



APL MUN

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***DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY
COMMITTEE
(DISEC)***

BACKGROUND GUIDE

Agenda:

***Working towards Total
Denuclearization of the Korean
Peninsula***

2019



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Letter from the Executive Board

Greetings Honourable Delegates,

We are grateful to be welcoming you to our annual APLMUN conference. As always, our conference is catered to those interested in diplomacy, international relations, politics and human rights, while allowing space for healthy debate. Over the two days, we will be discussing tackling nuclear proliferation in the Korean Peninsula.

The topic discusses the DPRK, which has been increasing their Nuclear capacity rapidly and dangerously, especially following their withdrawal from the Nuclear Proliferation Treaty in 2003. Through this the power balance on the Asian continent has been threatened and following several rounds of successful and failed talks, the world looks to the Korean peninsula and possible denuclearization.

The following pages of this document will function as an informative guide on the basics of the discourse. However, we strongly encourage you to investigate the further reading sections of each topic, and research your Member State's own views.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at disec@apl.edu.in We wish nothing more than for you to have fun and learn a thing or two. Here's to a memorable Conference!

Your Chairs,
Niranjan Rajesh and Hae-ul Kim (Jong-Un)

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About the Disarmament and International Security Council

During this year's edition of APL MUN you will be taking part in a simulation of the DISEC. Our goal in this simulation is to give participants the feeling of what is like to represent a country as an ambassador, and how it feels to conduct negotiations in the DISEC. To do this properly, it is crucial to know what the roles and capacities of the United Nations are and how the DISEC functions within the structure of the UN. Being familiar with its structure and function will help you make better use of the peculiarities of the system and help you in the debates.

The Disarmament and International Security Committee, also known as the First Committee, was established in the United Nations Charter -under Charter Article IV- with the intention of advocating, debating, and solving matters of international disarmament and security. All 193 UN member states are eligible as representatives in DISEC's body with equal vote. Although DISEC has significant importance when it comes to international security but it cannot precisely mandate individual state action, sanctions or armed intervention, however it can advocate these actions to the Security Council.

Nevertheless, DISEC decisions are held in high regard because, as a subsidiary committee of the GA, each nation is afforded equal representation in voting procedures while the Security Council is frequently stagnated by the veto powers of the five permanent members. Past resolutions have aided in the passage and enforcement of vital treaties such as the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) and maintaining the balance between NATO powers and the Warsaw Pact of Europe during the Cold War. Recent terrorist actions have shifted the world's attention to issues of international security and prevention of further attacks. This responsibility falls largely on the three part security foundation of the UN and, therefore, places increased importance on DISEC proceedings. Recent discussions have focused on the establishment of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), nuclear free zones in the Middle East, and various other arms agreements. With greater attention and urgency, DISEC will facilitate discussion on issues with major implications for all nations and attempt to ensure the safety of the global community.

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Keywords

Included below are a number of keywords that are used in this guide and their explanations. Please familiarise yourselves with these words and terms to not just improve your understanding regarding this issue, but also ensure a smooth flow of debate on conference day

DISEC - Disarmament and International Security Council, the First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly

DPRK - Democratic People's Republic of Korea

ICBM - Inter Continental Ballistic Missile

NPT - Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty

CTBT - Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty

THAAD - Terminal High Altitude Area Defense

DMZ - Demilitarized Zone, lies between South and North Korea

IAEA - International Atomic Energy Agency

UNSC - United Nations Security Council, not to be confused with DISEC, Disarmament and International Security Council

START - Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty

JNCC - Joint Nuclear Control Commission, established to implement JDD

JDD - Joint Denuclearization Declaration

KEDO - Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization



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An Introduction to the Korean Peninsula

The Korean Peninsula, specifically the DPRK, has been a growing source of conflict and continuous source of increased tensions in the region and the rest of the world. It all begins at the end of the World War II when Japan were forced to hand over most of their territories to the allied powers. Among them, was Korea. The Communist Party (Korean Worker's Party) was founded in the North and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was founded. Quickly after that, the South declared independence - sparking North Korean Invasion and essentially, the Korean War. The war was fought by the two polarised sides - Soviet backed North and the US backed South. Most of the war was fought on the peninsula and ended in a stalemate over the 38th Parallel Line, which went on to be the infamous border of the new, separate countries of Korea.

