

General Assembly First Committee

Introduction

The General Assembly First Committee completed its work for the 68th session on 6 November 2013, resulting in 53 draft texts being sent to the General Assembly Plenary for approval. This update will review the highlights and outcomes of this most recent session, touching on work involving the classic disarmament themes, as well as unique developments in this regard. Lastly, this update will illustrate the process of implementation of the work of the First Committee through various organs of the United Nations.

Recent Activities

During the 68th session of the General Assembly, the First Committee met 25 times from 6 October to 6 November 2013.¹ Agenda items discussed included nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, the *Arms Trade Treaty* (2013), the *Chemical Weapons Convention* (1992), the *Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty* (1996), the Conference on Disarmament, a fissile material ban, and nuclear-weapon-free zones.² After concluding debate on these topics, the First Committee adopted a total of 48 draft resolutions and 5 draft decisions, all of which were forwarded on to the General Assembly Plenary for final approval.³ On 5 December 2013, all 53 texts were adopted by the General Assembly Plenary, two of them without a vote.⁴ According to Ibrahim Dabbashi, Chairperson of the 68th session, the First Committee heard a record-breaking 241 speakers during thematic discussions, indicating the rising level of awareness about international security and disarmament issues.⁵

The First Committee maintained its focus on conventional arms by recognizing the approval of the *Arms Trade Treaty* in April 2013 and stressing the importance of its implementation as soon as possible.⁶ Transparency in armaments was also a prominent topic of debate, and the First Committee requested reports from groups of governmental experts on the tasks of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms and the United Nations Report on Military Expenditures.⁷

Two panel discussions focusing on disarmament were conducted in the First Committee during this session.⁸ On 21 October 2013, one of the panels consisted of four major UN disarmament bodies' authorities. These bodies were the Conference on Disarmament (CD), United Nations Disarmament Commission, Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters, and United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR).⁹ A larger panel configured the discussion on 28 October 2013, which included two leaders from the office of the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and Directors from the three United Nations Regional Centres for peace and disarmament.¹⁰ Both panels provided expert insight into the workings of the major UN disarmament bodies and hinted at the possibilities that lie ahead for their work.¹¹ One such example was the chance of the Secretary-General's involvement in a preparatory meeting for the creation of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East.¹²

¹ United Nations, *General Assembly - First Committee – Sixty-eighth session - Programme* [Website], 2013.

² UN DPI, *First Committee Holds Brief Organizational Session to Adopt Agenda, Work Programme (GA/DIS/3473)* [Press Release], 2013.

³ UN DPI, *'Record Breaking' Participation Define First Committee Session, Says Chair at Closing, As Delegations Send 53 Drafts to General Assembly (GA/DIS/3494)* [Press Release], 2013.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ UN DPI, *First Committee Holds Brief Organizational Session to Adopt Agenda, Work Programme (GA/DIS/3473)* [Press Release], 2013.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ UN DPI, *Discourse Shifts in First Committee From Cold War 'Balance of Terror' Logic Against Nuclear Weapon Use to Catastrophic Humanitarian Impacts (GA/DIS/3483)* [Press Release], 2013.

¹² Ibid.

Recent Policy Outcomes

A new resolution was adopted by the First Committee, resolution 68/32 on “Follow-up to the 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament.”¹³ This resolution expressed its approval for the high-level meeting, which took place on 26 September 2013, and strongly encouraged the momentum to continue in the form of talks around a comprehensive nuclear weapon convention in the CD.¹⁴ This convention’s progress would be monitored by an international conference on nuclear disarmament, to be held no later than 2018.¹⁵ In addition to this new resolution, the scope of at least 18 other texts involved the limiting or complete elimination of nuclear weapons, showing that the First Committee is steadily tackling this issue at the regional, multilateral, and global levels.¹⁶

In addition, the First Committee session also focused on the humanitarian aspects of disarmament more than ever before.¹⁷ More countries than ever believe in the fundamental idea that both national and international security “can be achieved with fewer weapons, less military expenditure, and more investment in peace and human development.”¹⁸ One of the main drivers for the momentum of this fresh push for a humanitarian perspective in the First Committee is the confirmed usage of chemical weapons in Syria, which was mentioned by a large number of countries in their speeches during the 68th session.¹⁹ One concrete example of the First Committee taking this perspective seriously is the side event held during this session revolving around the new publication by UNIDIR titled *Viewing Nuclear Weapons through a Humanitarian Lens*.²⁰ UN disarmament bodies are engaged in such ideas, and delegates from the First Committee are participating in such discussions.²¹

Policy Implementation

The First Committee’s actions are logistically supported by the Disarmament and Peace Affairs Branch of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, and substantively supported by the Office for Disarmament Affairs.²² Heavy collaboration and dialogue also is performed between the First Committee, and both the CD and the United Nations Disarmament Commission, each being a largely autonomous body of the UN.²³

A common action taken by the First Committee in recent years has been encouragement of negotiations in the CD, where conventions and treaties have a history of being forged.²⁴ This includes the aforementioned potential nuclear disarmament convention, as well as an updated treaty on the prevention of an arms race in outer space.²⁵ As many of the delegates to the First Committee also double as delegates to the CD, there is a strong chance of the First Committee’s work translating directly into solutions in the CD.²⁶

¹³ UN DPI, *Capping Intensive Disarmament Committee Session, General Assembly Adopts 53 Texts On Wide Range of Pressing International Security Concerns (GA/11463)* [Press Release], 2013; UN General Assembly, *Follow-up to the 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament (A/RES/68/32)* [Resolution], 2013.

¹⁴ UN General Assembly, *Follow-up to the 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament (A/RES/68/32)* [Resolution], 2013.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁶ UN General Assembly, *Documents of the First Committee (A/C.1/68/INF/1)* [Information series], 2013.

¹⁷ RCW, *First Committee Monitor: 2013 No. 2013*.

¹⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁹ RCW, *First Committee Monitor: 2013 No. 2*, 2013.

