

Disarmament and International Security Committee Fortieth Session on Bilateral Nuclear-Arms 1985

CLARKMUN XIV

Clark University Model United Nations

Grannies
against
nuclear
winter!

RAF (Greenham Common Protests, 1983)

¹ Cleone A. Smilis, *The Raissa Page Collection*, <https://raissapage.org/site/wordpress.com/greenham-common/> (accessed January 21, 2024).



Table Contents

Disarmament and International Security Committee	0
Table Contents	1
Letter from the Chair	2
Introduction.....	3
Committee Expectations.....	4
Historical Background	7
Topic of Committee	12
Current Situation.....	13
Country List.....	15
Questions to Consider	16
Suggestions for Further Research	17
References.....	18

Letter from the Chair

Dear Delegates,

I am incredibly happy to be your chair for the Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC) at ClarkMUN XIV. Before we begin, I'd like to share some information about myself so you can get to know me before committee session I. Officially, I am a New England native originally from Newton, Massachusetts, but was raised not far from Philadelphia in Wayne, Pennsylvania. At Clark, I study Political Science with a Concentration in International Relations along with a Minor in Economics. While a student, I've been active in Model United Nations and Cross Country since my freshman year. In all four years of college, I have been involved with Model UN. My introduction to college Model UN began online due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Once the pandemic became more manageable and in-person competitions returned, I traveled to Boston and Montreal to compete. In addition to the numerous travel and online teams I've been a part of, I have staffed three ClarkMUN conferences when on campus. In my junior year, I studied overseas at the London School of Economics and Political Science where I assisted their Model UN team in staffing two international conferences. It is a goal of mine to help you find or continue your passion in debating issues that are both relevant and interesting to today. Many of the lessons of the recent past can still be used today, including that of international security and nuclear armaments. The historical setting of this General Assembly (GA) committee during the Cold War is a personally interesting topic since my family both emigrated from and lived within the Soviet Union. Please use my student email address to send any questions my way. I look forward to reading up on your country's perspective through your position papers and to see you all debate in committee in March.

Sincerely,

Max Rosenfeld mrosenfeld@clarku.edu

Introduction

Welcome to the 1980s! Regardless of where you live in the world, anxieties are high due to the constant threat of nuclear annihilation between two enormous alliances spanning the East and the West. The return of conservative politicians in the United States under Ronald Reagan and Margaret Thatcher in the United Kingdom prompts social unrest at home as leaders flout their weapon stockpiles in the faces of adversaries. Following the death of Leonid Brezhnev in 1982, the Soviet Union reshuffles its leadership until a little-known communist party official rises to power and proposes new political and economic reforms in 1985. Set during the mid-1980s, the period of relative easing of tensions between the Soviet Union and United States had ended, and fierce competition has resumed. In the final decade of the Cold War, critical historical events such as Chernobyl nuclear reactor accident, withdrawal from Afghanistan, and fall of the Berlin wall all contributed to the demise of the Soviet Union. By 1986, the USSR was estimated to be in possession of nearly 40,000 nuclear warheads – the greatest known quantity of nuclear weapons held by any one country in the history of the world.² The constant one-upping between Soviet and Americans has only stoked fears in people around the globe that the world as we know it will come to an end. Previous bilateral talks between the Soviets and Americans have largely been unsuccessful, leaving some members of the USSR delegation to abandon discussions. Representatives of the DISEC committee must come together and improve safety for everyone – not at the expense of others. Listen to some 1980s electronic dance, rock, or pop and prepare to save the world!

² “Estimated number of nuclear warheads per country in each year from 1945 to 2023,” Statista, <https://www.statista.com/statistics/1071026/nuclear-warheads-per-country-historical-development/#:~:text=The%20U.S.%20nuclear%20arsenal%20reached,40%2C000%20nuclear%20warheads%20in%201986> (accessed February 2, 2024).

Committee Expectations

In order for delegates to be best prepared for this committee, it is recommended to review this background guide, research your country's unique perspective on nuclear disarmament during the 1980s and address the questions to consider below. This section will include an annual timeline of important historical events leading up to the fortieth session in 1985 and will introduce the DISEC.

