

Welcome

Security Council



Iker Vidal Kushelewich

President of Security Council

Luis Rodrigo Avendaño Maggi

Moderator of Security Council

Diana Ixchel Hernández Solache

Conference Officer of Security Council

INDEX

Distinguished delegates,	2
About the Committee	3
Delegations List	5
Topic A: The dispute over the gas field within Cyprus	6
Introduction	6
Background	6
Current Situation	6
Questions to Consider	6
References for Topic A	7
Topic B: Strengthening nuclear restrictions to prevent an arms race among world powers.	8
Introduction	8
Background	8
Current Situation	8
Questions to Consider	8
References for Topic B	9

"Peace is not absence of conflict; it is the ability to handle conflict by peaceful means."
— Ronald Reagan

Distinguished delegates,

Through this letter, I present myself to each and every one of you as your President, fully acknowledging the responsibility and honor that this role entails.

All the members of this Committee are pleased to extend the warmest welcome to CENMUN 2025.

By becoming delegates, you are stepping into the role of agents of change, striving to improve the world we live in and the one we can build, transcending all spatial boundaries and aiming for a higher level. To achieve this, we must remain clear that our mission is to assist future generations, no matter the adversities we may face.

In this space, you as delegates will have the opportunity to engage in the creation of agreements to arrive at possible solutions through diplomatic and position-oriented discussions. Through your arguments, you will have the chance to make your voices heard and influence the course of solutions.

The reality of the world we live in is disheartening, having endured countless aggressions—a world filled with inequality and injustice that not only creates class divisions but also divides humanity. Therefore, we must unite as delegates to construct a different and better environment.

To conclude, I wish you success in this United Nations Model, where we will showcase the best of each of us. Welcome, and I wish you great success.

Sincerely,
Iker Vidal Kushelewich

President of Security Council

About the Committee

The Security Council first convened in January of 1946 as one of the six principal organs of the United Nations (UN). Created as part of an effort to replace the ineffective League of Nations, the Security Council's mandate is to maintain international peace and security.

While its primary goal is to seek a peaceful conflict resolution, the Security Council is the only body of the UN that can create binding legislation for its member states. In addition, the Security Council is in charge of the establishment of peacekeeping operations, the imposition of military sanctions, and the authorization of military force.

The Security Council comprises 15 member states. These consist of the five permanent members (People's Republic of China, French Republic, Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.) as well as ten rotating members. Five members are voted annually, and they serve two-year terms. To achieve equal global representation, the rotating countries on the Council are broken down as follows: five total from Africa and Asia, one from Eastern Europe, two from Latin America, and two from any other region. Each member on the council receives a single vote, but a vote of "nay" from any of the five permanent members (colloquially referred to as the P5) serves as a "veto"; therefore, without the approval of all P5 nations, legislation cannot continue. Since its inception, the Security Council has played an active role in maintaining international security and peace. Beginning in 1948, the Security Council has conducted successful peacekeeping missions in Cambodia, Tajikistan, Guatemala, El Salvador, Namibia, and Mozambique. However, the Security Council has also experienced failures with peacekeeping, especially in Rwanda and Somalia where peacekeeping operations resulted in many unaddressed desires.

These varying levels of success have led to modifications in the peacekeeping doctrine, most notably with the introduction of the robust peacekeeping mandate in MONUSCO, a peacekeeping mission based out of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In addition to peacekeeping, the Security Council has bestowed the power to use economic sanctions in concordance with Chapter VII of the UN Charter.

The Council has used the power to sanction not only countries but also individuals and smaller entities from all parts of the world. As with peacekeeping, sanctions from the Security Council have a mixed record. Success stories can be seen in the former Yugoslavia, Liberia, and Libya, yet sanctions failures can be seen in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Angola.

The Security Council's attitude towards sanctions has shifted over the years, as sector-targeted sanctions are now considered to be more effective than broad measures, which crippled not only national economies but also adversely affected global growth. Additionally, the Security Council now accompanies these sanctions with supplemental support and investigative missions. 2020 marked the 75th anniversary of the UN and the Security Council.

In the session, the Security Council adopted legislation such as Resolution 2512, which allowed the Council to extend the mandate of the UN Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau and focus on the transition plan for their withdrawal from the area, and resolution 2535, which promotes the participation of youth in sustainable peacebuilding.

Delegations List

1. Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela
2. Democratic People's Republic North of Korea
3. Federal Republic of Germany
4. French Republic
5. Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
6. Hellenic Republic
7. Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
8. Kingdom of the Netherlands
9. Lebanese Republic
10. People's Republic of China
11. Republic of Chile
12. Republic of Colombia
13. Republic of Cyprus
14. Republic of Ecuador
15. Republic of India
16. Republic of Iraq
17. Republic of Turkey
18. Republic of South Africa
19. Republic of Syria
20. Swiss Confederation
21. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
22. United Mexican States
23. United States of America
24. Russian Federation
25. State of Japan

Topic A: The dispute over the gas field within Cyprus

Introduction

The dispute over the gas field within Cyprus is a geopolitical conflict rooted in overlapping territorial claims and energy interests. Cyprus is located in the Eastern Mediterranean, a region abundant with natural gas reserves that have garnered significant international attention. The discovery of gas fields, such as the Aphrodite field, has exacerbated tensions between the Republic of Cyprus (internationally recognized) and the self-declared Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (recognized only by Turkey). This conflict has broader implications, involving key players such as Turkey, Greece, the European Union, and multinational energy corporations. Understanding this dispute requires an exploration of the region's energy potential, international maritime law, and the historical divisions on the island.

Background

The roots of the dispute trace back to the division of Cyprus in 1974, following a coup backed by Greece and a subsequent Turkish military intervention. The island has since been divided into the Republic of Cyprus in the south and the Turkish-controlled north. Despite numerous United Nations-led attempts to reunify the island, the division persists.

