

# Nuclear massive weapons and International Security

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## Abstract

**Introduction and aim:** Since the Second World War, some States have developed weapon increasingly performed, which can create the most damage possible (A), however, the actual tend is to stop this propaga-tion and limit the use of nuclear power.

**Research methodology:** The survey used a common research methods in international relations, name-ly: theoretical, historical, sociological analytical material grades; Situation analysis, factual and documentary material analyzed.

**Results and implications:** The Realist theory about international relations emphasizes the strong pro-pensity for conflict between States. This view of international relations shows that the strongest can lead and influence its neighbor. That's why it's important in a period of war, to have the best weapons and strategy to win. At the beginning of the Second World War, United States had some suspicions that Germany could work on nuclear power. In 1942, Americans created the project "Manhattan", to build a nuclear bomb. They were the first to use it, by destroying Hiroshima and Nagasaki: it ends the war and traumatised lot of peo-ple. With their power, United States could protect and help European countries under Nazi influence: it was a strategic way to have a foot in Europe and threaten Nazi and soviet powers. To reach the United State level, others countries also started developing the nuclear bomb, such as the Soviet Union.

**Conclusion:** International security is nowadays an important subject which led States to cooperate. That's why United Nations was created in 1945: "to maintain international peace and security". This institutions can build some resolutions, take decision, by the action of the Security Council, which have to be followed by State. In September 2006, the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy was adopted by Member States. This resolution is a unique global instrument that will enhance national, regional and international efforts to counter terrorism. This is the first time that all Member States have agreed to a common strategic approach to fight terrorism: this is the first step to combat terrorism and to reach a secure world.

**Keywords:** nuclear weapons, international security

Tensions between States, ideologies or the will to conquest neighbour territories can lead to international conflicts. As an example, the Second World War began because of the expansionist policies of Germany: Hitler wanted to extend his Nazi ideology to Europe countries. Free France, United States and Britain allies to push away this German invasion and defeat it. We learnt the lesson and when peace is achieved, some international organisation, such as United Nations or North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, has been built in order to prevent new international conflicts. These organisations are forums where States can debate to act in cooperation as well as a place benefiting from mechanism to maintain peace over the world.

Because our actual energy (coal, gas, petrol) are non-renewable, States started to look for different alternative energies. The United States used Becquerel's and Joliot-Curie's discovers on radiation to develop nuclear power: the first nuclear factory was born in 1942 in Chicago. However, this is a threat which appear in this period: nuclear massive weapon was developed by USA and used against Japan in 1945.

It seems important to analyse, firstly, in which context and why this nuclear weapon had

been built (I). Then, we will point out risks brought by this weapon in case it arrives into the hand of persons with bad intentions (II).

### **I) The nuclear massive weapon, the strongest arm which can destroy the earth**

Since the Second World War, some States have developed weapon increasingly performed, which can create the most damage possible (A), however, the actual tend is to stop this propagation and limit the use of nuclear power (B).

#### **A) In a context of World War: the law of the strongest**

The Realist theory about international relations emphasizes the strong propensity for conflict between States. It's pessimistic about the prospects for eliminating conflict and war as well as provide simple powerful explanations for war, alliances, and obstacles to cooperation because of competition. This view of international relations shows that the strongest can lead and influence its neighbour. That's why it's important in a period of war, to have the best weapons and strategy to win.

At the beginning of the Second World War, United States had some suspicions that Germany could work on nuclear power. In 1942, Americans created the project "Manhattan", to build a nuclear bomb. They were the first to use it, by destroying Hiroshima and Nagasaki: it ends the war and traumatised lot of people. The 2/3 of these towns were demolished: the power of destruction of the nuclear bomb is higher than what was expected. Since then, Americans felt untouchable and invincible: they were feared.

With their power, United States could protect and help European countries under Nazi influence: it was a strategic way to have a foot in Europe and threaten Nazi and soviet powers. To reach the United State level, others countries also started developing the nuclear bomb, such as the Soviet Union.

