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## Letter from the Secretary Generals:

The following pages intend to guide you in the research of the topics that will be debated at ADAMUN 2025 in committee sessions. Please note this guide only provides the basis for your investigation. It is your responsibility to find as much information necessary on the topics and how they relate to the country you represent. Such information should help you write your Position Paper, where you need to cite the references in the text and finally list all references in the Modern Language Association (MLA) format.

The more information and understanding you acquire on the two topics, the more you will be able to influence the Resolution writing process through debates , and the ADAMUN experience as a whole. Please feel free to contact us if and when you face challenges in your research or formatting your Position Papers.

We encourage you to learn all you can about your topics first and then study your country with regard to the two selected topics. Please remember that both committee members need to be well versed and ready to debate both topics.

Enjoy researching and writing your Position Papers.

We look forward to seeing you at the Conference!

Secretariat Team of ADAMUN'25

Deniz ÖZKUBAT & Hasan Eren BAYKAL

## Letter from the USGs:

Honorable participants of ADAMUN'25,

I, as the Under-Secretary-General of this distinguished committee, Ela Çimen, am glad to welcome you all to our conference. I hope that we will have a beautiful and unforgettable conference with the memories and experiences we will share together.

This study guide was written by my dear friend and I so that you can complete your research more easily before and during the committee, spend your MUN experience in the most efficient way and use it as a guide.

We have worked hard for you to be satisfied with these conferences, which we have carefully prepared for ADAMUN'25 to be an enjoyable, fun and educational experience for all of us. I am sure that our delegates will do a great job at this conference by sharing their individual experiences and thoughts.

I think that our committee will provide you with new insights on many different topics. If you have any confusion, misunderstanding, uncertainty, indecision, you can reach me and my other friends from the academy team without hesitation. I hope that this Study Guide, which we have completed with a lot of time and effort, will help you during your MUN experience.

By offering my best wishes,

Ela Çimen, Under-Secretary-General of DISEC

Dear Delegates,

It's a pleasure to welcome you all to the ADAMUN'25. My name is Aybike Aslan and I am the Under-Secretary-General of DISEC Committee.

We have worked tirelessly to create an incredible slate of committees that addresses pressing issues while creating stimulating debate. Together, we are committed to creating an equitable but challenging environment for you all to grow as delegates and people.

From relations between Asia Pacific countries to nuclear disarmament in North Korea, this year's slate offers delegates the opportunity to challenge themselves and push themselves to be better debaters and diplomats. No matter what country or character you represent, we hope that you come out with a new skill, perspective, or friend.

If you ever have any questions or concerns regarding committees, background guides, or anything else, please do not hesitate to contact me or any member of Team Committees. I look forward to seeing you all in May and watching you debate, collaborate, and implement creative ideas to solve the committee problems. I hope you all enjoy this conference and come out of it with a memorable experience.

Welcome to ADAMUN'25

Best of wishes,

Aybike Aslan, Under-Secretary-General of DISEC

## Introduction to the Committee:

The Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC) is one of the six main committees of the United Nations General Assembly. It primarily addresses issues related to international security, disarmament, and the prevention of the proliferation of weapons, especially weapons of mass destruction. DISEC is responsible for creating resolutions that aim to foster global peace and security, reduce the arms race, and prevent conflicts that could threaten the stability of nations or regions.

DISEC's agenda often includes topics such as nuclear disarmament, arms control treaties, and the prevention of the use of chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons. In addition to disarmament, the committee works on matters such as cybersecurity, the regulation of conventional weapons, and the role of the UN in peacekeeping operations.

The committee's purpose is to promote international cooperation on issues that affect the security and stability of the world. Delegates in DISEC must negotiate and collaborate to develop solutions that consider both the security concerns of individual nations and the collective interests of the international community.



## Key Definitions:

**ASEAN:** The Association of Southeast Asian Nations

**Missile:** a weapon that is sent through the air and that explodes when it hits the thing that it is aimed at

**Cybersecurity:** measures that are taken to protect against the criminal use of electronic data

**Disarmament:** the fact of a country reducing the size of its armed forces or the number of weapons, especially nuclear weapons, that it has

**6-Party-Talks:** 6 countries that have met to discuss the Deconfliction of the North Korean nuclear issue. (DPRK, China, America, Japan, Republic of Korea and Russia)

**Imperialism:** a system in which one country controls other countries, often after defeating them in a war

**Negotiations:** formal discussion between people/countries who are trying to reach an agreement

**Pyongyang:** Capital of DPRK

**Moratorium:** a temporary stopping of an activity, especially by official agreement

**Trajectory:**the curved path of something that has been fired, hit or thrown into the air

**Altitude:**the height above sea level

# Agenda 1:

## Overview

The Asia-Pacific region is one of the most important and complex areas in the world due to its strategic position, economic growth, and political significance. It includes both powerful countries like China, India, Japan, and Russia, as well as smaller nations. The region is crucial not only because of its economic strength but also because of its vital role in global trade and security. One of the main security concerns in the Asia-Pacific is nuclear proliferation. Countries like North Korea, India, and Pakistan have nuclear weapons, and China is expanding its nuclear capabilities. North Korea's nuclear program is particularly concerning, as it raises tensions in the region, especially with South Korea and Japan. Additionally, territorial disputes, such as those over the South China Sea and Taiwan, add further security risks, as China's growing influence causes friction with other countries. Military alliances also play a key role in regional security. The United States has security agreements with countries like Japan and South Korea, which counterbalance China's rising power. Alliances like the Quad (U.S., Japan, India, Australia) further impact security dynamics. These alliances often increase competition and tensions between nations. Emerging threats such as cyberattacks and technological advancements also pose significant risks. New technologies like artificial intelligence and autonomous weapons are reshaping security strategies in the region. Finally, arms control and disarmament remain key issues. Despite efforts to reduce nuclear weapons, countries like India, Pakistan, and North Korea have hindered progress, making disarmament difficult. Military buildup and the spread of new weapons systems also complicate the situation. The region's security is shaped by competing national interests and the rivalry between global powers. However, international cooperation, diplomacy, and disarmament efforts are essential for achieving lasting peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific.

### *Key Security Challenges in the Asia-Pacific*

#### **1. Territorial Disputes**

Territorial disputes are one of the most pressing security issues in the Asia-Pacific region, especially in the South China Sea and the East China Sea. These disputes involve overlapping claims to islands, reefs, and maritime boundaries, which are critical for regional security, resource extraction, and strategic military positioning.

**a. South China Sea:** The South China Sea is one of the most contentious areas, with China, Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia, Brunei, and Taiwan claiming portions of the sea. China's extensive claims, backed by the controversial "nine-dash line," have escalated tensions with its Southeast Asian neighbors and attracted international concern. The region is strategically

vital due to its shipping lanes, fisheries, and potential undersea oil and gas reserves. China's militarization of artificial islands and its assertive behavior in the region have sparked confrontations not only with regional claimants but also with external powers like the United States, which conducts freedom of navigation operations (FONOPs) to challenge China's claims.

