



**Mission Viejo High School MUN**  
**34<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference**  
*Vox Populi*



**1st DISEC: Nuclear Disarmament**

Hi, my name is Gabby Dunlap and I will be your head chair for the 2017 MVHSMUN Conference. I'm 16 years old and a sophomore at Mission Viejo High School. This will be my second year in MUN here at Mission. I also run Cross Country, compete in Track and Field as a distance runner, and am currently in photography class because I love taking photos! I enjoy surfing, spending time with family and friends, helping those in need, and traveling. I'm so excited you are in my committee and I cannot wait to chair for you during the conference!

**I. Background**

After witnessing the capabilities of both Fat Boy and Little Man on both Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the world has changed immensely. At the hands of the wrong people, one bomb, as demonstrated, has the potential to wipe out millions of people. And while nuclear weapons have only been used twice in combat, they still pose a threat to all nations, leading to catastrophic events. There are currently over 15000 nuclear weapons, most of which are possessed by China, the US, and Russia. However, many of these weapons will never see combat as they are disarmed and deactivated by many treaties and resolutions set in place by the UN. By enforcing the non-proliferation of nuclear powers, the risk of damage throughout the world decreases tremendously.

**II. United Nations Involvement**

Since their creation, the UN has searched for a way to eradicate nuclear weapons in an effort to maximize the safety of the world. The development of treaties, regimes and conventions created by the UN, all conjoin to serve one purpose: to eradicate nuclear weapons. One of the most prominent solution established by the UN, would be the Treaty of Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), which promotes the collaboration of nations towards prohibiting nuclear weapon technology, along with the peaceful use of nuclear energy. The treaty opened in 1968, and received 190 parties' signatures, five of which were the nuclear-weapon states. In addition to the NPT, the UN implemented the Partial Test Ban Treaty, (PTBT), and the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, (CTBT) both of which further encouraged nuclear disarmament. Another very important treaty being considered is the Nuclear Weapons Convention, (NWC), and if adopted would ban the handling, developing, testing, transferring, or operating of nuclear weapons altogether. The IAEA ( International Atomic Energy Agency) also regulates and inspects nuclear facilities throughout the world to prevent the weaponization of nuclear materials/ . To regulate nuclear activity, all countries that follow IAEA policy which include: surveillance, inspections, and regulations to their nuclear facilities. Moreover, the UN has voted to outlaw nuclear weapons in 2017; embracing a resolution open to negotiations towards the treaty. Overall, the UN is doing all it can to abolish nuclear weapons entirely to prevent the utter destruction of the Earth.

**III. Possible Solutions**

As all nuclear weapons in the world are shared among five nations, a possible solution is to remove HEU ( Highly Enriched Uranium) materials from these nuclear powerhouses and transform them into peaceful energy plants. These energy plants are to be located within the same country in order to prevent to proliferation of nuclear powers within countries. Nuclear



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energy plants could be under IAEA guidelines and subject to many inspections and placed under extreme regulations. The conversion of nuclear weapons to nuclear power is overall more effective than rather ridding of all nuclear weapons. Getting countries to sign the FMCT (Fissile Material Cutoff Treaty) is another effective way to limit and mitigate the amount of nuclear weapons produced. Through the FMCT, countries are restricted and prohibited from producing fissile material, which is crucial to the development of nuclear weapons.

#### **IV. Country Bloc Positions**

African: Generally uninvolved with nuclear weapons, the African Bloc condemns the general practice of nuclear weapons as nuclear development is not yet one of the main concerns of African States.

Western: The Western Bloc is an avid supporter of reducing and of the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons, but however, has nuclear weapons also in the case of self defence. The Western Bloc also has a series of peaceful nuclear reactors for energy.

Asia/Pacific: The Asian Bloc associates with more peaceful means of nuclear use, such as power plants rather than developing nuclear weapons. With the exception of some states, the Asian Bloc condemns the development and proliferation of nuclear powers for other reasons besides energy.

Europe: The European Bloc having developed nuclear weapons, is a strong supporter of reducing and of the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons. Self defence is a concern for these countries, but many European states contain nuclear energy plants.

Middle East: In times of turmoil, the Middle Eastern Bloc is currently developing nuclear weapons for both energy and war. Interregional fighting within the Middle East leads to the development of these nuclear powers.

#### **V. Questions to Consider**

1. Would your country use nuclear technology for peace or for war?
2. Has your country reached the capability of developing nuclear weapons?
3. Does your country currently have nuclear weapons, and if so, have they taken steps to reduce their nuclear stockpile?

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