



BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION



NUMBER 03

A Monthly Newsletter for Strengthening
Awareness of Nuclear Abolition

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IPS, the global news agency, brings you independent news and views on nuclear abolition. In this newsletter you will find in-depth reports by IPS correspondents and project partners from around the world as well as columns by experts, in addition to special sections for news from international NGOs and a review of the global media for a glimpse of what is happening on the ground. Join us in helping strengthen awareness about the abolition of nuclear weapons – and encourage your friends and colleagues to subscribe to this free monthly newsletter.

Nuclear Disarmament More Urgent Than Ever

By Mikhail Gorbachev *

MOSCOW, June - One of the most urgent problems of today's world is the danger of nuclear weapons. The unexpected nuclear test by North Korea on May 25 and the test-firing of a series of short-range missiles is the latest, frightening reminder. Nothing fundamentally new has been achieved in the area of nuclear disarmament in the past decade and a half. Twenty years after the end of the Cold War, the arsenals of the nuclear powers still contain thousands of weapons, and the world is facing the very real possibility of a new arms race. In effect, all that has been achieved in nuclear disarmament until now is the implementation of the agreements that were signed in the late 1980s and early 1990s: the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty of 1987 (INF), which eliminated two classes of nuclear missiles, and the 1991 Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START), which launched the biggest cutbacks of nuclear weapons ever. Thousands of tactical nuclear weapons were destroyed in accordance with this U.S.-Soviet agreement. [MORE >>](#)

FRANCE: Ambiguous on Nuclear Disarmament

By Alecia D. McKenzie

PARIS - As the international war of words over nuclear programmes heats up, with North Korea threatening to strengthen its "nuclear deterrence" against the United States, countries such as France are taking a position that some analysts describe as ambiguous and hypocritical. [MORE >>](#)

GERMANY: Have no Nuclear Weapons, Just Share Them

By Wolfgang Kerler

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INDIA: Opposition to 'Nuclearism' Builds Up

By Ranjit Devraj

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WHAT OTHERS SAY

CIVIL SOCIETY'S PERSPECTIVE

Nuclear Disarmament More Urgent Than Ever

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Nothing fundamentally new has been achieved in the area of nuclear disarmament in the past decade and a half. Twenty years after the end of the Cold War, the arsenals of the nuclear powers still contain thousands of weapons, and the world is facing the very real possibility of a new arms race.

In effect, all that has been achieved in nuclear disarmament until now is the implementation of the agreements that were signed in the late 1980s and early 1990s: the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty of 1987 (INF), which eliminated two classes of nuclear missiles, and the 1991 Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START), which launched the biggest cutbacks of nuclear weapons ever. Thousands of tactical nuclear weapons were destroyed in accordance with this U.S.-Soviet agreement.

Subsequently, the pace of nuclear arms reduction has slowed and the mechanisms of control and verifications have weakened. The Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) has not entered into force. The quantities of nuclear weapons held by Russia and the United States still far exceed the arsenals of all other nuclear powers combined, thus making it more difficult to bring them into the process of nuclear disarmament.

The nuclear non-proliferation regime is in jeopardy. While the two major nuclear powers bear the greatest responsibility for this state of affairs, it was the U.S. that abrogated the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty (ABM Treaty), has failed to ratify the CTBT, and refused to conclude with Russia a legally binding, verifiable treaty on strategic offensive arms.

Only recently have we seen indications that the major nuclear powers understand the current state of affairs is untenable. The presidents of the U.S. and Russia have agreed to conclude before the end of this year a verifiable treaty reducing strategic offensive arms and have reaffirmed their countries' commitment to fulfill their obligations under the non-proliferation treaty. Their joint statement calls for a number of other steps to reduce nuclear dangers, including ratification by the U.S. of the CTBT.

Those are positive steps. But the problems and dangers far outnumber the achievements. The root cause of this is the erroneous evaluation of the events that lead to the end of the Cold War. The U.S. and some other countries saw these as a victory of the West and a green light for unilateralist policies. Accordingly, instead of creating a new architecture of international security based on real cooperation, an attempt was made to impose on the world a "monopoly leadership" by the sole remaining superpower and the institutions and organizations, like NATO, that were inherited from the Cold War and not reformed after it ended. >>>>

Picture above: Nobel Laureate M. Gorbachev at a conference - of the World Political Forum on 'Overcoming Nuclear Dangers' - in April 2009 in Rome, with Italian Foreign Minister Franco Frattini and former U.S. Secretary of State George P. Schultz.

The use and the threat of force, which, of course, are illegal under the UN Charter, were reasserted as a "normal" mode of solving problems. Official documents rationalized doctrines of pre-emptive strike and the need for U.S. military superiority.

