**Research Report**

**Security council**

***The question on the implications of North Korea’s nuclear program for global security***

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**Introduction**

North Korea has shown an interest in the development of nuclear weapons since the 1950’s. North Korea, in 2003, withdrew from the treaty on the Non-Proliferation of nuclear weapons. The first nuclear test in the form of an underground nuclear explosion was succeeded on October 9, 2006. In 2007, North Korea said in international talks known as the six-party talks that it would shut down its nuclear program. According to the agreement made between the countries, North Korea, South Korea, China, Russia, Japan and the United States, North Korea would shut down its main nuclear facility and would provide a list of the nuclear programs. In exchange America and Japan would provide food and fuel aid to North Korea.

North Korea had a second nuclear test on May 25, 2009, in the northern part of the country. In 2012, the United States stopped the food and fuel aid because North Korea conducted a long-range missile test in April of that year. The US geological survey detected a possible third underground nuclear test, which North Korea reported to be a lighter warhead with more force than before. Then on January 6, 2016, the US again reported a fourth underground nuclear test, which according to North Korea was a hydrogen bomb, but many organizations doubt this, because the impact would have been much stronger.

On the 7th of February 2016, North Korea introduced the idea to put a satellite into orbid around the world. Japan discouraged this idea greatly and the prime minister of Japan said that if this rocket would cross Japanese territory, that it would be shot down. North Korea launched the rocket nevertheless, with a lot of critique of the United States, Japan and South Korea. China also criticised the launch, however said that the “relevant parties” should refrain from taking actions that could further escalate the tension.

On September 9, 2016, a fifth nuclear test occurred and is seen as the highest of all the tests so far.

The United Nations have also responded to North Korea’s nuclear program with different sanctions that banned the export of different goods to North Korea.

In 2017, North Korea launched two Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs). The second had sufficient range to reach the United States.

In June 2018, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and US president Donald Trump met in Singapore and signed a declaration. The Singapore Declaration committed to establish new relations between the two countries and “work toward complete denuclearization of the Korean peninsula”.

In 2022, North Korea’s policy regarding nuclear weapons changed. Before 2022, the policy was that the nuclear weapons would never be used for a “pre-emptive strike” but could be used as a response to military force. This policy changed, so that if the state or top leaders would be attacked, that nuclear attacks against the enemy would be launched automatically.

Now, as of 2024, North Korea is estimated to have around 50 nuclear weapons and enough production of materials to produce around 6 or 7 nuclear weapons per year.



**The Committee**

The Security Council is the most powerful body in the United Nations and deals with questions regarding international security. The Security Council at MUNA will have one or two delegates representing each nation. MUNA always selects the countries that were present in the SC of the real UN in the year before the MUNA conference. The permanent members China, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, the Russian Federation and France are always present. The permanent five have the power of veto.

**Keywords**

Six Party talks = Meetings between China, Japan, North Korea, South Korea, Russia and the United States about a peaceful resolution for the security of the North Korean nuclear weapons program.

Intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) = a missile with the mission to deliver nuclear weapons. The missile has a range larger than 5500 kilometres.

Underground nuclear test = the testing of nuclear weapons underground, so that the nuclear explosion can be contained, and radioactive materials are not released into the atmosphere.



**Arguments**

Here are the different points of views listed from the countries involved:

North Korea believes that their nuclear program does not harm the countries around them, and they say that they will not use their nuclear weapons out of nowhere. However, they did change their policy for the use of their nuclear weapons, and now they could use their nuclear weapons if one of the leaders of the country would be attacked. They also keep increasing their production of nuclear weapons.

Japan is not very fond of the nuclear weapon program of North Korea and said that if a missile would cross Japanese territory that it would be shut down. Japan has also taken serious measures against North Korea with regards to people crossing the border. Japan also seriously encourages North Korea to listen to the resolutions made in the UN and stop with any provocations including nuclear missile launches.

The United States also strongly encourages North Korea to stop the nuclear missile program. The US also stopped with providing aid to North Korea after North Korea launched a long-range missile test in April of 2012. The Biden Administration’s 2022 Nuclear Posture Review said, “Any nuclear attack by North Korea against the United States or its Allies and partners is unacceptable and will result in the end of that regime.” This also shows the view of The United States in this matter.

**Timeline of events**

* *1950’s* – start of interest North Korea in nuclear weapons.
* *2003* – North Korea withdrew from the treaty of the Non-Proliferation of nuclear weapons
* *2006, 6 October* - first underground nuclear test
* *2007* – six-party talks
* *2009, 25 May* – second nuclear test
* *2012* – US stopped food and fuel aid
* *2012, April* – Long-range missile test
* *2012* – possible third underground nuclear test
* *2016, 6 January* – fourth underground nuclear test
* *2016, 7 February* – North Korea proposed satellite idea
* *2016, 9 September* – fifth nuclear test
* *2017* – launch of two ICBMs
* *2018, June* – The Singapore Declaration
* *2022* – Policy nuclear weapons of North Korea changed

**Resolution**

This research report is a good starting point for your investigation. Consider ways to debate on the independence of the non-self-governing territories that benefit the most countries involved. Remember to pay attention not only to the less-developed countries involved in the issue, but also to the developed countries. Furthermore, keep in mind that different countries have different policies, as well as global differences. These differences may be economic, but they are also primarily cultural. Make sure to thoroughly research your country and remember that you are speaking as if you are representing that country. Therefore, before attending the conference, do some research on your country's policies.

For more information on resolution writing, please refer to the MUNA booklet on our MUNA site: <https://munalfrink.nl/>.

**Links and sources**

<https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_sanctions_against_North_Korea>

<https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/North_Korea_and_weapons_of_mass_destruction#2006>

<https://www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/arms-control-and-proliferation-profile-north-korea#:~:text=North%20Korea%20is%20estimated%20to,pace%20of%20ballistic%20missile%20testing>.

<https://munalfrink.nl/conference/delegate-information/>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Six-party_talks>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Intercontinental_ballistic_missile>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Underground_nuclear_weapons_testing>

<https://www.mofa.go.jp/a_o/na/kp/page4e_000377.html>

<https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/IF/IF10472#:~:text=U.S.%20policy%20as%20well%20as,repeatedly%20rejected%20%E2%80%9Cdenuclearization%E2%80%9D%20talks>.