**b. East China Sea:** Another major source of tension is the East China Sea, where China and Japan dispute sovereignty over the Senkaku/Diaoyu Islands. Although uninhabited, these islands are located in a resource-rich area and hold significant strategic value. The disagreement has led to occasional naval standoffs and has the potential to escalate into larger confrontations, especially as China seeks to assert its dominance over the region.

These territorial disputes complicate regional relations and contribute to broader geopolitical instability in the Asia-Pacific, as external powers like the U.S., Russia, and even the European Union become involved.

seas of China:



## 2. North Korean Nuclear Threat

North Korea's nuclear weapons program is a significant and persistent security threat in the region. Despite multiple rounds of diplomatic engagement, Pyongyang has continued to develop its nuclear and missile capabilities, often through provocative actions that increase regional instability.

**a. Missile Tests and Nuclear Development:** North Korea has carried out numerous missile tests and nuclear weapons detonations, raising alarms within the region and beyond. Its increasing nuclear capabilities and long-range missile development represent a direct threat to South Korea, Japan, and even the U.S. mainland. Despite international sanctions and efforts by various countries, North Korea continues to pursue nuclear weapons, further isolating itself from the international community.

**b. Regional Tensions and Alliances:** North Korea's actions have heightened tensions not only between the North and South but also between North Korea and the United States, Japan, and other regional powers. The situation is particularly fragile as the U.S. has mutual defense agreements with South Korea and Japan, leading to fears of a wider military conflict in the event of a miscalculation. The threat from North Korea is further complicated by the regime's unpredictability and aggressive rhetoric.

The North Korean nuclear issue remains a key driver of instability in the Asia-Pacific and continues to dominate security concerns, requiring multilateral diplomatic efforts to manage the risk of escalation.

## 3. China's Military Modernization and Expansion

China's rapid military modernization and its growing influence in the Asia-Pacific are reshaping the region's security landscape. The country's increasing assertiveness in its

territorial claims, especially in the South China Sea and around Taiwan, has raised concerns about regional stability.

**a.South China Sea and Military Posturing:** China's construction of artificial islands and establishment of military bases in the South China Sea are part of a broader strategy to exert control over this vital waterway. China has also increasingly deployed naval and air assets to assert its claims, raising tensions with other claimant states like Vietnam and the Philippines. The militarization of the region is particularly alarming for the U.S., which has conducted regular patrols to challenge China's territorial assertions.

**b.The Taiwan Issue:** Taiwan remains a flashpoint in Sino-American relations. China views Taiwan as a breakaway province and has never ruled out the use of force to bring it under Beijing's control. The U.S. maintains strategic ambiguity but has committed to supporting Taiwan's defense, making the Taiwan Strait a potential area of military conflict. The rising tension over Taiwan has implications not only for China and Taiwan but also for regional and global security.

**c.Regional Rivalries and Military Alliances:** China's growing military power has led to a regional arms race and the formation of military alliances, particularly between the U.S., Japan, South Korea, and Australia. China's military assertiveness is part of its broader strategy to increase its influence across the Asia-Pacific, which has led to increasing geopolitical rivalry with the U.S. and its allies.

China's military expansion has been a significant factor in altering the balance of power in the Asia-Pacific, fueling competition between major powers and potentially destabilizing the region.

#### ***4. Terrorism and Violent Extremism***

Southeast Asia continues to face threats from terrorism and violent extremism, particularly from groups inspired by international terrorist organizations such as ISIS and Al-Qaeda. The presence of local extremist groups further exacerbates regional security challenges.

**a.Regional Terrorist Networks:** Southeast Asia has been home to several high-profile terrorist groups, such as Jemaah Islamiyah in Indonesia, Abu Sayyaf in the Philippines, and more recently ISIS-affiliated groups in Malaysia, Indonesia, and the southern Philippines. These groups often engage in bombings, kidnappings, and other forms of violence, destabilizing local governments and posing a threat to civilian populations.

**b.Foreign Fighters and Radicalization:** Southeast Asia has also seen the return of foreign fighters who joined ISIS in the Middle East, potentially spreading radical ideologies and posing a new threat to the region's security. The region's diverse religious and ethnic

landscape makes it particularly vulnerable to radicalization and the spread of extremist views.

**c. Counterterrorism and Regional Cooperation:** Many countries in Southeast Asia are increasingly cooperating on counterterrorism efforts, engaging in intelligence sharing and joint military operations to combat these groups. However, the persistence of extremist ideologies, along with the challenges of addressing underlying socio-political issues like poverty and governance, means that terrorism remains a significant threat.

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## *Security Alliances and Organizations*

### **1. ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations)**

ASEAN is a critical regional organization that plays a key role in managing security issues in Southeast Asia. It aims to promote dialogue and cooperation among its member states while addressing regional security challenges like territorial disputes, transnational crime, and terrorism.

**a. Diplomatic Initiatives:** Through platforms such as the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and the East Asia Summit (EAS), ASEAN fosters cooperation with external powers like the U.S., China, Japan, and Russia to tackle common security concerns. ASEAN's focus on non-interference and consensus-building allows for cooperation, but at times, it can be a limitation when decisive action is needed.

**b. Limitations of ASEAN:** Despite its successes, ASEAN has struggled to address complex issues, particularly territorial disputes like those in the South China Sea, due to its consensus-driven decision-making process and the varying interests of its members. However, its role in conflict prevention and dialogue remains indispensable.

### **2. U.S.-Asia Alliances**

The United States maintains strong military alliances with key countries in the Asia-Pacific, which are essential to maintaining regional security and stability. These alliances are based on mutual defense agreements and strategic cooperation.

**a. Mutual Defense Agreements:** The U.S. has formal defense treaties with Japan, South Korea, and the Philippines. These treaties ensure that an attack on one of these countries is considered an attack on all, providing a powerful deterrent against regional aggressors. These alliances are critical for maintaining the U.S. presence and influence in the region.

**b. Strategic Partnerships:** In addition to its formal alliances, the U.S. also engages in strategic partnerships with other regional powers, including India and Australia, to counter China's

growing influence. The Indo-Pacific Strategy, which emphasizes a “free and open” Indo-Pacific, highlights the U.S. commitment to ensuring regional security and stability.

While these alliances play a key role in maintaining the balance of power, they also contribute to the ongoing geopolitical rivalry between the U.S. and China, which has implications for regional security.

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## *Emerging Trends in Regional Security*

### **1. Cybersecurity**

As digital infrastructure becomes increasingly integral to national security, cybersecurity has emerged as a critical concern in the Asia-Pacific region. The rise of cyber threats, including espionage, cyberattacks, and information warfare, poses significant risks to both military and civilian systems.