Humanity must be wary of a new arms race. Priority is still being given to financing of military programmes, and "defense" budgets far exceeding reasonable security requirements keep growing, as does the weapons trade. U.S. military expenditures are almost as high as those of the rest of the world combined. Disregard for international law and for peaceful ways of settling disputes, for the United Nations and its Security Council, is being proclaimed as a kind of policy.



Credit: Wikimedia Commons

As a result, we have witnessed a war in Europe -in Yugoslavia- something that had previously seemed inconceivable; a long-term deterioration in the Middle East; the war in Iraq; an extremely severe situation in Afghanistan and the increasingly alarming nuclear non-proliferation crisis.

Its main cause is the failure of the members of the nuclear club to fulfill their obligations under the Non-Proliferation Treaty to move towards the elimination of nuclear weapons. As long as this is the case, there will be a continued danger that other countries may acquire nuclear weapons. Today, dozens of states have the technical ability to do so.

In the final analysis, the nuclear danger can only be removed by abolishing nuclear weapons. But unless we address the need to demilitarize international relations, reduce military budgets, put an end to the creation of new kinds of weapons, and prevent the weaponisation of outer space, all talk about a nuclear-weapon-free world will be just empty rhetoric.

I think that after President Obama's speech on April 5, there is a real prospect that the U.S. will ratify the CTBT. This would be an important step forward, particularly in combination with a new strategic arms reduction treaty between the U.S. and Russia.

Following this, I believe that other nuclear powers, both the "official members" of the club and others, will have to, at the very least, declare a freeze on their nuclear arsenals and state their readiness to engage in negotiations on their limitation and reduction. If the holders of the largest stocks of nuclear weapons embark upon real reductions, others will no longer be able to sit it out and conceal their arsenals from international control.

This is an issue that we must raise now if we are to have the kind of trust without which common security cannot be achieved. (COPYRIGHT IPS)

* Mikhail Gorbachev was leader of the Soviet Union from 1985-1991. He is currently the President of the World Political Forum.

Picture above: President Barack Obama and Vice-President Joe Biden with Mikhail Gorbachev on March 20, 2009 in Washington.



FRANCE: Ambiguous on Nuclear Disarmament

By Alecia D. McKenzie

PARIS, Jun 30 (IPS) - As the international war of words over nuclear programmes heats up, with North Korea threatening to strengthen its "nuclear deterrence" against the United States, countries such as France are taking a position that some analysts describe as ambiguous and hypocritical.

France and Britain are the two countries in Western Europe that are nuclear weapon states. While French official policy is that stockpiles should be reduced and testing stopped, the government of President Nicolas Sarkozy has not indicated a commitment to total nuclear disarmament.

Sarkozy does not, however, want to see certain other countries developing nuclear weapons. At a joint press conference in June, he and U.S. President Barack Obama warned both North Korea and Iran against developing such arms.

"Iran has the right to civilian nuclear power but not a military nuclear capability," Sarkozy said, after condemning North Korea's nuclear test in May.

But some analysts say the French position is two-faced.

"All this talk is hypocritical," says Pierre-Emmanuel Veck, spokesman for the Sortir du Nucleaire Network (Phasing out the Nuclear Age), the main French anti-nuclear coalition, which groups 841 organisations.

"You cannot separate a civilian nuclear programme from nuclear weapons," he told IPS. "So when France sells nuclear centrals to countries such as Libya for electricity, for instance, one knows that the bomb isn't far behind."

France has an "ambiguous" position, Veck adds. Sarkozy would like to reduce the country's nuclear warheads, but the government is reluctant to do so while other countries such as the United States and Russia keep their own stockpiles high, and while there is threat from "unstable" countries such as Iran and North Korea.

France says it has reduced its number of air-launched weapons by a third, cutting its nuclear arsenal to around 300 nuclear warheads by last September.

Sarkozy has said that global disarmament must be based on "reciprocity" - a kind of 'we'll get rid of ours if you get rid of yours' approach that some critics find unacceptable.

France also says it is the only one of the five original nuclear weapon states to have dismantled its testing site and fissile material production installations. Other countries have not been clear about their own measures, and the situation is set to become even murkier in the months before next May's Review Conference of the 1970 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). Like the previous conference five years ago, the 2010 event could end in disappointment for those seeking disarmament.

"Disarmament is not going to happen any time soon as long as the discourse remains at this level," Veck says. "Having nuclear capability is a sign of power, and countries are using nuclear arms as a bargaining tool for many things, including aid."

Analysts say the "new nuclear states" North Korea, Iran, Israel, India and Pakistan will continue to assert their right to develop nuclear programmes, while the stance of the original five nuclear weapon states - France, the United Kingdom, China, the United States, and Russia - leaves much to be desired.

