

Youth, disarmament and non-proliferation

A/RES/78/31

Young people are agents for social change, economic development and technological innovation. India attaches great importance to engaging and working with the youth to raise awareness of and to find innovative solutions to issues of disarmament, arms control and international security.

India sponsored General Assembly resolution 78/31, entitled “Youth, disarmament and non-proliferation”. The resolution calls upon Member States to consider developing and implementing policies and programmes for young people to increase and facilitate their constructive engagement in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation.

In this regard, the Annual Disarmament and International Security Affairs Fellowship, launched by India in 2019, has been well received by various Member States, particularly the younger generation of diplomats. The latest edition i.e. 5th edition of the fellowship programme was held from January 13-31, 2025 at the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service, New Delhi, with participation of 34 diplomats from 33 countries across the various regions in the world. The fellowship programme aims to raise awareness and exchange views among young officials from across the world on issues related to contemporary disarmament, non-proliferation, arms control and international security affairs. It features talks, presentations and simulation exercises by leading experts on a range of subjects, such as the global security environment, weapons of mass destruction, certain conventional weapons, space security, security of cyberspace, export controls and emerging technologies, and includes visits to facilities of the Department of Atomic Energy of India and the Indian Space Research Organization to provide the fellows a first-hand exposure to India’s civil nuclear and civil space programmes.

The Fellowship programme also aims to fulfil the mandate of General Assembly resolution entitled “United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education” and is in line with the focus on disarmament education in the agenda for disarmament of the Secretary-General, Securing Our Common Future: An Agenda for Disarmament.