²⁰ RCW, *First Committee Monitor: 2013 No. 3*, 2013; UNIDIR, *Viewing Nuclear Weapons through a Nuclear Lens* [Report], 2013.

²¹ UNIDIR, *Viewing Nuclear Weapons through a Nuclear Lens* [Report], 2013; RCW, *First Committee Monitor: 2013 No. 3* [Report], 2013; RCW, *First Committee Monitor: 2013 No. 5* [Report], 2013.

²² Switzerland, *The PGA Handbook: A practical guide to the United Nations General Assembly*, 2011.

²³ UN Office at Geneva, *Disarmament: An Introduction to the Conference* [Website], 2009.

²⁴ *Ibid.*

²⁵ UN General Assembly, *Follow-up to the 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament (A/RES/68/32)* [Resolution], 2013; UN Office at Geneva, *CD Documents related to Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space* [Website], 2013.

²⁶ Switzerland, *The PGA Handbook: A practical guide to the United Nations General Assembly*, 2011.

Conclusion

The First Committee is the only United Nations committee relating to international security where every single country has a voice. As a result, it is the forum with the most accurate gauge of the international community's consensus and progress on these issues, and thus will continue to be the world's primary medium for peaceful, meaningful discussions on disarmament and international security.

The General Assembly First Committee at NMUN•NY 2014

The General Assembly First Committee (First Committee) is one of the six main committees of the General Assembly, and focused on “disarmament and international security,” focusing explicitly on questions of “international peace and security,” and “disarmament and the regulation of armaments.”

Format: The General Assembly First Committee is a resolution writing committee.

Voting: Each Member State present may vote once on procedural and substantive matters. Matters are decided by a majority vote.

Membership: The General Assembly is comprised of all 193 Member States of the UN, as outlined in Article 9 of the Charter. Each Member State has one vote, regardless of its population or geography.

Annotated Bibliography

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https://www.eda.admin.ch/etc/medialib/downloads/edazen/topics/intorg/un/missny/news.Par.0013.File.tmp/UN_PGA_Handbook.PDF

Written by the Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations, this handbook explains in detail how the General Assembly operates. While certain aspects of the General Assembly operations will differ at the NMUN conference, delegates are encouraged to familiarize themselves with Chapter 1, which describes the various functions of the General Assembly and its Main Committees, and with Chapter 3, which describes the formal procedures of the General Assembly.

Reaching Critical Will. (2013, October 21). *First Committee Monitor: 2013 No. 3* [Report]. Retrieved 29 January 2014 from: <http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/images/documents/Disarmament-fora/1com/FCM13/fcm-2013-no3.pdf>

First Committee Monitor is an excellent source to read NGO analysis of the happenings of the First Committee. Each of these five reports is filled cover to cover with relevant reporting and analysis that will get delegates seriously thinking about the topics, including the problem-solving aspect of it. This report in particular has two side event reports relating to the humanitarian perspective of disarmament, and nicely characterizes the First Committee's most recent session.

United Nations. (2013, November). *General Assembly First Committee* [Press Release]. Retrieved 13 January 2014 from: <http://www.un.org/en/unpress/level2.asp?unpress=23>

This page is a collection of press releases related to activities of the First Committee, dating back to 2010. In order to understand the development and the progress of a topic, delegates are encouraged to consult various press releases from the last few sessions of the General Assembly. This is also an excellent location where delegates can find summaries of their countries' speeches on certain topics.

United Nations Office at Geneva. (2009). *Disarmament: An Introduction to the Conference* [Website]. Retrieved 13 January 2014 from:

[http://www.unog.ch/80256EE600585943/\(httpPages\)/BF18ABFEFE5D344DC1256F3100311CE9?OpenDocument](http://www.unog.ch/80256EE600585943/(httpPages)/BF18ABFEFE5D344DC1256F3100311CE9?OpenDocument)

As First Committee delegates need to be well-versed in the disarmament bodies of the UN, this summary of the history and work of the Conference on Disarmament is extremely valuable. It has a concise, but complete overview of one of the most important bodies for the First Committee in its pursuit of complete and total disarmament. This is just one of the pages on the United Nations Office at Geneva's website, which could also be perused for other important, relevant disarmament bodies' histories and documents.

United Nations. (2013, November 5). *General Assembly - First Committee – Sixty-eighth session - Programme* [Website]. Retrieved 27 January 2014 from: <https://papersmart.unmeetings.org/ga/first/68th-session/programme/>
This website as a whole is an essential tool for all delegates, not just the First Committee. Each meeting from the 68th session has tabs for Programme, Agenda, Documents, and Statements, which each contain downloadable content pertaining to specific Member States. When researching their countries' policies on any of the three topics which will be discussed in the First Committee, delegates are highly encouraged to utilize this site.

Bibliography

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Reaching Critical Will. (2013, October 14). *First Committee Monitor: 2013 No. 2*. Retrieved 29 January 2014 from: <http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/images/documents/Disarmament-fora/1com/FCM13/FCM-2013-2.pdf>

Reaching Critical Will. (2013, October 28). *First Committee Monitor: 2013 No. 4*. Retrieved 29 January 2014 from: <http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/images/documents/Disarmament-fora/1com/FCM13/FCM-2013-4.pdf>

Reaching Critical Will. (2013, November). *First Committee Monitor: 2013 No. 5*. Retrieved 29 January 2014 from: <http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/images/documents/Disarmament-fora/1com/FCM13/FCM-2013-5.pdf>

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United Nations, Department of Public Information (2013, October 28). *Space-based Ballistic Missile Defence 'Very Worrying Dimension', With Potentially Devastating Consequences on Earth, Speaker Tells First Committee (GA/DIS/3488)* [Press Release]. Retrieved 30 January 2014 from <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2013/gadis3488.doc.htm>

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United Nations, General Assembly, Sixty-eighth session. (2013, December 10). *Follow-up to the 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament (A/RES/68/32)* [Resolution]. Retrieved 12 January 2014 from: http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/68/32

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UN Web TV. (2013). *First Committee* [Website]. Retrieved 9 January 2014 from: <http://webtv.un.org/meetings-events/general-assembly/main-committees/1st-committee/>

I. Measures to Prevent Terrorists from Acquiring Weapons of Mass Destruction

Introduction

There have been numerous new developments and outcomes on this topic in the last months, many of which are long-standing issues stemming from previous years. There is a resolution adopted by the General Assembly; reports from the Secretary-General to the plenary body; statements by international organizations regarding the topic; institutional statements and documents done by the International Atomic Energy Agency; and an event organized by INTERPOL.

