XXVII TECMUN Jr.

Security Council

Delegate:

I believe this is what we want it to be. First, we are the ones in charge to decide how far we can go and how much we can do. People could tell you are going to be successful and that your dreams will

and now much we can do. People could tell you are going to be successful and that your dreams will

come true but this is right only if you trust in you and you give yourself the opportunity to do it so.

Second, most of times we put a limit to our capabilities just by the fact we are afraid. Fear is human,

all of us are afraid, but what makes you a superhuman is overcoming that fear. We learn from every

experience, it doesn't matter if is good or bad, at the end of the day if it was a mistake you can

discover something and at the end you learn from it and you won't have to pass through that again. If

it was a good choice, it can lead you to find out something you were missing or reaffirm that you are

going in the right way. Remember the only one that deserves your effort is you, be proud of what you

do, who you are and where you are going. When this model is over you will have lost the fear owing

to the fact that you speak in front of 25 people and due to that you must be proud of you.

Third, some people accomplish to lose fear and gave themselves the opportunity to go higher and by

making this they are proud of them but at some point they get stuck and can't find a way to go out,

nevertheless if you change the way you look at things, the things you look at will change.

Finally, I want you to know that, no matter how you look, what you like, how you define yourself,

what causes you believe in, etc, we must reduce inequalities, we are not getting any closer to a better

world if we keep sabotaging, hating and discriminating others. We have one life and we don't know

for sure how long it is going to be so why lose time making feel bad the others. We have one world,

however you want to see this but we share one home, a universal home, and if we screw it, all of us

are losing our home. For this world to change and for the solutions we find, to any of the problems in

the world, to become a reality there is needed all of us. Overcome the fear, give yourself the

opportunity to be part of the solution and be proud of it.

Vanessa Zamora Alegre

vanessa Zamora Alegre

President of the Security Council

XXVII TECMUN Jr.

Background of the Security

Council

The Security Council (SC) is one of the main organs of the United Nations (UN). It was formed in 1945 and held its first session in 1946. The committee's primary responsibility is the maintenance of international peace and security. The council is integrated by 15 Member States; five permanent (People's Republic of China, French Republic, Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America), and ten non-permanent, which are elected by the General Assembly for two-year terms. The SC is the only organ in the UN that holds enough power to coerce member states to act upon dictated decisions and constitutes. For instance, the SC is allowed to investigate any dispute or situation which might lead to international friction, to call on members to apply economic sanctions and other measures not involving the use of force; to authorize military intervention and peacekeeping operations, to determine the existence of a threat, dispatch military observers and peacekeeping forces, and travel bans and blockades in associated states for the care of pacification and safety.

Topic A

Modifications to the military strategies in the Syrian Arab Republic involving attacks on schools and hospitals, in hopes of decreasing the insecurity levels during the Syrian Civil War

By: Vanessa Zamora Alegre Sebastián Loeza Saldaña Angel Daniel González Jasso

Introduction

The Syrian Arab Republic has been on a civil war for the last eight years, caused by corruption, high unemployment and the lack of political freedom under the actual president Bashar al-Assad. Recently, the World Health Organization (WHO) has reported a total of 25 attacks targeting medical infrastructure in northwestern Syria, including 22 health facilities, with some having been hit more than once. Moreover, around 25 schools are reported to have also been impacted by the violence, as well as marketplaces and, at least, three sites for displaced people. There are no safe schools or clinics, Ursula Muller said, there is no way to earn a living, while families live in constant fear of sending their children to a school that may be bombed later that day. This problem has affected the Syrian civilians since 2013 without any signs of improvement, on the contrary, it has been increasing, turning into a military strategy.

The Syrian Civil War might generate several changes that would carry to considerable conflicts. For instance, countries such as the Russian Federation, the State of Israel, the Republic of Iraq, the Islamic State of Afghanistan, and Iran are involved. Realizing that not only the Syrian government was implicated in the attacks to the hospitals and schools, moreover, there is a possibility that those assaults were supported by one or more of the countries mentioned before. This means more than one country has committed war crimes, according to the international humanitarian law, that is also known as the law of war or the law of armed conflict.