In the summer of 1979, the Soviet Union signed the SALT II treaty in June and would later invade Afghanistan in December.³ By 1980, 39th President of the United States Jimmy Carter issued a television address officially calling for the boycott of the 1980 Olympics hosted by Moscow that year.⁴ Following the Summer Olympics, Jimmy Carter would lose his reelection campaign to Ronald Reagan in November.⁵ In 1981, the Iran Hostage Crisis was resolved as soon as President Reagan's inauguration ended.⁶ By 1982, a rally advocating for nuclear disarmament brought nearly a million people together in Central Park, New York City while the United Nations held the Second Special Session on Disarmament.⁷ Before the year ended, Soviet Leader Leonid Brezhnev dies while in office as the Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet.⁸ In 1983, President Reagan addressed the public on his Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) commonly referred to as "Star Wars" which relied on futuristic space laser technology to eliminate nuclear weapons.⁹ Later on, Soviet Airman Stanislav Petrov narrowly prevents nuclear war after a computer malfunction reported five incoming

³ "Soviet Union timeline," *The BBC*, October 31, 2013, <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-17858981> (accessed January 31, 2024).

⁴ Terence Smith, "The President Said Nyet," *The New York Times*, January 20, 1980, https://archive.nytimes.com/www.nytimes.com/packages/html/sports/year_in_sports/01.20.html (accessed January 31, 2024).

⁵ "Ronald Reagan," Ballotpedia, https://ballotpedia.org/Ronald_Reagan#1980_presidential_election (accessed January 31, 2024).

⁶ Jessie Kratz, "The Iran Hostage Crisis," *The National Archives*, 2021, <https://prologue.blogs.archives.gov/2021/11/29/the-iran-hostage-crisis/> (accessed January 31, 2024).

⁷ "This Day In History: One million people demonstrate in NYC against nuclear weapons" *History*, August 31, 2021, <https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/nuclear-disarmament-rally-new-york-central-park> (accessed January 31, 2024).

⁸ "Brezhnev, Leonid Il'ich 1906 – 1982," *The Wilson Center*, <https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/people/brezhnev-leonid-ilich> (accessed January 31, 2024).

⁹ "Strategic Defense Initiative" U.S. Department of State, <https://2001-2009.state.gov/r/pa/ho/time/rd/104253.htm> (accessed January 31, 2024).

missiles.¹⁰ By 1984, Leader of the Soviet Union, Yuri Andropov dies and is replaced for a short time by Konstantin Chernenko. The Soviet Union boycotts the 1984 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles.¹¹ Reagan would go on to win a second term over Walter Mondale in the November presidential election.¹² By 1985, Konstantin Chernenko dies and is succeeded by Mikhail Gorbachev who later meets with President Reagan in Switzerland.¹³ That same year, Gorbachev announces political and economic reforms known as *glasnost* and *perestroika*.¹⁴ A year later in 1986, the disastrous Chernobyl nuclear accident occurred.¹⁵ It wouldn't be until 1989 when enormous political rallies lead to the fall of the Berlin Wall.¹⁶ These historical events are important in setting the stage for the discussions that will take place in the fortieth session on bilateral nuclear arms in 1985.

The United Nations (UN) General Assembly contains representatives from 193 states and is organized into several committees that meet regarding the collective problems faced by nations, providing a forum for cooperation within the international community. The DISEC is referred to as the First Committee since it specifically deals with challenges to peace, threats, and the reduction of weapons.¹⁷ Bilateral nuclear-arms negotiations may only appear to be strictly between the Soviet Union and United States, yet they truly concern the entire world due to alliances and the location of nuclear launch sites. During the 40th session of the DISEC, the UN adopted resolution 40/18 to encourage greater communication between Soviet and American leadership, and to prohibit the expansion of defensive technology into space after President Reagan's 1983 SDI.¹⁸ While the Soviet

¹⁰ "Soviet Union timeline," *The BBC*, October 31, 2013, <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-17858981> (accessed January 31, 2024).

¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹² "Ronald Reagan," *Ballotpedia*, https://ballotpedia.org/Ronald_Reagan#1980_presidential_election (accessed January 31, 2024).

¹³ "Soviet Union timeline," *The BBC*, October 31, 2013, <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-17858981> (accessed January 31, 2024).

¹⁴ "The Gorbachev Era: perestroika and glasnost," *Britannica*, <https://www.britannica.com/place/Russia/The-Gorbachev-era-perestroika-and-glasnost> (accessed February 1, 2024).

¹⁵ "Soviet Union timeline," *The BBC*, October 31, 2013, <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-17858981> (accessed January 31, 2024).

