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COMMITTEE:
DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL
SECURITY COMMITTEE

CHAIRPERSON:
HANS LENDERS & MELINA BONEVA

TOPIC: (A)
MISSILES AND THE SECURITY
IMPLICATIONS FOR THE MIDDLE-EAST

DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE (DISEC)



The DISEC committee was established by the United Nations to serve as a forum for representatives from all UN member countries to debate issues of disarmament and security in an environment of equality. This committee takes measures necessary for the prevention or the reduction of international hostilities and conflict on matters that are not discussed by the United Nations Security Council.

As stated in the UN Charter, the DISEC Committee is actually called upon to "consider the general principles of co-operation in the maintenance of international peace and security" (Chapter IV, Article 11). However, unlike the Security Council, DISEC does not have the power to impose sanctions or to authorize armed interventions. As a preliminary organ, DISEC serves as the first level of discussion for most recent issues in the disarmament and security sphere, thus setting programmatic directions and giving more freedom to states to fully develop their positions.

DISEC's resolutions function as „raw material“, a constitutive basis for General Assembly resolutions or is submitted as recommendations to the Secretariat or the Security Council. The DISEC Committee is comprised of all member states of the United Nations, each having one vote. Resolutions are passed by a simple majority vote.

Engaged in the DISEC Committee consultations, you will have a unique opportunity to actively participate in formulating the global security agenda, contributing to better understanding and providing recommendations and solutions to various forms of international conflicts, disarmament and other security policy related matters.

"Disarmament and non-proliferation challenges from Missile Defence to re-arming of Middle East: Impact on the international security and regional security sub-systems"

More at:
www.un.org/ga/first/index.shtml



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Topic A: Missiles and the security implications for the Middle-East

1. INTRODUCTION

The threat to peace and security posed by missiles has been on the agenda of the international community already for decades. There has been progress but an approach that addresses the missile threat and all the related issues in a comprehensive manner is still lacking. The need for such an approach is nowhere more obvious than in the Middle-East. States possess large missile arsenals and although tension levels may fluctuate in the region they are always present. Besides that, history has proven more than once in the Middle-East that even minor events can easily spark conflict and produce a violent downwards spiral.

With this research guide we aim to provide you with a concise, yet not exhaustive, introduction to the topic and the related issues. At the end of this document we have also included a list with documentation and relevant links. This research guide can serve as a starting point for the further research on your countries position and as helpful tool to focus your position paper. We expect from you that have a solid understanding of the topic and your countries policy as this is the only way in which we can have lively debates while working effectively on a resolution.



surface-to-subsurface missile



antiradar missile



air-to-surface missile

2. INTRODUCTION

The accumulation, proliferation, technical refinement, threat and use of ballistic and other types of missiles have been a long standing issue on the agenda of the international community. The German V1 and V2 missiles used during WW2 are generally considered to be the first missiles used operationally. After WW2 and during the Cold War era missile technology development and proliferation took a giant leap forwards. Nowadays almost all countries possess some kind of missiles but only the five permanent members of the Security Council have intercontinental ballistic missile capabilities¹. The possession of missiles by a country can have strong implications for the regional or even global security situation. Many regional powers are tempted to enhance their missile capability, thus altering the balance of power and disturbing the security equilibrium. Furthermore, the unique characteristics of missiles make them well suited for deterrence, threat, coercion, self-defence and retaliation². In addition, the absence of a comprehensive legal framework, that addresses all issues related to missiles, exacerbates the security threat significantly. The fact that many efforts in that direction have been undertaken by (groups of) states and impeded by the conflicting interests between states serves only once more as an indicator for the complexity of this topic.