Syrian Civil War

The conflict started by several reasons; such as a tense religious atmosphere, a severe drought and the lack of freedom from the authoritarian practices of the Assad regime, which started in 1971 when Hafiz al-Assad, father of the actual president, rose to power. Consequently, in 2011, the Arab Spring started having an impact on the Syrian Arab Republic, encouraging pro-democracy protests. The protests were conformed by people who wanted a democratic government, as a result, they were pointed out as rebels. Later, in March, in one of the peaceful demonstrations for democracy, which took place in the southern city of Deraa, 15 boys were arrested and tortured for writing an anti-regime graffiti in support of the Arab

Spring. One of these underaged protestors was murdered after having been brutally assaulted, according to *Al Jazeera* News.

The protests got violent and the government response was to coerce trying to suppress all demonstrations that ruled for a different kind of government by taking lives and arresting hundreds of protestors. By July 2011, Syrian rebels formed the Free Syrian Army (FSA) and asked for the resignation of the president, but, when he refused to do so, an armed conflict erupted. In March of the present year, the Syrian Civil War entered its eighth year. Until 2018, there were more than 500,000 casualties, being the prime victims: women and children.

International Involvement

During these eight years of war, several countries had begun the action, by supporting either the pro-government forces or the anti-Assad rebels. The main allies of the Assad regime and the pro-government forces are the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran and the People's Republic of China, as well as the militia group *Hezbollah*. Other countries involved in the conflict remains unclear, the United States of America, Turkey, France, United Kingdom, Israel, Kurdish forces, Arab Gulf states, and the Arab League are part of the political, economic and social crisis. The involvement of these nations in the Syrian Civil War just makes the conflict longer and more violent. Some countries help the rebels by facilitating weapons so they can fight against the security forces.

The Syrian Arab Republic became a zone of interest for nations all around the globe. On the one hand, there is the eagerness of the border countries of the Syrian Arab Republic to expand and have total control over Syria. On the other hand, the United States of America and the Russian Federation fight to gain control over the Syrian Arab Republic as an influence zone. Syria has a crucial geographic position since it is the connection between Asia, Europe, and Africa. Besides, it has access to the Mediterranean Sea, meaning it provides easier access to other continents and oceans. Obtaining control over the Syrian territory would imply a strategic location for future military and economic benefits. Syrian Civil War has become one of the worst conflicts in history, by attacking schools, hospitals, and centers for displaced people this ongoing confrontation has escalated into a refugee crisis as well as one of the deadliest wars.

Humanitarian crisis

About 13 million people are in need of resources and humanitarian help in Syria. 6.6 million have been displaced, and about 3 million people are in hard-to-reach and besieged areas, according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Healthcare centers hospitals, schools, water, and sanitation systems are damaged or destroyed, making almost impossible to live in Syria. As a result, more than 5.6 million Syrians have fled the country as refugees (World Vision, 2019). Half of the people affected are children. Every Syrian child has been impacted by the violence, displacement or severed family ties. They have suffered abuses, sexual assaults, injuries, malnutrition, fatigue, abandonment and a lack of access to vital services.

Last year was the deadliest for children. Grave violations of children's rights -as recruitment, abductions, murder, and maiming- have been reported. More than 5.5 million children still require humanitarian assistance, 500,000 of which are in hard-to-reach areas according to the United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF). Even though there are plenty of refugee camps in the border of the Syrian Arab Republic there are still people inside the country in very violent areas where the schools and health centers are not safe. Countries around the world have condemned the ongoing violence against civilians.

Extremist groups

The Oxford Dictionary describes an extremist as "A person who holds extreme political or religious views, especially one who advocates illegal, violent, or other extreme action." (Oxford Dictionary, 2019). The Syrian Arab Republic, like other countries, is home to different terrorist groups. These groups have taken advantage in the Civil War currently taking place in Syria, seeking opportunities to gain power and control over the country. As a result, this conflict has become harder to control and solve. The extremists' attacks helped the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic to worsen.

The main terrorist group that is involved in the Syrian Civil War is the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) which, since its formation in the year 2013, has taken control over regions in western Iraq and eastern Syria, and has organized several suicide attacks to maintain power and fear in the controlled areas. *Al-Nusra* Front/*Jabhat Fateh al-Sham/Hayat*

Tahrir al-Sham, which is the second strongest organization after ISIS, is an International Sanctioned terrorist group. This means the U.S. can use economic sanctions to intimidate adversaries and dissuade states to support terrorist groups. There are smallest groups such as *Jaish al-Islam*, which has around 10,000 fighters, as stated by the BBC, and has been listed as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist Group by the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), which means their assets are blocked and U.S. persons are generally prohibited from dealing with them. *Failaq al-Rahman* or the *al-Rahman* Legion has over 9,000 fighters and is it said to be allied with the jihadist Hayat Tahrir al-Sham against Jaish al-Islam.

