Executive Summary

Open Nuclear Network (ONN) undertook various activities related to nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament education in 2022-2024. ONN's efforts have included delivering lectures, providing on-the-job training, developing innovative research methodologies, addressing information asymmetries, and promoting equal opportunities in the nuclear field. Key activities have involved educational collaborations, workshops on open-source data analysis (OSINT), support for UN initiatives, hosting of innovative forecasting workshops, and active participation in international conferences. ONN has also launched the "Event Horizon" digest to monitor conflict escalation and published over 30 reports on critical nuclear issues. For more information on ONN activities please visit http://opennuclear.org/.

Report

During the reporting period, ONN's educational and training activities in disarmament, non-proliferation and risk reduction have targeted a wide range of audiences, raising awareness among emerging professionals, the expert community, decision-makers, and the public. The organization has conducted research activities, workshops, and media engagements to support these endeavours and further its mission.

Educational outreach

From 2022 to 2024, ONN has engaged in various educational activities aimed at promoting nuclear risk reduction and the use of open-source data analysis for research on non-proliferation, arms control, and disarmament. ONN delivered lectures to students, emerging professionals, and experts, including from developing countries, covering essential topics and techniques. This educational outreach included hosting students from the University of Mississippi (USA) and a delegation from Russia, as well as providing lectures at the Vienna Center for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation (VCDNP) courses for practitioners and diplomats. Additionally, ONN developed and led an introductory workshop on OSINT for nuclear professionals, contributing to the EUNPDC, VCDNP, and
IAI's Young Women and Next Generation Initiative Mentorship Programme. ONN also supported educational initiatives by the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), such as the Long Night of Research and the Youth Leader Fund for a World without Nuclear Weapons.

**Training and Employment**

ONG has committed to fostering the development of emerging professionals by offering entry-level positions that do not require prior work experience or graduate degrees. During the reporting period, ONN hosted six research consultants, four of whom were offered permanent full-time positions. ONN has ensured the participation of its junior staff members at international conferences and events, providing valuable exposure and experience.

**Research Approaches**

In the realm of research, ONN has integrated new technologies and methodologies into its non-proliferation and disarmament efforts. The establishment of the Office for Foresight and Prediction marked a significant step in implementing forecasting methodologies into ONN’s research work. A notable achievement was a workshop held in collaboration with VERTIC, CNS, and the Swift Centre for Applied Forecasting, aimed at predicting developments in North Korea's nuclear and missile programmes.

Furthermore, at the invitation of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), ONN helped conduct the Menzingen Verification Experiment. This initiative tested the use of commercial satellite imagery for disarmament verification, resulting in a published report and a joint paper on the application of satellite imagery in verification inspections.

**Information Dissemination**

Addressing information asymmetries has been another focus area for ONN. In 2024, ONN launched the "Event Horizon" news digest, which tracks potential conflict escalation in critical regions and synthesizes information from diverse sources. This digest has over 400 subscribers and is available for subscription by a wider audience. The digest reaches its subscribers across regions, including the Asia-Pacific region, Northeast Asia, Southeast Asia, and Central Asia. The digest synthesizes information from a variety of sources, providing links to the original sources including non-English sources.
Over the reporting period, ONN has published over 30 articles, reports, and briefs on pressing topics such as North Korea's military modernization and nuclear program, the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), the use of satellite imagery for verification purposes, the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), and issues of misinformation and disinformation related to nuclear matters. These publications have reached a wide audience, including the expert community, decision-makers, emerging professionals, and the public, contributing to a broader understanding and informed dialogue on these issues. ONN frequently briefs government and IO officials on its research and findings.

ONN regularly participates in international and regional conferences and events, contributing to discussions on non-proliferation, arms control, and nuclear risk reduction. ONN also raises awareness among the public, expert communities, and decision-makers through interviews with global and regional media outlets and by contributing to podcasts.

To reach an even broader audience, ONN has increasingly utilized social media platforms such as Twitter, LinkedIn, and Facebook to disseminate information. With around 6000 followers across different platforms, ONN produces visual and video content, engaging comics, and expert interviews.

**Gender equality initiatives**

Promoting equal opportunities for all genders has been a priority for ONN. ONN directors join the International Gender Champions movement, advocating for gender equality. During the reporting period, ONN co-sponsored the "Women of Mass Distinction" (WMD) networking reception, which highlighted women’s contributions to the nuclear field and fostered networking opportunities. This event was part of the joint annual meeting of the International Nuclear Materials Management (INMM) and the European Safeguards Research and Development Association (ESARDA).