¹ <http://www.unidir.ch/pdf/ouvrages/pdf-1-92-9045-002-1-en.pdf>

² <http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N02/493/38/PDF/N0249338.pdf?OpenElement>



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The Middle-East, in particular, is a region which has witnessed an unprecedented use of ballistic and cruise missiles since WWII. Missiles were, *inter alia*, widely used in the 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq war, the 1991 US-led war on Iraq and the 2003 US-led war and occupation of Iraq. On the 18th of January 1991 Iraq fired Scud-missiles on Israel and more recently, in July 2006, Hezbollah fired nearly 4,000 rockets and missiles at Israeli targets. Moreover, of the approximately 35 countries in the world with missiles capable of exceeding a range of 150 kilometres, one third is located in the region.^{3,4} The complexity and challenge of addressing the issues of missiles in the Middle-East is also exacerbated by other factors. Unresolved conflicts like the Israel-Palestinian issue or dispute about the Golan Heights as well as the presence of organisations claimed by the West to be terrorists like Hezbollah or Hamas are a source of unrest. Moreover, many States have historical ties, economic relationships or other interest in particular States or the Middle-East as a whole and vice versa. It should also be noted that instability and violence in the Middle-East can affect other states or regions as well. Other drivers behind missile proliferation in the Middle-East are regional competition between rival states, the unrestrained supply of missile technology from external powers, the use of missiles as a compensation for weaknesses in conventional assets, national prestige and evolution in the art of war as well as for deterrence⁵.

3. DEFINITIONS

a) Missile

There are a myriad of definitions on the term 'missile.' The report by the First Governmental Expert Panel on missiles, for example, defines a missile as⁶;

'an unmanned, self-propelled, self-contained, unrecallable, guided or unguided vehicle designed to deliver a weapon or other payload.'

Another very basic and workable definition of a missile is a 'powered and guided munition.' This definition differentiates missiles from rockets which are powered but unguided munition and from bombs which are non-powered. Moreover, inclusion of the term 'munition' emphasizes the use of a missile as weaponry with the sole aim of destroying the target. This distinguishes missiles from Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV), remotely piloted vehicles (RPV) and the peaceful use of missiles e.g. satellites.



For the work in the SOFIMUN 2009 DISEC committee we strongly prefer the use definition of missiles as 'powered and guided munitions' in order to make the work for the position paper and

³ <http://www.unidir.org/pdf/articles/pdf-art2597.pdf>

⁴ <http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N02/493/38/PDF/N0249338.pdf?OpenElement>

⁵ <http://www.unidir.org/pdf/articles/pdf-art75.pdf>

⁶ <http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N02/493/38/PDF/N0249338.pdf?OpenElement>



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during the sessions more comprehensible and not to expand the scope of this already broad topic too much.

b) Categorization of missiles

There are two main categories of missiles; ballistic and cruise missiles.

Cruise missiles use an engine to fly from point A to B in a horizontal way. Their range usually varies from tens to several hundreds of kilometres. In contrast, ballistic missiles don't fly but go up and down after their initial launch. The fact that ballistic missiles do fly and burn oxygen from the air allows them to use the vacuum of space to cover larger distances and reach higher speeds.⁷ Ballistic missiles have so far received the most attention from the international community given their accuracy and potential to deliver nuclear, chemical or biological warheads. However, cruise missiles are gaining popularity as indicated by their more frequent use with conventional loads. Their popularity could also be attributed to the improved accuracy, range, difficult detection and possibility to use them as a carrier for chemical, biological and nuclear weapons⁸. It has to be noted however that cruise missiles have a smaller range and lower load capacity than ballistic missiles.

Both cruise and ballistic missiles can be further sub-divided. In literature it is common to refer to ranges or categories when referring to a certain type of missile. There is however no universally accepted standard and various missiles-range classifications are used. In order to provide you with an indication of the terminology and ranges we have compiled table 2.1 and 2.2 which list the ranges for ballistic and cruise missiles, respectively.

Table 2.1 Categorization of ballistic missiles by range

Ballistic missile category	Range (km)
Short-range ballistic missiles (SRBM)*	< 1,000 km
Medium-range ballistic missiles (MRBM)	1,000 and 3000 km.
Intermediate-range ballistic missiles (IRBM)	3,000 and 5,500 km
Intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBM)	> 5500 km

* Short-range ballistic missiles are also referred to as tactical ballistic missile if they have a range between 150 and 300 km. Theater ballistic missiles (TBM) is a term used for ballistic missiles with a range between 500-3500 km, as such encompassing short, medium and intermediate range ballistic missiles⁹.