Recent Developments

During the 68th session of the General Assembly (GA) at the United Nations (UN), the body considered two draft resolutions but only adopted one resolution on this topic. General Assembly resolution 68/41 seeks the promotion and the ratification of the *International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism* by Member States.²⁷ Moreover, the document asks the Secretary-General to produce a report on the measures taken to address the topic by international organizations as well as perspectives from Member States on relevant measures to solve to issue.²⁸ Finally, the document decides to include this topic under the major topic of “General and complete disarmament” for the following GA session.²⁹ The draft resolution that was considered by the body but not adopted, draft resolution 1/68/L.23, was sponsored by several Member States and, in essence, had similar proposals as the adopted resolution, which led to the draft resolution’s rejection.³⁰

Much like this session’s resolution, the previous session’s resolution on this topic asked the Secretary-General to produce a report of a similar nature on this topic, culminating in report 68/164.³¹ This report highlights the work of the Financial Action Task Force, which is an “intergovernmental policymaking body that develops and encourages implementation of policies to combat money-laundering and the financing of terrorism and proliferation.”³² This task force included new recommendations this year, suggesting Member States to effective mechanisms to cooperate and coordinate domestically to develop policies among decision makers, as well as to implement targeted financial sanctions to comply with resolutions adopted by the Security Council.³³ This task force developed a new methodology that permits the evaluation of countries that have implemented appropriate legislative framework and competent authorities to implement the task force recommendations.³⁴ The report also explains the existence of training programmes as well as provision of technical assistance done by INTERPOL “to assist member countries in establishing effective chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosives countermeasures programs with the goal of preventing the illegal dispersal of chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosives materials.”³⁵

The International Atomic Energy Agency

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has the mandate to oversee the development and control of nuclear weapons, and one of its responsibilities is to prevent terrorists from acquiring these devices.³⁶ The International Conference on Nuclear Security celebrated from 1 to 5 July 2013, during which ministers of the Member States of the IAEA declared to be aware of the threat that smuggling of nuclear material poses to international security.³⁷ This declaration also reaffirmed the IAEA’s commitment to cooperate with states on efforts

²⁷ UN General Assembly, *Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction (A/RES/68/41)* [Resolution], 2013.

²⁸ Ibid.

²⁹ Ibid.

³⁰ UN General Assembly, *General and complete disarmament: Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction, (A/C.1/68/L.23)* [Draft Resolution], 2013

³¹ UN General Assembly, *Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction: Report of the Secretary-General (A/68/164)*, 2013.

³² Ibid.

³³ Ibid.

³⁴ Ibid.

³⁵ Ibid.

³⁶ International Atomic Energy Agency, *Ministerial Declaration*, 2013

³⁷ International Atomic Energy Agency, *Ministerial Declaration*, 2013

to implement effective and sustainable nuclear security frameworks.³⁸ This declaration further invites states to sign and implement the *International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism*.³⁹ Furthermore, the Agency included its support to GA resolution 67/44 in the report of its latest General Conference meeting, stating in which that it is essential to attain disarmament to maintain international security as well as contributing to combat terrorism.⁴⁰ This report recommended Member States to be part of the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism and the Global Partnership against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction as well.⁴¹ Moreover, in the Nuclear Security Report of May 2013, the IAEA established the importance of this topic and the responsibility of states to combat this global threat.⁴² This report highlights the IAEA's work to prevent the malicious use of nuclear and radioactive material and defines that the largest risks in this subject is that the state do not recognize the threat to nuclear terrorism, no preventive actions taken by states and finally a complacent state.⁴³ In a document published on March 2013, the Agency established that an effective national security infrastructure is fundamental to guarantee nuclear security in such a way that this kind of material does not fall into terrorist hands.⁴⁴

INTERPOL

In December 2013, INTERPOL organized an event on Counter Nuclear Smuggling Training, which took place in Antalya, Turkey.⁴⁵ The main topic at the training was to promote national and regional inter-agency cooperation, as well as the development of Counter Nuclear Smuggling Teams that would fight illicit trafficking of nuclear and other radiological materials.⁴⁶ One of the speakers remarked, "We believe that we can gain and broaden our expertise by working together with international organizations like INTERPOL and the United Nations and this conference is a good opportunity to extend and share our knowledge."⁴⁷

Other Institutions and Forums

Through the Istanbul Cooperation Initiative, the NATO-Russia Council promotes cooperation and information-sharing on weapons of mass destruction threats and defined non-proliferation initiatives as well.⁴⁸ In another forum, the Third Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention, Member States declared their decision to increase their efforts to guard against the use of toxic chemicals by non-State actors such as terrorists.⁴⁹ Lastly, the Organisation for the Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) recognized flaws in the implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) and sees an opportunity to reinforce it through a regional approach.⁵⁰ This is why the OSCE has developed a four-year extrabudgetary plan to increase its expertise and capacity in this subject.⁵¹

At the 2013 Global Counterterrorism Forum, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon addressed its members, highlighting the relevance of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force in order to combat terrorism worldwide.⁵² This Task Force provides capacity-building to UN Member States and recently established the UN Counter-Terrorism Center which develops new resources to address its objective.⁵³

³⁸ Ibid.

³⁹ Ibid.

⁴⁰ IAEA General Conference, *Nuclear Security (GC(57)/RES/10)* [Resolution], September 2013.

⁴¹ Ibid.

