

XXXIII

TECMUN Jr.

Agency
for the Prohibition of
Nuclear Weapons in Latin
America

XXXIII TECMUN Jr.
Session Schedule

Wednesday, November 12th

Registration	8:00 – 9:00 h
Opening Ceremony	9:00 – 10:00 h
Break	10:00 – 10:30 h
First Session	10:30 – 12:30 h
Break	12:30 – 13:00 h
Second Session	13:00 – 15:00 h
Meal	15:00 – 16:00 h
Third Session	16:00 – 18:00 h

Thursday, November 13th

Master Conference	8:30 – 9:30 h
Break	9:30 – 10:00 h
Fourth Session	10:00 – 12:30 h
Break	12:30 – 13:00 h
Fifth Session	13:00 – 15:00 h
Meal	15:00 – 16:00 h
Sixth Session	16:00 – 18:00 h

Friday, November 14th

Seven Session	8:00 – 9:30 h
Break	9:30 – 10:00 h
Eighth Session	10:00 – 12:00 h
Break	12:00 – 12:30 h
Ninth Session	12:30 – 14:40 h
Meal	14:40 – 16:00 h
Closing Ceremony	16:00 – 18:30 h

XXXIII TECMUN Jr.
General Agenda

Secretary General: Abril Valdés Calva

GENERAL COORDINATION

Subsecretary of General Coordination: Mauro Carillo Gálvez
Supervisor of General Coordination for Co. Secretariat: Emiliano Parra Maya

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

General Subsecretary: Andrea Abigail Salazar López
Supervisor of Coordination: Hannia Nieves José

Plenary Session for the General Assembly

President: Fernada Cisneros Farfán

- A)** Mitigating the legal, humanitarian, and environmental repercussions of the forced relocation in the Republic of Kiribati, Tuvalu, and the Republic of Maldives caused by the increasing sea levels and the historical emissions by developed nations.
- B)** Addressing the conflict in the Taiwan Strait caused by the military activities, airspace violations, and sovereignty claims between the People's Republic of China and the Republic of China (Taiwan), with a focus on regional security and international law.

Third Commission of Social, Humanitarian & Cultural Affairs

Presidente: Diego López Peralta

- A)** Measures to regulate human rights violations and punishments against the LGBTQ+ community in Africa.
- B)** Ethical implications of artificial intelligence in healthcare access in countries with developing healthcare systems, like all of East Africa.

Comisión Interamericana de Derechos Humanos

Presidente: Mariana Dueñas Salgado

- A)** Estrategias para garantizar la seguridad y el cumplimiento de derechos humanos de periodistas en los Estados Unidos Mexicanos frente a los ataques derivados del narcotráfico, corrupción estatal y falta de protección por parte del Estado.
- B)** Medidas para salvaguardar los derechos humanos y la seguridad de los inmigrantes en los Estados Unidos de América afectados por las políticas de deportación masiva implementadas por la administración actual del presidente Donald Trump.

Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente

Presidente: Josué Yazid Reyes Oliveros

- A)** Medidas para frenar el tráfico ilegal de especies como amenaza a la biodiversidad y los esfuerzos de conservación global en América del Sur y la Amazonia brasileña

B) Estrategias para mitigar el impacto de los microplásticos en los ecosistemas marinos y su aplicación en el Sudeste Asiático

United Nations Children's Emergency Fund

President: María Fernanda López Islas

A) Actions to strengthen national legislation to prevent child labor in the informal textile industry in urban centers of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, where regulatory systems remain weak and exploitative practices are common.

B) Addressing the rise in mental health issues among children and adolescents following the COVID-19 pandemic with Significance in the Republic of India.

Instituto Interregional de las Naciones Unidas para Investigaciones sobre la Delincuencia y la Justicia

Presidente: Reggina Marie Orta González

A) Acciones para abordar crímenes vinculados al turismo criminal en el Sudeste Asiático, con enfoque en vacíos regulatorios y violaciones de derechos humanos.

B) El crecimiento del cibercrimen transnacional en América Latina como amenaza a la seguridad digital y jurídica.

Comisión de Derecho Internacional

Presidente: Axl Paris Ortega Rodríguez

Tópico A) Estrategias globales para detener la explotación ilegal de recursos naturales en el Amazonas, centrándose en la intervención de empresas extranjeras en Brasil y Perú.

Tópico B) Medidas para evitar el uso del derecho internacional con fines políticos, con énfasis en las sanciones económicas impuestas por los Estados Unidos y la Unión Europea a la Federación de Rusia.