Countries affected

Since the beginning of this conflict, families have gone through many adverse situations, thousands of innocent people have been murdered. The Syrian Civil War has destroyed a complete nation and has diminished the standards of life for decades to come, forcing the people to migrate to different African and European countries. As a consequence of this armed conflict social and businesses ties that united the neighbors with their communities have been broken. Therefore millions of people are scattered in foreign countries, creating the worst refugees and displacement crisis of our time. More than 5.6 million Syrians have run away from their country, and have become refugees; 6.2 million people are disseminated inside Syrian border lines. The Syrian Arab Republic army and several other armed groups are fighting to control the territory in the northern region of the country. The civil war has become a conflict in which different religious groups have been confronted. A war of this magnitude affects a whole region and is without a doubt influenced by international interventions.

The majority of the 5.6 million have fled, by ground or sea, to the nearest Middle East countries. Turkey holds approximately 3.6 million refugees. Ninety percent of the refugees in the said nation live outside the camps and have limited access to basic services. Approximately 950,000 refugees have become part of the population of the Lebanese Republic, many live in precarious conditions in informal settlements, which are not official refugee camps, with few income opportunities, public services, and food. Meanwhile, 670,000 refugees are in the Hashemite Kingdom of Transjordan. Other countries that have received refugees are Iraq, where there are around 250,000 refugees and Egypt that already

has sheltered 130,000 Syrian refugees. A large number of people that have fled Syria are integrated into the communities, but the grand majority of newcomers add more pressure to the receiving countries on services needed (water, food, health care) and resources.

At the worst of the European migration crisis in 2015, 1.3 million Syrians applied for asylum in Europe however the number of new applicants has decreased since then. In contrast, the United States admitted a total of 18,000 Syrians between October 2011 and December 31, 2016, according to the Migration Policy Institute (MPI). The countries that have received refugees have been affected since no country is prepared to receive such a large amount of people. As a result, countries are forced to face situations such as people living in the streets, high demand for goods and services, insecurity, financial problems, etc. Even though there are specific places where these people are settled, is harsh to maintaining control over them.

International Security

The Syrian Civil War had affected different countries as mentioned before. It had affected millions of people becoming refugees, casualties and a total loss of a whole country. Even though there are extreme levels of insecurity inside Syria because of the constant attacks and bombing, this has become an international threat. Nowadays international security has been proven by the method in which countries such as Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, Egypt, and Europe had controlled the refugees. However, the conflict seems that will not conclude any soon and while it advances the danger will go on.

For instance, there is a tension between the countries involved as mentioned before. Furthermore, the tension in a future might develop into a severe dispute that could evolve into a greater war. Therefore, a bigger war than the Syrian Civil War would bring with it the double of casualties, refugees, countries affected, damage, destruction, the demand of goods, basic services, the requirement of weapons and army. Concerned of what the consequences of the endure of the Syrian Civil War and the threat to international security, the war must be solved one problem at the time. For instance, there have been violations to the humanitarian law which is a set of rules that seek, for humanitarian reasons, to limit the effects of armed conflict. It protects persons who are not or are no longer participating in the hostilities and

restricts the means and methods of warfare. It covers the protection of those who are not, or no longer, taking part in fighting; that in this conflict is especially focus to children, displaced people and injured people that currently are host at hospitals.