Table 2.2 Categorization of cruise missiles by range and speed

Cruise missile category	Speed (km/hour)	Range (km)
Hypersonic	unknown	unknown
Supersonic	> Mach 1*	> 1000 km
Long-range subsonic	Approx. 800 km/hr	> 1000 km

⁷ <http://www.missilethreat.com/overview/pageID.154/default.asp>

⁸ http://cns.miis.edu/pubs/other/070605_gormley.htm

⁹ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ballistic_missile



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Medium-range subsonic	Approx. 800 km/hr	< 1000 km
Short-range subsonic	unknown	70-300 km

* (1236 km/hr = speed of sound, Mach 1)

Apart from the range and speed there are also other ways to categorize missiles¹⁰ which are often combined. A common approach is the categorization according to the launch site; surface, water and air. Missiles can for example be termed 'surface to surface' or 'air to surface' missiles. Missiles can also be categorized according to their intended target e.g. anti-ship missiles or anti-ballistic missiles. Shoulder-launched missile weapons are purposely left out of this research guide for two reasons. Firstly, these weapons might be comparable in the basic way they function to cruise or ballistic missiles but are much different in terms of size, range, threat and security implications. Secondly, including these smaller weapons would widen the scope of this topic too much.

c) Missile related issues

The issue of missiles is a complex and truly multi-faceted topic as it includes, *inter alia*, the potential of missiles to deliver weapons of mass destruction, missile defence system, missile development and technology and the peaceful use of missile technology¹¹. We will briefly elaborate on each of these issues here.



Firstly, missiles are well suited for the delivery of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons. Cruise missiles are also used to carry Nuclear, Biological and Chemical (NBC) loads and even while their capacity and range is usually more limited the threat remains. The strong linkage between missiles and weapons of mass destruction is evident and the cause for serious security concerns by States. There are also concerns that missiles capable of delivering weapons of mass destruction are deliberately or accidentally used in circumstances with high tension.

Secondly, missile defence systems are an element of the missile issue and a counter reaction to missile proliferation. Missile defence systems were for example used by Israel in 1991 in an attempt to counter the Iraqi attack with Scud missiles. Missile defence systems have received prominent attention in recent years. Ongoing missile proliferation, development and acquisition by some States as well the possibility of an accidental or unauthorized attack serve as a justification for developing missiles defence systems. Cruise missiles and short-range ballistic missiles stay in the atmosphere and are powered for most of their flight which makes detection by the heat and radiation they emit, and thus defence somewhat easier. Intermediate and long-range ballistic missiles leave and then re-enter in our atmosphere mostly relying upon their momentum and

¹⁰

¹¹<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N02/493/38/PDF/N0249338.pdf?OpenElement>



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gravity¹². Ballistic missile defence can be classified according to the type/range of the missile intercepted, the location of interception or the trajectory phase (see table 2.3).

Table 2.3. Ballistic missile defence categories

Type/range of missile	Location of interception	Trajectory phase
Strategic defence - against ICBM	Endoatmospheric - Interception within the Earths atmosphere	Boost phase - interception when the engine burns, from launch till exiting the atmosphere
Tactical defence - targets medium-range ballistic missiles	Exoatmospheric - Interception outside the Earths atmosphere	Midcourse Phase - interception in space
Theatre defences - targets range ballistic missiles		Terminal Phase - interception at re-entry of the missile in the Earths atmosphere

On the technical side there are several challenges to missile defence, including the ongoing advancement of missile technology, decoys or the difficult radar detection of certain cruise missiles due to their capability to sustain a low terrain-hugging flight path.¹³

States have different points of view on missile defence as it can have implications on arms control and disarmament. Another key notion to observe when discussing missile defence systems is the concern that these systems can be adjusted for offensive purposes. Other elements to keep in mind when dealing with missile defence are the effects on missile defence cooperation, the further spread and refinement of missiles, the effects of missile defences on the weaponization of space and the effects of missile defences in addressing growing vulnerabilities to missile threats and attacks.¹⁴

Thirdly, there is the dual-use element of missile technology given that it can be used for offensive purposes as well as for the launch of space vehicles. It has to be acknowledged however that states have the right to pursue the peaceful use of space and to utilize its benefits for peaceful purposes. The First Governmental Panel of Experts on Missiles in its report to the Secretary-General in 2002 observes and states;

‘Space launch vehicle (SLV) technologies can be used for launching civil satellites and for other peaceful purposes; however, it is acknowledged that there are similarities between SLV technologies and those required for ballistic missiles for military purposes. Aside from warhead-specific technology and re-entry vehicle technology, there is little distinction between SLV technology and ballistic missile technology.’