¹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁷ "Disarmament and International Security (First Committee)," *United Nations*, <https://www.un.org/en/ga/first/index.shtml> (accessed January 31, 2024).

¹⁸ "Bilateral nuclear-arms negotiations : resolution / adopted by the General Assembly," *United Nations*, <https://digitalibrary.un.org/record/104335?ln=en> (accessed January 31, 2024).

Union and United States both had enough nuclear warheads to annihilate each other, neither country would truly ever want to resort to using these weapons. This phenomenon is known as Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD) since if one country proceeded to launch warheads to attack, the other country would follow suit resulting in the destruction of both countries. The second resolution adopted by the DISEC committee in this session was 40/79 which prohibited nuclear weapons in South America.¹⁹ This was an important step in reversing nuclear proliferation since outlawing nuclear weapons in a region that previously never had them ensures the relative safety of the South American continent. The third resolution accepted by the General Assembly was 40/80 which called for ending all nuclear weapon test explosions.²⁰ The nuclear powers at the time had already been testing various bombs as to demonstrate their technological capabilities to adversaries. These aerial, ground, and underground nuclear tests also had severe environmental effects that would prove difficult to clean up. The next section will further expand on important political events of the time.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*

²⁰ *Ibid.*

Historical Background

The next section will provide important background information regarding the political atmosphere, leadership, and culture that are relevant to this committee. Delegates are encouraged to conduct research in addition to the information shared in this section of the background guide. Additionally, the historical context given here can help you understand what global politics appeared in the 1980s when the world was divided by political or economic ideas.

Political Environment

During the 1980s, the three major international political movements that will be represented in committee consisted of the Western Bloc, Eastern Bloc, and Non-Aligned Movement. The Western Bloc nations were joined together by a shared economic belief in capitalism, while also supporting democratic forms of government. Many of the Western Bloc nations were members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and received economic or military support from the United States. Meanwhile, the Eastern Bloc consisted of communist countries. This economic system was built on the critique of capitalism that the continued accumulation of revenue and exploitation of the working class (proletariat) is unsustainable and requires society to control the means of production, instead of factory-owners and industrialists.²¹ In response to NATO, the USSR oversaw the creation of the Warsaw Pact, which were Soviet satellite countries in Central and Eastern Europe that acted as a buffer zone between the USSR and Western Europe. Not all countries strictly followed either Eastern Bloc or Western Bloc ideologies, as many nations chose to remain neutral within the Non-Aligned Movement. This diverse group of states was born in the 1960s, unjustly being overlooked in global politics due to notoriety of East and West bloc conflict. A

²¹ Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, "Manifesto of the Communist Party," 1848, <https://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1848/communist-manifesto/ch01.htm> (accessed February 1, 2024).

unifying cause that rallied these countries together was to promote nuclear disarmament, which was evident due to the ongoing arms-race between Americans and Soviets.²² The non-aligned movement existed beyond the physical boundaries of the iron curtain separating the east from the west, or just simply the idea of capitalism or communism.

Political Doctrine

The 1980s were a transitional period for both the Soviet Union and United States. Before the decade began, the USSR was nearly at the end of the Brezhnev era. Once in office, President Reagan immediately pursued confrontational policies that differed greatly from his predecessor. This new decade marked the official end to détente, or the relaxation of relations between the Soviet Union and United States. Predating his death in 1982, the Soviet Union had been observing the Brezhnev Doctrine which justified USSR intervention in states targeted by NATO or anti-communist forces.²³ This notion of collective security or that a perceived external threat to one member of the Warsaw Pact would be treated as a threat to all is a principle also found in Article Five of NATO.²⁴ The Brezhnev Doctrine was first invoked in 1968 when Czechoslovakia was invaded by the Warsaw Pact for their reforms which were deemed too extreme by Soviet leadership.²⁵ Later on, the Reagan administration began promoting the Reagan Doctrine which called for the support of anti-Communist forces around the world.²⁶ Two notable examples where the Reagan Doctrine was used was in Nicaragua to counter the leftist Sandinista government and to provide support for the mujahadeen rebels in Afghanistan. While the Brezhnev Doctrine died with the leader's

²² Lorenz Lüthi, "The Non-Aligned Movement and the Cold War, 1961-1973," *Journal of Cold War Studies*, 2016, <https://www.jstor.org/stable/26925642> (accessed February 1, 2024).

