



NMUN · DC

# GENERAL ASSEMBLY FIRST COMMITTEE

## BACKGROUND GUIDE 2011

Secretary-General: Jennifer Spalding; Under-Secretary-General: Michael Gaspar  
Director: Sameer Kanal; Assistant Director: Eva Hernik-Sokolowski



NMUN · DC  
NATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS  
nmun.org

## **Official Welcome**

On behalf of the 2011 National Model United Nations-DC Conference team, especially your committee staff Sameer Kanal and Eva Hernik-Sokolowski, we would like to welcome you to the General Assembly First Committee. Everyone at NMUN-DC has worked diligently throughout the year to prepare for this conference, and we sincerely hope that you will conclude the weekend at the conference with a greater appreciation for global politics.

Model UN provides an excellent environment for delegates to learn and improve important life skills and academic knowledge. To begin, we have prepared this background guide to help you start your search in your country's policies and to understand the committee topics. During the conference, the intimate nature of this committee will ensure that you will rely not only on your knowledge but also your tact, oration and negotiation skills to fulfill your country's positions.

The United Nations General Assembly plays a central role in the development of policy on issues related to international peace and security, and as such is one of the most interesting and challenging bodies within the United Nations system. Delegates should have an understanding of the complexities of the topics before them, and we hope this background guide will provide some of that information and guide your research.

We are privileged to play a role in your education experience here at NMUN-DC and look forward to working with all of you.

### **History of the General Assembly First Committee**

The General Assembly was created under Chapter IV of the United Nations Charter. Within this Chapter, Article 22 allows the Assembly to "establish such subsidiary organs as it deems necessary" to achieve its goals. These goals include under Article 11 "the principles governing disarmament and the regulation of armaments"; the centrality of the goal of disarmament to the United Nations, and the General Assembly specifically, is evidenced by the fact that the first resolution of the General Assembly dealt with nuclear disarmament and elimination of weapons of mass destruction. The Assembly has established six Main Committees, each a committee of the whole, to address specific topical areas under the Assembly's mandate; The General Assembly First Committee is mandated with addressing issues related to Disarmament and International Security.

Main Committees are tasked with "seeking where possible to harmonize the various approaches of States, and then present to a plenary meeting of the Assembly draft resolutions and decisions for consideration." In practice, the First Committee passes resolutions, which are then presented to the General Assembly (Plenary) as draft resolutions before a debate and vote in the latter body. It is important to note, however, that "While [General Assembly] resolutions are not legally binding, they can be normative—that is, they can indicate the establishment of customs, standards, and guidelines for appropriate behavior." This impact is increased when resolutions are not merely adopted, but passed by consensus or near-consensus, a threshold which is reached by "40-50 resolutions on disarmament and non-proliferation" per year.

The First Committee works with other international forums to achieve its goals, usually providing the demonstration of international will necessary to influence bodies with smaller membership but greater power. The First Committee often calls upon the Security Council to act, which began in 1946 with a resolution calling upon the Council to address "the general regulation and reduction of armaments and armed forces." In 1952, the First Committee was augmented by the creation of the Disarmament Commission, which was designed to create international agreements on the elimination of weapons of mass destruction and on regulation of other armaments. In 1959, the Committee was the first to articulate the UN's goal of "general and complete disarmament under effective international control." More recently, in 2009 the First Committee adopted a resolution that adapted the Open-Ended Working Group on an Arms Trade Treaty to a Preparatory Committee for negotiations, leading up to a July 2012 conference that would draft and approve that treaty. In 2011, the First Committee will be held from October 3 to November 1.

According to Reaching Critical Will, there are numerous obstacles facing the First Committee:

“Some states have become entrenched in their positions, and do not listen to the arguments or suggestions of others. They reject the norms of the majority—who have arrived at a common understanding through discussion, debate, and compromise—and oppose resolutions that would otherwise demonstrate consensus on many disarmament-related issues. In turn, these time-hardened positions have given rise to a number of static [...] repetitive, redundant resolutions.”

In spite of these challenges, the First Committee plays an important role in certain spheres. In recent years, the First Committee has initiated and then accelerated the negotiation process towards an Arms Trade Treaty to regulate the international trade in conventional arms; reaffirmed its original position in favor of the internationally-supervised complete elimination of nuclear weapons; advanced regionalism in international disarmament and arms control efforts; and helped broker commitments to reducing the operational alert status of nuclear weapons to prevent rapid or accidental use.

