

2024

# NLCSD MUN

# GA1

C O M M I T T E E

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NLCS DUBAI

MODEL UNITED NATIONS

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# GA1 COMMITTEE

The First General Assembly (GA1) is one of the six main organs and was formed on the 24th of January, 1946, in London, having represented 51 countries. (1) The Committee meets annually, from September to December, in the New York City Headquarters, their collective efforts and contributions during these meetings being essential in shaping the future of the organization. (2)

GA1, also known as DISEC (the Disarmament and International Security Committee), focuses on establishing global peace and security, as well as, promoting disarmament within the international community. (3) The Assembly seeks to create and develop accessible solutions to address and tackle the challenges faced by the First Committee, such as this year's theme of Displacement.

The responsibilities of the First Committee include regulating the use of weapons, promoting cooperative agreements, and implementing measures to reduce the number of arms, all of which aim to enhance stability. The C1, however, cannot create legally binding Resolutions but can suggest topics for discussion to the Security Council, within the boundaries of the United Nations Charter. (4)

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(1) <https://www.un.org/en/ga/first/>

(2) <https://research.un.org/en/docs/ga/quick/regular/1>

(3) <https://disarmament.unoda.org/convarms/salw/programme-of-action/>

(4) <https://disarmament.unoda.org/convarms/salw/>

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# TOPIC 1

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Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) are designed to be used by individuals or non-state actors, being relatively easy to obtain, transport and use, making them the optimal weapons of choice for Non-State Actors, such as organized crime groups, especially in urban locations. (1) However, a fundamental issue is that these Non-State Actors can easily acquire SALW through various channels, including illicit trafficking, diversion from legal sources, theft, and corruption and the illicit trade and proliferation of SALW are a significant challenge to international security, as they contribute to the escalation of violence and conflict, undermine peace and stability, and pose a threat to civilians and is therefore a responsibility of the First General Assembly to create solutions, in order to re-establish peace.

Additionally, the increase in the frequency of Artificial Intelligence in Warfare means that there will be an increase in the transportation of these lethal weapons, therefore, the consequences of the SALW distribution to non-state actors will be devastating, as the corruption rates (2) of certain countries increase, which not only contributes to the escalation of violence and conflict but also undermines the rule of law, exacerbates human rights abuses, and impedes the delivery of humanitarian assistance, consequently, the committee requires urgent and rapid action. In addition, the SALW proliferation has been said to be a key cause of cross-border violence, refugee flows, and the spread of organized crime, such threats have been recognized by the international community, therefore is a necessity to restore global security and peace.

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(1)[https://www.icanw.org/un\\_security\\_council\\_members\\_respond\\_to\\_inaction\\_on\\_nuclear\\_disarmament\\_with\\_support\\_for\\_tpnw](https://www.icanw.org/un_security_council_members_respond_to_inaction_on_nuclear_disarmament_with_support_for_tpnw)

(2) <https://www.nti.org/education-center/treaties-and-regimes/un-office-of-disarmament-affairs/>

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# PAST UN ACTIONS

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Whilst most of the member states are, whether directly or indirectly, affected by the illicit trade and proliferation of these SALW to Non-State Actors and the risk posed by Artificial Intelligence (1), the nations which are particularly affected include Afghanistan, Yemen, Syria, Iraq, Nigeria, Somalia, Sudan, Libya, South Sudan, the Central African Republic, and the United States of America, mainly due to their past with Non-State Actors or being an exporter of SALW. (2)

A noteworthy international response was the 2001 adoption of the UNPOA (United Nations Program of Action) SALW, the ATT (Arms Trade Treaty) in 2013, and the International Tracing Instrument (ITI) by the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research in 2005 in order to prevent and eliminate the illicit trade of SALW (3), however, many of these frameworks must be updated and improved to fit the current modern world. (4)

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(1)[https://www.icanw.org/un\\_security\\_council\\_members\\_respond\\_to\\_inaction\\_on\\_nuclear\\_disarmament\\_with\\_support\\_for\\_tpnw](https://www.icanw.org/un_security_council_members_respond_to_inaction_on_nuclear_disarmament_with_support_for_tpnw)