Committee Against Torture

President: Mariana Méndez Cruz

A) Measures to eradicate the degrading and generational torture of genital mutilation of females in the Middle East and Africa.

B) Measures to stop mass repression, forced disappearance, and torture in the criminal procedure of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Histórica Organización de los Estados Americanos

Presidente: Aarón Vázquez Guzmán

A) Mecanismos para eliminar la influencia política del Cártel de Medellín en la República de Colombia priorizando la protección de los derechos humanos de la población. (1976-1993)

B) Medidas para la resolución pacífica del conflicto bélico interno causado por los Contras en la República de Nicaragua mediante la liberación de tensiones políticas entre los Estados Unidos de América y la Unión de Repúblicas Socialistas Soviéticas. (1979–1990)

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

General Subsecretary: Samantha Salgado Nájjar
Supervisor of Coordination: Alexa Esmeralda Rivera Jimenez

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women

President: Valentina Reyes Pardo

A) Mechanisms to address the rise in obstetric violence in Latin America, due to the increasing cases of professional negligence that contribute to the violation of women's reproductive rights.

B) Measures to counter Gender-Based Political Violence Against Women perpetuated by the diffusion of anti-progressive campaigns during electoral processes in the United Mexican States.

Organización Internacional para las Migraciones

Presidente: David Trujillo Loza

A) Estrategias para mitigar la crisis masiva de desplazamientos de la República de Sudán a causa de las disputas territoriales entre las Fuerzas Armadas de Sudán (FAS) y las Fuerzas de Apoyo Rápido (FAR).

B) Estrategias para frenar la crisis migratoria de la República Bolivariana de Venezuela hacia países de Latinoamérica y los Estados Unidos de América, manteniendo el enfoque en la violencia generada por las elecciones presidenciales de 2024.

Comisión Económica de las Naciones Unidas para Europa

Presidente: Camila Oliveros Dávila

A) Medidas para mitigar el impacto económico y social del envejecimiento poblacional en Europa Occidental y del Norte, con especial atención a la sostenibilidad de los sistemas de pensiones y salud.

B) Acciones para fomentar la transición energética a energías renovables en países en desarrollo, con enfoque en Asia Central.

United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

President: Claudia Guadalupe Pfeiffer Benítez

A) Measures to Address the Use of Chemical Weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic with Emphasis on Compliance with the International Disarmament Regime.

B) Approaches to Strengthening Nuclear Non-Proliferation in the Middle East with Focus on Adherence to International Norms.

Comisión Económica para África

Presidente: Rebeca Farah Romero Pérez

A) Estrategias para contrarrestar la hambruna extrema y la escasez de recursos en origen al conflicto civil en la República del Sudán del Sur.

B) Estrategias de intervención para el deterioro de la economía de la República de Sierra Leona a causa de la epidemia de ébola.

Fonds Monétaire International

Président: Melany Fayed Cervantes Espinoza

- A) Mesures visant à réduire la perte d'emplois ruraux en République Fédérative du Brésil, en particulier dans la région du Cerrado, en raison de la dégradation des terres agricoles.
- B) Actions visant à réduire la dette extérieure de manière juste et organisée pour renforcer et diversifier l'économie africaine, en particulier en République du Zambie.

Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura

Presidente: Aarón Badillo Aguilar

Tópico Único) Medidas para la retención del desplazamiento forzado de comunidades indígenas por megaproyectos extractivos en la República Federativa del Brasil, la República de Colombia, la República del Perú y los Estados Unidos Mexicanos.

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

President: María Fernanda Domínguez Hereida

- A) Actions to prevent the recruitment of young people in the Central African Sahel region into organized crime, addressing the social roots of recruitment into gangs, cartels, and extremist networks.
- B) Strategies to limit radicalization within prison systems in the Southern Philippines and the lack of effective programs to prevent criminal recidivism.

Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America

President: Jacobo Nicolas Palafox Valdes

- A) Strengthening nuclear security protocols in Latin America and the Caribbean in response to natural disasters.
- B) Addressing the risks of illicit nuclear material trafficking in Latin America and the Caribbean.

SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND REGIONAL ORGANISMS

General Subsecretary: Patrick Eduardo Cunillé Paniagua

Supervisor of Coordination: Arantza Estrada Ríos

Oficina de las Naciones Unidas en Ginebra

Presidente: Alexandra Sofía Reyes Galindo

- A) Medidas para frenar la trata de personas en África Occidental, con énfasis en los matrimonios infantiles forzados.
- B) Acciones para contrarrestar la represión estatal en Irán, ocasionada por la concentración del poder en manos del líder supremo y la Guardia Revolucionaria.