²³ Leonid Brezhnev, "Speech by the First Secretary of the Soviet Union Leonid Brezhnev," *International Relations and Security Network*, November 13, 1968, <https://loveman.sdsu.edu/docs/1968BrezhnevDoctrine.pdf> (accessed February 1, 2024).

²⁴ "Collective defense and Article 5," *NATO*, July 4, 2023, https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_110496.htm#:~:text=Article%20%20provides%20that%20if,to%20assist%20the%20Ally%20attacked. (accessed February 1, 2024).

²⁵ "Soviet Invasion of Czechoslovakia, 1968," *U.S. Dept. of State Office of The Historian*, <https://history.state.gov/milestones/1961-1968/soviet-invasion-czechoslovakia> (accessed February 1, 2024).

²⁶ "Reagan Doctrine, 1985," *U.S. Dept. of State Archive*, <https://2001-2009.state.gov/r/pa/ho/time/rd/17741.htm> (accessed February 1, 2024).

demise in 1982, another critical Soviet Leader would rise to prominence by 1985 and put forth new ideas that would begin the final chapter in Soviet history.

Mikhail Gorbachev proposed two revolutionary reforms for the struggling Soviet Union, called *glasnost* and *perestroika*. *Glasnost* or “openness” was a democratic political reform that was introduced to overcome the inefficient and arbitrary Soviet bureaucracy.²⁷ This crucial reform was also credited for promoting freedom of expression amongst Soviet citizen and the press as these basic rights were nonexistent before. Along with political reform, *perestroika* or “restructuring” was Gorbachev’s new economic plan to surpass the West. While the USSR was growing at a faster rate than the United States between the mid-1960s to mid-1970s, the U.S. economy overtook Soviet growth rates in 1975.²⁸ This trend would never reverse itself as the United States continued to advance. Gorbachev promoted capital investment, funding that would support the future of the Soviet Union. The centrally planned economy of the USSR followed government quotas which specified the quantity of goods that could effectively be produced. This system suffered from rampant corruption, inefficiencies, and hidden black markets that severely distorted the real price of food, machinery, and other goods. The bulk of these economic reforms would not be realized until the end of the 1980s, when a semi-mixed market reforms were launched to bring supply and demand forces back into the economy.²⁹ In the West, Mikhail Gorbachev was hailed as a Soviet reformer who was committed to international peace, yet Russians and independent post-Soviet citizens view him with distaste for bringing about the end of the once powerful Soviet Union leading to rampant hyperinflation in the 1990s.³⁰ The Soviet Union sits at

²⁷ “The Gorbachev Era: perestroika and glasnost,” *Britannica*, <https://www.britannica.com/place/Russia/The-Gorbachev-era-perestroika-and-glasnost> (accessed February 1, 2024).

²⁸ “A Comparison of the US and Soviet Economies: Evaluating the Performance of the Soviet System,” Central Intelligence Agency, October, 1985, https://www.cia.gov/readingroom/docs/DOC_0000497165.pdf (accessed February 2, 2024).

²⁹ The Gorbachev Era: perestroika and glasnost,” *Britannica*, <https://www.britannica.com/place/Russia/The-Gorbachev-era-perestroika-and-glasnost> (accessed February 1, 2024).

³⁰ Tom Wheeldon, “Why Gorbachev was so popular in the West – but scorned in Russia,” *France 24*, August 31, 2022, <https://www.france24.com/en/europe/20220831-why-was-gorbachev-so-popular-in-west-so-unpopular-in-russia> (accessed February 2, 2024).

crossroads in 1985 as Gorbachev takes control, under the sustained pressure of the Reagan Doctrine.

Cold War Culture

This brief section will provide some perspective as to what life was like during the Cold War and some of the visual media that was available to Western audiences at the time that this committee is set. Cold War hysteria existed because of the several times the United States and Soviet Union had nearly triggered World War Three. There were a couple moments when the Cold War turned “hot”, which raised citizens’ concerns as to their immediate survival. By this point, the Vietnam War was over and hippie culture had transitioned to supporting nuclear disarmament. This meant opposing republican president Ronald Reagan and his administration’s provocative policies against the USSR. In 1983, the movie *War Games* was released, portraying a young computer whiz kid accidentally accessing America’s nuclear arsenal and triggering World War Three through what was supposed to be only a computer simulation.³¹ In the same year, a more realistic and serious depiction of nuclear war was illustrated in *The Day After*, the most watched TV movie in U.S. history receiving over 100 million views.³² Another example of this common theme was in the 1984 British film *Threads* which presents what a post-apocalyptic world would look like as civilization breaks down following nuclear war.³³ The popular media at the time of DISEC 1985 reveals much of the anxieties shared across the globe.