DPRK has been led by the Kim dynasty ever since then and ROK have had democratic elections to choose their leaders. Kim Jong Un is the most recent dictator, or Supreme Leader of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Ever since "Rocket Man" came into power in 2011, North Korea's missile and nuclear missile programmes have been aggressively pushed forward. Since his ascension, DPRK has conducted 6 nuclear tests and 117 missile tests. These actions have struck fear in most countries and of course, the United States of America. The US, with a century of Communist intolerance, is concerned about its and its allies' safety with the threatening development of an Inter-Continental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) recently. To prepare for a potential nuclear attack, the US installed the THAAD (Terminal High Altitude Area Defense) in one of its closest allies - South Korea. This and other similar actions of the US have deeply alarmed the DPRK.

Despite all the rising tensions, some rays of hope have shone in the past few months with Donald Trump meeting with Kim Jong Un and the historical Inter-Korean Summit between the leaders of the two countries. Despite these meetings, no feasible actions or solutions have been implemented as of yet.

Delegates are encouraged to not only find a comprehensive solution with both long and short term benefits, but also be mindful of the country they are representing by staying true to its beliefs. There are a diverse group of countries within DISEC with their own varying interests when it comes to this topic. The resolutions brought forth should address issues above and reflect a spirited debate about each country's desired outcomes.

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Timeline of Key Events regarding the Korean Peninsula

- **1945** - End of WWII, Korea is divided into two regions across the 38th parallel - Soviet-occupied North and the American-occupied South. The two superpowers established a UN mandated 'trusteeship' for 5 years. The Soviets choose Kim Il Sung to lead the Communist party of Korea.
- **1948** - The Korean Workers' Party installs Kim Il Sung as leader of the newly founded Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Soviet troops pull out of Korea.
- **1950** - The South declares independence from the North and established the UN-recognised Republic of Korea. Sparks the Korean War.
- **1953** - Armistice ends the Korean War.
- **1960s, 70s & 80s** - Period of economic development and advancement of International Relations (especially China and USSR) in the DPRK.
- **1985** - DPRK joins the NPT (Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty), promising to not produce Nuclear Weapons.
- **1986** - The first Nuclear "Research" Reactor becomes fully operational in Yongbyon, North Korea.
- **1991** - North and South Korea join the United Nations.
- **1993** - The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) accuse the DPRK of violating the NPT and demand inspections of their nuclear project. DPRK threatens to pull out of the Treaty. Kim also tests the first medium-range, one-of-its kind missile - the Rindong into the Sea of Japan.
- **1994** - Kim Il-Sung dies and Kim Jong-Il 'The Eternal President', his son takes his place. North Korea signs a framework with the US and agrees to freeze its nuclear programme in return for heavy oil and two light-water nuclear reactors.
- **1996** - Pyongyang announces that it will not abide by the Korean War Armistice anymore and sends in thousands of troops to the Demilitarised Zone (DMZ).
- **1998** - North Korea fires a multistage long-range rocket that landed in the Pacific Ocean, the furthest distance so far.
- **2000** - A landmark Inter-Korean summit between Kim Jong-Il and South Korean Leader, Kim Dae-Jung allowing for reopening of border liaison offices for family reunions. South Korea grants amnesty to over 3500 North Korean prisoners.
- **2002** - George Bush labels North Korea, alongside Iran and Iraq as the 'Axis of Evil' The DPRK announces the reopening of its Nuclear Reactor and expels UN Inspectors in response to US halting trade in the region suspecting nuclearisation the DPRK.