⁴² International Atomic Energy Agency, *Nuclear Security*, May 2013.

⁴³ Ibid.

⁴⁴ International Atomic Energy Agency, *Establishing the Nuclear Security infrastructure for a Nuclear Power Programme*

⁴⁵ INTERPOL, *Counter Nuclear Smuggling Training*, December 2013.

⁴⁶ Ibid.

⁴⁷ Ibid.

⁴⁸ UN General Assembly, *Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction: Report of the Secretary-General (A/68/164)*, 19 July 2013.

⁴⁹ Ibid.

⁵⁰ Ibid.

⁵¹ Ibid.

⁵² United Nations at Geneva, *Message to Global Counter-Terrorism Forum*, 2013.

⁵³ Ibid.

Conclusion

It is certain that preventing terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction is an important topic in the international arena. This document has summarized important events in the latter part of 2013 that will help delegates develop position papers as well as concrete proposals to address this topic in the conference. The outcomes of the UN General Assembly must be considered as the recommendation to adhere to the *International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism*, also recommended by the Ministerial Declaration of the IAEA, and include this topic into the “General and complete disarmament” major topic are two actions that should be highlighted in the proposals during the conference. It is also important to review the Secretary-General’s perspectives about the Financial Action Task Force and its functionality to possible pledges regarding mechanisms and methodologies that may be replicated. Furthermore, training programs for countries regarding the issue may be a path to address this topic, especially by considering INTERPOL’s action in relation to this. These among other already existing initiatives may be a useful platform to develop proposals, however some of them may need improvements and the conference is the perfect forum to build new and innovative proposals.

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The Counter Nuclear Smuggling Training was an event organized by INTERPOL in order to provide a forum to share information and capacities. In this regard, the event was successful in its objective, which is why this source is important to review. Governments develop effective practices for their countries and a forum to share those practices and replicate those in other places assure a coordinated and efficient action towards this topic. Its relevance is defined in an opportunity to develop ways in which governments cooperate with each other in the fight against terrorism and its accessibility to weapons of mass destruction.

International Atomic Energy Agency. (2013). *Establishing the Nuclear Security Infrastructure for a Nuclear Power Programme*. IAEA Nuclear Security Series No. 19. Retrieved 4 January 2013, from: http://www-pub.iaea.org/MTCD/publications/PDF/Pub1591_web.pdf

This source is a study made by the Agency that has the responsibility of overseeing nuclear devices and one of its main goals is to achieve nuclear security. The document let us understand how the prevention of terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction is probably one of the main topics to address in order to achieve nuclear security. Delegates must review this document to analyze threats regarding the subject and its major risks to nuclear security, which is important to understand in order to develop proposals.

United Nations, General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session. (2013, December 10). *Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction (A/RES/68/41)* [Resolution]. Adopted on the report of the First Committee (A/68/411). Retrieved 4 January 2013, from: <http://www.un.org/en/ga/68/resolutions.shtml>

The General Assembly adopts a resolution regarding the topic every year. Nevertheless, recommendations do not change and do not have an innovative content. This is important for delegates’ revision in order to learn how the General Assembly addresses the topic and to develop new proposals that would make the body more efficient in the goal of preventing terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction.

United Nations, General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session. (2013, July 19). *Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction: Report of the Secretary-General (A/68/168)*. Retrieved 4 January 2013, from: <http://www.un.org/en/ga/68/resolutions.shtml>

Every year, the Secretary-General delivers a report on the topic, which contains important perspectives regarding the topic. Countries and international organizations respond to the Secretary-General request of the status, which provides the position of each and the advances in the last year. Delegates must revise this source in order to understand the latest advances in this topic as well as the position as well as the position of key stakeholders regarding the subject.

United Nations, General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session. (2013, September 13). *Measures to Prevent Terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction: Report of the Secretary-General (A/68/164/Add.1)*. Retrieved 4 January 2013, from: <http://undocs.org/A/68/164/Add.1>

As seen above, the Secretary-General delivers his report to the General Assembly, which is attached with an Addendum. This document provides perspectives from other countries and international stakeholders. Delegates must revise this document in order to have a complete perspective of stake holders' competence to this topic. It delineates actions done by forums and institutions such as INTERPOL in their fight to prevent non-state actors from acquiring WMD.

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II. Relationship Between Disarmament and Development

*The conflict-fragility-poverty trap is preventing a number of countries from achieving the Millennium Development Goals, and, in general, from getting traction on development. Unless countries can climb out of this trap, extreme poverty cannot be eradicated.*⁵⁴

Introduction

With more than 1.5 billion people currently living in conflict-affected states, the relationship between disarmament and development remains a topic of great importance at the United Nations (UN).⁵⁵ As states transition into post-conflict and pursue their development goals, it is critical that disarmament is a priority. According to the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), disarmament is crucial in preventing future conflict.⁵⁶ Conflict is one of the strongest inhibitors for development, and development is considered a key part of conflict prevention.⁵⁷ Many groups, including the UN, recognize that disarmament and development should be pursued simultaneously.⁵⁸ Recently, the relationship has been considered by several UN bodies, including the General Assembly (GA).