¹² <http://www.unidir.ch/pdf/ouvrages/pdf-1-92-9045-002-1-en.pdf>

¹³ <http://www.au.af.mil/au/awc/awcgate/crs/rs21921.pdf>

¹⁴ http://www.un.org/disarmament/WMD/Missiles/SG_Reports.shtml



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4. MIDDLE EAST

In this section we will briefly elaborate on missiles capabilities of countries in the Middle-East. When considering the ongoing development and proliferation of missiles in the Middle-East it is imperative to briefly consider the NBC capacities of States.

The missile arsenal as well as the nuclear, chemical and biological (NBC) weapon capabilities of states in the Middle-east vary considerably. Iran and Israel, as the two main opposing forces, have the largest and most advanced missile capabilities of all states in the Middle-East. Israel has an extensive missile arsenal and missile defence systems which possibly includes Jericho-3 ballistic missiles with a range of more than 4,800 km¹⁵. The Israeli missile defence system (Arrow II) which was developed in cooperation with the United States is mainly aimed at countering the Iranian and Syrian missile threat,^{16,17}. Iran has a variety of ballistic and cruise missiles which include medium-range ballistic missiles. In May and July 2009 Iran conducted several tests with missiles which are claimed to have a range in excess of 2000 km. Iran claims it uses its missiles for scientific and defensive purposes only. In January Iran reported to have established its presence in space by bringing a satellite in a low orbit¹⁸. This exacerbated concerns about the ongoing Iranian missile proliferation and development further due to the dual-use elements of space technology.



In addition to Israel and Iran both Syria and Egypt also possess a considerable missile arsenal. Both states however are not known to have missiles with a medium-range (> 1000 km) or more. Saudi-Arabia has a smaller arsenal but it bought missiles from China in the late 1980's which have a range of approximately 2,600 km¹⁹. The extent to which these so called CSS-2 missiles are still operational is not known. Libya has significantly lowered its missiles capacity in recent years by destroying part of its capacity as well as by reducing the range and load of ballistic missiles. Yemen also has ballistic missiles whereas Sudan and Algeria allegedly

¹⁵ http://www.missilethreat.com/missiles-of-the-world/id.58/missile_detail.asp

¹⁶ <http://www.defense-update.com/products/a/arrow3.html>

¹⁷ <http://www.globalresearch.ca/index.php?context=va&aid=13096>

¹⁸ http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/7866357.stm

¹⁹ <http://www.nti.org/db/china/msarpos.htm>



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only have cruise missiles.²⁰ In addition to the current missile capacity of States (as far as these data are available and correct) it also be taken into consideration that the exchange of missiles and missile technology is ongoing and known to have taken place between States in the Middle-East and others, including North-Korea, United States, Russian Federation and China.

With these advanced missile capabilities in the Middle-East there is also the concern that the missiles while be used to deliver weapons of mass destruction. History has proven that this concern is not unrealistic given the fact the Middle-East has witnessed the by far widest use of missiles as well as chemical weapons in the post World War 2 era. Israel is the only state in the Middle-East with an advanced nuclear weapon capability, including warheads, although it has never officially admitted this. Iran has a nuclear program which it claims is only for civilian use whereby it argues that it has a right to have a nuclear program for peaceful purposes. This however does not take away concerns by Israel and western nations that missiles will be used to deliver NBC weapons and/or against Israel²¹. In 2007 Israel also bombed a facility in Syria which was believed to be a nuclear reactor intended to produce plutonium for weapons use. Currently the Syrian nuclear program is not considered to be of significance with respect to nuclear weapon capacities and missile delivery of these nuclear weapons.²² Other ME countries had or have plans to develop nuclear weapons but these are presumably too preliminary and not described to be of significance for the issue of missiles.