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- **2003** - North Korea pulls out of the NPT. This brings about a series of six-party talks including the US, Russia, Japan, China, North and South Korea about denuclearisation.
- **2005** - DPRK officially admits to be in possession of nuclear weapons but solely for the purpose of Self-Defense and vows to stop the nuclear program in exchange for economic assistance from the US, Japan, South Korea, China and Russia.
- **2006** - North Korea claims to have completed its first successful nuclear weapon test and the UN Security Council passes a resolution to suspend the programme immediately.
- **2009** - A communications satellite is launched by the DPRK but is accused by its neighbours to be testing its missile technology. In response to these accusations, North Korea walks out of the six-party talks and restarts nuclear facilities. Second nuclear test is faced by new sanctions from the UN.
- **2011** - Death of Kim Jong-Il. His youngest son - Kim Jong-Un takes over as the Supreme Leader.
- **2012** - North Korea claims it has missiles that can reach the US mainland in retaliation to a deal between the US and ROK to extend South Korean missile range.
- **2013** - DPRK's only ally, China bans exports to North Korea that are considered to be nuclear fissile material.
- **2015** - The US impose a new set of sanctions targeting the North Korean Rocket Strategy Force of its army, the banks and companies to limit proliferation.
- **2016** - Pyongyang announces its first successful Hydrogen Bomb Test. The Workers' Party holds its first congress in 40 years and elect Kim Jong Un as leader of the party (SURPRISE SURPRISE). UNSC tightens sanctions and cuts coal exports by 60%.
- **2017** - DPRK tests its first ICBM that is claimed to reach 'the heart of America' as tensions rise. Kim threatens to fire ballistic missiles over the US Military Base in Guam. China agrees to further accept the sanctions on DPRK proposed by the UN.
- **2018** - Kim Jong Un meets the South Korean President, Moon Jae-In at the border crossing and agree to end the hostilities. Trump and Kim meet in an historical meeting in Singapore to discuss an end to their nuclear stand-off.
- **2019** - A follow-up meeting between the US and DPRK heads of state ends abruptly after DPRK demands all sanctions against the country to be lifted in return for nuclear disarmament which is declined by Trump. DPRK tests new 240mm and 300mm multiple rocket launchers and a new model of a tactical guided weapon later this year.

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Past Efforts towards achieving the de nuclearization of the Korean Peninsula

Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START): Under agreement between American President, George H. W. Bush and Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, in 1991, a limit on the deployment of nuclear weapons abroad was set.

Joint Denuclearization Declaration (JDD): Signed in 1992, under this declaration, the two Koreas have agreed to not test, manufacture, produce, receive, possess, store, deploy or use nuclear weapons. In addition, South-North Joint Nuclear Control Commission (JNCC) was established as an implementing mechanism of the JDD.

The US - DPRK Agreed Framework: A deal signed between the United States and North Korea in 1994, North Korea had committed to halting its nuclear weapons program as well as the construction of nuclear reactors.

Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization (KEDO): This Organization was founded in 1995 to implement the Agreed Framework and finance the construction of the two light-water reactors.

First Inter-Korean Summit: In 2000, an inter-Korean summit was held for the first time since the division, leading to a number of joint commercial and cultural projects.

Six-Party Talks: In 2005, China, North Korea, Japan, Russia, and the United States held its 4th round of the six-party talks in which North Korea committed to returning to the NPT and IAEA safeguards.

2018 Inter-Korean Summit: After eleven years, another inter-Korean summit was held in which a formal peace treaty was signed between the two countries thus ending the Korean war and confirmed its shared goal of lasting peace in the Korean peninsula. Following the summit, North Korea destroyed a nuclear site in Punggye-ri.

First U.S - DPRK Summit: In 2018, following Kim Jong-un's historic visit to the South, the first U.S - North Korea summit was held in Singapore. A joint statement was released in which the United States committed to ensuring North Korea's safety and North Korea committed to work towards complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.

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Questions to Consider

To what extent can the UN regulate nuclear missile production in the Korean Peninsula and how exactly can it go about to do that?

How effective would denuclearisation talks involving DPRK and other appropriate countries be, considering its previous failures? What can be done differently next time?

How big of a role does the US play in catalysing the nuclear threat in the Korean Peninsula and how can it be minimised, if it should?

Do these recent meetings between Kim Jong Un and other major heads of state have any significant effect on the threat? If not, what went wrong?

Do trade sanctions that the UN has imposed multiple times before on the DPRK have any significant impact on DPRK's denuclearisation. Should they be maintained?

Should DPRK have any nuclear weapons at all, even if they agree to seize the production of new ones?

Where does your country (with or without nuclear weapons) stand on dealing with the nuclear threat building up in the peninsula?

Has your country made any efforts in the past to tackle denuclearization of the Korean peninsula?

How effective were the past efforts and why were they? Can they be improved and implemented again?

Considering the answers to these questions, what can each nation do to achieve denuclearization in the Korean peninsula?



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Resources

Delegates, make sure that you do your own individual research specific to your country and on the topic in-depth to ensure a good quality of debate. Below are some links and resources that delegates may find useful for research. Feel free to use any other reliable source. Good luck!

<https://www.un.org/en/charter-united-nations/>

<https://www.un.org/en/ga/first/>

<https://www.cfr.org/timeline/north-korean-nuclear-negotiations>

<https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/what-know-about-sanctions-north-korea>

http://www.unodc.org/documents/southeastasiaandpacific/cps/DPRK_-_Country_Profile.docx

<https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/sanctions/1718/resolutions>



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