"Most people in NATO countries don't realise that their governments continue to sanction the use of nuclear weapons," says Uta Zapf, co- president of Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (PNND), an international network that provides parliamentarians with up-to- date information on nuclear weapons policies.

"Nor do they realise that some NATO countries - Belgium, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Turkey - still host U.S. nuclear weapons on their soil for use if conflict breaks out," she said in a statement. (France rejoined the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation earlier this year after a 43-year absence.) >>>



"Nuclear weapons, like landmines and cluster munitions, are indiscriminate, inhumane, immoral and illegal. They must all be prohibited and eliminated," added Zapf.

Some groups in France would also like to see civilian nuclear programmes scaled back, and more money spent on renewable energy, according to the Sortir du Nucleaire Network. France currently gets about 80 percent of its energy from 59 nuclear power plants located across the country.

The government plans to build solar plants in each French region by 2011, says ecology minister Jean-Louis Borloo, but it is not clear how that will affect the country's nuclear programme.

In the run-up to the Review Conference of the 189 'states parties', or signatories, to the Non-Proliferation Treaty, France has been making moves to delineate its own principles as well as those of its European partners.

When France held the six-month rotating presidency of the European Union last year, Sarkozy sent a letter to United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon outlining the EU's proposals for furthering nuclear disarmament.

"Europe wishes to act for peace," Sarkozy wrote last December. "This is true whether the question is the struggle against terrorism, the struggle against the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their vectors, or the management of crises.

"It is true also when the issue is disarmament, notably nuclear disarmament. Europe is particularly concerned, since two member states have nuclear weapons," he added.

The EU proposals include "the universal ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and the completion of its verification regime, as well as the dismantling as soon as possible of all nuclear testing facilities in a way that is transparent and open to the international community," Sarkozy wrote.

He said the EU was also calling for the beginning of "negotiations for banning production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons, as well as implementation of an immediate moratorium on production of such material."

In June, in reference to Iran, Sarkozy declared, "We want peace, we want dialogue, and we want to help them develop. But we do not want military nuclear weapons to spread." (END/2009)

GERMANY: Have no Nuclear Weapons, Just Share Them

By Wolfgang Kerler

BERLIN, Jun 27 (IPS) - Most Germans support nuclear abolition, but the country may still not give up its policy of nuclear sharing.

"The government is divided on the question of nuclear sharing," Otfried Nassauer, director of the Berlin Information Centre for Transatlantic Security (BITS) told IPS. The centre researches foreign and security policy issues.

Based on the limited information that is publicly available, Nassauer estimates there are 10 to 20 U.S. nuclear bombs still located in Germany, out of thousands deployed during the Cold War.

Germany does not have its own nuclear weapons under the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) that it signed in 1975, but it is sharing U.S. bombs located in Germany. This dates back to the late 1950s when the first U.S. nukes were positioned in former West Germany - and is part of the policy of deterrence of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO).

The Social Democratic Party (SPD), junior partner in the ruling 'grand coalition' headed by Chancellor Angela Merkel, is calling for withdrawal of the remaining bombs after U.S. President Barack Obama presented his vision of nuclear abolition in a speech in Prague Apr. 5. >>>



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Obama called the thousands of atomic weapons spread across the world "the most dangerous legacy of the Cold War." He said: "To achieve a global ban on nuclear testing, my administration will immediately and aggressively pursue U.S. ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. So after more than five decades of talks, it is time for the testing of nuclear weapons to finally be banned."

"The new era we are fighting for is an era during which nuclear weapons have to vanish from the arsenals," Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier, who is also deputy chancellor in the coalition government and SPD's candidate for chancellor in the federal elections due September, said in a speech Jun. 14.

All opposition parties represented in the federal parliament, the liberal Free Democratic Party (FDP), the Greens, and the socialist Left Party are also pushing for withdrawal of the atomic bombs. On May 15, Guido Westerwelle, leader of the largest opposition party FDP, stressed that "the time has come for a renaissance of disarmament.

"The withdrawal of the remaining strategic nuclear weapons from Germany would be an adequate reaction to this new dynamic," Westerwelle added.

Germany's largest political party, the conservative Christian Democratic Union (CDU) headed by Merkel, and its sister party the Christian Social Union (CSU), which together are the larger partner in the coalition government with the SPD, have welcomed Obama's new efforts for nuclear abolition - but they are not willing to give up the policy of nuclear sharing in a unilateral move.

"We should exercise care in not mixing up the goals with the ways leading to them," Merkel had said earlier Mar. 26. "I stick to the complete abolition of all weapons of mass destruction. But the federal government has fixed the nuclear sharing policy in its White Paper to secure our influence within NATO in this highly sensitive area."

