



*Statement by*  
*Ms. Natascia Bartolini*  
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*of the Republic of San Marino to the United Nations*

*at the General Debate of the*  
*2026 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear*  
*Weapons (New York, 27 April – 22 May 2026)*

Mr. President,

First of all, I would like to congratulate you on your election. You can count on this delegation's full cooperation.

San Marino aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union. Now I would like to add some comments in my national capacity.

The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons is the cornerstone of the global nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime. Our collective commitment to the Treaty and its three mutually reinforcing pillars—non-proliferation, disarmament, and peaceful uses of nuclear energy—remains fundamental.

For more than five decades, the NPT has played a critical role in strengthening international peace and security. However, today the Treaty is facing profound and growing challenges.

San Marino reiterates that preventing non-proliferation remains a central objective of the Treaty and that we need to ensure full compliance with all the non-proliferation and disarmament obligations.

The work of the Atomic Energy Agency for the implementation of comprehensive safeguards is critical to maintaining confidence in the non-proliferation regime. All States must fully cooperate with the Agency and uphold the highest standards of transparency and accountability.

At the same time, my delegation underscores the equal importance of nuclear disarmament.

Still today, nuclear weapons remain one of the greatest threats to our existence. We should not underestimate the catastrophic humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons. Recent scientific studies have highlighted the devastating, complex and cascading humanitarian impacts of a nuclear detonation, which would create transboundary short- and long-term consequences on the environment and on the life and health of present and future generations, including a disproportionate impact on women, girls and children.

Progress towards a world without nuclear weapons remains an urgent and shared responsibility.

The total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against their use. States possessing nuclear weapons must continue working toward the reduction and elimination of their arsenals, while also strengthening nuclear risk-reduction measures and enhancing transparency and accountability. All States have indeed a national security interest in ensuring the highest possible level of transparency and accountability, as we all work to safeguard our populations and territories from the risks and consequences of nuclear weapons.

Mr. President,

Nuclear weapons are the most inhumane and indiscriminate weapons ever created and they continue to pose an existential threat to humanity.

More than 50 years after the NPT entry into force, nuclear armed States still possess more than 12,000 nuclear weapons in the world, many of which can be used within minutes.

Furthermore, the use of new technologies in nuclear weapons systems creates further concerns. Integrating emerging technologies into nuclear weapons systems may increase the risk of nuclear use by heightening the chances of miscalculation, escalation, and loss of control. Meaningful human control over nuclear weapons and their delivery systems must therefore be preserved.

San Marino is deeply concerned about the global increased militarism and about the increasing relevance of nuclear weapons in security doctrines and firmly condemns the increasing nuclear rhetoric. We reiterate that any use or threat of use of nuclear weapons is a violation of international law.

My Country is also deeply concerned about the emerging nuclear arms race, the increasing expenditures in nuclear weapons and the modernization of nuclear arsenals. These trends contradict the spirit of the NPT. Together with the erosion of arms control framework, they undermine our confidence in our collective commitments and the credibility of the Treaty itself.

San Marino calls on all States—especially those possessing nuclear weapons—to undertake concrete, transparent, and irreversible measures toward nuclear disarmament. Such steps should include reducing the role of nuclear weapons in national security strategies, ending the modernization and expansion of nuclear arsenals, and engaging in constructive negotiations aimed at their complete elimination.

Mr. President,

This Review Conference provides an important opportunity to rebuild trust and to strengthen the NPT regime. We cannot miss the opportunity to reaffirm our shared commitments to the Treaty and to uphold the credibility of this important instrument. It is time to move forward.

San Marino reiterates its commitment to the objectives and principles of the NPT and will continue working towards the ultimate goal of a world free of nuclear weapons.

Thank you.