
V. NUCLEAR WEAPONS TODAY

THE NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY (NPT)

The nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty was released for signing on July 1 in 1968 and entered into force on March 5 in 1970. It is the purpose of the NPT to contain proliferation of nuclear weapons and to facilitate the use of nuclear power for energy.

Right now 189 states are party to the NPT. India, Pakistan and Israel never signed nor ratified it. North Korea had been party to the NPT until 2003 and then dropped out of it.

The NPT is built on eleven articles:

Article I	Nuclear Weapon States (NWS) will neither pass over nuclear weapons to Non Nuclear Weapon States (NNWS) nor support them in any kind to develop nuclear weapons.
Artikel II	NNWS will neither acquire nor manufacture nuclear weapons.
Artikel III	Nuclear power facilities from NNWS will be inspected by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) – those from NWS not. Fissile material and nuclear technology must not be passed over to states, which have not ratified the NPT.
Artikel IV	Each state party has an “unalienable right” for the peaceful use of nuclear energy.
Artikel V	Each state party has the opportunity to acquire benefits from peaceful detonations of nuclear weapons. (This article will not be reviewed nowadays. It is obsolete since the CTBT.)
Artikel VI	Each state party works towards nuclear disarmament <u>at an early date</u> under strict international control.
Artikel VII	Negotiations about nuclear weapons free zones will not be restricted.
Artikel VIII	A 1/3-majority of the parties of the treaty can make proposals for amendments. Changes have to be decided in consensus. Each state party can call a review conference of the NPT every five years.
Artikel IX	Any state can sign and ratify the treaty. It enters into force when the US, UdSSR, Great Britain and 40 more states have signed it. NWS are defined as those states that carried out nuclear tests until January 1, 1967.
Artikel X	If there is a conflict with supreme national interests, any state can leave the treaty with an advance notice three months before. 25 years after the treaty entered into force there will be a conference called to decide about the definite or indefinite extension of the treaty. The majority of the parties of the treaty make this decision.
Artikel XI	French, Chinese, English, Russian and Spanish texts are equal.

The Non-Proliferation Treaty (<http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org>, 23/03/2010)

A core problem of the treaty is that its creating two classes of countries: one with nuclear weapons and one without – you call this discriminating because later nuclear powers like India or Pakistan cannot join the regime.

Although the NATO nuclear sharing made it possible to deposit US nuclear warheads on European soil it is officially not in objection to the Articles I and II of the NPT. The argumentation is that in case of an use of those warheads the executing soldiers are no national, but NATO units. Furthermore the nuclear sharing had been composed before the NPT entered into force.

Obwohl die NATO Nukleare Teilhabe es ermöglicht hat, US-Atomsprengeköpfe in europäischen Staaten zu deponieren, steht sie offiziell nicht im Widerspruch mit Artikel I und II des NVV. Begründet wird das einerseits damit, dass im Falle eines Einsatzes der Sprengköpfe die ausführenden Soldaten keine nationalen, sondern NATO-Einheiten wären. Außerdem kam es zur Ausarbeitung der Nuklearen Teilhabe schon vor des in Kraft treten des NVV.

The “unalienable right” for the peaceful use of nuclear technology in Article IV is often criticized. The same technology can be used to build nuclear weapons.

Article VI describes the will of all NWS to disarm their nuclear arsenals to zero. It is a matter of fact that this process is sneaking since decades and there is no existing point of time for a global zero.

METHOD: CREATE A TREATY FOR NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

MATERIALS: posters to collect headwords, paper and pens for the groups

ZEIT UND ORT: 30 minutes in groups, 10-30 minutes for presenting the results, space to sit together in small groups

The explanation of treaties is most times very boring for participants. There is no possibility for interaction with them. The nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty is very easy to copy because of its simple structure. The method calls the participants to create an own treaty that is similar to the NPT.

Ask the participants to think about a treaty including following conditions:

- There are 192 states recognized by the United Nations
- There are five states possessing nuclear weapons. They also want to keep them.
- The treaty is supposed to contain the proliferation of nuclear weapons. That means no more states are supposed to get in possession of nuclear weapons.
- If possible the treaty should be valid and compulsory for every state.

The participants decide by themselves what they want to include in their treaty. If they get stuck you can give them some hints what could be important for the treaty:

- Which conditions must be agreed to persuade non-nuclear weapon states not to obtain nuclear weapons?
- Think about nuclear technology. What could be offered to non-nuclear weapon states instead of nuclear weapons?
- Should there be any obligations for nuclear-weapon states in order to establish the treaty?

When the participants finish their own treaty you can show them the original ten articles of the NPT and arrange a comparing and evaluation.

As an alternative the group can be separated in two groups as nuclear weapon states and non-nuclear weapon states. Each group formulates demands and conditions for a treaty about nuclear weapons. After this representatives of each group come together at the negotiating table. There are three different results possible: nuclear weapons for everybody, for nobody or to keep status quo. For what the participants decide is depending on their negotiating skills.