On 5 December 2013, the General Assembly adopted resolution 68/37 on “Relationship Between Disarmament and Development” without a vote, on the report of the First Committee.⁵⁹ The resolution recalls previous resolutions and documents on the subject, and requests action from the Secretary-General, including strengthening the role of the Steering Group on Disarmament and Development, and reporting to the GA on this topic in the 69th session.⁶⁰ It also encourages relevant non-UN bodies to incorporate issues related to the relationship in their agendas, and for the international community to emphasize the contribution of disarmament in efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).⁶¹ The General Assembly also adopted resolution 68/60 on “United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean,” which draws attention to the important work being done by the Centre, and encourages states in Latin America and the Caribbean to take part in the activities of the Centre, as well as to provide it with political support and funding.⁶²

Other UN bodies have also given consideration to the relationship between disarmament and development. The Regional Disarmament Branch (RDB) of UNODA continued its work with its three Regional Centres for Peace and Disarmament, located in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC), Africa (UNREC), and Asia and the Pacific (UNRCPD).⁶³ RDB programming, carried out through the regional centres, is focused in three key areas: training and capacity-building, technical assistance, and outreach and advocacy.⁶⁴

On 12 August 2013, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Administrator Helen Clark gave a speech at the New Zealand International Institute for International Affairs titled “Conflict and Development: Breaking the Cycle of Fragility, Violence, and Poverty.” In this speech, she identified UNDP’s role in the relationship between disarmament and development, particularly with regard to the MDGs and the post-2015 development agenda.⁶⁵ Clark stated that as the international community analyzes the successes and failures of the MDGs and considers its next steps, it should consider adopting resilience-based approaches to ensure fragile states escape the cycle of poverty and conflict in order to attain sustainable development.⁶⁶ As the international community will be solidifying

⁵⁴ UN Development Programme, *Speech by UNDP Administrator Helen Clark on Conflict and Development*, 2013.

⁵⁵ UN Radio, *More Than 1.5 Billion People Still Live in Conflict-Affected Countries: ESCAP* [Website], 2013.

⁵⁶ UN Office for Disarmament Affairs, *About The Arms Trade* [Website], 2013.

⁵⁷ UN Development Programme, *Speech by UNDP Administrator Helen Clark on Conflict and Development*, 2013.

⁵⁸ RCW, *Disarmament and Development* [Website], 2014.

⁵⁹ UN DPI, *Capping Intensive Disarmament Committee Session, General Assembly Adopts 53 Texts on Wide Range of Pressing International Security Concerns* [Press Release], 2013.

⁶⁰ UN General Assembly, *Relationship Between Disarmament and Development (A/RES/68/37)* [Resolution], 2013.

⁶¹ Ibid.

⁶² UN General Assembly, *United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (A/RES/68/60)* [Resolution], 2013.

⁶³ UN Office for Disarmament Affairs, *Regional Disarmament Branch Organizational Chart*, 2013.

⁶⁴ UN Office for Disarmament Affairs, *Disarmament Field Activities* [Website], 2013.

⁶⁵ UN Development Programme, *Speech by UNDP Administrator Helen Clark on Conflict and Development*, 2013.

⁶⁶ Ibid.

the post-2015 agenda over the next two years, this emphasis on the connections between poverty and conflict may bring disarmament and development into greater focus.

Much of the discourse on the relationship between development and disarmament draws from the same key documents. The 2004 report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the subject is continuously referenced in GA resolutions.⁶⁷ The Group made several recommendations regarding the relationship between disarmament and development, and the role of the UN in this issue, by calling for increased cooperation between disarmament and development organizations and greater inclusion of civil society groups and non-governmental organizations.⁶⁸ Many resolutions also reference the final report of the 1987 International Conference on the Relationship Between Disarmament and Development.⁶⁹ The report contains the final conclusions and recommendations of the 150 Member States that attended the conference.⁷⁰ In addition to the work of the GA, UNODA continues to play a large role in the relationship with disarmament and development, notably through its work with UNLIREC, UNREC, and UNRCPD, serving over 135 countries throughout these three regions.⁷¹

Outside of the UN system, the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) met in August 2012 in Tehran. The final document released after the meeting discusses many important security issues, and stresses the symbiotic relationship between disarmament and development. The NAM also “expressed concern at the increasing global military expenditure, which could otherwise be spent on development needs.”⁷² The GA drew attention to this report in resolution 68/37 on the “Relationship Between Disarmament and Development,” and encouraged “the relevant regional and subregional organizations and institutions, non-governmental organizations and research institutes to incorporate issues related to the relationship between disarmament and development into their agendas”.⁷³

Recent Developments

Illicit Arms Trade

The General Assembly adopted 53 texts on the recommendation of the First Committee in 2013, all on topics of disarmament and international security. Many of these texts were adopted without a vote, representing the consensus achieved by the body.⁷⁴ One such resolution, “The Arms Trade Treaty” (A/RES/68/31), encouraged Member States to sign and ratify the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT).⁷⁵ As of January 2013, 115 states have signed the treaty, while only 9 have ratified.⁷⁶ The ATT will enter into force 90 days after the 50th ratification is deposited.⁷⁷ Eliminating the illicit arms trade has been identified as a critical step in achieving disarmament and reducing conflict.⁷⁸ This issue is of particular importance due to ongoing conflicts in many countries, including Syria, South Sudan, and the Central African Republic.⁷⁹ The ATT’s entry into force, and states’ compliance with its provisions, could have enormous implications for the relationship between disarmament and development.

⁶⁷ UN General Assembly, *Relationship Between Disarmament and Development (A/Res/68/37)* [Resolution], 2013; UN General Assembly, *United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (A/RES/68/60)* [Resolution], 2013.

⁶⁸ UN Office for Disarmament Affairs, *The Relationship Between Disarmament and Development in the Current International Context* [Report], 2004.

⁶⁹ UN General Assembly, *Relationship Between Disarmament and Development (A/RES/68/37)* [Resolution], 2013.

⁷⁰ UN General Assembly, *Report of the International Conference on the Relationship Between Disarmament and Development, 1987*.

⁷¹ UN Office for Disarmament Affairs, *Regional Disarmament Overview* [Website], 2013.

⁷² NAM, *16th Summit of the Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Movement: Final Document*, 2012.

⁷³ UN General Assembly, *Relationship Between Disarmament and Development (A/Res/68/37)* [Resolution], 2013.

⁷⁴ UN DPI, *Capping Intensive Disarmament Committee Session, General Assembly Adopts 53 Texts on Wide Range of Pressing International Security Concerns* [Press Release], 2013.

⁷⁵ UN General Assembly, *The Arms Trade Treaty (A/Res/68/31)* [Resolution], 2013.

⁷⁶ UN Office for Disarmament Affairs, *The Arms Trade Treaty* [Website], 2013.