³¹ *War Games*, 1983, <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0086567/>

³² *The Day After*, 1983, https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0085404/?ref_=fn_al_tt_2

³³ *Threads*, 1984, https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0085404/?ref_=fn_al_tt_2



Central Park Nuclear Disarmament Protest Poster, June 12th, 1982³⁴

³⁴ Giancarlo Impiglia, "1982 March & Rally in New York Poster," 1982, <https://postermuseum.com/products/1982-march-rally-in-new-york-poster-18> (accessed February 2, 2024).

Topic of Committee

The fortieth session on bilateral nuclear arms will discuss two topics in the DISEC. Topic A is for addressing nuclear proliferation in the 1980s. Topic B will be weapons removal from newly independent ex-Soviet states. With the adoption of *glasnost* and *perestroika* reforms, Chernobyl nuclear accident, economic downturn, and fall of the Berlin Wall, the USSR's days were numbered. Although the committee is set in 1985, delegates are encouraged to include solutions to resolve what newly independent ex-Soviet states such as Belarus, Kazakhstan, and Ukraine should do with their nuclear arsenals.³⁵ All proposed speaking topics and policy solutions should concern the regulation of nuclear weapons, and not increasing stockpiles. The chair would like for there to be inclusion of the Non-Aligned Movement in the development of resolutions as this group of countries was vastly overlooked by East and West blocks. In the interest of time, Topic A will be the favored topic by the chair and Topic B will be secondary, mainly to provide time for additional debate. Delegates are welcome to propose solutions that accommodate both topics.

Topic A

Addressing nuclear warhead proliferation amongst nuclear powers in the 1980s

Topic B

Removal of nuclear warheads from recently independent ex-Soviet states in the 1990s

³⁵ Steven Pifer, "The Trilateral Process: The United States, Ukraine, Russia and Nuclear Weapons," *Brookings Institute*, May 9, 2011, <https://www.brookings.edu/articles/the-trilateral-process-the-united-states-ukraine-russia-and-nuclear-weapons/> (accessed February 2, 2024).

Current Situation

Currently in 1985, Mikhail Gorbachev has just become leader of the USSR after his predecessor, Konstantin Chernenko dies. In the United States, Ronald Reagan has just begun his second term as President. The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) contains five permanent members with nuclear capabilities which include the United States, Soviet Union, China, France, and the United Kingdom. However, India, South Africa, Israel, and others have already privately developed and successfully carried out tests of their own nuclear weapons.³⁶ Only a year later, the USSR possessed more nuclear warheads than any other nation in the history of the world.³⁷ Delegates of the DISEC must reverse the current trajectory of nuclear brinkmanship between the United States and Soviet Union in their ongoing arms race. It is worrisome that these weapons may spread to states that never had nuclear capabilities or fall into the wrong hands. In International Relations, the security dilemma is one theory that helps explain why the United States and USSR continued to increase their nuclear stockpiles as an increase in one country's weapons would make another country relatively less secure.

The Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT II) was signed in 1979 and was set to expire in 1985 only if another international agreement between the USSR and United States was established.³⁸ SALT II replaced SALT I to create a long-term solution to reducing offensive types of weapons such as setting upper limits to the number of strategic nuclear delivery vehicles (SNDVs) and intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs).³⁹ Not long after SALT II entered into force, more bilateral talks between the USSR and United States

³⁶ "The road to a world free of nuclear weapons," ICAN, https://www.icanw.org/nuclear_weapons_history (accessed February 2, 2024).

³⁷ "Estimated number of nuclear warheads per country in each year from 1945 to 2023," Statista, <https://www.statista.com/statistics/1071026/nuclear-warheads-per-country-historical-development/#:~:text=The%20U.S.%20nuclear%20arsenal%20reached,40%2C000%20nuclear%20warheads%20in%201986> (accessed February 2, 2024).

³⁸ "Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT II)," Nuclear Threat Initiative, <https://www.nti.org/education-center/treaties-and-regimes/strategic-arms-limitation-talks-salt-ii/> (accessed February 2, 2024).

