


Permanent Mission
of the Federal Republic of Germany
to the United Nations
New York

17 October 2025

Statement

First Committee of the 80th UN General Assembly Cluster I Nuclear Issues

Chair,

Germany fully aligns itself with the statement of the EU.

Distinguished colleagues,

We assemble here in New York 80 years after Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and 30 years after the indefinite extension of the NPT. Next Spring, we will come together for the NPT Review Conference.

Meanwhile I hear many voices expressing concern that the NPT might erode without a successful outcome of the Review conference.

Lest we forget: It is important to differentiate between the NPT and its Review Cycle. In today's world, the NPT is a bedrock in stormy weather, a near-universal global good. The NPT helped cutting the nuclear arsenals of US and RUS after the Cold War, it curbed proliferation, preventing the scenario of dozens of nuclear weapon states predicted in the 1960s, and it guaranteed access to a vast range of peaceful nuclear applications so beneficial to millions

of people around the globe – whilst being supervised by a strong and highly capable IAEA. In short: The NPT is a success story.

Even more important, during 80 years after Hiroshima and Nagasaki no nuclear weapon has been used. The testimony of the survivors of the nuclear detonations, the Hibakusha, played an important role and their work has been widely recognized by awarding the Nobel Peace Prize to Nihon Hidankyo last year.

It is paramount to reflect on the value and the benefits of the NPT when approaching the RevCon next year. In doing so, all of us should be ready to reconfirm our commitment to the NPT, its principles and objectives and previous commitments undertaken in the Review Process from 1995 until today. This should be our bottom-line, the basis we have to build upon.

Colleagues,

No doubt - the NPT does not exist in a vacuum, and actions of its member states, especially some of its NWS, affect the future and credibility of the treaty. Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, starting with the breach of the Budapest Memorandum, and its repeated threats of nuclear weapons use to support its aggression as well as its violations of International Law and ADN commitments has severely damaged the non-proliferation and disarmament regime. China's massive nuclear build-up, opaque and untransparent, contravenes its art. VI obligations – and its no first use pledge is not sufficient to address the concern, as it cannot be verified.

With tension rising, risk reduction measures become ever more urgent. Risk reduction must therefore be at the center of next year's deliberations, alongside transparency and verification and our ambition to strengthen the

Review Process. We highlight the P3's exemplary transparency regarding their stockpiles and doctrines, through the provision of national reports, and NATO's transparency regarding its annual nuclear exercise. NATO's deterrence and defence posture remains defensive, proportionate and fully in line with the UN Charter and International Law.

Chair,

The NPT has made the world a safer and better place. Let us pay tribute to the treaty and work hard together to make the Review Conference a success.

Thank you!