



General Assembly

Thirteenth Session

Distr.: Middle School

Sept 2018

Original: English

Security Council

This is a special part of the United Nations. The UN created this group to try to protect peace. They decide what is a danger to peace. There are 15 members of the Security Council: 5 are permanent and 10 change every two years. The permanent members are China, France, Russia, United Kingdom and the US. The other members are Bolivia, Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Netherlands, Peru, Poland and Sweden.

This group helps peace in several ways. They ask states to solve problems peacefully. They also advise states to do something different or offer ways to resolve the situation. If a problem becomes bad the Security Council recommends sanctions. This means other states will punish the country in a non-violent way. An example might be not buying the country's products or not allowing a country's sports teams to compete internationally. If things get really bad the Security Council recommends the use of force to bring back international peace and security. All the states of the UN must follow what the Security Council decides.

All the permanent members of the Security Council get a veto. This means no resolutions can pass unless all the permanent members agree. All the other members get one vote. They have passed resolutions on peacebuilding, the situation in Western Sahara, and starting peacekeeping operations.

Non-Proliferation: Democratic People's Republic Korea

Guiding Questions

North Korea is a state that does not usually follow international law. It has spent the last several years developing nuclear weapons. With your fellow delegates you need to find a way to work towards making the following goals a reality.

- How can countries stop North Korea from developing nuclear weapons and other weapons that threaten the region/world?
- What can countries do to encourage North Korea to help millions of its people who are suffering?
- What is the best way of using sanctions and other non-violent incentives to get North Korea to commit to denuclearization?

Background

The Korean War was fought from 1950 to 1953. North Korea and South Korea used to be one country. During World War II, Korea was invaded to free it from Japan. The North was occupied by the Soviet Union and the South was occupied by the US. These two countries had a big influence on the two Koreas. The North became communist and the South became capitalist. There was a vote in both Koreas to see what government should take over both countries. Unfortunately, both sides said that the vote was unfair.

Background

In 1950, North Korea invaded South Korea. It is a war that is still happening. This is because no peace treaty was ever signed. In 1953, fighting between the two countries stopped but both countries continue to wait for the other to attack. In the South, the country developed economically and eventually became a democracy. In the North, Kim Il Sung took over. He closed the borders to North Korea and became a dictator.

North Korea is now a dictatorship led by Kim Jong-un. Unfortunately, the North Korean government does not care very much about their people. In order to raise money to develop nuclear weapons they engage in illegal activities. North Korea makes illegal drugs, fake cigarettes and money. The money they make is used to pay for developing nuclear weapons. Most North Koreans have trouble finding enough food and medical supplies to stay alive.

Most countries agree nuclear weapons are too dangerous to have. However, some countries still want to make them. In October 2006, North Korea conducted their first nuclear test. Over the last 12 years North Korea has made more tests. They also threaten to use their weapons against their neighbors and the US. Some people believe that North Korea is actually afraid. North Korea might believe that nuclear weapons are the only thing that will stop the US and other countries from attacking. Before they give up their weapons they want security guarantees.

On 28 November 2017, North Korea tested a missile. It was the first one they had launched in two months. It went up 2800 miles. This means North Korea has the ability to hit the US and many other states it considers enemies. If North Korea decided to put a nuclear weapon on a missile it could cause extreme damage around the world. In response, the Security Council has limited the amount of oil and gas North Korea can import. They have also banned countries from selling many consumer goods to North Korea.

The President of the United States, Donald Trump, went to Singapore in June 2018 to meet with Kim Jong-un to discuss North Korea's nuclear program. After the meeting, President Trump declared that North Korea was no longer a nuclear threat. However, a few days later, he signed a document stating North Korean nuclear weapons were still a national emergency. Many world leaders were happy that President Trump was able to get North Korea to promise to denuclearize. Some countries worry that North Korea does not usually keep its word. In addition, President Trump acts very differently from previous presidents. Nobody is really sure what he might say or do next – and this makes diplomacy very difficult.

The US and North Korea have been trying to move forward. The US wants CVID (complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization) right now. North Korea wants to make other changes first and, then at the end, they want to give up their nuclear weapons. The US will not agree to this. They are afraid North Korea at the last minute will decide not to get rid of their weapons – they do not have a history of keeping their agreements.

China is a very important in resolving this situation. They are one of the only countries that is directly involved with North Korea. The US would like to see China do more to denuclearized North Korea. However, it is a complicated issue for China. North Korea keeps South Korea at a distance from China. Since there are US troops in South Korea they want to keep them as far away as possible. China, does not want North Korea to become a failed state. If that happens they would have millions of people going over their border.