**a. Cyber Threats:** Cyberattacks targeting government institutions, critical infrastructure, and private companies are becoming more frequent. State-sponsored cyber espionage is particularly prevalent in the region, with China, North Korea, and other countries engaging in digital warfare to gain strategic advantages.

**b. Regional Cooperation:** To combat these growing threats, countries in the Asia-Pacific are increasingly focusing on enhancing cyber defense capabilities and engaging in regional cooperation on cybersecurity, including intelligence sharing and joint cybersecurity initiatives.

### **2. Environmental and Climate Change Security**

Climate change is increasingly recognized as a key threat to regional security in the Asia-Pacific, particularly in island nations and low-lying coastal areas. Rising sea levels, more frequent and severe natural disasters, and changing weather patterns create significant challenges for regional security and stability.

**a. Environmental Displacement:** Rising sea levels and environmental degradation may force entire populations to relocate, creating climate refugees. These movements could exacerbate tensions in already fragile regions and lead to further instability.

**b. Environmental Diplomacy:** Countries in the Asia-Pacific are beginning to integrate climate change into their national security strategies, recognizing the need for regional cooperation to mitigate the impacts of climate change and to adapt to environmental challenges.

## Disarmament in the Asia-Pacific

Australia has attempted to derail a ban on nuclear weapons at a UN meeting on disarmament, by single-handedly forcing a vote on a report that had been expected to pass unanimously. The report, which recommended negotiations begin in 2017 to ban nuclear weapons, was eventually passed by 68 votes to 22. Moves towards a ban have been pursued because many saw little progress under the existing non-proliferation treaty, which obliges the five declared nuclear states to “pursue negotiations in good faith” towards “cessation of the nuclear arms race ... and nuclear disarmament”. The proposal recommended a conference be held to negotiate “a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination”. Anti-nuclear campaigners involved in the process expected the report would pass without objection. But Australia surprised observers by objecting and forcing a vote. In an opening statement an Australian diplomat told the meeting: “A simple Ban Treaty would not facilitate the reduction in one nuclear weapon. It might even harden the resolve of those possessing nuclear weapons not to reduce their arsenals.” The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade said on its website that it opposed a ban on nuclear weapons because although it “might seem to be a straightforward and emotionally appealing way to de-legitimise and eradicate nuclear weapons,” it would actually “divert attention from the sustained, practical steps needed for effective disarmament”.

But in 2015, documents obtained under Freedom of Information revealed Australia opposed the ban on nuclear weapons, since it believed it relied on US nuclear weapons as a deterrent. “As long as the threat of nuclear attack or coercion exists, and countries like the DPRK [North Korea] seek these weapons and threaten others, Australia and many other countries will continue to rely on US extended nuclear deterrence,” said one of the briefing notes for government ministers. The documents revealed however that Australia and the US were worried about the momentum gathering behind the Austrian-led push for a ban nuclear weapons, which diplomats said was “fast becoming a galvanising focus for those pushing the ban treaty option”. Japan’s ambassador to the UN conference on disarmament expressed disappointment that a vote was required. “We are deeply concerned that the adoption by voting will further divide the international disarmament community and undermine the momentum of nuclear disarmament for the international community as a whole,” he said. Tim Wright, Asia-Pacific director of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (Ican), said it was thought that Australia’s foreign minister, Julie Bishop, instructed her diplomats to disrupt the international gathering late on Friday afternoon by forcing a vote. While others then joined Australia to vote against the report, Australia was alone in forcing the vote to happen.

A Department of Foreign Affairs spokesman said: “Proceeding with ban treaty negotiations without states which possess nuclear weapons will not further nuclear disarmament.” Japan was considering the nuclear option as disarmament falls off the international agenda. This was the stark message to emerge from a series of presentations at a gathering of world

experts on proliferation in Washington. The strongest warning about the nuclear danger that is growing in the world was delivered by a top UN official leading inspection efforts in Iraq. They will not succeed in stopping more countries building the bomb if the countries that have them already do not scrap them as well, argued Mohamed El Baradei, the Head of the International Atomic Energy Agency. Speaking in Washington DC at a conference of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, he emphasised that the UN treaty controlling proliferation was a bargain between nuclear 'haves' and 'have nots' with the haves agreeing to implement multilateral disarmament and the have-nots agreeing not to build the bomb. He argued that efforts to stop Iraqi and North Korean nuclear ambitions and to rein in India and Pakistan were put at risk while China, France, Russia, the UK and the US continue to prize their own weapons. El Baradei singled out for criticism the concept of 'deterrence' and the idea that some states without their own nuclear weapons would have the US so-called 'nuclear umbrella'. His remarks come just a week before NATO will invite seven more nations to join its nuclear weapons based club. El Baradei spelled out five key aspects for a successful mission for the UN inspectors in Iraq. That the team he and Hans Blix will have responsibility for, get full access and full implementation of the UN's authority; that nations give them the intelligence they have on Iraqi activity; that there is prompt action against Iraqi noncompliance; full Iraqi cooperation; and that nations do not undermine the UN's credibility by sending spies to act as inspectors.

The seminars at the Carnegie Conference were a proper chamber of horrors, enough to keep any sane person awake at night. A computer simulation of a nuclear-biological war between Israel and Iraq fitted in between US plans for building lasers in space and the danger of terrorist attack on nuclear power and petro-chemical plants. Although speakers from the UN and some of activists in the audience raised the need to implement the US and other nuclear states's commitments to abolish nuclear arms none of the conference sessions were devoted to the agenda agreed at the UN. Despite El Baradei's concern that a world of double standards was not sustainable, the disarmament pledge given by the US was dismissed as a 'theological' concern by John Wolf, one of President Bush's senior State Department officials. The Bush team have let Pakistan and India off the hook in order to get their help in the 'war on terror'. To show just how little influence the US has on Pakistan it has helped North Korea produce uranium in exchange for a supply of missiles in a deal the US has only just uncovered. And North Korea is just a short missile flight from Japan. An expert panel of American experts on Japan carefully outlined how the Japanese government had begun a national discussion on whether to go nuclear and that this might not necessarily be a bad thing. All agreed that Japan already had enough missile technology, plutonium and scientific expertise to build nuclear weapons. For years Japan has led world debates on disarmament with Hiroshima and Nagasaki seared into the national consciousness.

At the Carnegie conference this position was espoused in folksy fashion by the Republican Senator Chuck Hagel of Nebraska. He rejected the idea that the US should pursue some new Imperialism in a fit of power-fueled hubris. Indeed he reaffirmed support for the UN, NATO

and the IMF, which while 'far from perfect' provide the base of a cooperative international system. Australia was not going to support a resolution to begin negotiations to outlaw nuclear weapons, as it grows increasingly isolated from a global disarmament push. Support for a ban treaty had been growing steadily over months of negotiations, but it had no support from the nine known nuclear states – the US, China, France, Britain, Russia, India, Pakistan, Israel, and North Korea – which includes the veto-wielding permanent five members of the security council.