## I. Restricting the Flow of Small Arms

- How does the United Nations First Committee continue its work on restricting small arms and light weapons? Should it be through specific individual plans or a more comprehensive manner?
- Can the United Nations motivate the global community to stress the importance of this issue and have their government leaders have the political will and initiative to make it a top priority?

Small Arms, or conventional weapons usable in either a civilian or military context by individuals, have been considered a threat to international peace and security since the inception of the United Nations. However, a lack of political will to eliminate these weapons altogether, and the belief held by most states that conventional armaments, including small arms, provide security for their state, has led the debate over how best to address small arms internationally away from disarmament or even arms control to a debate focused on non-proliferation, or preventing the spread and regulating the trade in small arms. The General Assembly, primarily through the First Committee, has been engaged in this process for over a decade, and remains focused upon finding methods to curb the spread of small arms in order to achieve the broader goals of the maintenance of peace and security and realization of fundamental rights and freedoms worldwide.

Small arms were defined by the General Assembly through the 2006 “International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons,” as follows:

“‘Small arms’ are, broadly speaking, weapons designed for individual use. They include, *inter alia*, revolvers and self-loading pistols, rifles and carbines, sub-machine guns, assault rifles and light machine guns [...] excluding antique small arms and light weapons or their replicas. Antique small arms and light weapons and their replicas will be defined in accordance with domestic law. In no case will antique small arms and light weapons include those manufactured after 1899.”

Small arms are differentiated from “light weapons” for technical reasons; however, the two are often considered together in the context of international actions which deal with “Small Arms and Light Weapons,” or SALW. Light weapons are different in this technical sense because they are regularly used by groups of two or three individuals rather than a single person (though some are usable by a single person), and include larger, heavier armaments than are in the “small arms” category; light weapons are, however, smaller and lighter than those considered “heavy weapons” by the UN, some of which are tracked by the optional UN Register of Conventional Arms.

The importance given by the United Nations to addressing issues related to small arms (and light weapons) is highlighted by the 1997 foreword to a report, both of which were written by then-Secretary General Kofi Annan. Annan wrote, “Readily available and easy to use, small arms and light weapons have been the primary or sole tools of violence in almost every recent conflict dealt with by the United Nations. [...] These weapons have taken a heavy toll of human lives, with women and children accounting for nearly 80 per cent of the casualties.” Other UN agencies, such as the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the UN Development Programme, work on small arms issues as well, as small arms proliferation threatens the success of these agencies in achieving their mandate; OCHA has stated that “Their use and misuse obstructs humanitarian relief and

development programmes, exacerbates gender-based violence, undermines peace initiatives and fosters a “culture of violence,” while UNDP has published a guide for developing states to use in creating legislation regulating small arms production and transfer.

Early efforts to regulate the trade in small arms focused on the *illicit* trade of arms; this period is highlighted by the 2001 UN Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects. This conference adopted a Programme of Action to Combat, Prevent and Eradicate the Illicit Trafficking in Small Arms and Light Weapons in all its Aspects (PoA), the fundamental UN document related to a plan to eliminate the illicit flow of SALW. The 2006 Review Conference on this conference and the PoA resulted in the International Instrument, which provided the definitions of small arms and light weapons above. In addition to review conferences held roughly every five years, the next of which is scheduled for 2012, there are also Biennial Meetings of States (BMS) to review implementation of the PoA, which have been held in 2003, 2005, 2008, and 2010. There are similar and related efforts in less-developed stages to address heavy weapons, as well as ammunition for SALW.

Additionally, the ongoing efforts to regulate the trade in conventional weapons generally through negotiation of an Arms Trade Treaty are directly tied to efforts related to SALW, due to the likelihood of the ATT including Small Arms and Light Weapons as part of its scope; According to Oxfam International and Reaching Critical Will, as of June 2011 133 states had declared public support for the ATT regulating SALW, with only 4 states publicly opposed to SALW’s inclusion. The treaty will be negotiated in July 2012.