Organización Internacional de la Policía

Presidente: Diego Alejandro Salazar Náfate

- A) Medidas para frenar el empleo de criptomonedas en el tráfico ilícito de especies protegidas, entre la República de Camerún, los Emiratos Árabes Unidos y la República Federal de Alemania.
- B) Medidas para erradicar las redes de trata de menores encubiertas como adopciones internacionales a través de la manipulación de procedimientos legales y la adulteración de

credenciales de identificación entre la República Federal de Nigeria, los Emiratos Árabes Unidos y el Reino de los Países Bajos.

International Committee of the Red Cross

President: Emiliano Antonio Contreras Salas

A) Measures to protect and assist the civil population and detained persons affected by the armed conflict between the State of Israel and Palestinian armed groups in the Gaza Strip.

B) Measures to prevent and address violations of human rights in the armed conflict in the Republic of Sudan, with emphasis on the protection of civilians.

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

President: Marian Robles Ortiz

Topic A) Actions to ensure the management of humanitarian consequences taking place in the Republic of Yemen as a result of its domestic conflict and the military intervention of international actors.

Topic B) Strategies to counter the human rights violations happening in Port au Prince and its surrounding areas as a result of gang violence and abuse from government authorities.

Organización del Tratado Atlántico Norte

Presidente: Fausto Moreno Hurtado

A) Medidas para contrarrestar las tensiones diplomáticas causadas en Europa del Este ante la adición de la República de Finlandia y el Reino de Suecia a la OTAN, con enfoque en el conflicto de la Federación Rusa y la República de Ucrania.

B) Medidas para enfrentar la crisis migratoria localizada en la frontera sureste de Europa, con énfasis en la ruta Mediterránea Oriental hacia la República Helénica, causada por conflictos internos localizados en el Medio Oriente con enfoque en el grupo Partido de los Trabajadores del Kurdistan (PKK) en la República Turquía.

World Bank

President: Javier Gil Rodríguez

A) Actions to limit the expansion of the agricultural frontier and large-scale deforestation in South America, with an emphasis on affected groups in vulnerable regions such as the Amazon and Gran Chaco.

B) Measures to eradicate the severe precarity of physical and economic resources in the conflict between the State of Palestine and the State of Israel, with specific attention to vulnerable citizens located in the Gaza Strip.

Consejo de Seguridad

Presidente: Emiliano Bautista Soza

A) Estrategias para prevenir el resurgimiento de la violencia armada entre el Estado de Israel y los grupos armados palestinos en Gaza y Cisjordania, al tiempo que se promueve la estabilidad a largo plazo en la región.

B) Acciones para detener el avance del programa nuclear de Corea del Norte, poniendo especial atención en sus pruebas de misiles y las amenazas que representa para la estabilidad de Asia Oriental.

International Atomic Energy Agency

President: Ana Mercado Garduño

A) Measures to prevent illicit trafficking of radioactive materials through unstable border regions, focusing on the region of Central Asia.

B) Actions to mitigate environmental and security risks of nuclear facilities in active and post-conflict zones centered on Ukraine and the Syrian Arab Republic.

Caribbean Court of Justice

President: Miguel Ángel Pérez Rodríguez

A) Appeal by Nevis Betancourt against conviction on depriving Jose Castellanos of his life in Belizean Appeal (Nevis Betancourt v The King).

B) Proceeding by Shanique Myrie against the State of Barbados on violation of human rights and free movement rights under the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas (Shanique Myrie v The State of Barbados).

“The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.” — Eleanor Roosevelt

Dear reader,

Six years ago, I participated in my very first TECMUN as a judge in the *International Court of Justice*. It was a model full of challenges — not only because it was the first online TECMUN, but also because I struggled to find the courage to speak in front of delegates who were far more experienced than I was. I remember spending those three days hiding behind my camera, only speaking when the chair required me to. However, there was one moment that changed everything: watching the *Agent Defense* inspired me in a way I will never forget. It was then that I realized I also wanted to be there — to become someone capable of raising my voice and creating change. It wasn't until my second model that I discovered my true potential. I represented the Republic of Colombia in UNICEF, and that was when I asked myself why I should be afraid to express my opinions on topics that deserve to be heard. That year, I made a promise to stop doubting myself and to participate with the conviction that my voice also had value. That's when I understood that TECMUN was not just about debating — it was about growing, learning, and daring to step out of my comfort zone. That model marked the beginning of my personal evolution.