Australia has spent months in negotiations over the proposed negotiations, seeking to stymie the push for a ban on nuclear weapons, and has sought to press the case for what it describes as a “building blocks” approach of engaging with nuclear powers to reduce the global stockpile of 15,000 weapons. Australia had consistently maintained that while nuclear weapons exist, it must rely on the protection of the deterrent effect of the US’s nuclear arsenal, the second largest in the world. Australia was marked as the most strident opponent of a ban treaty. But diplomatic cables obtained under freedom of information laws showed that Australia, despite its resolute opposition, is increasingly pessimistic about stopping ban treaty negotiations progressing. Australia said an “undercurrent of support for a ban treaty is not surprising”, and that it went into meetings “open-eyed” about the direction of negotiations. A so-called “humanitarian pledge” to eliminate nuclear weapons has been signed by 127 states around the world. Australia was particularly isolated in the Asia-Pacific region – ASEAN nations, New Zealand, and almost all Pacific Island states, support a ban treaty.

Australia had a strong record on disarmament generally: during its term on the security council it helped shepherd into existence the Arms Trade Treaty, and has been one of the world’s largest donors to the Office for Disarmament Affairs, contributing money for conventional disarmament and arms control, and also for abolition of biological and chemical weapons. But its posture on nuclear weapons, supporting the US stance that “nuclear weapons continue to play a role in maintaining peace and stability”, had been leaving it increasingly isolated in international negotiations. The efficacy of a ban treaty was a matter of fierce debate. Proponents argued a nuclear weapons ban will create a moral case – in the vein of the cluster and land mine conventions – for nuclear weapons states to disarm, and

establish a new international norm prohibiting nuclear weapons' development, possession, and use. Non-nuclear states have expressed increasing frustration with the current nuclear regime and the sclerotic movement towards disarmament. With nuclear weapons states modernising and in some cases growing their arsenals, instead of discarding them, an increasing number of states were expressing disenchantment with the non-proliferation treaty, and lending their support for an outright ban. The Conference on Disarmament, the world's negotiating body on multilateral disarmament, has not negotiated a treaty since the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty in 1996, and it has regularly struggled to even agree on a program of works. Associate professor Tilman Ruff, co-president of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, said that with a ban treaty, the world stood at an historic turning point. Politically, support for Australian reliance on America's extended nuclear deterrence, was no longer bipartisan. At its national conference in 2015, Labor formally adopted a policy of "firm support" for an outright ban on nuclear weapons. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Australia declined to comment publicly for this story, but former foreign minister Julie Bishop had argued: "We must engage, not enrage nuclear countries". She said a ban treaty was "emotionally appealing", but an approach that would only "divert attention from the sustained, practical steps needed for effective disarmament".

The NPT's success in stopping the spread of nuclear weapons had been fundamental to global security over the last five decades. Over 180 countries, including Australia, have committed not to seek, and to prevent the spread of, nuclear weapons. And as they faced the most challenging strategic circumstances in the postwar period, the NPT remains critical to ensuring this security endures. The region has seen the largest military buildup anywhere in the world in that time, with limited transparency and reassurance by some states. In 2022, North Korea conducted more than 60 ballistic missile launches. In August 2022, five Chinese ballistic missiles were reported to have fallen in Japan's exclusive economic zone. In Europe and across the world, Russia's reckless and desperate threatened to unleash nuclear warfare still loom large, while Iran refused to comply with its non-proliferation obligations. At the time the Whitlam government ratified the treaty, unrestrained great power competition between the United States and the Soviet Union threatened the future of humanity. This is why Gough was such a powerful advocate for the NPT. Since joining the NPT, Australia has been an example to the world on non-proliferation and disarmament. We have promoted the use of nuclear safeguards (measures that ensure a state is meeting its non-proliferation commitments) and they have prevented the spread of other weapons of mass destruction. They are a leading example for the international community on protecting nuclear material – including through the additional protocol to their Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Australia, Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Korea and others work together to build practical safeguard capabilities through the Asia-Pacific Safeguards Network. They keep advancing the objectives of the NPT through the 12 nation Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative, established by Australia and Japan.

And in partnership with the Pacific family, they remain steadfastly committed to the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty. They also welcomed the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons' (TPNW) coming into force. While they still need to ensure the TPNW contains the verification arrangements and achieves the universal support that has underpinned the NPT's success, and that it does not undermine the NPT, they share the TPNW's ambition for a world without nuclear weapons. The Albanese government deals with the world as it is, and is committed to taking the practical and meaningful steps necessary to shape it for the better. The region knows too well the devastating consequences both of nuclear weapons and of conflict.

## Agenda 2:

### Overview

The Asia-Pacific region, especially the Korean Peninsula, has been a point of rising tension and conflict due to North Korea's nuclear weapons program. North Korea, officially known as the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), has conducted several nuclear tests since 2006, each of which escalates the regional instability. This issue not only threatens the security of its immediate neighbors, like South Korea, Japan, and China, but also challenges the broader global order.

North Korea has consistently pursued the development of nuclear weapons, justifying its actions as necessary for its defense and survival. However, these nuclear developments have raised concerns for regional peace, global non-proliferation norms, and arms control efforts. The international community, particularly the United States, South Korea, and Japan, along with China and Russia, have all been involved in attempts to manage the crisis, primarily through diplomatic engagement, sanctions, and security measures.

### Timeline

In 1993, North Korean officials announced in a statement that they were withdrawing from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty; however, they later backed away from this decision.

In 1994, North Korea and the United States have signed an agreement that provides for the construction of two electric power nuclear power plants with international assistance in exchange for Pyongyang freezing its nuclear weapons program.

By August 1998, North Korea fired two missiles into the Pacific Ocean over Japan to prove that it had the capacity to strike any city and region that Japan wanted. In November of the same year, the United States and North Korea held their first high-level roundtable talks in Pyongyang on suspected underground nuclear activities that North Korea was developing. The United States has requested the deployment of inspectors in North Korea on the issue.

In May 1999, during an official trip to North Korea, former US secretary of defense William Perry proposed disarmament. On September 13, North Korea gave assurances that it would freeze long-range missile tests. On September 17, President Clinton announced that he was relaxing (mitigating) the economic sanctions against North Korea. In December, a US-controlled consortium signed a \$4.6 billion agreement to build two safer western-type light water nuclear power plants in North Korea.

In July 2020, North Korea announced that it would restart its nuclear activities if the loss of electricity caused by the postponement of the construction of a nuclear facility was not covered by the United States.