³⁹ *Ibid.*

continued under the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) treaty. After several talks between Gorbachev and Reagan, the two leaders issued a joint statement in November of 1985 while in Geneva. Both nations agreed to limit nuclear weapons on continental Europe to 140 launchers and further reductions in Asia.⁴⁰ Although the INF agreement had not achieved consensus until 1987, talks had predated this agreement for several years.

⁴⁰ "Treaty between the US and USSR on the Elimination of Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces," Bureau of Arms Control, Verification, and Compliance Archives, December 8, 1987, <https://2009-2017.state.gov/t/avc/trty/102360.htm> (accessed February 2, 2024).

Country List

This is a list of the available countries that will be present in the Fortieth Session on Bilateral Nuclear-Arms. The term "bilateral" refers to Soviet-American relations, yet the scope of this committee will concern the various countries that are aligned with either superpower or choose to remain not aligned. In the spirit of fairness, the committee has been split roughly in thirds between Western Bloc, Eastern Bloc, and Non-Aligned Movement (NAM). Rather than only including the Eastern Bloc satellite states found in Eastern Europe, the individual Soviet Socialist Republics (SSRs) have also been included to distribute power, increase discussions, and require greater compromise.

Western Bloc

NATO

- United States
- United Kingdom
- Türkiye
- Spain
- Portugal
- Norway
- Netherlands
- Luxembourg
- Federal Republic of Germany
- Greece
- Iceland
- Italy
- Belgium
- Canada
- Denmark

Aligned

- Japan
- Australia
- New Zealand
- Israel
- Chile
- Argentina

Non-Aligned Movement

- India
- Burma
- Indonesia
- Pakistan
- Sri Lanka
- Egypt
- Brazil
- Yugoslavia
- Ecuador
- Iran
- Ghana
- Tunisia
- Guinea
- Mali
- Afghanistan
- Morocco
- Cyprus
- Lebanon
- Yemen
- Nigeria
- Togo
- Iraq
- Burkina Faso
- Bolivia

Neutral

- Switzerland
- Austria
- Finland
- Sweden
- Ireland
- Costa Rica

Eastern Bloc

Socialist Republics

- Russian SFSR
- Ukrainian SSR
- Byelorussian SSR
- Uzbek SSR
- Kazakh SSR
- Georgian SSR
- Azerbaijan SSR
- Lithuanian SSR
- Moldovan SSR
- Latvian SSR
- Kyrgyz SSR
- Tajik SSR
- Armenian SSR
- Turkmen SSR
- Estonian SSR

Allied or Satellite

- Bulgaria
- Czechoslovakia
- German Democratic Republic
- Hungary
- Poland
- Romania
- Vietnam
- Cuba
- Nicaragua
- Algeria
- Ethiopia
- China

Questions to Consider

Here are some guiding questions that can help delegates frame their research and represent their country's position best in committee:

- How can the United States and Soviet Union lower nuclear stockpiles and increase trust?
- As the Soviet Union begins to deteriorate, what should be the fate of the empire with the greatest nuclear stockpile on earth?
- How can nuclear disarmament be regulated and monitored between countries?
- Why and how might the inclusion of non-aligned states be significant in achieving world peace?
- What policies did your country chose or not chose during the 1980s?
- What culturally significant events can improve relations amongst conflicting states?
- What previous international agreements were important to reducing nuclear proliferation?
- What quantity and type of offensive weapons does your country currently have?
- What defensive capabilities does your country have?
- Historically, what nations has your country worked with before or is allied with?

Suggestions for Further Research

As delegates start their research on DISEC 1985, here are some websites and additional resources that are helpful for crafting policy and writing country position papers. Any sources used in this background guide are great places to begin reviewing the historical events mentioned above. Some useful websites include the US Department of States' online archives, CIA world factbook, The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) and UN Library. I would also recommend taking a look at Google Scholar for academic sources as this may be your primary source for research while in university. A third recommendation on places to search for sources includes your own nation's government website if it appears safe to access. Some prominent think-tank organizations like the Brookings Institute, Council on Foreign Relations, Chatham House, and more provide good articles on weapons proliferation as well. Delegates are also welcome to contact me through email for research questions or help with their position papers.

References

“A Comparison of the US and Soviet Economies: Evaluating the Performance of the Soviet System.” 1985. Central Intelligence Agency.

https://www.cia.gov/readingroom/docs/DOC_0000497165.pdf.

Badham, John, dir. 1983. *WarGames*. Action, Drama, Sci-Fi. United Artists, Sherwood Productions.

Brezhnev, Leonid. n.d. “Brezhnev Doctrine.”