⁷⁷ *Ibid.*

⁷⁸ Oxfam International, *Why We Need a Global Arms Trade Treaty* [Website], 2013.

⁷⁹ Armed Conflict Database, *All Conflicts* [Website], 2014.

Millennium Development Goals and the Post-2015 Agenda

The MDGs, comprised of eight goals with multiple targets, were established in 2000 to combat extreme poverty and promote development.⁸⁰ The goals are meant to be achieved by the end of 2015.⁸¹ According to the 2013 MDGs report, progress has been made on all the targets, but some countries are lagging behind, and some targets will likely not be met by the end of 2015.⁸² Due to the cyclical nature of poverty and conflict, failing to achieve the MDGs is impeding progress in disarmament.⁸³ In recognition of the need for greater progress, the Secretary-General hosted a high-level forum in September 2013 to promote strategic partnership and joint efforts to achieve the MDGs.⁸⁴ The international community has also begun discussing the post-2015 development agenda, including a high level panel which suggested “transformative shifts” in order to better promote sustainable development and the eradication of poverty.⁸⁵ Many believe that the success of the MDGs was inhibited by armed conflict, and that mitigating conflict deserves consideration in the post-2015 agenda.⁸⁶ Given the intertwined nature of disarmament and conflict prevention with sustainable development, it may be beneficial for the relationship between disarmament and development to be granted more consideration.

Conclusion

The relationship between disarmament and development continues to be an issue of great international importance, and a regular topic of discussion in the GA First Committee. Work on disarmament and development also takes place in other bodies, including UN organs, specialized agencies, and regional groups. As the international community considers its post-2015 agenda, the GA can consider a variety of actions and recommendations on this topic, including greater cooperation between relevant organs and agencies, the inclusion of civil society, and the importance of eradicating conflict to achieving sustainable development. With the resurgence of conflict in many areas, as well as the continued challenges of eradicating extreme poverty, delegates on the GA First Committee have a unique opportunity to offer new solutions for simultaneously pursuing disarmament and development.

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The High Level Panel met earlier this year to discuss possible changes to the development agenda and its goals after 2015. The Panel's final report gives important insight to ways in which the MDGs were successful, and ways in which they failed. The report can help delegates understand gap areas in the MDGs where greater focus on disarmament may be helpful.

United Nations Development Programme. (2013, August 12). *Speech by UNDP Administrator Helen Clark on Conflict and Development: Breaking the Cycle of Fragility, Violence, and Poverty at New Zealand International Institute for International Affairs on 12 August 2013 in Wellington*. Retrieved 5 January 2014 from: <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/presscenter/speeches/2013/08/12/-conflict-and-development-breaking-the-cycle-of-fragility-violence-and-poverty-/>

Administrator Clark's speech summarizes the UNDP's role in the relationship between disarmament and development. She addresses the cyclical nature of conflict and poverty, and discusses work the UNDP is doing to help break this cycle. The speech is supplemented by many helpful facts and statistics taken from sources like the World Bank, and helps to put disarmament and development into a real-world context.

⁸⁰ UN Development Programme, *Millennium Development Goals* [Website], 2013.

⁸¹ Ibid.

⁸² UN Development Programme, *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2013*, 2013.

⁸³ UN Development Programme, *Speech by UNDP Administrator Helen Clark on Conflict and Development*, 2013.

⁸⁴ United Nations, *MDG Success: Accelerating Action and Partnering for Impact* [Website], 2013.

⁸⁵ High Level Panel on the Post-2015 Development Agenda, *A New Global Partnership: Eradicate Poverty and Transform Economies Through Sustainable Development* [Report], 2013.

⁸⁶ UN Radio, *More Than 1.5 Billion People Still Live in Conflict-Affected Countries: ESCAP* [Website], 2013.

United Nations, General Assembly. (1987, September 22). *Report of the International Conference on the Relationship Between Disarmament and Development*. Retrieved 7 January 2014 from: http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/CONF.130/39

The 1987 Conference on the Relationship Between Disarmament and Development was the first of its kind, and the final report continues to be the basis of discussions about the relationship between disarmament and development. The Conference led to an additional report by a Group of Governmental Experts, and regular discussion of the relationship between disarmament and development in the GA. This report summarizes the discussions and outcomes of the Conference, providing key background information for delegates.

United Nations, General Assembly, Sixty-eighth session. (2013, December 5). *Relationship Between Disarmament and Development (A/Res/68/37)* [Resolution]. Retrieved 5 January 2014 from: http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/68/37

The sixty-eighth session of the GA adopted a resolution on the relationship between disarmament and development without a vote, indicating that the body achieved consensus. As the most recent GA document on this subject, delegates should be familiar with its contents. The resolutions and reports that it references are also good sources of information on the topic.

United Nations, General Assembly, Sixty-eighth session. (2013, December 5). *United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (A/Res/68/60)* [Resolution]. Retrieved 5 January 2014 from: http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/68/60

There are three regional centers focused on peace, disarmament, and development, located in Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa, and Asia and the Pacific. This resolution recognizes the work done by the center in Latin America and the Caribbean; the GA did not adopt resolutions regarding the other two centers in the 68th session. It provides an important perspective on the role that regional partnerships can play in pursuing disarmament and development.