Yet despite these efforts, much work remains to be done. Rebecca Peters, head of the International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA), argued for a four-pronged approach to the problem – “reducing the existing stockpile, reducing the supply of new weapons, closing the gates between the legal and illegal markets, [and] reducing the motivation for acquiring guns (demand).” At present, however, the General Assembly First Committee’s efforts have primarily focused on the third approach only, with limited additional efforts by the First Committee and agencies such as UNDP focusing on the fourth approach as well. Robert Zuber of Global Action to Prevent War has noted that the PoA discourse has left out civil society, with “virtually no reference to the specific skills of civil society in diverse global regions that can serve as a supplement to state-sponsored initiatives.” Ray Acheson of Reaching Critical Will noted that while increased attention has been paid to conventional weapons, in part due to the initiation of ATT negotiations, the 2010 GA First Committee saw fewer references to SALW than in 2009 in spite of the BMS being held in 2010 and progress being made on the ATT including SALW in its scope.

## **II. Nuclear Material and Non-State Actors**

- How does the United Nations address the issue of nuclear materials and non-state actors? What are the existing and developing regulations on nuclear material accountability? How can we improve control and flow of nuclear materials and advance prevention measures of them being handled outside of governmental sphere?
- Considering the transnational nature of non-state entities interested in pursuing the access to nuclear materials, how should the law enforcement and prosecution be handled?

The challenges of nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament remain one of the greatest threats to international security, especially nowadays, when non-state actors, such as terrorist groups attempt to pursue nuclear weapons. Three broad assumptions about increased risk of non-state actors acquiring and using nuclear weapons in the near future are ground in the proliferation of nuclear information, the availability of nuclear weapons and improvised nuclear devices, and the expanding objective. Non-state actors involved in proliferation may be affiliated with disbanded state security organizations, sects, nationalist groups, which demonstrates that they not only belong to terrorist networks or organized crime groups.

The General Assembly First Committee negotiated the prohibition on the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons by controlling the fissile material holdings of key nuclear-weapon States, in a way that served the strategic interests of all concerned. This would go far to curb nuclear weapons proliferation and prevent nuclear terrorism by the non-State actors. The long-standing and widely supported aim of banning the production of fissile material were part of negotiations of the fissile material cut-off treaty that was based on the 1995 Shannon mandate.

It is crucial for the international community to recognize nuclear smuggling and nuclear-expertise proliferation by non-State actors as international crimes, and enforce instruments already in place – such as the Non-Proliferation Treaty, Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials, the Rome Statute, or the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings. However, since the existing treaties are inadequate with respect to nuclear smuggling and nuclear expertise proliferation by non-state actors, covering such actions through expanding universal jurisdiction under customary international law might be easier and more effective. In order for it to be successful much stronger international cooperation in locating and dismantling nuclear black markets is a key factor. Such cooperation can be enhanced by two vital agencies already in place, that it the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the Interpol.

### **III. Role of Science and Technology in the Context of International Security**

- What are the main international regulations and agreements pertaining to international security in relation to science and technology? What areas do they cover? What are the major scientific and technological developments that might become sources of international security threats?
- How is science and technology utilized for enhancement of international security? What are the most recent and excessively covered scientific and technological developments that aid in the pursuit of international peace?

The global community has noted that the military applications of scientific and technological advances can both improve and upgrade advanced weapons systems; however it also has concerns that the same advances can be made to systems of mass destruction. Given the commitment to non-proliferation, international security measures need to be introduced to supplement the accounting and reporting systems already in existence, that are regulated and approved by the IAEA, and the United Nations. The influence of Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) monitoring international actions such as illicit nuclear trade is tremendous, and should be further explored for proposing and creating appropriate and necessary international policies.

However, the role of science and technology expands much further beyond nuclear non-proliferation. The disparity is striking when comparing the developing countries to the developed ones, where the further lag behind education and research institutions focusing on betterment of life. That results in lowered productivity, and diminished economic development and public health, which in effect might become destabilizing to regional and global stability and security. Shared principles and practices, such as bioethics, biosafety and biosecurity based on educational and financial assistance are a way forward toward productive scientific collaboration. Such collaboration on the other hand would also require international regulations and protocol, in order to prevent its application towards bioterrorism, agro-terrorism, pharmaceutical terrorism, or any other type of danger stemming from lack of international guidelines.

