



CZECH REPUBLIC

Permanent Mission of the Czech Republic to the United Nations

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of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)**

General Debate

Statement by

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Chair, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

The Czech Republic aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union.

For more than five decades, the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons has served as a cornerstone of the global security architecture. It has constrained the spread of nuclear weapons, promoted cooperation on the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and laid the foundation for efforts toward nuclear disarmament.

All States Parties – nuclear-weapon and non-nuclear-weapon States alike – benefit from the stability, predictability, and confidence that the Treaty provides. Its erosion would not enhance anyone’s security. Selective implementation, disregard for obligations, or their reinterpretation therefore undermine trust and weaken the Treaty as a whole.

Chair,

The Czech Republic condemns Russia’s belligerent nuclear rhetoric and its threats to use nuclear force in its war of aggression against Ukraine. Nuclear threats are deeply irresponsible. A just and lasting peace that preserves Ukraine's sovereignty and strengthens its security is urgently needed. The ongoing war has serious implications for safeguards and for nuclear safety and security, especially of Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant, and is a great cause of alarm for all NPT State Parties.

Chair,

Proliferation challenges are further testing the resilience of the Treaty. The continued failure of Iran to comply with its safeguards obligations, and the absence of confidence in the exclusively peaceful nature of its nuclear programme, represent a serious proliferation concern. Statements by Iranian officials questioning Iran’s continued participation in the NPT cast further doubt on Iran’s denials that it seeks a nuclear weapon. A diplomatic solution remains the preferred path, but it must be based on internationally verifiable compliance and transparency.

Similarly, the DPRK’s ongoing advancement of its nuclear and missile capabilities, in violation of multiple UN Security Council resolutions and outside the NPT framework, remains a grave threat to regional and international security.

Chair,

Given the worsening security environment, NATO’s nuclear sharing arrangements and extended nuclear deterrence are key tools for preventing proliferation and maintaining security, particularly through NATO’s role in deterring aggression and protecting non-nuclear Allies. NATO’s longstanding deterrence policy, which pre-dates the NPT, respects Articles I and II and continues to support the Treaty's non-proliferation objectives.

Chair,

The Czech Republic reaffirms the inalienable right of all NPT States Parties to the peaceful use of nuclear energy in full conformity with the Treaty, while emphasizing standards of nuclear safety, security and safeguards and the central role of the IAEA. Peaceful nuclear cooperation, under strict safeguards, remains a legitimate right and an important contribution to sustainable development and energy security.

In this context, the Czech Republic fully subscribes to the conclusions contained in the French working paper titled “Nuclear Energy: A Path Toward Net Zero”. It highlights a shared goal that nuclear energy can and will bring about energy security and a transition to a low-carbon economy. The IAEA’s role will continue to be central in harnessing the benefits of nuclear energy, from power application to human health.

The NPT has endured precisely because it serves the collective interest. At this Review Conference, we have a responsibility to once again reinforce its authority. In doing so, we can ensure that the Treaty continues to enhance the security of all States Parties for generations to come.

Thank you, Chair.