Chemical weapons and to a lesser extent also biological weapons are not uncommon in the Middle-East and do form a cause for concern. Chemical weapons have been used at various occasions in the Middle-East, among others by Egypt in the Yemeni civil war during 1963-1967 and in the 1980-1988 Iraq-Iranian war. Both Iran and Israel are believed to have production facilities for chemical and to some extent also biological weapons. Syria has the largest and most advanced chemical weapons capacity of the Middle-East²³. Egypt has chemical weapons stockpiles and may have some biological weapons. This in contrast with Saudi-Arabia that has banned all production, possession, and storage of chemical and biological weapons since 2005.

States in the Middle-East in general have a mixed recorded on the accession to international treaties regulating NBC weapons; Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT), Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), Comprehensive-Nuclear-Test Ban Treaty (CNTBT) and the Biological and Toxin Weapon Convention (BTWC). Israel however is the only state in the region which has not ratified the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT). Despite the fact that all States agree on the importance of a Nuclear Weapon Free Zone in the Middle-East this has not been realised so far due to the lack of trust between states and diverging interests. This makes the challenge to address the issue of missiles and related aspects in a comprehensive manner only greater as the threat posed by missiles is closely related with the presence of NBC weapons in the region.

5. EFFORTS TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE OF MISSILES

During the 1970s and 1980s the Cold War threat has resulted in treaties that aim to reduce the large arsenals of intercontinental ballistic weapons and missile defence systems. These treaties however focus predominantly on the United States and the former Soviet Union. Examples are the

²⁰ <http://cns.miis.edu/wmdme/index.htm>

²¹ http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/7499601.stm

²² http://www.nti.org/e_research/profiles/Syria/Nuclear/index.html

²³ <http://cns.miis.edu/wmdme/index.htm>



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‘Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles’ (INF Treaty) and the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty (ABM Treaty).

The issue of missiles has also been addressed in treaties on weapons of mass destruction given the use of missiles as means of delivery of these WMD. The international community has been active on the issue of missiles with but as UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon stated in 2008 in a foreword to the report of the third UN Governmental Panel of Experts on Missiles:

‘The international community has long been concerned by the accumulation, proliferation, technical refinement and threat and use of ballistic and other types of missiles. In response, States have pursued various unilateral, bilateral or multilateral measures. Nonetheless, there is no universally accepted norm or instrument specifically governing the development, testing, production, acquisition, transfer, deployment or use of missiles.’

In this section we will provide you with a concise overview of the most relevant treaties, UN resolutions and other actions by the international community. We primarily listed multi-lateral agreements which are relevant for the Middle-East and have a focus on missiles specifically or as means of delivery of WMD. A more elaborated overview can, among others, be found in the report of the First Panel of Government Experts on Missiles to the Secretary-General²⁴.



a) Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) & The Hague Code of Conduct (HCOG) against ballistic missiles

The Missile Technology Control Regime is a voluntary regime with the aim to;

‘restrict the proliferation of missiles, complete rocket systems, unmanned air vehicles, and related technology for those systems capable of carrying a 500 kilogram payload at least 300 kilometres, as well as systems intended for the delivery of weapons of mass destruction (WMD)’²⁵

The regime was established in 1987 by France, Canada, Germany, Italy, Japan, United Kingdom and the United States. Currently there are thirty-four so called partner countries. States can only become a partner to the regime if the current member states agree in consensus. The MTCR aims to reach its objectives through export controls (incl. licensing), regular meetings, dialog and outreach to non-partners.