When the government adopted its White Paper on German Security Policy and the Future of the Bundeswehr (the federal armed forces) back in 2006, Steinmeier's SPD agreed to hanging on to the policy of nuclear sharing.

Nassauer of BITS says the CDU and CSU policies are contradictory. "On the one hand, the federal government is banning its soldiers from using nuclear weapons because it would violate international law, and on the other, it is still training soldiers how to use U.S. atomic bombs with German fighter jets.

"And unless there is a secret agreement between the U.S. President and the German Chancellor on Germany's participation that we don't know of, I cannot see how the end of nuclear sharing would downsize Germany's position within NATO," Nassauer told IPS. Other countries like Canada and Greece gave up their nuclear sharing years ago, "and they did not lose their influence within the alliance."

Henning Riecke, an expert on transatlantic security relations at the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP), a Berlin-based think tank, defends the Chancellor's position.

"Like Obama, the federal government wants to see stepwise disarmament," Riecke told IPS. "Therefore, the nuclear side of NATO's strategy does not have to be put up for negotiation first. There have to be coordinated steps that do not disadvantage one side."

Nassauer argues that nuclear sharing is not necessary to keep up NATO's potential of deterrence. "There are enough submarines charged with atomic bombs that could keep the potential up."

However divided Germany's position on nuclear sharing might be, Nassauer and Riecke agree that the country has continuously proven its commitment to fighting nuclear proliferation.

In 2007, Germany and Norway began an initiative to strengthen NATO's measures to stop the proliferation of nuclear weapons. The German foreign ministry has presented several proposals to that end. Besides, "Germany has been pushing the United States to put disarmament back on the agenda," Riecke said.

Steinmeier has urged nuclear powers to accelerate the process of nuclear demobilisation on many occasions this year - for instance at the Munich security conference in February, attended by high-ranking security experts, senior officials and government ministers. >>>



In his speech Jun. 14 at a special convention of the SPD, Steinmeier announced that Russian President Dmitry Medvedev and Prime Minister Vladimir Putin had confirmed to him that Russia is willing to join an international effort for nuclear demobilisation.

Meanwhile, a change in Germany's official position on nuclear sharing seems unlikely - even after the upcoming federal elections in September. All polls show Angela Merkel's conservatives outperforming the social democrats by far.

Nevertheless, for technical reasons, Germany's army will probably lose its ability to use U.S. atomic bombs: by 2020, all Tornado jet fighters that are equipped to carry such weapons will be scrapped. Their successor, the Eurofighter, is not capable of carrying nuclear bombs. (END/2009)

INDIA: Opposition to 'Nuclearism' Builds Up

By Ranjit Devraj

NEW DELHI, Jun 24 (IPS) - As India follows up on the historic civilian nuclear agreement it signed last year with the United States by drawing up hard commercial deals, opposition to 'nuclearism' is building up among activist groups.

The 'India-U.S. Economic Relations: The Next Decade' report released this week by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) says that the nuclear deal marks the beginning of a new era that will see bilateral trade jump from the present 42 billion dollars annually to 320 billion dollars by 2018.

"India intends to import 24 reactors in the next 11-15 years, and could create as many as 20,000 new jobs directly and indirectly in the U.S. from nuclear trade," the CII report says.

But although it was the U.S. that pushed India's case past the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) and the International Atomic Energy Commission (IAEC), other countries - notably France and Russia - are eager players in India's expanding nuclear commerce.

Particularly valuable for India was a special waiver, allowing India to resume nuclear commerce with the rest of the world, by the NSG - which was which was set up after India's first nuclear weapons test in 1974 "to ensure that nuclear trade for peaceful purposes does not contribute to the proliferation of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices."

Anti-nuclear activists believe that India - following the completion of the Indo-US deal - is on the threshold of a new era of 'nuclearisation' which will have far-reaching effects on the way the country is run.

"With the India-U.S. nuclear deal, and the deals with Russia and France and likely private participation in nuclear energy generation, the situation is going to get out of hand in our country," says S.P. Udayakumar, convenor of the newly launched National Alliance of Anti-nuclear Movements (NAAM).

NAAM, launched at a three-day convention held in Kanyakumari in southern Tamil Nadu, during the first week of June, plans to mobilise ordinary Indians against the 'nuclearisation' of the country and protect people against nuclear threats and destruction of the environment from nuclear waste and radiation.

NAAM warns Indian citizens that they are up against a "combination of profiteering companies, secretive state apparatuses and a repressive nuclear department which will be ruthless."

