

Mr. President/ Vice-Chair

At the outset, I join other delegations in congratulating you, Ambassador Viet, as President of the 11th NPT RevCom.

I assure you of my delegation's full support in the weeks ahead.

Malta aligns with the EU statement. I would now like to add some remarks from a national perspective.

Mr President/Vice-Chair

We meet today at the NPT RevCon that feels very different from previous cycles. The world of 2026 is no longer just standing at a crossroads; it is navigating a major storm.

From the collapse of the New START framework to the blurring of conventional and nuclear lines by emerging technologies, the guardrails have frayed.

We urge all nuclear weapon states to meet their Article VI obligations under the NPT, for the Conference to address specific severe risks including Iran and the DPRK, whilst calling for urgent compliance with IAEA's safeguards. We further believe that the Conference should take on board the fundamental imperative of human security.

Mr President/VC

As we reflect in our deliberations during the weeks ahead, we should not shy away from addressing the challenges that lie ahead, namely;

1. the fragility of assurances - where the erosion of security guarantees and the normalization of nuclear threats in regional conflicts have shattered the "nuclear taboo";
2. the technology paradox -where the rise of AI-enabled command systems and hypersonic delivery vehicles has increased the risk of catastrophe through miscalculation, not just intent; and,

3. the legitimacy deficit: Mindful that the NPT cannot survive as a static hierarchy, nuclear-weapon and non-nuclear-weapon states are urged to recognise the need to restore the Treaty's moral and legal authority.

Mr President/VC

I shall now provide comments regarding disarmament, non-proliferation and gender, as core foreign policy objectives of my country. For Malta, disarmament and non-proliferation is not a cold calculation of warheads. It is a question of justice and inclusion. As Gender Focal Point for TPNW States, Malta underlines that a gender-blind approach to nuclear policy is an ineffective one, as it overlooks the differentiated impacts of nuclear weapons and excludes perspectives essential to informed, legitimate, and sustainable decision-making. Malta remains firmly committed to advancing gender-responsive approaches across disarmament fora, including through sustained advocacy for the full, equal, and meaningful participation of women in nuclear policy processes.

We acknowledge as such, the disproportionate biological harm radiation inflicts on women and girls, and the social burdens survivors carry. Above all we acknowledge the need for the full, equal, and effective participation of women in every room where security is defined. Diversity is not a checkbox; it is a prerequisite for better, more durable outcomes in the disarmament machinery.

In this context, allow me to warmly extend an invitation to all delegates at the NPT Rev Con to attend the side event Malta is organising together with UNIDIR, entitled "Nuclear Policy Across Generations: Ensuring Inclusive, Peaceful Processes for a Sustainable Future for All", which is being held on Monday, 4 May 2026, in Conference Room 8, at 1315. On that occasion, we will further explore the importance of gender and youth-inclusive approaches in shaping credible and sustainable nuclear policy outcomes.

Mr. President/VC

In conclusion, let me join other delegations in urging all States Parties to do their utmost so that the eleventh NPT review cycle does not end in yet another wasted opportunity to re-commit to the NPT ideals as a vital framework for international

security. Let 2026 be remembered not for the failure of our institutions, but for the courage all state parties to turn deliberations into decisions.

Thank you