In June 2021, the North Korean government announced that if the Bush administration does not normalize bilateral relations, it will review the moratorium decision and resume missile tests. In July, a US State Department report announced that North Korea was continuing to develop a long-range missile system. According to an official from the Bush administration, the North Korean government was continuing the development of a missile called the Taepodong-1. In December, Bush stated that Iraq and North Korea could be held responsible for producing weapons of mass destruction that could be "used to terrorize nations."

On January 29, 2002, Bush, in his speech during his address to the nation, described North Korea, Iran and Iraq as an "axis of evil" and stated that these countries pose a serious danger to the world and are digging graves. In October, the Bush administration announced that the 1994 treaty with North Korea had been broken, saying that the reason was that North Korea had disclosed its nuclear weapons program. On the other hand, after American officials proved the incident, North Korean officials confirmed the news. According to the agreement made in 1994, oil aid to North Korea was stopped by the United States, Japan and South Korea in November. In December, North Korea expelled International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspectors from the country and dismantled cameras and other supervisory tools that they had installed at nuclear facilities.

On January 10, 2003, North Korea withdrew from the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). According to a report by the Korean Central News Agency on February 5, nuclear power facilities were reactivated. On February 12, a 35-member International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) administrative delegation announced that North Korea was in the atomic umbrella and reported the situation to the United Nations Security Council. On February 24, North Korea conducted a test-firing of a surface-to-sea missile system in the region located between the Korean peninsula and the Sea of Japan Dec. On February 26, the United States announced that North Korea had reactivated its five-megawatt nuclear reactor located in Yongbyon. North Korea tested its land-to-sea missile system in the sea of Japan in March. According to a senior US official, it was announced that the communist country's efforts to develop nuclear weapons are continuing, starting with the redevelopment of weakened nuclear rods. In August, "Assembly on the North Korea Crisis" were held, which included the states of the United States, South Korea, North Korea, China, Japan and Russia.

By the first month of 2004, these six nations were continuing negotiations, but no agreement could be reached. The meetings were continued in June. North Korea has announced that it will not participate in the "six party talks" scheduled to take place in September. He stated that he would freeze his nuclear program after the continuation of aid, the lifting of sanctions and the removal of the United States from the list of countries that support terrorist organizations. The United States, on the other hand, has asked North Korea to report all its nuclear activities and allow the controllers to work. The six-party talks, which were supposed to be held in September, were postponed to a later date due to the US and North Korea blaming each other.

In February 2005, for the first time in a public statement about the existence of nuclear weapons, Pyongyang admitted that it had a Nuclear Weapons Development program and said that it would also develop it. They also explained that this attitude is due to the US effort to overthrow the North Korean government. In March, according to a statement by US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, North Korea's efforts to end its nuclear program had ended, so the international community and the US would pursue "other ways" to address this issue. Meanwhile, the head of the United Nations-affiliated International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Mohamed Elbaradei, Decried in a statement that North Korea is also dangerous from Iran due to its nuclear weapons program. Because he said that he already has the ability to go to war with the nuclear materials he has. In May, North Korea announced that it had ended the removal of 8,000 fuel rods from the Yongbyon reactor, which was shut down a month ago, in a similar statement to one two years ago. After he said in June that he would attend the meetings, North Korean officials announced in statements that they had the presence of nuclear weapons and would further develop them. In July, stating the desire of the Korean peninsula towards denuclearization, the North Korean delegation participated in the group of six talks, the fourth of which was held. He stated that he will attend meetings on the North Korean nuclear program in order for the group of six meetings, which are expected to be discussed on July 25, to start on time. According to the statement of the US diplomatic representative at the talks, Christopher Hill, in August, it was said that the diplomats of the US, North and South Korea, China, Japan and Russia decided to Decertify the talks after 13 days of negotiations one after the other, indicating that uncertainty also remains in the negotiations and negotiations about North Korea's nuclear program. In September, the US representative at the talks, Christopher Hill, stated that he was visiting North Korea. The new negotiations were expected to start in November. According to statements by North Korean officials, North Korea fully agrees to end its nuclear weapons development program, but for this it also demands that the United States ensure the civilian use of its nuclear reactor. The United States and Russia reject this request. The United States is intimidating North Korea with threats to end its existence and all kinds of relations if North Korea wants to continue the issue of maintaining its nuclear program in the talks. After the demands of the Pyongyang administration for a civilian nuclear program, there is a difference of opinion between North Korea and the United States.

## DPRK's Nuclear and Missile Testing

### ***Nuclear Tests***

#### **2006:**

North Korea said on 9th of October 2006 it had performed its first-ever nuclear weapons test, a move that prompted swift international condemnation, with the prime minister, Tony Blair, describing it as a "completely irresponsible act". The underground explosion at 2.36am BST, which followed a warning by Pyongyang last week that it was planning such as test, was a complete success and a "great leap forward" for the reclusive communist state, its official news agency said. The test was performed "with indigenous wisdom and technology 100%", the agency said, adding that no radiation leaked from the site. There was no independent verification of the test, but South Korea's seismic monitoring centre recorded a tremor registering 3.6 on the Richter scale at the time of the supposed blast, saying this was not a natural occurrence. Meanwhile, Russia's news agency quoted a senior military official, Lieutenant General Vladimir Verkhovtsev, as saying it was "100% sure" that the country's neighbour had carried out a nuclear test. This made North Korea the ninth country known to have nuclear weapons, following the United States, Russia, France, China, Britain, India, Pakistan and Israel. The recorded tremor amounted to an explosion equivalent to 550 tonnes of TNT, a South Korean geological institute calculated, making the test device much smaller than the nuclear bombs dropped on Japan in the second world war. North Korea has refused for a year to attend international talks aimed at persuading it to abandon its nuclear ambitions, amid increasing pressure from the US and others nations, including China, the North's neighbour and closest ally. The hard line regime of Kim Jong-Il, who took absolute control of North Korea when his father, Kim Il-Sung, died in 1994, has also defied strong international criticism by continuing to test missiles. The country insisted it needs nuclear technology to ward off US military aggression. Condemnation of the apparent test was swift, with the White House saying an explosion would "constitute a provocative act in defiance of the will of the international community". Mr Blair said North Korea had been urged repeatedly to refrain from both missile and nuclear testing. The Foreign Office, meanwhile, said the test would be viewed as "a highly provocative act to which we will respond robustly". The White House said it expected the UN security council to "take immediate actions to respond to this unprovoked act". In July, a security council resolution imposed limited sanctions on North Korea and demanded that the country rejoin international nuclear talks following a series of missile launches. North Korea's regional neighbours reacted with alarm to last week's threat of an imminent test, with Japan's new prime minister, Shinzo Abe, pledging yesterday in Beijing to work alongside China to rein in the



## Missile Tests

The United States and its East Asian allies consider North Korea's development and proliferation of ballistic missiles to be a major security threat and source of regional instability. The DPRK has deployed an estimated 700 short-range ballistic missiles (SRBMs) capable of striking most of South Korea, 200 Nodong medium-range ballistic missiles (MRBMs) that threaten Japan, and up to 100 Musudan intermediate-range ballistic missiles (IRBMs). Pyongyang has also developed two intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs): the Taepodong-2, tests of which have triggered strong international reaction, and the road mobile KN-08 missile. The U.S. and the international community have responded to developments in North Korea's missile program through sanctions, direct negotiations, and interdictions of its missile exports. While these efforts may have constrained the growth of North Korea's missile program, they have not prevented the DPRK from gradually improving and expanding its ballistic missile capabilities.