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III. Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space

Introduction

The General Assembly Plenary adopted four resolutions relating to the prevention of an arms race in outer space during the sixty-eighth session, with two coming from the First Committee: “Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities” (A/RES/68/50) and “Prevention of an arms race in outer space” (A/RES/68/29).⁸⁷ Additionally, they adopted, a report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, and discussed the Report from the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence Building Measures in Outer Space Activities (GGE).⁸⁸ General Assembly resolution 68/29 was adopted by the General Assembly Plenary from the report of the First Committee (A/68/409), with Israel and United States abstaining from both votes.⁸⁹ Resolution 68/29 on “Prevention of an arms race in outer space,” called on Member States with major space capabilities to refrain from activities contrary to the object of maintaining international peace and security and hindering international cooperation.⁹⁰ It also invited the Conference on Disarmament (CD) to establish a working group under its agenda item “Prevention of arms race in outer space.”⁹¹ The Plenary also adopted resolution 68/50 on “Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities,” which emphasized the importance of transparency and confidence building measures in preventing arms in outer space-based on the report of the GGE.⁹² This resolution stemmed from a draft resolution co-sponsored by the Russian Federation, China, and the United States.⁹³ Speaking for the sponsors of the bill, the Russian Federation told the committee they would present a “no first-placement” initiative to the General Assembly at its 69th session, in response to “ambiguity” concerning the prevention of an outer space arms race.⁹⁴

A common sentiment from the First Committee in the 68th session was that “anti-ballistic missile systems and their integration into space was an especially worrying dimension, and the resultant arms race in space would aggravate the intensity of conflicts on Earth.”⁹⁵ The representatives of Pakistan and the Russian Federation noted with great concern the potential for arms in outer space, though they admitted that addressing outer space security is exceedingly difficult without addressing issues of placement of weapons in space.⁹⁶ While Member States agreed there must be international agreement to prevent arms in outer space, the method to accomplish the task remains the discrepancy among them.⁹⁷

Recent Developments

Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence Building Measures in Outer Space Activities Report (GGE) to the First Committee

Following the report of the Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) on Transparency and Confidence-Building Measures (TCBM) in Outer Space Activities (A/68/189), on 29 July 2013, the GGE presented their final report to

⁸⁷ UN General Assembly, *Resolutions* [Website], 2013.; *United Nations General Assembly, Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities (A/RES/68/50)* [Resolution], 2013; UN General Assembly, *Prevention of an arms race in outer space (A/RES/68/29)* [Resolution], 2013.

⁸⁸ UN General Assembly, *Report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (A/68/20)*, 2013.

⁸⁹ UN General Assembly, *Prevention of an arms race in outer space (A/RES/68/29)* [Resolution], 2013.

⁹⁰ *Ibid.*

⁹¹ *Ibid.*

⁹² UN General Assembly, *Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities (A/RES/68/50)* [Resolution], 2013.

⁹³ UN General Assembly, *Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities (A/C.1/68/L.40)* [Resolution], 2013; UN DPI, *Space-based ballistic missile defence ‘very worrying dimension’ (GA/DIS/3488)* [Press Release], 2013.

⁹⁴ *Ibid.*

⁹⁵ UN DPI, *Space-based ballistic missile defence ‘very worrying dimension’ (GA/DIS/3488)* [Press Release], 2013.

⁹⁶ *Ibid.*

⁹⁷ *Ibid.*; UN General Assembly, *Prevention of an arms race in outer space (A/C.1/68/L.41)* [Resolution], 2013; UN General Assembly, *Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities (A/C.1/68/L.40)* [Resolution], 2013.

the First Committee on 27 September 2013.⁹⁸ The document aimed to provide recommendations that would enhance transparency in outer space through cooperation, consultations, information exchange, and risk reduction notifications.⁹⁹ It is seen as a welcome move towards a strong international commitment to a long-term sustainable, stable, and secure space environment.¹⁰⁰ The extensive technical expertise in various aspects of space that comprised the group allows for a rigorous set of criteria to evaluate “proposed transparency and confidence-building measures.”¹⁰¹ From there, the “criteria can help inform future discussions in this committee and in other forums regarding the implementation, demonstration and validation of specific measures.”¹⁰² Moreover, the Chairman of the GGE on TCBM Victor Vasiliev noted, in his speech, that in addition to important policy recommendations, the GGE provides the opportunity to see diversity among UN bodies addressing space security issues.¹⁰³ He notes the GGE did not want to “undermine sovereign rights,” and stressed the nature of the Report of the GGE is voluntary in nature and reiterated many existing international instruments.¹⁰⁴ In his recommendations to the First Committee, Vasiliev urged Member States to review and implement proposed TCBMs through their national mechanisms, for the Committee to seriously consider how to further TCBMs in Outer Space, and to decide on appropriate venues for universal consideration and support for TCBMs.¹⁰⁵ Member States have expressed their support for the GGE Report for its role in furthering steps towards better cooperation in prevention of arms in outer space.¹⁰⁶

Prevention of the Placement of Weapons in Outer Space (PPWT)

The United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) hosted a Eurasian regional seminar on “building confidence for Eurasian space activities through norms and behaviours”.¹⁰⁷ Updates to the PPWT were presented to participants by the Head of Division for Multilateral Disarmament for the Department for Security and Disarmament Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, Andrey Malov.¹⁰⁸ The new draft of the text “seeks to prohibit the placement or use of anti-satellite technology of any kind in outer space, though it does not prohibit the testing of such technology on air, land or sea. It also permits the use of anti-satellite technology for defensive purposes.”¹⁰⁹ These changes were made in hope to allow enough flexibility to command the necessary support in the international community to move the discussion forward.¹¹⁰ Malov also pointed out a new provision in the text that permitted a state that believes another state will interfere with their legitimate peaceful use of space to request formal consultations, hoping the feature would provide a mechanism for peaceful resolutions in outer space.¹¹¹ Many participants felt a legally binding instrument, such as the PPWT, is preferable, but in the interim, a non-binding instrument is a good step.¹¹²

European Union

The European Union (EU) has worked towards the Secretary-General’s request for UN members to develop “concrete proposals for [Transparency and Confidence Building]” and released their latest draft on 16 September

⁹⁸ UN General Assembly, *General and complete disarmament: transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities: Report of the Group of Governmental Experts on transparency and Confidence-Building Measures in Outer Space Activities* (A/68/189), 2013.

⁹⁹ UN General Assembly, *Speech by Victor Vasiliev Chairman of the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence Building Measures in Outer Space Activities on 18 October 2013, in New York, 2013*; Bharath Gopaldaswamy, *Space Governance: A Modest by Important Start* [Website] 2013.

¹⁰⁰ Ibid.

