



Nuclear Weapons in Foreign Sovereign States



Ever since the age of the Cold War, there have been rising tensions in the nuclear weapons race; in some cases, countries nuclear influence has ventured further aboard than their sovereign borders. During, the Cold War, most notably in the Cuban Missile Crisis, there has been a serious problem with influential powers of the world placing nuclear weapons in other countries. During the Cold War, both the USSR and the U.S.A were guilty of placing their weapons in countries such as Cuba, West, and East Germany and former Soviet-controlled countries such as Kazakhstan all possessed nuclear weapons. And in some cases, these countries still own these weapons today.

In response to the threatening issue, the UN has made small steps towards stopping the spread of nuclear weapons in the form of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). This treaty has been ratified the most out of all weapons and disarmament treaties before and has been signed by five Nuclear-weapon states. But this may not be enough as countries such as the DPRK, India, Pakistan and Israel haven't signed this agreement, and this may be a significant problem as all of these countries are known to own nuclear weapons. Even without these signatures, there are still problems with the NPT as although it aims to stop the proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, it cannot force it upon nations who haven't signed the treaty. This means that countries who haven't signed the treaty and even countries that have signed the treaty cannot be forced not to stop moving nuclear weapons abroad.

There's also the major issue of the temporary mobilization of nuclear weapons by the means of a submarine or by plane. This causes issues because the weapons at hand can be a threat whenever it's in operation; meaning that it can be a mobile threat and enter foreign sovereignty posing huge problems, without permanently being stationed in that country. As a result, the issue of nuclear weapons being stationed in foreign sovereignties becomes even harder to tackle as shown during the Cold War Era, when planes such as the U-2 and the Tu-95 flew regularly over both U.S and Soviet ground.

Today, the many nuclear weapons owned by the nuclear superpowers such as China and the Russian Federation, still have their weapons on full-time mobilization in non-sovereign waters. Further, with the legitimacy of placed nuclear weapons in non-sovereign waters as well as freely navigational airways, many countries are perfectly able to place these weapons abroad; this is a major issue that needs to be solved.

Points to Consider:

- Will your resolution aim to forcefully ban the movement of nuclear weapons to foreign sovereignties or will it go further than this to ban the movement of nuclear weapons from outside a country's national sovereignties?
- How will your resolution tackle the issue of temporary movement of nuclear weapons abroad?
- Will there be punishments put in place to member states of the UN who break the terms of any new treaties or the existing treaties such as the NPT?

Useful Links:

- <https://www.un.org/disarmament/wmd/nuclear/npt>
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Treaty_on_the_Non-Proliferation_of_Nuclear_Weapons
- <https://www.independent.co.uk>News>World>World Politics>
- <https://issues.org/mendelsohn-4/>