Date	Information
1946-81	North Korea commences its missile development program using Scud-B from the Soviet Union and a launchpad from Egypt.
April 9, 1984	First Scud-B missile test firing.
1988	Operational deployment of Scud-B and Scud-C missiles.
May 1990	First Nodong missile test.
May 29, 1993	1993 North Korean missile test – (May 29/30, 1993) – Nodong
August 31, 1998	North Korea fires off its first ballistic missile, the Unha-1 rocket, also known as the Taepodong-1 missile, from the launch site of Musudan-ri in North Hamgyong Province.
September 24, 1999	North Korea agrees to a moratorium on long-range missile tests.
2002	North Korea pledges to extend moratorium on missile tests beyond 2003.
2004	North Korea reaffirms moratorium.
2005	North Korea fires short-range missile into Sea of Japan.
March 8, 2006	North Korea has test fired two short-range missiles into Sea of Japan.
July 5, 2006	2006 North Korean missile test – Taepodong-2 failed
May 25, 2007	North Korea Fires Short-Range Missiles.
June 7, 2007	North Korea fires missiles off coast
March 28, 2008	North Korea fires three ship-to-ship missiles
May 30, 2008	North Korea fires three short-range missiles into west coast
April 5, 2009	Failed orbit of the Kwangmyongsong-2 satellite aboard an Unha-2 carrier rocket
July 2, 2009	2009 North Korean missile test
October 12, 2009	North Korea fires five short-range missiles
April 13, 2012	Failed launch of the Kwangmyŏngsŏng-3 satellite aboard an Unha-3 carrier rocket
December 12, 2012	Successful launch of the Kwangmyŏngsŏng-3 Unit 2 satellite aboard a three-stage rocket
March 15, 2013	North Korea fires short-range missiles
May 18, 2013	2013 North Korean missile tests (part of 2013 Korean crisis)
February 27, 2014	North Korea fires four short-range missiles
March 3, 2014	North Korea fires two short-range missiles
March 4, 2014	North Korea fires three volley of rockets into Sea of Japan
March 16, 2014	North Korea fires ten short-range missiles into Sea of Japan
March 2014	2014 North Korean missile tests including Nodong, success
May 9, 2015	North Korea claims to launch a missile from a submarine
February 7, 2016	Successful launch of the Kwangmyŏngsŏng-4 satellite
April 9, 2016	Test of engine designed for an intercontinental ballistic missile
August 24, 2016	North Korea claims to launch a Pukkuksong-1 missile capable of striking the United States. The missile is a Submarine-launched ballistic missile.
October 15, 2016	Failed North Korean ballistic missile launch
October 19, 2016	Failed launch of an intermediate-range missile
February 11, 2017	North Korea test-fired a Pukkuksong-2 missile over the Sea of Japan. This was the first launch of the new medium-range ballistic missile.
March 6, 2017	North Korea launches four ballistic missiles from the Tongchang-ri launch site in the northwest. Some flew 620 mi (1,000 km) before falling into the Sea of Japan.
April 4, 2017	North Korea test-fired a medium-range ballistic missile from its eastern port of Sinpo into the Sea of Japan
April 15, 2017	North Korea test-fired an unidentified land-based missile from the naval base in Sinpo but it exploded almost immediately after the takeoff.
April 28, 2017	North Korea test-fired an unidentified missile from Pukchang airfield. The missile, believed to be a medium-range KN-17 ballistic missile, faltered and broke apart minutes after liftoff.
13 May, 2017	North Korea test-fired a Hwasong-12 missile from a test site in the area of Kusong. The missile, later revealed to be an intermediate range ballistic missile, traveled 30 minutes, reached an altitude of more than 2,111.5 km, and flew a horizontal distance of 789 km (490 mi), before falling into the Sea of Japan. Such a missile would have a range of at least 4,000, reaching Guam, to 6,000 km.
May 21, 2017	North Korea test-fired another Pukkuksong-2 medium-range ballistic missile from Pukchang airfield, which traveled approximately 500 km (310 mi) before falling into the Sea of Japan. The missile landed about 350 km (220 mi) from North Korea's east coast.
Monday, May 29, 2017	North Korea fired a short range ballistic missile into the Sea of Japan. It traveled 450 km.