(2) <https://www.nti.org/education-center/treaties-and-regimes/un-office-of-disarmament-affairs/>

(3) <https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/disarmament>

(4)<https://disarmament.unoda.org/wmd/nuclear/#:~:text=These%20include%20the%20Treaty%20on,has%20yet%20to%20enter%20into>

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# SOLUTIONS

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Solutions that must be implemented include the creation of a stronger treaty that encourages the United Nations to suggest the reduction of the diversion of the SALW from government and civilian stockpiles, reducing the stockpiles in affected nations, creating stricter regulations regarding the transportation and storage of these SALW, and tackling the roots of the issue, whether it is from political instability and corruption, to poverty and inequality. (2)

This pressing issue must be addressed as it cannot be solved overnight and requires diplomacy and communication, in order to prevent, reduce, and attempt to eradicate the illicit trade of these SALW, as well as preventing the escalation of the situation to an uncontrollable extent. (3) Important stepping stones to note include the UNPoA, ATT, and ITI, however, more needs to be done, such as strengthening the national and regional control mechanisms and address the root causes of SALW proliferation, as it is a global issue. (4)

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(1) <https://thearmstradetreaty.org/treaty-text.html?templateId=209884>

(2) <https://salw.osce.org/Topics/ViewPage/2-small-arms-and-light-weapons-salw>

(3) <https://www.un.org/en/chronicle/article/small-arms-no-single-solution.20ownership>.

(4) <https://www.nti.org/education-center/treaties-and-regimes/treaty-on-the-prohibition-of-nuclear-weapons/>

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# QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

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1. How can regulations be enacted to ensure the responsible development and deployment when using of Artificial Intelligence in warfare?
2. How does transparency and accountability play a role when considering the risks of misusing AI?
3. How can legal frameworks be strengthened to prevent the illicit trade of SALW?
4. How can AI be used to track and disrupt the illegal trade of SALWs to non-state actors?
5. What are the threats of AI autonomous weapons falling into the hands of non-state actors?

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## FURTHER READING: RECOMMENDED WEBSITES

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- <https://unoau.unmissions.org/small-arms-and-light-weapons>
  - [https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics\\_52142.htm](https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_52142.htm)
  - <https://www.icct.nl/project/small-arms-light-weapons-salw>
  - <https://www.eac.int/security/small-arms-and-light-weapons>
  - <https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/whatsinblue/2024/12/small-arms-and-light-weapons-open-debate.php>
  - <https://www.un.org/en/chronicle/article/un-role-and-efforts-combating-proliferation-small-arms-and-light-weapons>
  - <https://salw-guide.bicc.de/>
  - <https://mptf.undp.org/fund/slw00>
  - <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/187818?ln=en&v=pdf>



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## TOPIC 2

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After World War Two, no nation dared to think that it would ever need to be used again due to its destructive nature and long-term effects. However, considering the ongoing tensions, the idea becomes more prevalent in the current discussions between allies, nevertheless, it is necessary for us to never forget the loss of life and create a radioactive fallout, leading to land contamination. (1) Nuclear bombs have a devastating fallout zone ranging from 1,000 to 5,500 kilometers and are classified as weapons of mass destruction that could threaten and affect the safety of millions of lives all over the world. (2)

By the end of 1945, the bombing had killed an estimated 140,000 people in Hiroshima, and a further 74,000 in Nagasaki and the high levels of nuclear radiation in Nagasaki and Hiroshima were the result of nuclear bombs dropped at the end of WWII, rendering these two Japanese cities uninhabitable. (3) This can be directly linked to SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, which mainly implements that they want to create a stop to the production and testing of nuclear arms and the impacts along with it. (4)

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(1) [https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/radiation/fallout/rf-gwt\\_home.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/radiation/fallout/rf-gwt_home.htm)

(2) <https://remm.hhs.gov/nuclearfallout.htm>

(3) [https://www.icanw.org/hiroshima\\_and\\_nagasaki\\_bombings](https://www.icanw.org/hiroshima_and_nagasaki_bombings)

(4) <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/03/un-experts-urge-states-address-human-rights-impact-nuclear-testing>

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# PAST UN ACTIONS

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The concept of Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD) and Nuclear Bombs was the initial issue as it was made as an overpowered nuclear arm to end the Second World War, risking and forever impacting the lives of many victims and citizens who were involuntarily involved, and principally intending to sacrifice numerous lives.