Other areas where science and technology has significant influence on international security (or lack of thereof) consist of: energy and climate change, global health, as well as global trends and forecasting (media analysis, as well as trade and economics). These three topics have at least one thing in common: they do not discriminate between boundaries. Once climate change takes place, it sooner or later affects the whole planet – melting ice caps raise the level and temperature of oceans, warmer temperatures affect water distribution and crop production, airborne viruses spread easily across the boundaries, and infectious diseases now may spread across the globe due to virtually unrestricted travel. Global trends and forecasting are driven by the speedy information and media analysis, which in case of bad economic decisions by one sector or company may cause drastic changes at the stock market, or even panic. Aware of those and many more dangers the United Nations bodies and Specialized Agencies – such as many committees of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Commission on Trade and Development, (UNNCTD) World Trade Organization (WTO), the World Bank, United Nations Convention on Climate Change (UNCCC) – to mention a few, work diligently to predict, handle, and eventually prevent such dangers.

## Annotated Bibliography

### *History of the General Assembly First Committee*

NGO Committee on Disarmament Peace and Security. (2010). *Disarmament Times*, Vol. 33 (4). Retrieved August 18, 2011 from: <http://disarm.igc.org/images/PDF/dt.2010.4.pdf>

*This source is a publication by the NGO Committee on Disarmament, Peace and Security, a coalition of over 20 NGOs which focus on disarmament issues. The Winter 2010 issue contains a voting chart which tracks the voting record of selected UN Member States on GA First Committee resolutions for the 65<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Assembly First Committee.*

NGO Committee on Disarmament, Peace and Security. (n.d.). *The United Nations, Disarmament and Security*. Retrieved August 20, 2011 from:

[http://disarm.igc.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=86&Itemid=59](http://disarm.igc.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=86&Itemid=59)  
*This source, a publication of the NGO Committee on Disarmament, Peace and Security, is a chronology of UN actions taken with regards to disarmament. It was used in the background guide to showcase specific actions taken by the UN since its creation, specifically those in the early years of the United Nations. Delegates may find this source useful to better understand the role of the First Committee in the broader United Nations efforts related to disarmament.*

Reaching Critical Will. (2011). *General Assembly First Committee on Disarmament and International Security*.

Retrieved August 20, 2011 from: <http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/political/1com/1comindex1.html>

*Reaching Critical Will, a project of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, is an NGO focused on disarmament and headquartered in New York City. This source is their guide to the First Committee, explaining its history, mandate, and current actions taken. Delegates may find this source useful as it provides a civil society perspective on the obstacles facing the First Committee and its failings in achieving its mandate thus far.*

Reaching Critical Will. (2011). *UN General Assembly First Committee 2011: 3 October – 1 November 2011*.

Retrieved August 19, 2011 from: <http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/political/1com/1com11.html>

*Reaching Critical Will maintains a webpage devoted to each session of the General Assembly First Committee. This page, which will be updated as the General Assembly's 2011 session opens and then as the First Committee begins, will be useful for delegates as a resource to periodically check for the work of the First Committee in 2011.*

Spies, Michael. (2008). Between Irrelevance and a New Era: Report on the 2008 UN First Committee. *Disarmament Diplomacy*, Issue 89. Retrieved August 18, 2011 from: <http://www.acronym.org.uk/dd/dd89/89unfc.htm>

*The UK-based Acronym Institute for Disarmament Diplomacy published this analysis of the 2008 First Committee's meetings, which highlight some of the failings of the First Committee and disarmament machinery in general. Delegates may find this source useful to help them develop their understanding of the First Committee's procedural contrast with other international bodies such as the Conference on Disarmament, and the impact on each's ability to function. Additionally, this source provides a civil society perspective on the Obama and Bush Administration's differences, and the opportunity for more expansive international action provided by the shift in US policy as a result of the Obama presidency.*

United Nations. (1945, June 26). *Charter of the United Nations: Chapter IV: The General Assembly*. Retrieved

August 20, 2011 from: <http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/chapter4.shtml>

*This source is the Charter of the United Nations. It was used to explain the mandate of the General Assembly Plenary, the portion of which pertaining to disarmament and international security was assigned to the First Committee.*

United Nations General Assembly. (n.d.). *United Nations General Assembly: Main Committees*. Retrieved August 20, 2011 from: <http://www.un.org/ga/maincommittees.shtml>

*The General Assembly maintains a website devoted to explaining their six Main Committees. Delegates will*

*find this source useful for an explanation of the First Committee, and also the specific topical areas of the other Main Committees.*

### **I. Restricting the Flow of Small Arms**

Control Arms Alliance and Reaching Critical Will. (2011). *Mapping the Arms Trade Treaty*: armstreaty.org.