June 8, 2017	North Korea fired several missiles into the Sea of Japan. They are believed to be anti-ship missiles. The South Korean military said the launches show the reclusive regime's "precise targeting capability."
June 23, 2017	North Korea tested a new rocket engine that could possibly be fitted to an intercontinental ballistic missile. This engine was later believed to be for the second stage of the Hwasong-15, first flown later in 2017.
July 4, 2017	North Korea tested its first intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) named Hwasong-14 on July 4. It launched from the Panghyon Aircraft Factory 8 km southeast of Panghyon Airport. It was aimed straight up at a lofted trajectory and reached more than 2,500 km into space. It landed 37 minutes later, more than 930 km from its launch site, into Japan's exclusive economic zone. Aiming long, the missile would have traveled 7,000–8,000 km or more, reaching Alaska, Hawaii, and possibly Seattle. Its operational range would be farther, bringing a 500 kg payload to targets in most of the contiguous United States 9,700 km away.
July 28, 2017	The 14th missile test carried out by North Korea in 2017 was another ICBM launched at 23:41 North Korea time (15:41 GMT) from Chagang Province in the north of the country on July 28, 2017. Los Angeles, Denver, Chicago, Boston, and New York City appear to be within range. The missile's reentry vehicle (RV) was seen by people in Japan as it entered the atmosphere and landed near the northernmost Japanese island, Hokkaido. Analysis later revealed that the RV broke up on re-entry; further testing would be required. The CIA made an assessment expecting adequate performance of the RV under the different stresses of a shallower trajectory towards the continental US.
August 26, 2017	North Korea test-fired three short-range ballistic missiles from the Kangwon Province on August 26. Two travel approximately 250 kilometers in a northeastern direction and one explodes immediately after launch.
August 29, 2017	On August 29, 2017, at 6 AM local time, North Korea launched a ballistic missile over Northern Japan. The missile's short and low trajectory and its breakup into three pieces is consistent with the failure of a heavy post-boost vehicle.
September 15, 2017	North Korea launched a ballistic missile on September 15 from Sunan airfield. It reached a height of 770 km and flew a distance of 3,700 km for 17 minutes over Hokkaido before landing in the Pacific.
November 28, 2017	North Korea launched an ICBM from the vicinity of Pyongsong at 1:30pm EST/3:00am Pyongyang time. The rocket traveled for 50 minutes and reached 2,800 miles (4,500 km) in height, both of which were new milestones. The missile flew 600 miles (970 km) east into the Sea of Japan; unlike summer launches, the Japanese government did not issue cellphone alerts to warn its citizens. North Korea called it a Hwasong-15 missile. Its potential range appears to be more than 8,000 miles (13,000 km), able to reach Washington and the rest of the continental United States and Australia. Much about the missile is unknown. The missile might have been fitted with a mock warhead to increase its range, in which case the maximum missile range while carrying a heavy warhead might be shorter than 13,000 km. Based on satellite imagery, some experts believe that North Korea may now be able to fuel missiles horizontally, shortening the delay between when a missile becomes visible to when it can be launched. The rocket is believed to have broken up on re-entry into the atmosphere.
May 4, 2019	North Korea launched several short-range projectiles from the vicinity of Wonsan on the country's east coast, initial speculation as possibly a Russian Iskander missile which can make course corrections during its flight. Later designated as KN-23 and in 2023, the official name was revealed as Hwasong-11A.
May 9, 2019	North Korea launched two short-range ballistic missiles from the vicinity of Sinori in North Pyongan Province (launch area also, in another source, identified as Kusong) at 4:29 p.m. and 4:49 p.m. local time.
July 25, 2019	North Korea launched two short-range ballistic missiles, believed to be of a new design. Demonstrated maximum range is 690 km.
July 31, 2019	North Korea launched "several" short-range ballistic missiles.
August 2, 2019	North Korea launched two short-range ballistic missiles at 2:59 a.m. and 3:23 a.m. local time.
August 24, 2019	North Korea launched two short-range ballistic missiles from Sondok in South Hamgyong Province. Both fell in the Sea of Japan.
September 10, 2019	North Korea launched two short-range projectiles from Kaechon shortly after proposing to resume denuclearization negotiations with the US. Both the projectiles fell into the sea off the North's east coast.

October 2, 2019	North Korea test-fired a new-type submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM) in the waters off Wonsan. The Republic of Korea Armed Forces said the missile, which was dubbed Pukguk-song-3, flew about 450 kilometers and reached a maximum altitude of 910 kilometers, making it an intermediate-range ballistic missile. It fell into the exclusive economic zone of Japan off Shimane Prefecture. North Korea said the launch was successful.
October 31, 2019	North Korea test-fired two short-range projectiles from Suncheon at 4:35 p.m. and 4:38 p.m. Both flew around 370 km and reached a maximum altitude of 90 km before falling in the Sea of Japan.
November 28, 2019	North Korea test-launched two "short-range projectiles". Rocket exhaust was visible from Russia.
March 2, 2020	North Korea carried out test-launch of two unidentified projectiles from eastwards over the sea from the Wonsan area on the east coast. Projectiles are equipped with an operational range of 240 kilometres, and capable to flew a height of 35 kilometres.
March 25, 2021	North Korea carried out test-launch of two upgraded Hwasong-11A (KN-23) short-range ballistic missiles carrying a 2.5 live warhead[clarification needed] each that correctly hit the simulated targets. While North Korea official statement reported a 600 km range, Japanese and South Korean sources reported that the missiles flew just over 400 km. Later, the South Korean Joint Chiefs of Staff revised their range assessment of new North Korean missile to 600 km and the Defense Minister said that blind spots due to earth curvature led to initial estimate of 450 km. Later, the missiles was identified as Hwasong-11C
September 11, 2021	North Korea carried out tests of a new long-range cruise missile on 11 and 12 September 2021, according to the KCNA. The missiles flew for 1,500 kilometres and successfully hit their target in North Korea's waters, and were meant for a "strategic role" according to the news agency, which analyst Ankit Panda stated was a common euphemism for a missile capable of carrying nuclear warheads.
September 15, 2021	North Korea fired two unidentified ballistic missiles towards the Sea of Japan. Japan's Ministry of Defense stated that they had landed in the country's exclusive economic zone. The South Korean Joint Chiefs of Staff reported that the missiles flew for 800 kilometres, while reaching an altitude of 60 kilometres, and were fired from Yangdok County. KCNA later stated that they were part of a railway-borne missile system.
September 28, 2021	A short-range missile was fired by North Korea towards the Sea of Japan from Chagang Province, according to South Korean officials. The Japanese government meanwhile suspected it to be a ballistic missile. Rodong Sinmun stated that North Korea had tested a new hypersonic missile called Hwasong-8 and it was launched from Toyang-ri in Ryongrim County. The test, including that of its gliding warhead, was a success according to the state media, which also called it a weapon of "great strategic significance".
September 30, 2021	KCNA stated that North Korea had successfully tested a new anti-aircraft missile. It added that the missile contained the new technologies of twin-rudder control and double-impulse flight engine.
October 19, 2021	South Korea JCS announced that a ballistic missile was fired from Sinpo at 10:17am JoongAng Ilbo claims that the missile fired was a SLBM. Rodong Sinmun reported on the launch on 20 October, revealing that it was a new SLBM launched from a Sinpo-class submarine named 'Hero 8.24'. The new missile features advanced guidance technologies, and can conduct 'pull-up' manoeuvres.
January 5, 2022	North Korea test-fired a hypersonic missile, in the first major weapons test by the nation in 2022 and claimed the same as "The successive successes" in the test launches.
January 10, 2022	North Korea test-fired the second ballistic missile of the year, likely a Hwasong-8 missile. It is claimed that it had a detached hypersonic glide vehicle (HGV). The missile hit its target in Sea of Japan. The missile reached speeds of Mach 10 as per South Korea's Joint Chiefs (JCS), however the JCS have so far refused to confirm that the missile is an actual hypersonic glide vehicle (HGV). The missile reached a range of 700 km or 434.96 miles and an apogee of 60 km or 37.3 miles. NORAD and the FAA also reacted to this launch by grounding West coast airplanes up to Portland for 5 to 7 minutes, the FAA gave no official reason for these delays, likely so NORAD could try to intercept the missile if it went towards the US. This US military reaction seems to indicate that North Korea does indeed possess rudimentary hypersonic vehicle capabilities.