References

- 1. Blakemore, E. (2019). What was the Arab Spring and how did it spread. Recovered 18 June 2019, from National Geographic. Web. < https://www.nationalgeographic.com/culture/topics/reference/arab-spring-cause/
- 2. Charity and Security Network. (n.d.) Syria: Listed Terrorist groups and humanitarian Crises. Recovered 18 june 2019, from *Charity and Security Network*. Web. https://www.charityandsecurity.org/country/syria>
- **3.** Editors of Encyclopedia Britannica. (2019). Syrian civil war. Recovered 18 june 2019, from *Britannica*. Web. https://www.britannica.com/event/Syrian-Civil-War
- **4.** Hu, Z. (2016). The history of Hezbollah from Israel to Syria. Recovered 18 june 2019, from *al jazeera*. Web. https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/10/history-hezbollah-israel-syria-161031053924273.html
- **5.** International Committee of the Red Cross. (2004). What is the international Humanitarian Law?. Recovered on 18 June 2019, from *International Committee of the Red Cross*. Web. https://www.icrc.org/en/doc/assets/files/other/what is ihl.pdf>
- **6.** Kari, C. (2017). From Syria to Seattle: When worlds collide. Recovered 18 june 2019,, from *World Vision*. Web. https://www.worldvision.org/refugees-news-stories/seattle-syria-worlds-collide
- 7. Khazan,O. (2012).Who is fighting whom in Syria. Recovered 18 june 2019, from *Washington Post*. Web. https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2012/10/18/whos-fighting-who-in-syria/?noredirect=on&utm_em=.80b7b9a2ef2f
- **8.** Laub, Z. (2017). Who is who in Syria's Civil War. Recovered 18 june 2019, from *Council of Foreign Relations*. Web. https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/whos-whosyrias-civil-war
- **9.** Lexico .(n.d) Definition of extremist in English. Recovered 18 june 2019, from *Lexico*. Web. https://www.lexico.com/en/definition/extremist

- **10.** Manfreda, P. (2019). Religion and the Syrian civil war. Recovered 18 june 2019, from *thoughtco*. Web. https://www.thoughtco.com/religion-and-conflict-in-syria-2353551>
- **11.** Marks, J. (2018). Why is there a Civil War in Syria. Recovered 18 june 2019, from *History*. Web. https://www.history.com/news/syria-civil-war-assad-rebels>
- **12.** Rodgers, L. (2016). Syria: the history of the conflict. Recovered 18 june 2019, from *BBC News*. Web. https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-26116868>
- 13. Salvo, V. (2019). ¿Qué tiene Siria?: Las razones estratégicas que mantienen a otros países enfrentados por la guerra civil. Recovered 18 june 2019, from *Emol*. Web. https://www.emol.com/noticias/Internacional/2018/04/14/902415/Que-tiene-Siria-Las-razones-estrategicas-que-mantienen-a-otros-paises-enfrentados-por-la-guerra-civil.html
- **14.** Sancha, N. (2018). Más de 500.000 muertos en siete años de guerra en Siria. Recovered 18 june 2019, from *El País*. Web. https://www.google.com.mx/amp/s/elpais.com/internacional/2018/03/12/actualidad/1520865451_577510.amp.html
- **15.** Syrian Civil War map. (2019). The ethnic and religious groups of Syria. Recovered 18 june 2019, from *Syrian Civil War map*. Web. https://syriancivilwarmap.com/ethnic-and-religious-groups-of-syria/>
- **16.** UNHCR. (n.d). Syria emergency. Recovered 18 june 2019, from *UNHCR*. Web. https://www.unhcr.org/syria-emergency.html>
- **17.** UNICEF. (2019).Syria crisis. Recovered 18 june 2019, from *UNICEF*. Web. https://www.unicef.org/emergencies/syrian-crisis
- **18.** Un Women. (2019). Crisis update: Women of Syria, eight years into the crisis. Recovered 18 june 2019, from *Un Women*. Web. http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2018/8/feature-syria-humanitarian-update>
- **19.** U.S. Department of the Treasury. (2019). Resource Center. Recovered 18 june 2019, from *U.S. Department of the Treasury*. Web. < https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/SDN-List/Pages/default.aspx>

20. World Vision Staff. (2019). Syrian refugee crisis: Facts, FAQs, and how to help. Recovered 18 june 2019, from *world vision*. Web. https://www.worldvision.org/refugees-news-stories/syrian-refugee-crisis-facts

A

Abductions: The action of forcibly taking someone away against their will.

Arab Spring: A series of anti-government uprisings in various countries in North

Africa and the Middle East, beginning in Tunisia in December 2010.

Assaults: The act of attacking a building, an area, etc. in order to take control of it.

Assets: A person or thing that is valuable or useful to somebody/something.

B

Besiege:To surround a building, city, etc. with soldiers until the people inside are forced to let you in.