Retrieved August 18, 2011 from: <http://www.armstreaty.org>

*This source, a joint project of the Control Arms Alliance and Reaching Critical Will, is an interactive mapping project designed to graphically display the positions of countries on provisions for the Arms Trade Treaty. Analyzing country positions against the policy positions of the Control Arms Alliance, Mapping the Arms Trade Treaty categorizes countries by the “strength” of their position. Delegates will find this source useful because one of the categories countries are tracked against is the inclusion of Small Arms and Light Weapons in the list of items regulated by the treaty, and direct quotes from every state or region are used to justify each country position displayed.*

Reaching Critical Will. (2010, October 4). *First Committee Monitor: Preview Edition*. Retrieved August 20, 2011 from: <http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/political/1com/FCM10/preview.html>

*Reaching Critical Will creates and edits a weekly publication entitled “First Committee Monitor” each year during the First Committee, with authors from various disarmament-focused NGOs providing the majority of the articles. This source was used to provide civil society perspectives on the limitations and failings of the General Assembly First Committee in its work to address the flow of small arms.*

Peters, Rebecca. (2009). Small Arms: No Single Solution. *UN Chronicle*, Vol. XLVI (1-2). Retrieved August 18, 2011 from:

[http://www.un.org/wcm/content/site/chronicle/cache/bypass/home/archive/issues2009/smallarmsnosinglesolution?ctnscroll\\_articleContainerList=1\\_0&ctnlistpagination\\_articleContainerList=true](http://www.un.org/wcm/content/site/chronicle/cache/bypass/home/archive/issues2009/smallarmsnosinglesolution?ctnscroll_articleContainerList=1_0&ctnlistpagination_articleContainerList=true)

*The UN Chronicle published this article, written by Rebecca Peters of the International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA) in 2009. In the article, Peters argues for four solutions to the problem of small arms proliferation: halting the creation of new supply, reducing demand for weapons, addressing existing stockpiles of weapons, and preventing diversion from the legal to illegal markets. Peters also goes into greater depth with regard to each solution she proposes, addressing current progress and prospects for additional progress in the near future for each.*

United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs. (1999). *Small Arms (E.99.IX.7)*. Retrieved August 18, 2011 from: <http://www.un.org/disarmament/HomePage/ODAPublications/DisarmamentStudySeries/PDF/SS-28.pdf>

*This source is a collection of three reports from Secretary-General Kofi Annan to the General Assembly First Committee on the subject of small arms. This source was used for Secretary-General Annan’s comments on the importance of addressing the problem of small arms proliferation and the risks of failure to resolve the issue.*

United Nations. (n.d.). *United Nations Small Arms Review Conference 2006: Frequently Asked Questions*. Retrieved August 18, 2011 from: <http://www.un.org/events/smallarms2006/faq.html>

*This source is a factsheet on the 2006 Review Conference on Small Arms, which includes helpful pieces of information as a starting point for research on previous UN actions on small arms.*

United Nations General Assembly. (2006). *International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (A/CONF.192/15)*. Retrieved August 18, 2011 from: [http://www.un.org/events/smallarms2006/pdf/international\\_instrument.pdf](http://www.un.org/events/smallarms2006/pdf/international_instrument.pdf)

*This source is the full text of the International Instrument, which serves two primary purposes in the context of delegate research. First, it provides a definition for “small arms” and for “light weapons” that, though unofficial, are the primary definitions used by the UN system. Secondly, the instrument offers a mechanism to prevent diversion of armaments to the illicit market.*

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. (n.d.). *Humanitarian Issues: Small Arms*.

