

## **Security Council - North Korean Nuclear Program**

### **Background:**

The DPRK (Democratic People's Republic of Korea ) has conducted numerous nuclear tests such as destinations in 2006, 2009, 2013, 2016, and 2017. The DPRK began its nuclear interests at the end of WWII but did not fully shed light on their nuclear program until the late 1990's and early 2000's. North Korea withdrew from the NPT (Non- Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons) in 2003, signaling their strive for nuclear capabilities. The Six Party Talks, a congregation between North Korea, South Korea, Japan, China, Russia, and the United States on the topic of demilitarizing the Korean peninsula have been suspended since 2009. Originally, it was planned that North Korea would suspend nuclear tests in return for food aid from the United States, but the agreement ended up being disregarded.

### **UN Involvement:**

Since 2006, the United Nations has put into place eight major sanctions against North Korea's nuclear program. These sanctions are primarily targeted to weaken the North Korean economy and force it to comply with international regulations. The United Nations has also approved inspection of all North Korean shipments within their regions with the right to seize or destroy any of the shipment's contents. Although countless attempts have been made by the United Nations to stop the DPRK's advancement to nuclear weapons, the Chinese government has been keeping the country afloat with food and economic aid, a hot topic for debate. Discussions have been made with China, and the government has stated that it will cut down on its aid to the DPRK, yet this is still not enough.

### **Block Positions:**

**North America:** The United States is heavily involved in the situation as two of its main allies, Japan and South Korea are bordered relatively close

**Asian:** Although many countries such as Japan and South Korea are heavily opposed to North Korea's pursuit of nuclear weapons, China is continually providing aid to the nation, causing conflict among the nations.

**European:** The European nations are in consensus that the DPRK's pursuit of nuclear weapons could lead to another world war and are heavily in favor with the United States and other opposing nations

South American: South American countries are not as involved in the situation, but overall agree that the DPRK 's nuclear capabilities are a major threat to national security

Possible Solutions:

The way the United Nations approaches the North Korean nuclear program is for the delegates to decide. A possible solution could be joint military action or a binding treaty with major repercussions.

Sources:

"North Korea." *Nuclear Threat Initiative - Ten Years of Building a Safer World*, [www.nti.org/learn/countries/north-korea/](http://www.nti.org/learn/countries/north-korea/).

"Fact Sheets & Briefs." *Chronology of U.S.-North Korean Nuclear and Missile Diplomacy | Arms Control Association*, [www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/dprkchron](http://www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/dprkchron).

"Fact Sheets & Briefs." *UN Security Council Resolutions on North Korea | Arms Control Association*, [www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/UN-Security-Council-Resolutions-on-North-Korea](http://www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/UN-Security-Council-Resolutions-on-North-Korea).