 \mathbf{C}

Casualty: A person killed or injured in a war or accident.

Coerce: To force somebody to do something by using threats.

Condemned: Sentenced to a particular punishment, especially death.

D

Disseminated: To spread information, knowledge, etc. so that it reaches many people.

Drought: A long period of time when there is little or no rain.

 \mathbf{E}

Eagerness:Great interest and excitement about something that is going to happen or about something that you want to do.

Endure:To experience and deal with something that is painful or unpleasant, especially without complaining.

H

Harsh: Very difficult and unpleasant to live in.

M

Marketplace: activity of competing with other companies to buy and sell goods, services, etc.

S

Scattered: Occurring or found at intervals or various locations rather than all together.

Seeking:To look for something/somebody.

Sheltered: Protected from difficulties or unpleasant realities.

Topic B

Regulatory strategies to maintain international relationships after recent actions regarding the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF)
Treaty, in order to prevent a possible Nuclear-armed race between the United States of America, the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China

By: Vanessa Zamora Alegre Angel Daniel González Jasso Emilio Sandoval Hernández

Introduction

The 1987 Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty required the United States of America (USA) and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) to eliminate and permanently forswear all of their nuclear and conventional ground-launched ballistic and cruise missiles with ranges of 500 to 5,500 kilometers, by reason of the excessive arsenal and the tension among these countries. The INF Treaty was result of the first agreement ever between the USA and the USSR, in order to control their nuclear arsenals, eliminate an entire category of nuclear weapons which were for USA Pershing II, Pershing IA and BGM-109G, for USSR SS-20, SS-4, SS-5, SS-12, SS-23 and SSC-8, and use extensive on-site inspections for verification of accuracy on the Treaty. Eventually, the USSR dissolved and became the Russian Federation, but even though this happened they maintain all their treaties. During last February, the president of the United States, Donald J. Trump, announced that this country would not be complying the INF Treaty, after allegations of the Russian Federation having weapons that did not fulfill the regulations of said settlement, since 2014. Besides, the USA stated that the only way to continue with the treaty was if the Russian Federation ensures to follow the rules stated in the agreement. Even so, Russia still claims that its missile system is acquiescent and doesn't violate the Treaty. In consequence, in August 2019, Trump's administration withdrew the arrangement. Eventually, the Russian president, Vladimir Putin, has recently submitted a bill regarding the suspension of the agreement to the Russian Parliament.

The INF Treaty has served as a regulatory and calming agreement, since its implementation in 1991. The risk of the demise would be generating conflicts between countries, affecting the relationships between the United States, Russia, and China, eventually dividing the world by breaking the countries ties. Therefore, if there is no treaty regulating the United States of America, the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China (the countries with the biggest nuclear arsenal) in case of a possible dispute, the countries mentioned could develop more nuclear warheads threatening worldwide security.

The INF Treaty

During the Cold War (1947-1953), nuclear weapons were crucial to deter the Soviet aggression against the United States and its allies. As a consequence, both nations started developing large nuclear armaments. The control of nuclear armaments emerged as a result of the Soviet Union's domestic deployment of SS-20 intermediate-range missiles in the mid-1970s, which range was between 5,000 and 5,500 kilometers. The SS-20 was a missile the system was based on the first and second stages of the Temp-2S missile, a Soviet ICBM design developed around the same time. The SS-20 replaced the aging, liquid-fueled SS-4, and SS-5 missiles. Its wide-scale deployment was a key behind the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) 1979 Resolution in response to the creation of the United States of America: Pershing II. The MGM-31B Pershing II was a medium-range, road-mobile, solid-fueled ballistic missile that was deployed by the U.S. Army in the Federal Republic of Germany. Each Pershing II carried a single, variable-yield thermonuclear warhead with an explosive force equivalent to 5-50 kilotons of trinitrotoluene (TNT). The Soviet Union retired the SS-20 from service, following the ratification of the INF Treaty, in 1987.