The Hague Code of Conduct (HCOG) against ballistic missiles originated out of work by the MTCR partners. Formerly known as the ‘International Code of Conduct’ (ICOC) the HCOG aims to further advocated ballistic missile non-proliferation. In contrast to the MTCR the HCOG has an open

²⁴ <http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N04/463/77/PDF/N0446377.pdf?OpenElement>

²⁵ <http://www.mtcr.info/english/objectives.html>



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membership and since the adoption of the Code in 2002 already 130 states have subscribed to the code. This HCOC is the only multilateral code in recent years on missiles which has been adopted. It can be considered a supplement to the MTCR as it regulates the trade in missiles but does not call for the destruction of current arsenals. The code requires states to make politically binding commitments on WMD capable missiles and it contains transparency measures regarding ballistic missile and space launch programs²⁶. Although the code can be regarded as one of the few successful multilateral actions by the international community to address the issue of missiles it is also criticized for being ineffective and non-verifiable. This is due to the fact that the HCOC is not legally binding nor is there an inspection system to verify adherence.²⁷

Both the MTCR and the HCOC are initiatives take independent from the United Nations. However, the General Assembly in 2005 adopted resolution 60/62 in which the HCOC is referred to as

‘a practical step against the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery’

Following a report from the Disarmament and International Security Committee the General Assembly adopted in January 2009 resolution 63/64 titled ‘The Hague Code of Conduct Against Ballistic Missile Proliferation’ In this resolution the GA invites states to become subscribers to the HCOC and encourages;

‘the exploration of further ways and means to deal effectively with the problem of the proliferation of ballistic missiles capable of delivering weapons of mass destruction’

b) Other relevant treaties, conventions & arrangements (chronological order)

- **Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space (Outer Space Treaty)**

<http://www.oosa.unvienna.org/oosa/SpaceLaw/outerspt.html>

Entered into force in October 1967, this is the second of the so called “non-armament” treaties, providing the basic framework of international space law. It prohibits the use of space and the orbit around the earth for the placement of WMD. It also it limits the use of the moon and other celestial bodies exclusively for peaceful purposes. Ratified by 98 states²⁸, the Treaty indirectly refers to missiles, since they could be used as means to place weapons in outer space, though



²⁶ <http://cns.miis.edu/inventory/pdfs/hcoc.pdf>

²⁷ <http://cns.miis.edu/inventory/pdfs/hcoc.pdf>

²⁸ <http://www.oosa.unvienna.org/oosatdb/showTreatySignatures.do> ,
http://www.nti.org/e_research/official_docs/inventory/pdfs/ospace.pdf



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limiting its reference only to nuclear and WMD and leaving aside conventional arms.

- **Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)**
<http://www.un.org/Depts/dda/WMD/threaty/>

As the only multilateral commitment to nuclear disarmament, the NPT is a landmark legal instrument aiming to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and to foster cooperation on peaceful use of nuclear energy and disarmament. Entered into force in 1970 with indefinite time validity and signed by total 190 countries, the NPT establishes a safeguard system under the jurisdiction of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). This is implemented among others via regular inspections. Central to the treaty is the concession of the Non-Nuclear Weapons States (NNWS) to refrain from acquiring nuclear weapons and in exchange, the Nuclear Weapons States (NWS) agree to make progress on nuclear disarmament and provide unrestricted access to nuclear energy for non-military uses. The NPT has become the cornerstone of global disarmament efforts, yet its very existence is threatened by recent developments in nuclear policies and the current impasse in negotiation efforts²⁹.

- **The Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on their destruction (Biological Weapons Convention BWC)**
[http://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B8954/\(httpAssets\)/C4048678A93B6934C1257188004848D0/\\$file/BWC-text-English.pdf](http://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B8954/(httpAssets)/C4048678A93B6934C1257188004848D0/$file/BWC-text-English.pdf)

Entered into force in 1975, the BWC is the first multilateral disarmament treaty banning an entire category of weapons. It prohibits the development, production, acquisition, transfer, retention, stockpiling and use of biological and toxin weapons and is thereby a key element in the international community's efforts to address the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction³⁰. Despite its multiple signatories, the absence of any formal verification regime to monitor compliance has limited its effectiveness. Missiles fall under the scope of the BWC as a means for delivery of biological weapons.