"This nexus of capitalism, statism and nuclearism does not augur well for the country. These forces are gaining an upper hand in our national polity which will sound the death knell for the country's democracy, openness, and prospects for sustainable development," Udayakumar told IPS.

The three-day convention dealt with nuclear industries and related activities such as sea sand mining and the politics of rewriting the Indian Atomic Energy Act 1962. >>>



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There was also considerable focus on liability issues in the nuclear industry, existing radiation illnesses around existing Indian nuclear power plants, and people's struggles against nuclear installations and mining activities.

India's nuclear programme has been resisted by local people who have stopped two nuclear power stations - Peringome and Kothamangalam in southern India - from coming up while there is continued resistance to the Koodankulam Nuclear Power Plant in Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu. Popular protest movements have also come from places like Jadugoda, Meghalaya, Haripur and Jaitapur who are struggling against uranium mining in their homelands.

While this is the first time civil society is overtly opposing India's ambitious nuclear power programme, there has been fierce political opposition to it ever since it was first proposed more than three years ago and it became a major issue over which the April/May general elections were fought.

Achin Vanaik, a prominent participant at the convention, notes that the background to the Indo-U.S. nuclear cooperation deal lies in India endorsing though not joining the US-led Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI).

Vanaik who teaches international politics at the Delhi University says the U.S. sees India, Japan and Australia as the key nodes in the construction of an 'Asian NATO'.

To amplify the point he indicates the Oct. 23, 2008 'Strategic and Global Partnership' signed between India and Japan. India is only the third country, after the U.S. and Australia, with which Japan has signed such a document.

The NAAM convention concluded with the passing of a resolution which noted that every opportunity was being made to push nuclear energy as a "climate- friendly energy source" although the mining and processing of uranium, the building of nuclear power stations and the handling of radioactive waste are "highly unsafe and expensive, and cause enormous climate-changing pollution."

On the plan to amend the Indian Atomic Energy Act, to facilitate privatisation, the resolution said: "While private companies will make money, Indian taxpayers and ordinary citizens will bear the cost of dealing with all the liabilities, such as nuclear waste, decommissioning, possible accidents, public health issues and other dangerous consequences." (END/2009)

OTHER LANGUAGES [Translations | Adaptations | Related Articles]

English-Spanish

DESARME-FRANCIA: Ambigüedades nucleares

Por Alecia D. McKenzie

PARÍS - En medio de las amenazas nucleares de Corea del Norte, Francia adopta una posición que analistas describen como ambigua e hipócrita en materia atómica. Francia y Gran Bretaña son los únicos dos estados de Europa occidental con capacidad nuclear. Aunque la política oficial francesa es reducir esos arsenales y frenar las pruebas, el gobierno del presidente Nicolas Sarkozy no ha hecho ningún un compromiso específico para el desarme.

<http://www.ipsenespanol.net/nota.asp?idnews=92602>

Adaptation into Arabic on next page

NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT MORE URGENT THAN EVER - Column by Mikhail Gorbachev

Original: http://www.nuclearabolition.net/nuclear_disarmament_more_urgent_than_ever.html?key1=2009-06-28%2012:00:45&key2=2

Arabic: <http://ipsinternational.org/arabic/nota.asp?idnews=1562>

DISARMAMENT: Germany Has No Nuclear Weapons, Just Shares Them

Original: <http://www.indepthnews.net/news/news.php?key1=2009-06-28%2012:00:45&key2=2>

Arabic: <http://ipsinternational.org/arabic/nota.asp?idnews=1584>

See next page for adaptations into Arabic

[Related Articles]

NORTH KOREA: Nuclear Weapons on an Empty Stomach?

BY THALIF DEEN

SEOUL | NEW YORK (IDN) - The stories emanating from the hermetically-sealed North Korea are the stuff of diplomatic legends. Described as one of the world's most closed societies, North Korea has always remained a political enigma. Is Kim Jong-il, North Korea's "dear leader", incapacitated with a stroke? If so, are the military generals really running the country?

How credible are rumours that his third and youngest son, Kim Jong-un, has been designated the current ruler's anointed successor? And did the son graduate from an international school in Switzerland, under the assumed name of Park Choi? The newspapers here in Seoul, the vibrant capital of South Korea, the northern neighbour, are full of speculative stories about the hermit kingdom.

Is the son the chip of the old blockhead? Or unlike his father, is he more outgoing and also fluent in English, German and French?

The answers are hard to come by in the continuing guessing game.