#### **B) A deterrent during the Cold War, which continues to proliferate.**

In 1949, Soviet Bloc tested its first atomic bomb, similar to the one used by United States but with more power. Then started an arms race between these two powerful poles. They both have developed weapon more and more devastating : indeed, United States were worried about how quickly Soviet Union could build nuclear weapons and about the discovery of soviet spying activities in its nuclear weaponization programme, so they decided to set up hydrogen bomb. It lead to the division of the world in two blocs: western and eastern bloc. These bombs were not used to fight, but they were there to dissuade the other bloc to attack. It helps to protect United

States and Soviet Union territories, but also the one of their allies. Both sides know that the first who use this arm will create an international conflict.

In the middle of this conflict, some other States developed also their own nuclear weapon, such as France or Great Britain, in the 1960s, to ensure their security. However, this proliferation reach some countries, such as Iran or North Korea, which could be really dangerous with a nuclear massive weapon. Actually, they tend to slow down this propagation of nuclear weapon, to finally stop all programmes built to create it.

The Geneva agreement made in November 2013 can be incorporated in that perspective. By this act, Iran promise to use a degree of enrichment of Uranium only for civilian purposes (5%). Because a nuclear bomb needs 20% of enrichment, it's for the United States, France, Russia, China, Britain plus Germany (part of the agreement), insurance that Iran don't try to build one.

## **II) Drifts brought by this ultimate weapon**

It's important to keep a control on nuclear massive weapon and be sure it will not arrive in dangerous hands (A). In fact, we are not secure from a Third World War (B).

### **A) A risk of acquisition by terrorist groups**

Lot of groups, called terrorists, has been developed these last decades. The most famous, Al Qaida, fights against occidental governments (United States on the top) which interfere too much with internal affairs of Islamic nations. They use different type of attack: bomb attack, assassination, hostage taking or achievement of the safety of air transport...Their goal is to create problems of public security and afraid populations, to build a public forum where they can declare their claims.

In October 2013, four French hostage have been released by terrorist group. They were kept in captivity in Kidal in the North of Mali, for three years. Even if the French government deny it, 20 millions of Euros would be given by France to the Terrorists, in compensation for their liberation. Why do these terrorists groups need money? For sure, their use this money to train future terrorists and to buy arms and weapons. We can also imagine that some of them try to acquire a nuclear weapon. The problem is that Uranium or Plutonium are really expensive, so it's difficult to obtain it. Under the protection of Islamic government, or by saving money, they could one day possess the nuclear massive weapon. Because we don't know exactly what they do, it gives them the effect of surprise which could destabilize Western Countries (their enemies).

This situation cannot be excluded, but if it happens, outcomes could be really dramatic: it

could start a Third World War and destroy parts of the Earth.

### **B) A fear of Third World War, which could lead to the end of our era**

War are really traumatic for populations: cities are destroyed, soldiers and civilians are killed... We live under the threat of seeing a Third World War. Who will be the first to use its nuclear massive weapon? It could be terrorist groups, but also some countries which are in conflict with Western States.

North Korea has affirmed that it possesses a nuclear bomb: it already led some nuclear test in 2006, 2009 and 2012. This States, of which we don't know so many things, has been under pressure of United States which put soldiers in its neighbourhood, since the end of the Korean War. USA order North Korea to stop its nuclear program. Recently, on the 12 of October 2013, Kim Jong-un declared that he could state a all-out war against USA whether they don't stop their hostile politic. Then the dictator added: "Dependent upon this are peace and security, not only on the Korean peninsula but the U.S. mainland as well". Once again, North Korea treat of starting war, but we should be careful because this country has already developed missiles which can carry small nuclear bombs, able to join United States (Alaska) and its allies (South Korea, Philippines, Thailand...).

This declaration is more like a propaganda, addressed to North Korea population, to which he would like to prove its power and will to not be under American influence. In fact, if he starts attacking United States with its nuclear bomb, they will answer in the same way and North Korean will be wiped from the map.

**Conclusion:** International security is nowadays an important subject which led States to cooperate. That's why United Nations was created in 1945: "to maintain international peace and security". This institutions can build some resolutions, take decision, by the action of the Security Council, which have to be followed by State. In September 2006, the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy was adopted by Member States. This resolution is a unique global instrument that will enhance national, regional and international efforts to counter terrorism. This is the first time that all Member States have agreed to a common strategic approach to fight terrorism: this is the first step to combat terrorism and to reach a secure world.

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