- **The Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction (Chemical Weapons Convention, CWC)** <http://www.un.org/Depts/dda/WMD/cwc/>
<http://www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/cwcglance>

After a decade of negotiations, the Conference on Disarmament (CD) agreed on the text of the CWC. It was subsequently adopted in 1992 and entered into force in 1997. The convention prohibits all development, production, acquisition, stockpiling, transfer, and use of chemical weapons and it requires each State Party to destroy chemical weapons and production facilities it possesses within a specified period of time. The CWC is open to any country and currently has 184

²⁹ http://www.nuclearfiles.org/menu/library/threaties/non-proliferation-threaty/trty_npt_intro.htm#

³⁰ [http://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B8954/\(httpAssets\)/699B3CA8C061D490C1257188003B9FEE/\\$file/BWC-Background_Inf.pdf](http://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B8954/(httpAssets)/699B3CA8C061D490C1257188003B9FEE/$file/BWC-Background_Inf.pdf)



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states-parties. Four signatories—Bahamas, Dominican Republic, Israel, and Myanmar—have yet to ratify the convention. Key non-signatories include North Korea and Syria, both whom the United States suspect have chemical weapons programs. Egypt also has not signed the convention.³¹

- **Wassenaar Arrangement on Export Controls for Conventional Arms and Dual-Use Goods and Technologies**

<http://www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/wassenaar>



The Wassenaar Arrangement was formally established in July 1996 and is a voluntary export control regime whose 40 members³² exchange information on transfers of conventional weapons and dual-use goods and technologies. Members have agreed that all information exchange is kept confidential. The agreement aims to promote "greater responsibility" among its members in exports of weapons and dual-use goods and to prevent "destabilizing accumulations." Unlike its predecessor, the Cold War-era Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls (COCOM), which was created to restrict exports to the former Soviet Union and Eastern bloc,

Wassenaar is not targeted at any region or group of states, but rather at "states of concern" to members and its members lack veto authority over other member's proposed exports. Every six months, members exchange information on deliveries of conventional arms to non-Wassenaar members that fall under eight broad weapon categories: battle tanks, armored combat vehicles (ACVs), large-caliber artillery, military aircraft/unmanned aerial vehicles, military and attack helicopters, warships, missiles or missile systems, and small arms and light weapons. There is lively debate concerning the character of the agreement - shall its scope be widened, shall it become more than an information exchange body etc. Furthermore, since it operates by consensus, a single country can block any proposal. In addition, there is no consensus among members on which countries are "states of concern" or what constitutes a "destabilizing" transfer. Another limiting factor is the fact that some major arms exporters, such as Belarus, China, and Israel are not members. Wassenaar members have, *inter alia*, agreed on non-binding criteria to guide exports of shoulder-fired, surface-to-air missiles (man-portable air defense Systems (MANPADS), aiming to enforce national controls on exports, to prevent terrorist groups from acquiring arms, to guide the exports of SALW and to better regulate dual use goods.

b) United Nations bodies and resolutions

³¹ For a complete listing of states-parties and signatories, please see the Association's fact sheet at <http://www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/cwcsig.asp>

³² The 40 participating states in the Wassenaar Arrangement are Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, and the United States.



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The issue of missiles has been on the UN agenda many times over the course of the past decades, often in relation with WMD. More recently the issues of missiles and related aspects were on the agenda of each General-Assembly session since 1999. This led to GA resolutions affirming the importance of addressing the threat posed by missiles but apart from the resolutions on the HCOG it only resulted in the establishment of three Panels of Government Experts devoted to the issue of missiles. The first Panel was established from July 2001 to July 2002, the second Panel in 2004 and the third Panel completed its work in June 2008, agreeing on its report by consensus. This indicated once more the complexity of the issues at hand.
(<http://www.un.org/disarmament/WMD/Missiles/index.shtml>)

The Security Council has addressed the threat posed by missiles in the context of WMD, reduction of armaments or specifically with respect to North-Korea (resolution 1695). In 2004 the Security Council, while acting under chapter VII of the charter, adopted resolution 1540³³. This resolution imposes binding obligations on all States to establish domestic controls to prevent the proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, and their means of delivery, including by establishing appropriate controls over related materials. The resolution also established the 1540 committee which has the task of monitoring the implementation of the resolution and reporting the Security Council. The mandate of the 1540 committee was extended in 2006 (resolution 1673) and again in 2008 by resolution 1810 until April 2011. Most recently, on the 19th November 2008 the Security Council produced a Presidential Statement in which disarmament and non-proliferation were addressed in the context of the maintenance of international peace and security and the strengthening of collective security through general regulation and reduction of armaments³⁴.

