The future of nuclear arms control regimes and the security implications for the EU

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European Parliament SEDE SubCommittee Hearing, 18 Feb 2020
2020 ➔ NPT at 50: Serious challenges for non-proliferation and disarmament

- CTBT adopted 1996, still 8 states away from entry into force
- 1996-now: No treaties negotiated in Conference on Disarmament
- 2017 UN General Assembly negotiated TPNW
- 1995 NPT indefinite extension
- Continuing proliferation
- 2000 NPT agrees 13 Disarmament Steps
- 2000-05: NPT-5 agree and then oppose disarmament steps
- 2003 DPRK withdraws from NPT + makes NW
- 2020: 9 nuclear-armed states with over 13,800 nuclear weapons
Each of the Parties to the Treaty undertakes to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament, and on a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control.
Current threats to nuclear treaties and rules: -- INF, JCPOA... is New START next?

**May 2018:** US/Pres Trump announces withdrawal from 2015 JCPOA (Iran nuclear deal with NPT5 + Germany/EU)

**August 2019:** the 1987 Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty is killed off by Russian Pres Putin and Trump
New nuclear weapons designed to be more usable -- assuring WMD forever?

Trump’s 2021 Budget has funding for:
new ground-launched cruise and hypersonic ballistic missiles

- B61-12 Life Extension Programme,
- W80-4 Life Extension Programme,
- W88 Alteration 370,
- W87-1 Modification Programme,
- W93 warhead programme

- W76-2 warhead on Trident missiles
- B61-12 air dropped bombs in Europe (with software problems)
RUSSIA is pursuing new hypersonic missiles and new generation ground-launched dual capable cruise missiles to beat US missile defences.

- Increasing regional and international instability, especially relating to the 9 nuclear-armed states
- continuing proliferation, with thousands of NW still on high alert
2017 Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

TPNW concluded in UN General Assembly 7 July 2017

Opened for Signature by UN Secretary-General on 20 Sept 2020 at UN in NY

TPNW on Feb 18th 2019
81 State Signatories
35 States Parties

50 needed for entry into force
The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons: What it says

1) Strong humanitarian **PREAMBLE** recognises

- catastrophic humanitarian consequences,
- the importance of the experience of Hibakusha (Survivors), and their rights
- environmental, health, socioeconomic consequences inc disproportionate impacts on women and girls and indigenous peoples
- compatibility with other relevant treaties inc NPT, CTBT, as well as International Humanitarian Law
- effective participation of women (as well as men) in nuclear disarmament - to attain sustainable peace and security
- peace and disarmament education
Article 1
Prohibitions

1. Each State Party undertakes never under any circumstances to:

(a) Develop, test, produce, manufacture, otherwise acquire, possess or stockpile nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices;

(b) Transfer to any recipient whatsoever nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices or control over such weapons or explosive devices directly or indirectly;
Article 1
Prohibitions [continued]
(c) Receive the transfer of or control over nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices directly or indirectly;
(d) Use or threaten to use nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices;
(e) Assist, encourage or induce, in any way, anyone to engage in any activity prohibited to a State Party under this Treaty;
(f) Seek or receive any assistance, in any way, from anyone to engage in any activity prohibited to a State Party under this Treaty;
(g) Allow any stationing, installation or deployment of any nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices in its territory or at any place under its jurisdiction or control.
TPNW – Towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons

ARTICLES 2-5: Set out how nuclear armed states like UK and nuclear dependent allies e.g. NATO, Japan, South Korea and Australia can join the Treaty:

a) Sign and negotiate a timetable, requirements and conditions for elimination
   or
b) Eliminate and then join (South Africa’s example)
Think about deterrence without nuclear weapons
Tailoring mix of deterrence tools for different kinds of conflict, potential adversaries and situations

Roles of:
- communication?
- intelligence?
- diplomacy?
- economics?
- emergency services?
- defence services?
Why Disarmament Treaties are Important

- Halting and eliminating inhumane weapons and practices
- Capping destabilizing developments in weapons and practices
- Collectively developed security and peace-building institutions, norms and rule of international law
- Promoting transparency, confidence-building, monitoring and verification
Treaties promote norms, laws, prevention of use...
They provide tools for implementation, verification, assistance and accountability
Benefits from Treaties

- Collective security
- Building shared objectives, norms, rules and laws
- Fostering cooperative understanding, confidence and trust

- Shared responsibilities
- Enhancing resources for peace, security, and development
- Institutional and mutual support

THIS is a NEVER ENDING TASK and COMMITMENT, requiring vigilance, skills, technologies, resources...
Consider attending NPT and please sign ICAN’s Parliamentary Pledge for the TPNW and photograph and share this out widely.