The agreement required the destruction of 430 US missiles and 979 Soviet missiles, which were in storage or not deployed, according to the Arms Control Association. The treaty prevented the mobilization of missiles in the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Kingdom of Belgium, Germany, and the Italian Republic. Taking advantage of the negotiations, the President Ronald Reagan, from the United States, and the president of the Soviet Union, Mijaíl Gorbachev, began to move toward a comprehensive missile elimination arrangement. The discussion culminated in the signing of the INF Treaty. The missile ban originally applied only to the United States and Soviet forces, but the treaty's membership expanded, in 1991, to include successor states of the former Soviet Union. Several European countries have been destroying INF Treaty-range missiles since the end of the Cold War. Countries such as Germany, Bulgaria, Hungary, Slovakia, Poland, and the Czech Republic dismantled their intermediate-range missiles. At first, the INF Treaty Inspection Protocol required State Parties to scrutinize and inventory each other's nuclear arsenal, and after 3 years, it required to monitor specific missile-production facilities to guarantee that no new missiles were being produced.

Since the mid-2000s, Russia has considered the possibility of withdrawing from the INF Treaty. Moscow disputed that the arrangement unfairly prevents the nation from possessing weapons that its neighbors, such as the People's Republic of China, are developing. Russia also suggested that the proposed United-States deployment of strategic anti-ballistic missile systems in Europe might trigger a Russian relinquishment from the accord. In spite of that, the United States and Russia issued, in October, 2007, a statement at the United Nations General Assembly, reaffirming their support for the treaty and calling on all the other States to join them in renouncing the missiles banned by it (Arms Control Association, Kimball, 2019). In 2014, the United States expressed concerns about Russia's compliance with the INF Treaty.

In July of that year, the United States State Department found Russia to be in violation of the agreement, by producing and testing an illegal ground-launched cruise missile. Russia denied the claim and affirmed that these actions were not a violation of the INF Treaty. The argument continued and by February, 2017, The New York Times cited some United States anonymous officials declaring that Russia had marshal an operational unit of the treaty-noncompliant cruise missile, now known as the SSC-8. Moreover, the dispute continued because of two Russian missile systems: the R-500/SSC-7 Iskander GLCM and the RS-26 ballistic missile whose ranges were above the 5,000 kilometers. In defense, Moscow stated that the United States was placing a missile defense launch system in Europe. According to the Russian administration, the artifact could be used to fire cruise missiles, using targets for missile defense tests with similar characteristics to INF Treaty-prohibited intermediate-range missiles, as well as by making armed drones that are equivalent to ground-launched cruise missiles.

National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) approved, in 2018, funds for the Defense Department to develop a conventional, road-mobile, ground-launched cruise missile; which might be considered a violation to the treaty. On December 2018, US Secretary of State, Mike Pompeo announced that the United States had found Russian nuclear material, this meant a transgression of the treaty, as a consequence its treaty obligations would be suspended if Russia did not return to compliance in 60 days. The official notice of the United States' intent to withdraw would begin within a six-month period, as allowed by the Treaty.

Russian President responded by denying the existence of the SSC-8, also known as the 9M729 cruise missile, and others. Russia has since acknowledged the missile, but continues to deny that it has been tested or is able to fly at a forbidden range. Furthermore, Russian Foreign Ministry Official, Vladimir Yermakov, was cited by RIA news agency as saying that, Russia is ready to discuss mutual inspections with the United States in order to salvage the charter. The USA and Russia met twice after Russia mentioned that it was ready to discuss mutual inspections, in January, first in Geneva, and then on the sidelines of a P5 meeting in Beijing, both times to no new result.

As a consequence of the long-running dispute over Russian noncompliance with the agreement, President Donald Trump announced his will to end the INF Treaty, as well as citing concerns about China's unconstrained arsenal of Agreement's-range missiles. On February of the current year, President Trump and Secretary of State Pompeo announced separately that in six months starting on February 3rd, the United States would suspend its obligations under the INF Treaty. Shortly after, Russia announced that they would be officially suspending its treaty obligations as well.

Nuclear weapons

Nowadays, nine countries are known to possess nuclear weapons. The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) stated that at the beginning of 2017 the United States, Russia, the United Kingdom, France, China, India, Pakistan, Israel, and North Korea, hold approximately 4,150 operationally deployed nuclear weapons. These states together own a total of approximately 14,935 nuclear weapons. Whereas, by the beginning of 2019 there were and approximately of 13,865. The SIPRI mentioned that 3,750 of them were deployed with operational forces, and nearly 2,000 are kept in a state of high operational alert.