Years later, I decided to close this journey where it had all begun — in a court. I joined the *Caribbean Court of Justice* as the *Agent Defense* for the State of Barbados. During the closing ceremony, I realized I had achieved what I once only dreamed of: I had become an agent of change. I looked at the High Secretariat and understood that this was my destiny, my dream, my goal — to welcome new generations of agents determined to transform the world from within the debate halls. I share a piece of my TECMUN story with you because, just like me, you are probably seeking to grow, to find your voice, or to reach new goals. No matter where you are in your journey, what truly matters is that you keep moving forward and never stop believing in yourself.

Never stay silent in the face of injustice. Speak up, act, and make choices — because the power to create change lies both in the decisions you take and in the ones you choose not to. Educate yourself, because nurturing your mind will help you understand yourself and others. Help those who need it most, because you hold privileges that many people around the world do not — and using them to serve others is one of the noblest forms of leadership. Do everything with passion, with love, and with purpose — every single day, for yourself and for others. Inspire and be inspired, because you never know if your words or your actions might be the push someone needs to believe in themselves.

Take advantage of being here today. You have the opportunity to expand your limits, to learn, to teach, and to motivate those around you. Remember, you are not alone — there is a network of support surrounding you, believing in you, and walking beside you every step of the way. Be the person you once wished would guide you through your learning process. And above all, trust yourself — because you are capable of achieving everything you set your mind to.

Abril Valdés Calva
Secretary General for the
XXXIII TECMUN Jr.

“No hay presión cuando haces lo que realmente amas”

-Neymar Jr.

Dear participant,

Today I speak to you from the heart of a 12-year-old Mauro, who came to his first model and wants to tell you that you are about to experience one of the most beautiful things — TECMUN. A model to which we have poured our soul, heart, and life. I ask you to please come and enjoy it. I don't know if you're here because you had to or because you wanted to, but the only thing I want to say is thank you — thank you for being part of this great model, because without you, this project wouldn't be possible. Thank you for getting involved in topics that maybe others find irrelevant, but in which you see a solution.

Many people think that being in TECMUN is something insignificant, but the truth is that you are deeply engaging with issues that are real global challenges today. I want to tell you that this experience will not only give you knowledge, but it will also open doors to future and amazing academic opportunities. Moreover, you'll meet incredible people who share your same academic interests — or even new ideas that might encourage you to step out of your bubble and see the world and things from a more realistic perspective.

Lastly, I want to invite you to make the most of your time at TECMUN, because it is a unique experience that truly changes you as a person and helps you grow. Be open to change and new ideas, remembering how your past self once dreamed of creating a big change — both within yourself and in leaving a small mark on the hearts of those who dare to step out of their comfort zones and routines. Now it's your turn: laugh, cry, enjoy, learn, and above all, never let others limit your ability to create.

Mauro Carillo Gálvez
Subsecretary of General Coordination for the
XXXIII TECMUN Jr.

*“To the magic of the moment, on a glory night, where the children of tomorrow dream
away” - Klaus Meine*

Dear reader,

It has been said that the hardest part of trying new things is the moment of actually doing it, however, I do believe that the hardest part is having the persistence to keep trying until you can transform your fear into courage. Today is my fifth model in TECMUN, and after each one I have learned many new lessons, although they all share the most important one: having bravery, patience and effort will always demonstrate why they were worth it. My path in TECMUN has not been easy, it has brought with it time, effort, dedication, but has mostly shown me that my voice has power. Allow me to invite you, delegate, judge, magistrate, to, even though it could be terrifying, raise your placard and say that opinion or proposal that may be the key part of a most successful model; prove to yourself that you can transform those nerves, that you have courage and decide to start changing the world from here. Remember that your voice is the biggest super power of all, and with it, you can become a changing agent for the current world. I hope that through this model I can share with you all the love, passion and excellence that TECMUN has given me; TECMUN gave my life a 360 turn, and I am sure it will do the same with yours. Be welcome to this new TECMUN Jr., live it to the best, raise your placard, defend your position, make friends and new relationships; here is the place to grow, transform and experiment. Now, you have a piece of the world in your hands, it is up to you to decide what you wish to do with it.

Samantha Salgado Nájara
Subsecretary of the Economic and Social Council for the
XXXIII TECMUN Jr.

“Peace cannot be kept by force; it can only be achieved through understanding.”