<http://www.indepthnews.net/news/news.php?key1=2009-06-15%2015:13:20&key2=1>

NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT MORE URGENT THAN EVER - Column by Mikhail Gorbachev

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وكالة الأنباء العلمية انتر بريس سرفيس (أي بي إس)

سباق التسلح النووي:

"الن يزول الخطر النووي إلا بزوال الأسلحة النووية"

بقلم ميخائيل غورباتشوف* /وكالة انتر بريس سيرفيس

موسكو، يونيو (IPS) - يمثل خطر الأسلحة النووية واحدة من كبري المشاكل الملحة الآن. وجاءت التجربة النووية غير المتوقعة التي أجرتها كوريا الشمالية في 25 مايو، بمثابة تذكير مخيف بهذا.

لم يحقق العالم تقدماً جوهرياً على ساحة نزع الأسلحة النووية خلال العقد ونصف الأخيرين. ولا تزال الترسانات النووية مليئة بالآلاف الأسلحة بعد عشرين عاماً من نهاية الحرب الباردة، فيما يواجه العالم احتمالاً حقيقياً لإطلاق سباق تسلح جديد.

فالفعل، إقتصر كل ما تم إنجازه حتى الآن في هذا المجال على تنفيذ الإتفاقيات المبرمة في أواخر الثمانينات وبداية التسعينات: إتفاقية القوة النووية متوسطة المدى في 1987 التي أزلت نوعين من الصواريخ النووية، وإتفاقية خفض الأسلحة الإستراتيجية لعام 1991 التي أطلقت أكبر عملية لخفض الأسلحة النووية. فموجب هذا الإتفاقية الأمريكية السوفيتية تم تدمير الآف الأسلحة النووية التكتيكية.

بعد ذلك، تباطأ مسار خفض الأسلحة النووية وهفت آليات المراقبة والتدقيق. كما لم تدخل إتفاقية حظر التجارب الشامل حيز التنفيذ. ولا تزال كميات الأسلحة النووية التي تحوزها روسيا والولايات المتحدة تتجاوز كثيراً كل ما يوجد في ترسانات بقية الدول النووية مجتمعة، ما يزيد من صعوبة جرها إلى مسار نزع الأسلحة النووية.

كذلك فقد تحتر نظام عدم إنتشار الأسلحة النووية. فبينما تتحمل الدولتان النوويتان العظمتان القدر الأكبر من مسؤولية الوضع الراهن، كانت الولايات المتحدة هي من ألغت إتفاقية الصواريخ المضادة للصواريخ، بل ولم توقع على إتفاقية حظر التجارب الشامل، ورفضت أيضاً التوصل إلى إتفاق مع روسيا على معاهدة ملزمة قانونياً وخاضعة لمراقبة التنفيذ، بشأن الأسلحة الإستراتيجية الهجومية.

ولم تظهر مؤشرات على إدراك كبري الدول النووية أن الوضع الراهن لا يحتمل الإستمرار حتى وقت قريب، حين إتفق رئيسا الولايات المتحدة وروسيا على إبرام إتفاقية لخفض الأسلحة الإستراتيجية الهجومية قبل نهاية هذا العام.

كما أكد الرئيسان الروسي والأمريكي على تعهد بلديهما بالوفاء بإلتزاماتها بموجب إتفاقية حظر إنتشار الأسلحة النووية، وناديا بإتخاذ سلسلة من التدابير لتفويض الخطر النووي، بما فيها مصادقة الولايات المتحدة على إتفاقية الحظر الشامل.

كل هذه الخطوات إيجابية، لكن المشاكل والأخطار تتجاوز إلى حد بعيد قدر الإنجازات. والسبب كان الرئيسي وراء ذلك هو التقييم الخاطيء للأحداث التي أدت إلى نهاية الحرب الباردة.

فقد رأتها الولايات المتحدة ودول أخرى هذا على أنها إنتصار للغرب وضوء أخضر لإتباع سياسات أحادية. ومن ثم، وعضاً عن خلق هيكلية جديدة للأمن العالمي مبنية على التعاون، جري العمل على فرض "ز عامة إحتكارية" على العالم من قبل القوة العظمي الوحيدة الباقية ومؤسسات ومنظمات، كحلف شمال الأطلسي، موروثاً من عصر الحرب الباردة ولم يجري تعديلها بعد إنتهائها.

وبهذا تحول إستخدام القوة والتهديد بها، وهو ما يحظره ميثاق الأمم المتحدة قانونياً، إلى أداة "عادية" لحل المشاكل.

Page 2 of 2 | "المدير التنفيذي بالمنظمة البوذية السلمية الدولية: "علي واشنطن وطوكيو قيادة جهود حظر الأسلحة النووية

كان يبدو من غير الواقعي التفكير في تحقيق مثل هذه الأهداف لكنه تم تحقيقها في نهاية المطاف. وبالتالي، فأنا على ثقة أنه في مقدورنا أيضا تحقيق غاية حظر الأسلحة النووية.