January 15, 2022	North Korea test-fired two Hwasong-11A (KN-23) short range missiles from two separate trains in a short notice mission. The drill was meant to test the response time and alert posture of the country's new railway-borne missile regiment. This was the second reported railway-based missile test since its first launch in September 15 of 2021. The missiles hit its target in the Sea of Japan. The missile reached a range of 430 km (270 mi) and an apogee of 36 km (22 mi) and a top speed of Mach 6 (7,350kmph). Due to the successful nature of the tests it was claimed by North Korea's State media that the railway-borne missile capabilities will be expanded across the country.
January 25, 2022	North Korea test-launched two long-range cruise missiles to the dummy target, 1,800 km (1,100 mi) away at an average speed of Mach 1.47 (720 km/h (450 mph)).
January 30, 2022	North Korea launched an Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile (IRBM) Hwasong-12 missile. The missile was fired at a lower apogee thereby limiting its true range, the missile reached a height of 2,000 km (1,200 mi) and reached a range of 800 kilometers (500 miles) where it fell into the exclusive economic zone of the Korean peninsula in the Sea of Japan. The launch was the seventh test in the month and the second IRBM since the November 2017 test.
February 27, 2022	North Korea launched a ballistic missile towards the Sea of Japan. The missile reached a height of 600 km (370 mi) and reached a range of 300 km (190 mi), detected in the Sunan area. North Korea resumed the test-launch spree after a break of 28 days.
March 5, 2022	North Korea test launched its Hwasong-17 ICBM system, albeit with a reduced capability or range.
March 16, 2022	North Korea attempted to test-fire a projectile alleged to be an ICBM according to NHK, Japan citing a source in Ministry of Defense (Japan). The rocket broke up soon after liftoff.
March 24, 2022	North Korea conducted its first successful ICBM launch in over four years. The ICBM launched with a distance of 1080 km and an altitude of 6000 km, suggesting an ability to reach the entire continental United States. North Korea claimed the ICBM was the new Hwasong-17; some analysts believe the launch was in fact a smaller 2017 Hwasong-15 ICBM, and that in order to allow it to travel farther it had been stripped of any significant payload.
April 16, 2022	North Korea test launched two short-range tactical devices towards east coast which reached a height of 24 km (15 mi) and reached a range of 112 km (70 mi).
May 4, 2022	North Korea launched a ballistic missile into the sea outside of Japan's Exclusive Economic Zone. The missile travelled a distance of 500 km with an altitude of 800 km.

May 7, 2022	600 km trajectory and an altitude around 60 km. The missile landed in the Sea of Japan.
May 12, 2022	According to South Korea, North Korea launched three short-range ballistic missiles.
May 25, 2022	According to South Korea, North Korea launched an ICBM and two other missiles.
June 5, 2022	North Korea launched eight short-range ballistic missiles. According to Japan, at least one missile had a variable trajectory.
August 17, 2022	North Korea reportedly fired two cruise missiles into the sea, in its first cruise missile testing since January. Unlike ballistic missile tests, cruise missile tests are not forbidden by the UN sanctions against North Korea.
September 25, 2022	North Korea fired a ballistic missile into its eastern sea, South Korea's military said. The test came shortly after the US nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan, and its strike group arrived in South Korea for joint military exercises.
September 28, 2022	North Korea fired two missiles, reportedly on irregular trajectories.
September 29, 2022	North Korea fired at least one missile.
October 1, 2022	North Korea fired ballistic missiles.
October 4, 2022	Japan without incident.
October 6, 2022	North Korea fired ballistic missiles.
October 9, 2022	North Korea fired two ballistic missiles.
October 12, 2022	North Korea fired two long-range cruise missiles, each of which travelled 2,000 kilometres (1,200 mi), and were reported to have hit their targets.
October 14, 2022	North Korea launched a short-range ballistic missile, towards its eastern waters.
October 28, 2022	North Korea was reported to have launched a ballistic missile off its east coast.
November 2, 2022	North Korea reportedly fired 23 missiles of various types—the most in a single day—including a ballistic missile that landed in international waters 167 kilometers off Ulleung island, triggering air raid sirens there.
November 3, 2022	North Korea reportedly fired three ballistic missiles—one long-range and two short range—off its east coast, including one that flew near Japan.
November 5, 2022	North Korea reportedly fired four short-range ballistic missiles into the western sea. The South Korean military said that the missiles travelled around 130 kilometres (81 mi) at an altitude of around 20 kilometres (12 mi).
November 8, 2022	North Korea reportedly fired at least one ballistic missile into the sea on Wednesday, and South Korea said it had identified debris from an earlier launch as part of a Soviet-era SA-5 surface-to-air missile.
November 18, 2022	North Korea reportedly fired at least one ballistic missile into the sea on Friday, believed to be the first successful full flight of its Hwasong-17. The missile landed in Japan's exclusive economic zone.
December 18, 2022	North Korea reportedly fired two medium-range ballistic missiles.
December 23, 2022	North Korea reportedly fired two short-range ballistic missiles.
December 31, 2022	North Korea reportedly fired three short-range ballistic missiles, flying approximately 350 kilometres (220 mi).
February 18, 2023	North Korea fired a Hwasong-15 ICBM.
February 20, 2023	North Korea launched two ballistic missiles.
February 24, 2023	North Korea fired four Hwasal-2 strategic cruise missiles off the east coast of the Korean Peninsula.
March–December 2023	North Korea fired over a dozen missiles throughout March 2023, and conducted a missile test in April and also in July. On 21 November 2023, a Chöllima 1 rocket carrying a Malligyong-1 reconnaissance satellite was launched from the Sohae Satellite Launching Station, with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un present. It is not known if the satellite achieve orbit or what territory it overflew. On 18 December, the country reportedly fired its most advanced missile to date: an intercontinental ballistic missile which travelled for 73 minutes for a distance of about 1,000km (621 miles).
June 27, 2024	North Korea claims successful test to develop multiple warhead missile.
September 18, 2024	North Korea fired multiple short-range ballistic missiles that traveled at distance of about 400 km.
October 31, 2024	North Korea tested an intercontinental ballistic missile.

## Question to Be Asked:

1. How can diplomatic engagement, such as reviving the Six-Party Talks, lead to sustainable solutions for denuclearization and regional security?
2. What alternatives to sanctions exist for pressuring North Korea into compliance with international norms?
3. What role do emerging technologies, such as cyber threats and missile defense systems, play in the security dynamics of the Asia-Pacific region in relation to North Korea's nuclear program?
4. How can the international community strengthen existing non-proliferation treaties, such as the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), to address the challenge posed by North Korea's nuclear ambitions?
5. Should the international community consider adjusting or easing sanctions on North Korea in exchange for verifiable steps toward denuclearization, or should maximum pressure be maintained until complete denuclearization occurs?
6. To what extent do sanctions alone provide a sustainable solution to North Korea's nuclear threat, and should the international community explore other non-coercive options, such as incentives or diplomatic agreements, to achieve denuclearization?

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