especially after all IAEA inspectors were expelled from the country in 2009. The Security Council has repeatedly urged North Korea to welcome IAEA inspectors back to the country, in order for them to inspect the construction of the LWR in Yongbyon, but the country still maintains a negative stance against the Agency.

TIMELINE OF EVENTS

Date	Description of Event
12th December 1985	DPRK enters the NTP
30th January 1992	DPRK signs an IAEA agreement
19th February 1992	North and South Kore issue a joint declaration aiming to demilitarise the Korean peninsula
12th March 1993	DPRK issues a statement on its intentions to withdraw from the NTP
29th February 2002	President of the USA, George Bush makes a speech name "Axis of

	Evil"
10th January 2003	DPRK withdraws from the NTP
27th August 2003	1st meeting of Six-Party Talks
25th February 2004	2nd meeting of Six-party Talks
23rd June 2004	3rd meeting of Six-Party Talks
15th September 2005	4th meeting of Six-Party Talks
9th October 2006	1st Nuclear Test of DPRK
14th October 2006	UNSC Resolution 1718
13 February 2007	5th meeting of Six-party Talks and Denuclearization Action Plan
27th June 2008	Yongbyon 5MW cooling tower is demolished
25th May 2009	2nd Nuclear test of DPRK
12th February 2013	3rd Nuclear test of DPRK
7th of March 2013	UNSC Resolution S/RES/2094
6th January 2016	4th Nuclear Test of the DPRK
2nd March	UNSC Resolution S/RES/2270
9th September 2016	5th Nuclear Test of the DPRK

UN INVOLVEMENT: RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS, TREATIES AND EVENTS

- Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT): The NPT was implemented in 1970 with the aim of preventing the spread of nuclear weapons. The DPRK joined the NPT in 1985, however it was the first state to withdraw from it in 2003. Since its withdrawal DPRK has been urged to reenter the treaty by many nations on multiple occasions.
- Treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons (TPNW):It includes a comprehensive set of prohibitions on participating in any nuclear weapon activities. These include undertakings not to develop, test, produce, acquire, possess, stockpile, use or threaten to use nuclear weapons.
- United Nations Security Council Resolution S/RES/1718 (14.10.2006): Condemned the first nuclear test of the DPRK and imposed the first sanctions on the DPRK's nuclear weapons programme.

- United Nations Security Council Resolution S/RES/1874 (12.06.2009): Condemned the second nuclear test, imposed further sanctions on the import and export of arms.
- United Nations Security Council Resolution S/RES/2094 (07.03.2013): Condemned the third nuclear test, imposed further sanctions while enhancing the inspection of cargo to and from the DPRK.
- United Nations Security Council Resolution S/RES/2270 (02.03.2016): Condemned the fourth nuclear test and imposed further sanctions, especially financial sanctions.

PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS TO SOLVE THE ISSUE

In the majority of agreements between the DPRK and other Nations she has agreed to abandon their nuclear weapons program multiple times such as in the Joint Declaration of 1992 and the Agreed Framework of 1994, in exchange for humanitarian or food aid, technology etc. Although they have been effective to some extent, these agreements tend to collapse quickly in case the aid is delayed or there is a problem with its completion, in which the DPRK declares that the agreement is void and it is not bound to it anymore.

In addition the DPRK has become involved with one of the most important platforms regarding their nuclear program the Six party talks. Moreover, not only does the DPRK open itself to dialogue with South Korea, Japan, China, Russia and the USA, but the Talks have successfully produced the Joint Statement of Principles of 2005 and the two Action Plans of 2007, which aided in the denuclearization efforts. Lastly, the return of the DPRK to the Six-Party Talks is constantly called upon by all Security Council resolutions on the DPRK and is generally thought as one of the most effective measures in halting the production of nuclear weapons in the DPRK. Agreements such as the Six-Party Talks Documents tend to be more difficult to disregsard, since more parties are involved in them, and the involvement of neutral states ensures more fair and, possibly, successful terms between the states. A problem, which has presented itself since 2007, however, is that politic quarrel between one or more of the members of the talks may lead to them not taking place. South Korea, for example, did not agree to restart the Six-Party Talks in 2012, after North Korea was involved in military attacks against it.

The Security Council has also made attempts to stop the DPRK from producing nuclear weapons by limiting its access to nuclear technology through sanctions in resolutions 1718, 1874, 2094 and 2270. Although it has been noted that the sanctions have slowed down the nuclear program, they have not been able to completely stop the nuclear program of the DPRK yet.

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

It is clear that in order for the issue to be resolved efficient diplomatic discussions must take place in order to ensure that agreements regarding DPRK's nuclear program are not halted by the Nation. Moreover, The DPRK itself stated that a large part of the program is meant to either supply North Korea with energy or ensure the safety of its citizens and the sovereignty of the states from global threats. If these problems were to be resolved through agreements, it would be easier for the DPRK to agree on abandoning their nuclear weapons.

It is not certain, however, whether the DPRK would stay true to these agreements, as it has been seen numerous times in the past decades.

In addition, the introduction of agreements which will enhance the NTP are a vital solution to the problem. Furthermore, Political scientists suggest that with implementation of a treaty which will ban the use, production, stock piling, financing and transfer of nuclear weapons -with the subsequent endorsement of nuclear energy- even without the signing of DPRK will ensure their reduction and eventual eradication.

Moreover, There have been calls for increased conventional deterrence such as Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) which is anti-ballistic missile defense system developed by USA. THAAD already is used in South Korea and there has been a talk to introduce it Japan.

There are political obstacles to increased conventional deterrence as it would involve greater American presence in the region, something China does not feel comfortable about. China sees North Korea as a buffer zone between American military in South Korea and China itself. China, generally, feels that THAAD system is not simply defensive but can also affect its own nuclear capabilities and at the time of deployment of THAAD to South Korea was very vocal in raising its opposition to it. THAAD and conventional deterrence is mainly provided by the US. Lastly, there are no UN wide capabilities to supply conventional nuclear deterrence. It is done on the basis of bilateral agreements between individual states. Delegates can discuss whether the Western missile defence can be used under the auspices of UN.

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The bibliography will certainly be in MLA format, but since I haven't chosen which exact sources I am going to use and which I am not going to, I just copy-pasted them for now.

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