- *Albert Einstein*

Delegate,

Today you step into a forum where preparation meets courage, and where your voice can turn careful research into real impact. Nerves are natural; choose to transform them into focus, composure, and conviction. Over three intense days, commit to learning relentlessly, listening generously, and speaking with precision. Raise your placard when it matters, build bridges even when views diverge, and let evidence, not volume, guide your diplomacy. OPANAL’s legacy, the Treaty of Tlatelolco and a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone, asks for the best of you: integrity, rigor, and respect. Use official country names in English, cite credible sources, and ground every clause in feasibility and the committee’s faculties. Debate firmly but fairly; negotiate in good faith; welcome scrutiny as a path to clarity. Be curious, meet new peers, test your assumptions, and refine your ideas until they become actionable solutions. You hold a small piece of the world in your hands; treat it with care and purpose.

Jacobo Nicolas Palafox Valdes
President for the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the
Caribbean
for the XXXIII TECMUN JR.

Background

Established in 1969 in Mexico City, the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) is an international organization, founded by the United Nations (UN), created to ensure the implementation of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, which prohibits the testing, use, manufacture, and storage of nuclear weapons across the Latin American and Caribbean region. Composed of 33 Member States, OPANAL promotes regional security through nuclear disarmament and supports the development of peaceful nuclear energy under strict international control. Although independent from the United Nations (UN), OPANAL maintains a strong cooperative relationship with the UN and other international bodies, particularly in advancing disarmament agendas and upholding international peace and security. Its mission centers on consolidating a nuclear-weapon-free zone, reinforcing global non-proliferation efforts, and preserving the sovereign right of states to live in peace.

Faculties

In order to ensure the effective implementation of nuclear disarmament across Latin America and the Caribbean, the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean is empowered to:

- Monitor and promote compliance with the Treaty of Tlatelolco by facilitating diplomatic dialogue and verification mechanisms;
- Issue recommendations and resolutions aimed at strengthening regional cooperation on non-proliferation and advancing collective security and stability in the region;
- Collaborate with international bodies, such as the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), ensuring the exclusively peaceful use of nuclear energy through

technical cooperation;

- Promote education and awareness on nuclear disarmament and international law through regional initiatives, seminars, and public diplomacy efforts;
- Facilitate the exchange of scientific, technical, and legal information among Member States to enhance verification, monitoring, and nuclear control capabilities;
- Convene multilateral forums and conferences to foster ongoing dialogue between governments, regional organizations, and international experts in favor of peace and disarmament.

Topic A

Addressing the Risks of Illicit Nuclear Material Trafficking in Latin America and the Caribbean

By: Jacobo Nicolas Palafox Valdes, Sofia Monserrat Álvarez Hernández y Rebeca Ayala Núñez

Introduction

Illicit trafficking of nuclear material¹ constitutes a growing and multifaceted threat to international peace and security, particularly in regions where border management systems, port surveillance, and nuclear detection infrastructure remain insufficient. Despite the legally binding commitment of Latin American and Caribbean countries under the Treaty of Tlatelolco to maintain the region as a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone, this geographical area is not immune to transnational criminal networks². These organizations exploit gaps in maritime control, customs coordination, and intergovernmental intelligence to smuggle or redirect radioactive sources for illicit purposes. Although no Member State of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) holds nuclear arms, many possess operational nuclear research centers or use radioactive isotopes in medicine, agriculture, and industry, which could be diverted if not properly safeguarded. The combination of weak regional coordination and the rapid evolution of illicit technologies—such as the use of drones, deep web commerce, and counterfeit documentation—has elevated the risk that dangerous materials could fall into the hands of terrorist or criminal actors.

In this context, OPANAL emerges as a fundamental actor in ensuring that the region's commitment to disarmament and non-proliferation translates into tangible safeguards³. Through collaboration with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and other international entities, OPANAL supports the development of robust verification systems and promotes the exchange of best practices among Member States. Strengthening nuclear

¹ **Nuclear Material:** Radioactive substances, including uranium and plutonium, that are used in civilian energy production or weapons manufacturing and require strict control

² **Transnational Crime:** Criminal activities that cross national borders, including trafficking of illicit goods, arms, and nuclear materials.