In addition to the work of the Security Council and the General Assembly (incl. DISEC) also the work of the United Nations Disarmament committee and the Conference on disarmament is of relevance for the missile issue. The links to both organs are provided below;

Conference on disarmament:

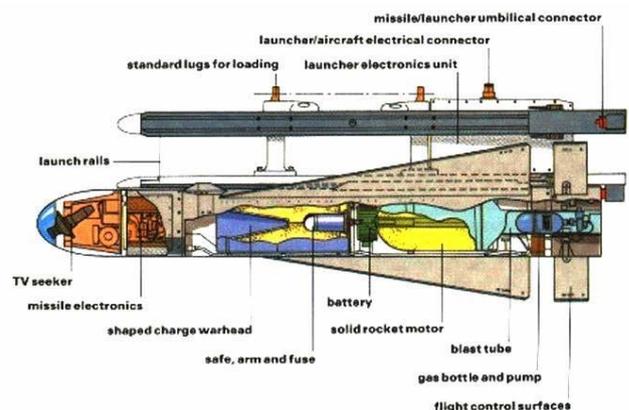
[http://www.unog.ch/80256EE600585943/\(httpPages\)/BF18ABFEFE5D344DC1256F3100311CE9?OpenDocument](http://www.unog.ch/80256EE600585943/(httpPages)/BF18ABFEFE5D344DC1256F3100311CE9?OpenDocument)

United Nations Disarmament committee (UNDC):

<http://www.un.org/disarmament/HomePage/DisarmamentCommission/UNDiscom.shtml>

c) Other initiatives

At unilateral, bilateral and multi-lateral level a number of initiatives have been taken to address the issue of missiles and all related aspects. The report from the First Governmental Panel of Experts on Missiles contains an extensive list that for obvious reasons will not be repeated here.



³³ <http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N04/328/43/PDF/N>

³⁴ <http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N08/610/15/PDF/N>



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One more recent and very relevant initiative is the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI). Headed by the US administration in 2003 the PSI to stop trafficking of NBC weapons and means of delivery to state and non-state actors viewed as a threat by PSI-participants. The initiative is currently supported by more than 90 countries.³⁵

6. ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION BY SOFIMUN 2009 DISEC

The SOFIMUN 2009 Disarmament and International Security Committee has the challenging task to address the issue of missiles and related aspects with a specific focus on the Middle-East.

- How can the security threat posed by missiles be dealt with it in an adequate and comprehensive manner while balancing national, regional and even global interests?
- Can a regional approach to address the issues of missiles and all related aspects be effective in the Middle-East? If yes, then how can it be achieved and what should it contain. Can unilateral and bilateral approaches be translated to a regional level?

But if a regional approach cannot be expected to be effective, then what are the alternatives to address the missile issue?

³⁵ <http://www.state.gov/t/isn/c10390.htm>



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Suggested Reading and Additional Sources - mandatory

Topic A: Missiles and the security implications for the Middle-East

1. <http://www.un.org/disarmament/WMD/Missiles/index.shtml>
2. [An overview of the work of different UN bodies on regional disarmament is well documented](#)
3. [A glossary explaining common terminology](#)

Missiles

4. <http://cns.miis.edu/wmdme/index.htm>
5. <http://www.carnegieendowment.org/publications/index.cfm?fa=view&id=645>
6. <http://fas.org/sgp/crs/nuke/RS22758.pdf>
7. [Regional approaches to managing missiles](#)

Recent news items

8. <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2009/may/28/russia-us-iran-missile-threat>
9. http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2009/05/25/secret-israeli-report-ven_n_207405.html
10. <http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/130958>
11. http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/6669545.stm
12. http://www.metimes.com/International/2009/03/10/iran_tests_new_long-range_missile/3579/
13. http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/7866742.stm
14. <http://www.reuters.com/article/worldNews/idUSL3104184520090603>
15. http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/8081698.stm

Others

16. <http://www.geneva-forum.org/MediaGuide/missiles.htm>