Retrieved August 27, 2011 from:

<http://ochaonline.un.org/HumanitarianIssues/ProtectionofCiviliansinArmedConflict/Whataretheissues/SmallArms/tabid/1199/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

*This source is OCHA's website on small arms, which provides an overview of the humanitarian impact of the unregulated transfer of small arms. This source was used, among other ways, to explain the myriad consequences of the status quo in the small arms trade. Additionally, this source provides data on the relative usage of small arms as compared to other weapons, proving that small arms are a larger contributor to armed violence than any other class of weapons, conventional or otherwise.*

United Nations Development Programme. (2008). *How to Guide: Small Arms and Light Weapons Legislation*. Retrieved August 28, 2011 from:

[http://www.undp.org/cpr/documents/sa\\_control/SALWGuide\\_Legislation.pdf](http://www.undp.org/cpr/documents/sa_control/SALWGuide_Legislation.pdf)

*This source is UNDP's guide for developing countries to develop legislation addressing SALW. Published in July 2008 by UNDP's Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery, the guide advocates for control of civilian-held weapons as well as military and law-enforcement weapons.*

United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs. (n.d.). *Small Arms / Armed Violence*. Retrieved August 17, 2011 from: [http://www.un.org/disarmament/convarms/SALW/Html/SALW-PoA-ISS\\_intro.shtml](http://www.un.org/disarmament/convarms/SALW/Html/SALW-PoA-ISS_intro.shtml)

*This source is the UN Office of Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) gateway page on small arms. Delegates will find this source useful as a starting point for research on small arms and UN actions related to small arms.*

Zuber, Robert. (2010, June 23). A Brief Reprise. *Small Arms Monitor*. Retrieved August 18, 2011 from:

<http://smallarmsmonitor.blogspot.com/2010/06/brief-reprise.html>

*Small Arms Monitor, a publication of Reaching Critical Will, published this article by Robert Zuber of Global Action to prevent war at the end of the 2010 Biennial Meeting of States. Zuber argues that the BMS and ATT processes are linked, to the benefit of the ATT process; Zuber believed that BMS diplomats would stay for the ATT PrepCom in July 2010 and therefore argue for the inclusion of Small Arms and Light Weapons in the ATT's scope.*

## **II. Nuclear Material and Non-State Actors**

Beeson, A. (April 2, 2009). Nukes for Non-State Actors. *Harvard Political Review*. Retrieved on August 19, 2011 [www.hpronline.org/beyond-borders/nukes-for-non-state-actors/](http://www.hpronline.org/beyond-borders/nukes-for-non-state-actors/)

*Globalization lead to proliferation of non-state actors – terrorist groups, rebels, insurgency movements – that are inherently difficult to control by overall diminishing power of governments. Those groups benefit from the outcomes of globalization, such as instant communication technologies, and decreasing capacity of states to control and manage economic affairs. Beeson draws attention to the growing number of States that even though do not have nuclear weapons, are in possession of nuclear technologies, materials, and unsecured nuclear facilities, that further unsecured may be pursued and used by non-state actors.*

Burch, T. (2003). Non-State Actors in the Nuclear Black Market: Proposing an International Legal Framework for Preventing Nuclear Expertise Proliferation and Nuclear Smuggling by Non-State Actors. *Santa Clara Journal of International Law*. Vol. 2. Accessed on August 19, 2011 from:

[http://www.scujil.org/sites/default/files/volumes/v2\\_BurchArticle.pdf](http://www.scujil.org/sites/default/files/volumes/v2_BurchArticle.pdf)

*Burch pinpoints the major problem stemming from lack of international jurisdiction over non-state actors trading in or possessing nuclear weapons and/or materials. He discusses existing international treaties on the topic of nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, and explains why they are inapplicable or ineffective tools in terms of threats coming from non-state entities. Proposed recommendations are interesting and thought-provoking, especially in terms of preparation for proposing draft resolutions on the topic.*

Carter, A.B. (2006). Panel: Preventing Acquisition and/or Use of WMD by Hostile State or Non-State Actors Remarks at the National Defense University Symposium: *Implementing the 2006 Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR)*, Washington, DC, March 16-17, 2006. Sponsored by the National Defense University. Retrieved on August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011 from:

<http://belfercenter.ksg.harvard.edu/publication/3994/panel.html>

*The Belfler Center for Science and International Affairs is an extremely reach and useful resource for researching any topic pertaining to the effect of technology and science in today's world. It provides breakdown by topics and regions, and gives access to many interesting publications, expert opinions and testimonies, policy briefings, panels and presentations, as well as information on programs and project in the topic area. Carter's presentation gives a brief overview of the problem of non-state actors efforts to acquire WMD's, but focuses on the prevention policies and tactics of such acquirements.*

Gawin, R.L. (2002). *Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and Materials to State and Non-State Actors: What It Means for the Future of Nuclear Power*. A presentation in the seminar series *Energy and the Environment: The Role of Nuclear Power*. [http://www.fas.org/rlg/PNWM\\_UMich.pdf](http://www.fas.org/rlg/PNWM_UMich.pdf)  
*This source is an excellent starting point for researching the topic of nuclear materials and non-state actors. It provides in-depth analysis of national and global perspectives on energy challenges and pros and cons of nuclear energy. For the purpose of preparation for the simulation, the section on risk of proliferation and diversion of nuclear technology is particularly useful.*

Institute for Science and International Security. (2011). *Illicit Nuclear Trade*. Retrieved on August 31, 2011 from: <http://isis-online.org/studies/category/illicit-trade/>  
*The Institute for Science and International Security is another reach resource that can be particularly useful for researching the topic at hand, especially for those interested in a particular country in possession of nuclear weapons, suspected of such possessions, or non-state actors seeking to advance their nuclear ambitions. The section on illicit nuclear trade offers abundance of press releases, case studies, reports, conferences, videos and testimonies. In addition, it also provides background information on nuclear materials and nuclear weapons programs, which are very important to review for a better grasp of the topic at hand.*

### **III. Role of Science and Technology in the Context of International Security**

American Association for the Advancement of Science. (AAAS). Center for Science, Technology and Security Policy Conference on Science and International Security. Retrieved on August 31, 2011 from: <http://cstsp.aaas.org/content.html?contentid=2383>  
*The AAAS is an international non-profit organization dedicated to advancing science around the world assuming a role of an educator, spokesperson and professional association. Its Center for Science, Technology and Security Policy is directed towards promoting the responsible use of science, and endorsing and defending its integrity and use.*

Center for Strategic and International Studies. (2011). *Energy and Climate Change*. Retrieved on August 31, 2011 from: <http://csis.org/category/topics/energy-and-climate-change>  
*CSIS provides strategic insight and bipartisan policy solutions international institutions, private organizations, as well as to the civil society and governments. On its website CSIS offers an abundance of resources pertaining to real and potential global challenges and dangers, ranging from energy and climate change, to global health, technology, and human rights. Regional analysis is very helpful for deeper understanding of the issues, and more accurate prevention and policy planning.*

United Nations. Sixty-fifth General Assembly First Committee. (October 11, 2010). *Controlling Fissile Material Holdings of Key Nuclear Weapons Possessors Would far to Curb proliferation, prevent nuclear terrorism, First Committee Told*. United Nations Department of Public Information. Accessed on August 19, 2011 from: <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2010/gadis3411.doc.htm>  
*This brief from the General Assembly First Committee session is a valuable source not only due to the general overview of the issue, but also offers a direct report on perspectives of specific countries, which representatives presented their statements. It offers some critical perspectives on the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and the Conference on Disarmament. Separate section on reporting on the position of a non-Member State – the Holy See – depicts the role and impact of observer States and groups.*

United Nations General Assembly. *Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament*, 6 January 2006, A/RES/60/51, Retrieved on August 27, 2011 from:  
<http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/docid/44168a9b9.html>

*General Assembly reports are very useful sources, especially for tracking down changes on specific subject matters. What has changed? Are there any advancements in the work of the international community and/or particular States? Is there a change of stance among the Member States? The answers to those question be found in the GA documents. In addition, they often point out to challenges that are being faced, which might be used as direction for further research on the topic.*

United Nations General Assembly. *Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament*. November 13, 2001.

*This report of the General Assembly First Committee draws attention to the concerns stemming from military applications of scientific and technological progresses. The section on the consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/56/L.13 is a valuable resource in terms of stances of particular countries on the issue.*