“Brezhnev, Leonid Il'ich | Wilson Center Digital Archive.” n.d. Accessed January 31, 2024. <https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/people/brezhnev-leonid-ilich>.

Department Of State. The Office of Electronic Information, Bureau of Public Affairs. 2008. “Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), 1983.” Department Of State. The Office of Electronic Information, Bureau of Public Affairs. May 1, 2008. <https://2001-2009.state.gov/r/pa/ho/time/rd/104253.htm>.

“Reagan Doctrine, 1985.” Department Of State. The Office of Electronic Information, Bureau of Public Affairs. Accessed February 1, 2024. <https://2001-2009.state.gov/r/pa/ho/time/rd/17741.htm>.

Engels, Friedrich, and Karl Marx. 1848. “Communist Manifesto (Chapter 1).” 1848. <https://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1848/communist-manifesto/ch01.htm>.

“General Assembly of the United Nations.” n.d. United Nations. Accessed January 31, 2024. <https://www.un.org/en/ga/first/index.shtml>.

“Greenham Common – The Raissa Page Collection.” n.d. Accessed January 21, 2024. <https://raissapagewebguide.wordpress.com/greenham-common/>.

“History of Nuclear Weapons.” n.d. ICAN. Accessed February 2, 2024. https://www.icanw.org/nuclear_weapons_history.

Impiglia, Giancarlo. 1982. “1982 March & Rally in New York Poster.” Poster Museum. 1982. <https://postermuseum.com/products/1982-march-rally-in-new-york-poster-18>.

“Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF Treaty).” n.d. U.S. Department of State. Accessed February 2, 2024. <https://2009-2017.state.gov/t/avc/trty/102360.htm>.

Jackson, Mick, dir. 1984. *Threads*. Drama, Sci-Fi, Thriller. British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), Nine Network Australia, Western-World Television Inc.

- Kratz, Jessie. 2021. "The Iran Hostage Crisis." *Pieces of History* (blog). November 29, 2021. <https://prologue.blogs.archives.gov/2021/11/29/the-iran-hostage-crisis/>.
- Lüthi, Lorenz M. 2016. "The Non-Aligned Movement and the Cold War, 1961–1973." *Journal of Cold War Studies* 18 (4): 98–147.
- Meyer, Nicholas, dir. 1983. *The Day After*. Drama, Sci-Fi. ABC Circle Films.
- "Milestones: 1961–1968 - Office of the Historian." n.d. Accessed February 1, 2024. <https://history.state.gov/milestones/1961-1968/soviet-invasion-czechoslovakia>.
- NATO. n.d. "Collective Defence and Article 5." NATO. Accessed February 1, 2024. https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_110496.htm.
- "Nuclear Warhead Inventory per Country 1945-2023." n.d. Statista. Accessed January 21, 2024. <https://www.statista.com/statistics/1071026/nuclear-warheads-per-country-historical-development/>.
- "One Million People Demonstrate in New York City against Nuclear Weapons | June 12, 1982." n.d. HISTORY. Accessed January 31, 2024. <https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/nuclear-disarmament-rally-new-york-central-park>.
- "Ronald Reagan." n.d. Ballotpedia. Accessed January 31, 2024. https://ballotpedia.org/Ronald_Reagan.
- Sess.: 1985-1986), UN General Assembly (40th. 1986. "Bilateral Nuclear-Arms Negotiations :: Resolution /: Adopted by the General Assembly." <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/104335>.
- Smith, Terence. 1980. "The New York Times: This Day In Sports." January 20, 1980. https://archive.nytimes.com/www.nytimes.com/packages/html/sports/year_in_sports/01.20.html.
- "Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT II)." n.d. *The Nuclear Threat Initiative* (blog). Accessed February 2, 2024. <https://www.nti.org/education-center/treaties-and-regimes/strategic-arms-limitation-talks-salt-ii/>.
- "The Trilateral Process: The United States, Ukraine, Russia and Nuclear Weapons." n.d. Brookings. Accessed February 2, 2024. <https://www.brookings.edu/articles/the-trilateral-process-the-united-states-ukraine-russia-and-nuclear-weapons/>.
- "Why Gorbachev Was so Popular in the West – but Scorned in Russia." 2022. France 24. August 31, 2022. <https://www.france24.com/en/europe/20220831-why-was-gorbachev-so-popular-in-west-so-unpopular-in-russia>.