أي بي اس: هل تتوقع أن يصبح التوصل إلى إتفاقية دولية لحظر الأسلحة النووية، غاية قابلة للتحقيق قريبا؟.

تيرازاكي: لاشك أننا نأمل ونتوقع أن تتفاوض الولايات المتحدة وروسيا علي خفض حاد لترسانتهما النووية بحلول نهاية العام الجاري. لكنه من وجهة نظر المواطن العادي، فإن مجرد سلاح نووي واحد ينطوي علي إمكانية أن يستخدم، بكل آثاره المدمرة.

لذلك فإننا جميعا في حاجة لإلغاء الأسلحة النووية تماما. نحتاج إلى تحقيق غاية حظر وإلغاء هذه الأسلحة.

أي بي اس: ولكن، ما هي الاحتمالات الواقعية لأن توافق الدول النووية علي إتفاقية من هذا النوع؟.

تيرازاكي: قد يقول الكثيرون أن مثل هذه الغاية غير قابلة للتحقيق، وأن الدول التي تحوز أسلحة نووية لن توافق علي إتفاقية تحظر إستخدامها.

ومع ذلك فإن التوصل إلى إتفاقية من هذا النوع، حتى ولو لم تحظي بتأييد شامل كامل في البداية، سوف يأتي بتغيير عميق علي المناخ السياسي.

أي بي اس: في ماذا تكمن حملتكم المعادية للأسلحة النووية؟.

تيرازاكي: لقد أطلقنا منذ عامين حملة "عقد الشعوب من أجل إلغاء الأسلحة النووية".

ونظمتنا معارض وسواقي شبكية، ومواد إعلامية وغيرها من أدوات توعية الشعوب والمجتمعات المدنية في العالم، وذلك انطلاقا من إيماننا بأن الشعوب والمجتمعات المدنية يجب أن تحتل مركزا قياديا في جهود المطالبة بإلغاء الأسلحة النووية، وإيصال أصواتهم إلي مسماع أصحاب القرار.

فهناك أعدادا متزايدة من الناس الذين يرفضون الإستمرار في إنفاق كميات هائلة من الموارد المالية والتقنية والبشرية، علي تطوير وإنتاج وصيانة أسلحة غايتها الوحيدة هي إرتكاب مذابح جماعية.

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DISARMAMENT: Germany Has No Nuclear Weapons, Just Shares Them

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وكالة الأنباء العلمية انتر بريس سيرفيس (آي بي إس)

**الحكومة منقسمة أمام مطالب الحلفاء والمعارضة:
"لتسحب أمريكا قنابلها النووية من ألمانيا"**

بقلم ولفغانغ كيلير/وكالة انتر بريس سيرفيس

برلين , يوليو (IPS) - تشهد الحكومة الألمانية إنقساماً متنامياً حيال مطالبة الحزب الإشتراكي الديمقراطي، المشارك فيها. وكافة أحزاب المعارضة، بالتخلي عن سياسة مشاركة السلاح النووي الأمريكي المخزون في الأراضي الألمانية، ويُنسحب الولايات المتحدة قنابلها النووية الموجودة في ألمانيا والتي يتراوح عددها بين 10 و20 قنبلة حسب البيانات المعلنة.

فقد أكد مدير مركز برلين لإعلام الأمن عبر المحيط الأطلسي وأوتفريد تسوير، لوكالة انتر بريس سيرفيس، أن "الحكومة منقسمة حول مسألة المشاركة النووية". وأضاف أن البيانات العامة تفيد بأن ثمة 10 إلى 20 قنبلة ذرية أمريكية ما زالت تتواجد في الأراضي الألمانية، كجزء من الآف القنابل النووية التي نشرتها الولايات المتحدة أثناء الحرب الباردة.

ويذكر أنه ليس لدى ألمانيا أسلحة نووية خاصة بها بموجب معاهدة عدم إنتشار الأسلحة النووية التي وقعت عليها في عام 1975، لكنها تشارك القنابل الأمريكية الموجودة في أراضيها منذ أواخر الخمسينات، حين قررت الولايات المتحدة نشر قنابلها النووية في ألمانيا الغربية، وكجانب من سياسة الردع التي إتبعها حلف شمال الأطلسي.

ويطالب الحزب الإشتراكي الديمقراطي الألماني، العضو في "التحالف الكبير" الحاكم برئاسة المستشارة آنغيلا ميركل، بطلب سحب ما تبقى من القنابل النووية الأمريكية في أراضي البلاد، وذلك على ضوء سياسة الرئيس الأمريكي باراك أوباما بشأن إلغاء الأسلحة النووية في العالم، التي أعلنها في خطابه في براغ في 5 أبريل الماضي.