The decrease in the overall number of nuclear weapons in the world is due mainly to Russia and the USA. Together, they still account for nearly 90 percent of all nuclear armament. Meanwhile, the other nuclear weapon-possessing states have much smaller arsenals, but have either begun to deploy new nuclear weapon delivery systems or announced their intention to do so. China is gradually increasing the size and diversity of its nuclear arsenal. In the meantime, India and Pakistan are expanding their military missile material

production capabilities on a scale that may lead to significant increases in the size of their inventories over the next decade. North Korea continues to prioritize its military nuclear program as a central element of its national security strategy, in 2018 it announced a moratorium on the testing of nuclear weapons as well as medium- and long-range ballistic missile delivery systems.

Consequences of the dissolution of the INF Treaty

The farewell of the United States and Russia from the INF Treaty would have as a main consequence the freedom of using nuclear weapons without further restrictions. As a result, the possibilities of new armed confrontations increase, considering there are growing tensions with other nuclear-armed countries, like China and North Korea. There are other 9 nations such as the United States, Russia, the United Kingdom, France, China, India, Pakistan, Israel, and North Korea, that possess nuclear weapons some were not part of the INF Treaty when it was signed. This means that their intermediate-range missiles might be in the prohibited range of 500 to 5,500 kilometers and if launched may cause extreme damage. Even though the definitive end to the agreement, the risk of having an arsenal of this range is crucial to Euro-Atlantic security due to the location of the countries.

China's missiles inventory is mostly composed of systems in the range of 500 to 5,500 kilometers. Russia has stated that Beijing was making these intermediate-range missiles without any supervision whereas China hasn't expressed any interest in joining the INF Treaty or any similar one. In recent years, the United States and Russia have been aware of China's military capabilities. It had the advantage of no being in the limits of any agreement, therefore USA and Russia have seen the result of the lack of a Treaty in China's arsenal. The dissolution of this treaty can represent to USA and Russia an opportunity to expand their nuclear arsenal and create more missiles in order to have protection if China attacks, so if it does, they will have enough ballistics to fight back.

START Treaty

If INF Treaty collapses, the only remaining treaty between the United States of America and the Russian Federation will be the Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms, known as the New START Treaty. This agreement between entered

in force on February 5, 2011. Under this settlement, both countries must meet the certain limits regarding strategic arms by February 5, 2018; seven years from the date the Treaty entered into force. Each party has the flexibility to determine for itself the structure of its calculated forces within the aggregate limits of the deal. These limits are based on the harsh analysis conducted by Department of Defense of the USA planners, in support of the 2010 Nuclear Posture Review.

The limits of the agreement are that 700 deployed intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs), deployed submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs), and deployed heavy bombers equipped for nuclear armaments. 1,550 nuclear warheads on deployed ICBMs, deployed SLBMs, and deployed heavy bombers equipped for nuclear armaments (each such heavy bomber is counted as one warhead toward this limit). 800 deployed and non-deployed ICBM launchers, SLBM launchers, and heavy bombers equipped for nuclear armaments. (U.S Department of State, 2017). The Treaty has a verification regime that combines elements of the 1991 START Treaty with new elements tailored to the limitations and structure of the new agreement. Verification measures under the Treaty include on-site inspections and exhibitions, data exchanges and notifications related to strategic offensive arms and facilities covered by the settlement, and provisions to facilitate the use of national technical means for treaty monitoring. To increase confidence and transparency, the U.S Department of State established that the Treaty also provides for an annual exchange of telemetry on an agreed number of ICBM and SLBM launches.

The Treaty is expected to last ten years, unless superseded by a subsequent agreement. The Parties may agree to extend the Treaty for a period of no more than five years. It also includes a withdrawal clause that is standard in arms control agreements. The 2002 Moscow Treaty terminated when the New START Treaty entered in force. New START expires in 2021, but can be extended as said before. The United States does not have a position yet on whether it favors extending the agreement. If New START is allowed to expire without a replacement, there will be no legally binding limits on the world's two largest strategic arsenals for the first time since 1972.

