

EU Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Consortium

Promoting the European network of independent non-proliferation and disarmament think tanks

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Latest Publications



‘China, India and the United States are each engaged in rapid advances in artificial intelligence (AI) and nuclear systems, yet country-specific mappings of the nexus between these developments remains limited.’

AI in Chinese, Indian and US Nuclear Postures, Norms and Systems

Dr Lora Saalman, SIPRI, February 2026

This backgrounder presents a systematic survey of the extent to which China, India and the United States have integrated artificial intelligence (AI) into their respective nuclear postures, norms and systems. It finds that while China and India have released limited official information on their nuclear command, control and communications structure, the USA has historically issued prolific government documents.

[Read here](#)



Evolving Iranian nuclear risks: between programme reconstitution and loss of control

Daniel Salisbury, IISS, February 2026

Iran and the United States have resumed negotiations over its nuclear programme in recent weeks – the first discussions since the US bombed Iranian nuclear sites in June 2025. The restart of these so far fruitless negotiations comes amid growing external and domestic pressure on Iran. A large US armada, including the USS Abraham Lincoln carrier strike group, has moved into place in the Arabian Sea, and President Donald Trump has spoken about sending a second carrier group. On the home front, weeks of protests and a brutal crackdown from the regime in response have gripped Tehran and cities across the country. If protests in Iran continue, and instability spreads further in the country, or in the less likely case that the regime collapses entirely, there is a risk to the safety and custody of nuclear materials, technology and information that external players should prepare for.

[Read here](#)



Twenty-one strategic lessons of the Ukraine war

François Heisbourg, Bruno Tertrais, Fondation pour la recherche stratégique, February 2026

Few governments and observers predicted that the Ukraine war would still rage, without any ceasefire, four years after its onset in February 2022. The war may be described as having revealed five surprises: (1) the full-scale invasion itself; (2) the true state of the Russian armed forces, which prevented them from achieving an early strategic success; (3) the strength of Ukrainian resistance and ability to adapt; (4) Western resilience in its support for Kyiv; (5) direct and material North Korean support for the defense of Russian territory. Even if maybe far from its conclusion, the war already lends itself to several strategic lessons for the Atlantic Alliance. They are presented here in two parts: those pertaining specifically to European security, and more general lessons for the West.

[Read here](#)

EU News

EU Statement – UN General Assembly: Appointment of the Independent International Scientific Panel on Artificial Intelligence

12 February 2026, New York - Statement on behalf of the European Union and its Member States delivered by the Permanent Mission of Cyprus to the United Nations, at the 80th Session of the UN General Assembly 72nd Plenary meeting on Agenda item 115(m): Appointment of members of the Independent International Scientific Panel on Artificial Intelligence.

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Network News

Connecting the Dots: Industry, Space Defence, and Multilateral Space Security

The VCDNP, in collaboration with the European External Action Service (EEAS), organised a panel discussion on connecting space industry and space defence actors to UN efforts for stability and security in space during the 18th European Space Conference in Brussels, on 27 January 2026.

[More info here](#)

BASIC's Nuclear Responsibilities Programme hosted two dialogues in Bahrain on "Abstract Nuclear Crisis Scenario Exercise and Crisis Management and De-escalation in South Asia".

Participants explored potential escalation and de-escalation pathways through an abstract nuclear crisis scenario, focusing on how responsible practices can strengthen crisis management and de-escalation and how these practices could be helpful in a future India-Pakistan crisis.

[More info here](#)

Podcast



In the latest episode of the Arms Control Primer podcast, host Dr Alexander Bollfrass is joined by Dr Polina Sinovets and Darya Dolzikova to discuss the nuclear history and legacy of Ukraine - a country that once hosted the world's third-largest nuclear arsenal. In this episode, the guests outline the role of Ukraine in the Soviet nuclear weapons programme, how signing the Budapest Memorandum has shaped Ukraine's security thinking, and the implications of the Russian full-scale invasion on Ukraine's nuclear safety. As Darya Dolzikova mentioned: "The nuclear shadow has hung over the war in Ukraine since the very start of the invasion. Russia is a massive nuclear power, and Putin has made that very clear from the very start of the invasion that Russia would not hesitate to resort to the full scope of its capabilities, which of course include a very large nuclear arsenal."

[Listen here](#)

Network Calls

PhD position in peace and conflict research with a focus on nuclear disarmament, Uppsala University

The PhD student will be part of the Alva Myrdal Centre for Nuclear Disarmament (AMC) at Uppsala University. AMC is a multidisciplinary centre connecting peace and conflict, physics, and policy. The PhD student will be placed at the Department of Peace and Conflict Research. The PhD student is to pursue research on nuclear disarmament broadly defined. This could include questions about arms control, risk reduction, non-proliferation, and disarmament, and it could cover themes like nuclear weapons negotiations and treaties, nuclear diplomacy, sanctions and inducements, and the impact of emerging technologies such as advanced AI in nuclear disarmament and verification.

The application deadline is **25 March 2026**.

[More info here](#)

Japan Chair for a World without Nuclear Weapons: Summer 2026 Internship, VCDNP

The Vienna Center for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation (VCDNP) is recruiting an intern for summer 2026, under the Japan Chair for a World without Nuclear Weapons programme. Eligible applicants must be Japanese nationals. The duration of the internship is two to three months, starting in summer 2026, and will take place in person in Vienna, Austria. The start time is flexible. The exact dates will be agreed between the VCDNP and the successful candidate. The VCDNP will cover the intern's economy roundtrip airfare to and from Vienna and provide a monthly stipend of 1,000 Euro to offset living expenses.

The deadline for applications is **10 March 2026**.

[More info here](#)