In 1968, two decades before the end of the Cold War, the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) was established. This marked the beginning of a new era, and according to the Nuclear Threat Initiative, aimed to reduce the risks of nuclear weapons, promote disarmament, use nuclear energy peacefully (for example, sustainable energy-wise), and the non-proliferation of these arms, meaning that those who did not develop nuclear arms were unable to build any and those who had nuclear arms could not increase their nuclear warhead count. (1)

Several treaties have been adopted, such as the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) in 1996 and the Council Resolution 1540, however, the key nuclear powers (the United States of America, the Russian Federation, and the People's Republic of China) are still increasing their nuclear arsenal, leading to a new arms race, which further increases tensions. (2) To add on, Non-State Actors pose a risk as the groups are attempting to acquire nuclear arms, which, once again, further increases tensions.

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(1)<https://disarmament.unoda.org/wmd/nuclear/npt/#:~:text=The%20NPT%20is%20a%20landmark,and%20general%20and%20complete%20disarmament.>

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# KEY NATIONS AND SOLUTIONS

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The United States, Israel, Russia, the United Kingdom, France, China, India, Pakistan, and North Korea, are key nations that ratify treaties, such as the TPNW (Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons), however, tend to renege on their international obligations, therefore, the First Committee must support the efforts made to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons by strengthening the NPT, CTBT, export controls, and nuclear facility regulations in order to restore international peace and security. (1)

Possible solutions include strengthening and supporting current policies, such as the Non-Proliferation Treaty and the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. It is equally necessary to develop and enhance the current export and governmental regulations to prevent the illicit transfer of these nuclear materials and possible corruption. (2) Finally, whilst the creation of solutions is key, diplomacy-productive discussions are necessary in order for these solutions to work and be successful in the long-term.

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(1)<https://www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/comprehensive-test-ban-treaty-glance#:~:text=Contact%3A%20Daryl%20Kimball%2C%20Executive%20Director,nations%20and%20ratified%20by%20178.>

(2)<https://disarmament.unoda.org/wmd/nuclear/tpnw/#:~:text=The%20Treaty%20on%20the%20Prohibition,threaten%20to%20use%20nuclear%20weapons.>

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# QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

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1. How can regulations be enacted to ensure the responsible and sustainable development of Nuclear Energy?

2. How do transparency and accountability play a role when considering the risks of misusing Nuclear Arms?

3. How can legal frameworks be strengthened to prevent the renegeing of such laws?

4. What are the main challenges in implementing measures to uphold international security through the disarmament of Nuclear Weapons?

5. How can different countries collaborate effectively to achieve meaningful progress in nuclear disarmament and international security?

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## FURTHER READING: RECOMMENDED WEBSITES

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- <https://www.nti.org/education-center/treaties-and-regimes/treaty-on-the-non-proliferation-of-nuclear-weapons/#:~:text=The%20NPT%20is%20a%20multilateral,the%20non%2Dnuclear%20weapon%20states.>
- <https://disarmament.unoda.org/wmd/nuclear/npt/#:~:text=The%20NPT%20is%20a%20landmark,and%20general%20and%20complete%20disarmament.>
- [https://www.ctbto.org/our-mission/the-treaty#:~:text=The%20Comprehensive%20Nuclear%2DTest%2DBan%20Treaty%20\(CTBT\)%20bans,a%20Protocol%20with%20two%20annexes.](https://www.ctbto.org/our-mission/the-treaty#:~:text=The%20Comprehensive%20Nuclear%2DTest%2DBan%20Treaty%20(CTBT)%20bans,a%20Protocol%20with%20two%20annexes.)
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"The Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) | CTBTO." Www.ctbto.org, [www.ctbto.org/our-mission/the-treaty#:~:text=The%20Comprehensive%20Nuclear%2DTest%2DBan%20Treaty%20\(CTBT\)%20bans](http://www.ctbto.org/our-mission/the-treaty#:~:text=The%20Comprehensive%20Nuclear%2DTest%2DBan%20Treaty%20(CTBT)%20bans).

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