

Muultilateral Treaties and Paradigm Shift (part 1): The NPT and Article VI

OBJECTIVES

1. Introduction to the NPT
2. Discuss Article VI
3. Compare NWS and NNWS Under the NPT
4. Discuss the NPT over the years (First signing, history)
5. Identify the different common arguments surrounding the NPT

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What do you think about the NPT having two kinds of categories of states (NWS & NNWS)?
2. Article VI says that states agree to "pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament, and on a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control." What do you interpret "early date" as?
3. NNWS often argue that the reduction in nuclear weapons is proof of movement towards disarmament. To what extent do you agree and why?

ACTIVITIES

1. Make a chart with 4 columns: P5, NWS, Non-P5 NWS, NNWS Under Nuclear Umbrella, and NNWS Not Under Nuclear Umbrella. Under each heading outline arguments for or against the NPT and how each country might view the NPT.
2. Write a list of advantages and disadvantages of the NPT.
3. Write article VI on the Board/Screen in full. Think about the different interpretations that the P5, NWS, Non-P5 NWS, NWS Under Nuclear Umbrella, and NNWS Not Under Nuclear Umbrella might have of the article.

OTHER RESOURCES

<https://www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/nptfact>

<https://www.un.org/disarmament/wmd/nuclear/npt/text/#:~:text=Article%20VI,strict%20and%20effective%20international%20control.>

<https://tutorials.nti.org/npt-tutorial/understanding-the-text-of-the-treaty/>