فقد وصف أوباما الآف الأسلحة النووية المنتشرة في مختلف أنحاء العالم بأنها "أخطر ما وُردت من الحرب الباردة". وقال أنه "بغية حظر التجارب النووية في العالم، سوف تشترع إدارتي بحزم وعلي الفور في العمل على تحقيق مصادقة الولايات المتحدة على معاهدة حظر التجارب الشامل".

وبدوره صرح وزير الخارجية ونائب المستشارة ومرشح الحزب الإشتراكي الديمقراطي لمنصب المستشار في إنتخابات سبتمبر القادم، فرانك-ولتر شتاينويير، صرح في 14 يونيو أن "الترسانات (النووية) يجب أن تختفي من العصر الجديد الذي نناضل من أجله".

كما شنت كافة أحزاب المعارضة الممثلة في البرلمان الإتحادي الألماني حملة مطالبة بسحب القنابل النووية الأمريكية من الأراضي الألمانية. هذه الأحزاب هي الحزب الديمقراطي الحر، الحزب الأخضر، والحزب اليساري.

ويذكر أن الإتحاد المسيحي الديمقراطي، المحافظ وأكبر حزب سياسي في ألمانيا بز عامة أنغيلا ميركل، والإتحاد المسيحي الإجتماعي، الذين يشكلان نواة الحكومة الحالية، إضافة إلى الحزب الإشتراكي الديمقراطي، قد رحبا بمساعي الرئيس أوباما لإلغاء الأسلحة النووية، لكنها لا يريدان التخلي عن سياسة مشاركة الأسلحة النووية، على الأقل كخطوة أحادية.

فصرحت المستشارة الألمانية أنه "علينا أن نتبع الحيطة الواجبة لعدم الخطئ بين الأهداف ووسائل تحقيقها. أنا ملتزمة



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He was answering views that the North would return to nuclear disarmament talks only if China suspends aid to the Stalinist country. ...

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CIVIL SOCIETY'S PERSPECTIVE

Group Offers Plan to Eliminate Nukes by 2030

A group committed to eliminating nuclear weapons presented on June 29 a four-step plan to achieve that goal by 2030, while acknowledging that Iran could be a "show stopper", according to AP.

The plan by the nonpartisan Global Zero Commission calls for the United States and Russia -- the world's largest nuclear powers -- to agree to reduce first to 1,000 warheads each, then to 500 each by 2021.

The U.S. is believed to have about 2,200 active strategic nuclear warheads and Russia about 2,800. Each has thousands more in reserve as well as large numbers of non-strategic, or tactical, nuclear arms.

During the second phase of cuts to 500, all other nuclear weapons countries would have to agree to freeze and then reduce their warhead totals. Those other countries are China, Britain, France, India, Pakistan and Israel but not North Korea, which has conducted nuclear tests but may not have a useable weapon.

In a third phase, from 2019 to 2023, a "global zero accord" would be negotiated to include a schedule for the phased, verified reduction of all nuclear arsenals to zero total warheads. In the last period, from 2024 to 2030, the reductions would be completed and a verification system would remain in place.

The Global Zero Commission includes former and current senior officials from all existing nuclear powers.

The plan's public unveiling was timed for the July 6-8 summit meeting between President Barack Obama and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev. In April the two leaders endorsed the idea of a nuclear free world, but neither country has proposed a way of achieving that goal, which many consider to be unrealistic.

The U.S. and Russia possess at least 90 percent of the world's nuclear weapons.

Global Zero Commission member Richard Burt, a former chief U.S. negotiator for strategic nuclear arms reduction talks with the former Soviet Union, said the key to getting Washington and Moscow to reduce their warhead totals to 500 as an intermediate step is having other nuclear powers agree to freeze their arsenals and then join the United States and Russia in going the final step to zero by 2030.

He said the commission also sees North Korea as a problem, but not necessarily an obstacle, to getting a global zero agreement. By the second phase of the Global Zero Commission's plan, at the midpoint of the next decade, North Korea's nuclear status is likely to be clarified, the former diplomat said.

An even stickier problem is Iran. Under the Global Zero Commission's plan, the Iranians would become an issue in the third phase, in the 2019 to 2023 period, when a global zero accord would be negotiated. That is because the plan requires that all "nuclear capable" countries -- defined as those with any nuclear power program, civilian or otherwise -- sign and ratify the accord in order for it to take effect.

The U.S. and other countries assert that Iran's declared civilian nuclear program is aimed at building a bomb. Iran denies it. "If they were to decide over the next couple of years that they want to acquire nuclear weapons and were to go forward and deploy them, then it's hard to see how global zero goes anywhere," Burt said. "It's a potential show stopper," he said.