The discovery of significant natural gas reserves in the early 2000s heightened tensions. The Republic of Cyprus began issuing exploration licenses in its Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), defined under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). However, Turkey disputes these boundaries, claiming overlapping areas based on its continental shelf and asserting that the Turkish Cypriots should also benefit from the resources. These disagreements have led to confrontations, including Turkish naval interventions and competing exploration activities.

Current situation

The dispute remains unresolved and continues to impact the Eastern Mediterranean's stability. Key stakeholders include:

- **The Republic of Cyprus: Actively exploring and licensing gas fields within its EEZ, supported by Greece and the European Union.**
- **Turkey: Conducting its own exploration in contested waters, arguing for the rights of Turkish Cypriots and its broader regional influence.**
- **Greece: Supporting Cyprus and challenging Turkey's actions as a violation of international law.**
- **European Union: Advocating for dialogue while imposing sanctions on Turkey for its unilateral exploration activities.**
- **Energy Corporations: Companies like ExxonMobil and TotalEnergies are engaged in the exploration, further complicating the geopolitical dynamics.**

This conflict underscores broader disputes over maritime boundaries in the Eastern Mediterranean and raises questions about energy security, international law, and regional cooperation.

Questions to consider

- *What role does international law, particularly UNCLOS, play in resolving the dispute?*
- *How can the rights of both Greek and Turkish Cypriots be balanced in the exploitation of natural resources?*
- *What steps can be taken to de-escalate tensions between Turkey and the Republic of Cyprus?*
- *How does the dispute impact regional stability and international relations in the Eastern Mediterranean?*
- *What role should multinational energy corporations play in addressing the conflict?*
- *How can the European Union and other international organizations mediate effectively?*
- *What lessons can be drawn from other maritime disputes to resolve this conflict?*

References topic A

European Commission. (2020). *EU response to the Eastern Mediterranean crisis*.

International Maritime Organization. (1982) <https://www.eeas.europa.eu/>.

United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).
https://www.un.org/Depts/los/convention_agreements/texts/unclos/unclos_e.pdf

Republic of Cyprus. (2021). *Exploration activities in the Eastern Mediterranean*.
Ministry of Energy, Commerce, and Industry. <https://meci.gov.cy/>

Smith, K. (2020). *The geopolitics of gas in the Eastern Mediterranean: Regional conflicts and global implications*. *Journal of Energy Policy*, 45(3), 123-140.

Yildirim, S. (2019). *Turkey's claims in the Eastern Mediterranean: A legal and political analysis*. *International Journal of Maritime Affairs*, 12(2), 78-95.

Topic B: Strengthening nuclear restrictions to prevent an arms race among world powers.

Introduction

The global nuclear arms race has long been a major threat to international peace and security. Since the development of nuclear weapons in the mid-20th century, nations have sought to either enhance their arsenals or prevent others from acquiring such capabilities. Nuclear restrictions involve agreements, treaties, and policies aimed at limiting the development, proliferation, and deployment of nuclear weapons. Understanding these measures and the dangers of their failure is essential to addressing the potential escalation of an arms race among world powers.

Background

The roots of nuclear restrictions can be traced back to the aftermath of World War II and the Cold War. The atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945 highlighted the destructive power of nuclear weapons, leading to efforts to regulate their use. The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), signed in 1968, became a cornerstone of these efforts, aiming to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and promote disarmament. The Cold War era witnessed intense competition between the United States and the Soviet Union, with both nations building vast nuclear arsenals. Since then, other nations, including China, India, and Pakistan, have developed nuclear weapons, complicating global disarmament efforts.

Current situation

Today, the issue of nuclear restrictions remains critical. Key players include the United States, Russia, China, North Korea, and Iran, among others. Recent developments, such as the withdrawal of the U.S. and Russia from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, have heightened concerns about a new arms race. Emerging technologies, such as hypersonic missiles and artificial intelligence, further complicate the nuclear landscape. These developments not only affect the countries directly

involved but also pose risks to global stability, including potential nuclear accidents, proliferation to non-state actors, and regional conflicts escalating into global crises.

Questions to consider

1. *What measures can be taken to ensure compliance with existing nuclear treaties?*
2. *How can emerging technologies be regulated to prevent their integration into nuclear strategies?*
3. *What role should international organizations like the United Nations play in nuclear disarmament?*
4. *How can trust be rebuilt among major nuclear powers to encourage dialogue and cooperation?*
5. *Should nations pursue a complete ban on nuclear weapons, or is deterrence a necessary aspect of global security?*
6. *How can smaller nations ensure their security in a world with nuclear-armed superpowers?*
7. *What mechanisms can be implemented to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons to non-state actors?*
8. *How can economic incentives or sanctions be used effectively to enforce nuclear restrictions?*

References topic B

International Atomic Energy Agency. (2023). The role of the IAEA in nuclear non-proliferation. Retrieved from <https://www.iaea.org>

Koblentz, G. D. (2020). Strategic stability in the second nuclear age. *Journal of Strategic Studies*, 43(1), 43-74. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01402390.2020.1711741>

Perkovich, G., & Acton, J. M. (2021). *Abolishing nuclear weapons: A debate*. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

Sagan, S. D., & Waltz, K. (2013). *The spread of nuclear weapons: An enduring debate*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company.

United Nations. (2022). *Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)*. Retrieved from <https://www.un.org>

Waltz, K. N. (1981). The spread of nuclear weapons: More may be better. *Adelphi Papers*, 21(171), 1-36.

World Nuclear Association. (2023). *Nuclear power and nuclear weapons proliferation*. Retrieved from <https://www.world-nuclear.org>