Recent Developments

Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)

There are many treaties that try to control nuclear weapons. One of the most important is called the *Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons*. This treaty, also known as the NPT, is a very important document. It aims to stop the spread of nuclear weapons and encourages countries to use nuclear energy peacefully. First signed in 1968, only 4 states have never signed it: India, Israel, Pakistan and South Sudan. North Korea signed it in 1985 but left the treaty in 2003.

Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

This treaty would ban ALL nuclear explosions in all environments. This means that no country that signs it would be able to test nuclear weapons. This is important because since 1945 over 2000 nuclear tests have been conducted. That is 28 tests a year! One nuclear blast every two weeks! This treaty is not yet in force. It needs to be ratified by China, Egypt, Iran, Israel, the U.S., India, North Korea and Pakistan.

Worldwide Nuclear Weapons Statistics

Nuclear Weapon States	Number of Warheads	Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons	Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty
United States	6550	Ratification	Signatory
Russia	6850	Ratification	Ratification
United Kingdom	215	Ratification	Ratification
France	300	Accession	Ratification
China	280	Accession	Signatory
India	135	Non-Signatory	Non-Signatory
Pakistan	145	Non-Signatory	Non-Signatory
North Korea	15	Non-Signatory	Non-Signatory
States that "share" US Nuclear Weapons			
Germany	10-20	Ratification	Ratification
Belgium	10-20	Ratification	Ratification
Italy	70-90	Ratification	Ratification
Netherlands	10-20	Ratification	Ratification
Turkey	60-70	Ratification	Ratification
Suspected Nuclear Weapons States			
Israel	80	Non-Signatory	Signatory
States Suspected of Developing Nuclear Weapons Programs			
Iran	N/A	Ratification	Signatory

Research Questions

1. How does nuclear proliferation affect your country? Why might your population be concerned about this?
2. President Trump is working out a deal with North Korea by himself. He is not going through the UN. How can the UN/Security Council support the US in order to reach a positive conclusion?
3. North Korea wants sanctions to be lifted now. China and Russia are supportive of this idea while the US is not. What are the pros and cons of lifting sanctions against North Korea?
4. How can countries trust each other not to attack?
5. Many countries have nuclear weapons. It provides a **nuclear deterrent**. Research this term. Do you think North Korea should be allowed nuclear weapons as a nuclear deterrent?
6. Would it be possible for all countries to get rid of nuclear weapons? Why or why not?
7. Many people in North Korea live in horrible conditions. Kim Jong-un is a dictator. The government of North Korea engages in crime. Why should states negotiate with North Korea if this is true? What are the other options?
8. Does the problem exist in your community?
9. Who is working on it? NGOs, not for profits, other groups or individuals?
10. Knowing about this problem, how does it impact your world view?
11. How could you make an impact on this issue through your life choices?

Resources		
Source / Title	Hyperlink	How is it helpful?
Arms Control	https://www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/dprkchron	A timeline of the events in North Korea Missile diplomacy.
Korean Central News Agency	http://www.kcna.kp/kcna.user.home.retrieveHomeInfoList.kcmsf	The official media site of the Korean government. It is propaganda.
CNN	http://edition.cnn.com/2015/09/15/asia/north-korea-nuclear-program/	Gives an overview of North Korea's nuclear program. Explains how North Korea is threatening to use nuclear weapons.
CBC	https://www.cbc.ca/news/world/north-korea-criminal-empire-drugs-trafficking-1.4435265	Article on how North Korea makes its money.
Vox	https://www.vox.com/world/2017/7/5/15922446/north-korea-nuclear-war-casualties	An overview of the reasons behind what North Korea is doing.
UNOCHA	https://www.unocha.org/story/dprk-2018-needs-and-priorities-plan-outlines-vital-humanitarian-programmes-support-6m-people	A report about how the people in North Korea are treated.
New York Times	https://www.nytimes.com/2018/06/12/world/asia/trump-kim-meeting-interpreter.html	Describes Kim Jong-un's meeting with Trump.
The Washington Post	https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia_pacific/north-korea-may-have-offered-its-clearer-view-yet-of-denuclearization/2018/07/08/4129e386-8246-11e8-9200-b4dee4fb4e28_story.html?noredirect=on&utm_term=.7a8c95faec3d	An analysis of what North Korea actually wants out of the nuclear deal with the US.
Vox	https://www.vox.com/world/2017/5/2/15518284/north-korea-trump-explained-kim-jong-un	An easy-to-read article about the key things to know about North Korea.