References

- 1. Gordon, M. (2016). Russia Is Moving Ahead With Missile Program That Violates Treaty, U.S. Officials Say. Retrieved on July 8, 2019, from *New York Times*. Web. https://www.nytimes.com/2016/10/20/world/europe/russia-missiles-inf-treaty.html
- 2. Kimball, D. (2019). The Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty at a Glance. Retrieved on July 8, 2019, from *Arms Control Association*. Web. https://www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/INFtreaty
- 3. Maza, C. (2019). What is the INF Treaty and why is the U.S. withdrawing from nuclear arms pact with Russia? Retrieved on July 8, 2019, from *Newsweek*. Web. https://www.newsweek.com/what-inf-treaty-us-russia-nuclear-1314438>
- 4. Missile Defense Project. (2018). "SS-20 "Saber" (RSD-10). Retrieved on July 8, 2019, from *Missile Threat, Center for Strategic and International Studies*. Web. https://missilethreat.csis.org/missile/ss-20-saber-rsd-10/
- 5. Nuclear Threat Initiative. (2019). Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republicans on the elimination of their Intermediate-Range and shorter-range missiles (INF Treaty). Retrieved on July 8, 2019, from *Nuclear Threat Initiative*. Web. https://www.nti.org/learn/treaties-and-regimes/treaty-between-the-united-states-of-america-and-the-union-of-soviet-socialist-republics-on-the-elimination-of-their-intermediate-range-and-shorter-range-missiles/">https://www.nti.org/learn/treaties-and-regimes/treaty-between-the-united-states-of-america-and-the-union-of-soviet-socialist-republics-on-the-elimination-of-their-intermediate-range-and-shorter-range-missiles/">https://www.nti.org/learn/treaties-and-regimes/treaty-between-the-united-states-of-america-and-the-union-of-soviet-socialist-republics-on-the-elimination-of-their-intermediate-range-and-shorter-range-missiles/">https://www.nti.org/learn/treaties-and-regimes/treaty-between-the-united-states-of-america-and-the-union-of-soviet-socialist-republics-on-the-elimination-of-their-intermediate-range-and-shorter-range-missiles/
- 6. Reif, K. (2018). Trump to Withdraw U.S. From INF Treaty. Retrieved on July 8, 2019, from *Arms Control Association*. Web. https://www.armscontrol.org/act/2018-11/news/trump-withdraw-us-inf-treaty
- 7. Rohrlich, J. (2019). The US has started a "new nuclear arms race" since Trump pulled out of the INF treaty. Retrieved on July 8, 2019, from *Quartz*. Web. https://qz.com/1610133/the-us-has-started-a-new-nuclear-arms-race/
- 8. Roser, M. (2019), Nuclear Weapons. Retrieved on July 8, 2019, from *Our World In Data*. Web. https://ourworldindata.org/nuclear-weapons

- 9. RT. (2019). Putin submits bill on suspension of INF Treaty. Retrieved on July 8, 2019, from *RT*. Web. https://www.rt.com/news/460617-putin-submits-russian-parliament/
- 10. Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum. (n.d). Pershing II. Retrieved on July 8, 2019, from *Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum*. Web. https://airandspace.si.edu/collection-objects/missile-surface-surface-pershing-ii
- 11. Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. (2019). World Nuclear Forces. Retrieved on July 8, 2019, from *Stockholm International Peace Research Institute*. Web. https://sipri.org/yearbook/2019/06>
- 12. The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. (2017). Global nuclear weapons: Modernization remains the priority. Retrieved on July 8, 2019, from

 Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. Web. https://www.sipri.org/media/press-release/2017/global-nuclear-weapons-modernization-remains-priority
- 13. U.S Department of State. (2017). New START Treaty. Retrieved on July 8, 2019, from *U.S Department of State*. Web. https://www.state.gov/new-start/

A

Acquiescent: Ready to accept something without protest, or to do what someone else wants.

Aging: The process of change in the properties of a material occurring over a period, either spontaneously or through deliberate action.

B

Binding: The action of fastening or holding together. (of an agreement or promise) involving an obligation that cannot be broken.

 \mathbf{C}

Comply: To act in accordance with a wish or command. Meet specified standards.

M

Moratorium: A temporary prohibition of an activity.

S

Scrutinize: Examine or inspect closely and thoroughly.

T

Telemetry: The process of recording and transmitting the readings of an instrument.

Transgression: An act that goes against a law, rule, or code of conduct; an offence.

U

Unconstrained: Not restricted or limited.

 \mathbf{W}

Warhead: The explosive head of a missile, torpedo, or similar weapon.