¹⁰¹ Eberhardt, *A Milestone in Space Governance* [Website], 2013.

¹⁰² Ibid.

¹⁰³ UN General Assembly, *Speech by Victor Vasiliev Chairman of the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence Building Measures in Outer Space Activities on 18 October 2013, in New York, 2013*.

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¹⁰⁸ Ibid.

¹⁰⁹ Ibid.

¹¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹¹ Ibid.

¹¹² Ibid.

2013.¹¹³ These changes to the *Space Code of Conduct* are derived from comments and suggestions the EU received during the May 2013 Open-ended Consultations in Kiev, Ukraine, attended by 140 experts in the various fields relating to space from 61 countries.¹¹⁴ The draft has been hailed as significant progress from the previous version, tightening the language and avoiding vagueness that raised concerns in previous versions.¹¹⁵ Of note was the reference to “legitimate defence interests of States,” which was seen as troublesome given that it could be interpreted subjectively.¹¹⁶ Nonetheless, the new draft clarifies the “right to individual or collective self-defence in the face of vehement criticism that the right may be pursued by states to legitimize acts of weaponization.”¹¹⁷ While the reference to the right to self-defence has been retained, it has been balanced with the principle of refraining “from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state or in any manner inconsistent with the purposes of the Charter of the United Nations” in an effort to reflect customary international law, as enshrined in the UN Charter.¹¹⁸ The most recent draft, moreover, has made it clear that it does not conflict with existing treaties or conventions and is consistent with “previous international legal instruments, declarations, principles, and guidelines.”¹¹⁹ Nonetheless, the new draft is seen to have taken a significant step forward, with several of the practical measures calling for more transparency, influenced by the language of existing UN instruments including the Report of the GGE on TCBM.¹²⁰ The next conference to discuss the *Code of Conduct* was held in Bangkok, Thailand November 2013.¹²¹

Conclusion

This topic touches on the many complicated aspects of discussing an area not owned by a single Member State, especially when addressing security. The slow progress in creating a substantive is reflective of the complicated nature; however, the recent changes to the PPWT and EU Space Code reflect the shared urgency in the international community to address the continued concern of preventing an arms race in outer space. Finally, the space missions launched by China and India demonstrate the continued desire to become a space nation, which increases the likelihood for space debris and the necessity to address the growing potential for arms race in space between those aiming to be a space nation and those already with an established space program.¹²²

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This document provides analysis on the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-Building Measures in Outer Space Activities. It highlights both the technical and policy aspects their report addresses and explains the reasons for the group and why their work is necessary. The article provides context for delegates to the technical details and the overall goal of the Report by the GGE.

United Nations, General Assembly, First Committee. (22 October, 2013) *Speech by Victor Vasiliev Chairman of the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence Building Measures in Outer Space Activities on 18 October 2013, in New York*. Retrieved 4 January 2014 from:

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¹¹³ European Union, *Outer space Activities* [Website], 2013; European Union, *International Code of Conduct for Outer Space Activities*, 2013; UN General Assembly, *Speech by Clara Ganslandt – 17th Meeting Thematic discussion on Outer Space on 25 October 2013, in New York*, 2013.

¹¹⁴ European Union, *International Code of Conduct for Outer Space Activities*, 2013.

¹¹⁵ Rajagopalan, *EU's new Space Code: A Significant improvement*, 2013.

¹¹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹¹⁷ *Ibid.*

¹¹⁸ *Ibid.*

¹¹⁹ *Ibid.*

¹²⁰ *Ibid.*

¹²¹ European Union, *Outer space Activities* [Website], 2013.

¹²² Hartosh, *Indian Craft Is Lofted Towards Mars, Trailed by Pride and Questions* [Website], 2013.

Activities outlining the process of their work, their findings, and recommendations. It provides a raw perspective from the chairman on the benefits of the program and how it fit into the UN system. While analysis is beneficial, a summarized version of the speech allows delegates to understand the central themes of the report.

Rajagopalan, R. (2013) *EU's new Space Code: A Significant improvement*. Observer Research Foundation [Website]. Retrieved 29 December 2013 from:

<http://orfonline.org/cms/sites/orfonline/modules/analysis/AnalysisDetail.html?cmaid=59330&mmacmaid=59331>

The changes in the new version of the space code can be difficult to follow, due to having technical language not understood by non-lawyers, or due to minute changes. This article examines the changes in the EU Space Code based on recommendations by participants at a conference in Kyiv, Ukraine and comments on the changes with analysis on the central themes and major changes. By reading analysis on the central themes and major changes, delegates can quickly understand the changes and direction the Space Code is going without having a need to understand the intimate details of international law.

United Nations, Department of Public Information. (28 October 2013). *Space-based ballistic missile defence 'very worrying dimension', with potentially devastating consequences on earth, speaker tells First Committee* Five texts introduced, as united states joins Russian Federation, China in Tabling Resolution on Outer Space (GA/DIS/3488) [Press Release]. Retrieved 1 January 2014 from: <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2013/gadis3488.doc.htm>

This press release gives delegates a look at the differing issues regarding outer space in the First Committee. In addition to providing Member States' comments about preventing arms in outer space, it provides a summary of the proceedings from within the committee. This allows delegates to understand the opinions of differing blocs and progress within the Committee.

United Nations, Institute for Disarmament Research. (22 November 2013) *Report On Eurasian Regional Seminar And Outreach Initiatives For The Facilitation Of The Development Of An International Code of Conduct For Outer Space C Building Confidence For Eurasian Space Activities Through Norms Of Behaviour*. Retrieved 31 December 2013 from: <http://www.unidir.org/files/publications/pdfs/seminar-report-astana-en-602.pdf>

This document provides the Eurasian perspective on development of policy perspectives on space activities. In addition to describing the different policies and programs Eurasian countries are implementing regarding outer space activities, the Russian delegation explained the progress in the PPWT negotiation. Finally, it provides delegates information from experts on policy and research in an emerging bloc on space activities.

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