³ **Safeguards:** Technical measures implemented by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to verify that states comply with non-proliferation commitments.

forensics⁴, border detection capabilities, and the training of local enforcement officials are essential strategies to prevent unauthorized transfers of radioactive material. Moreover, reinforcing legal frameworks and enhancing regional data-sharing protocols are necessary to anticipate and neutralize threats before they materialize. As illicit trafficking continues to evolve in complexity and scale, urgent multilateral dialogue and action-oriented policymaking are imperative to uphold the integrity of the region's nuclear security architecture.

Historical Background

The origins of nuclear security concerns in Latin America trace back to the Cold War era, when global fears of proliferation prompted the region to take preventive action. In 1967, the Treaty of Tlatelolco established Latin America and the Caribbean as the first Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (NWFZ). This historic agreement laid the foundation for OPANAL and the region's strong commitment to nuclear disarmament. However, it did not fully anticipate the modern threats posed by illicit trafficking of nuclear materials. As globalization accelerated in the late 20th and early 21st centuries, transnational organized crime expanded its operations across Latin America. Parallel to arms and drug trafficking, concerns emerged about the possible movement of radiological and nuclear substances through insecure borders. While no major incidents were publicly confirmed, regional experts began raising alarms about vulnerabilities in port security and regulatory gaps. International bodies such as the IAEA encouraged Latin American States to strengthen their nuclear detection and control systems.

Throughout the 2000s, international cooperation increased through initiatives like the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT) and United Nations Security

⁴ **Nuclear Forensics:** Scientific analysis of nuclear material to determine its origin, intended use, and potential involvement in criminal or terrorist activities.

Council Resolution 1540. These efforts emphasized the need to prevent non-State actors from acquiring weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear materials. Latin American countries participated in capacity-building programs, yet significant disparities in national implementation remained. These historical developments highlight the growing complexity and urgency of addressing nuclear security in the region.

Current Context

Currently, Latin America and the Caribbean remain one of the few regions in the world fully committed to nuclear disarmament through binding international law. The Treaty of Tlatelolco remains in force for all 33 States Parties, and its protocols have been ratified by the five nuclear-weapon states recognized under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT).⁵ However, this normative framework faces increasing pressure due to global instability, including rising tensions among major powers and the modernization of nuclear arsenals. Regional governments must now balance their disarmament commitments with national security concerns amid new global threats. The strategic importance of maintaining a nuclear-weapon-free zone has never been more urgent.

Parallel to global developments, the region faces internal challenges that impact nuclear security. The rise of organized crime networks and illicit trafficking has created potential vulnerabilities for the handling and storage of radioactive materials. Although no confirmed nuclear incidents have occurred, intelligence reports and customs alerts suggest that smuggling of radiological substances is a growing concern. In some countries, the lack of sufficient infrastructure and training for nuclear safety compounds the problem. This raises the need for enhanced national and regional mechanisms to safeguard materials that could be used in radiological attacks.

⁵ **Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)**: An international agreement aimed at preventing the spread of nuclear weapons and promoting peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

Moreover, the expansion of peaceful nuclear energy projects across Latin America has added complexity to regional coordination efforts. Countries like Argentina, Brazil, and Mexico operate nuclear reactors and maintain advanced nuclear technology programs under IAEA safeguards. While these programs are primarily civilian in nature, their dual-use potential requires rigorous oversight and transparency. Cooperation among Member States is essential to ensure mutual confidence and the prevention of nuclear material diversion. OPANAL plays a crucial role in facilitating technical dialogue and trust-building in this context.

Lastly, geopolitical shifts such as increasing Chinese and Russian investment in Latin America have also influenced the nuclear governance landscape. These powers bring technological advantages but also strategic interests that must be carefully weighed. The presence of extra-regional actors in nuclear projects underscores the importance of maintaining regional autonomy and unity. OPANAL must navigate these developments diplomatically while ensuring that its disarmament objectives are upheld. The current context therefore calls for strategic adaptation without compromising the region's historic nuclear-weapon-free identity.

One key perspective involves the lack of standardization in national legislation regarding nuclear security across Latin American and Caribbean countries. Some States have comprehensive regulatory frameworks, while others lack basic detection or enforcement mechanisms. This legal fragmentation creates loopholes exploited by trafficking networks. Harmonizing nuclear legislation in accordance with international standards is a crucial step. The vulnerability of borders and transportation routes, especially maritime and aerial corridors. Insufficient inspection technologies and weak customs coordination increase the

risk of undetected nuclear material movement. States with limited financial or technical capacity are particularly at risk. Regional cooperation in capacity-building and intelligence-sharing is vital to address this concern.

A final perspective considers the role of non-State actors and organized crime groups in facilitating the illicit trade of nuclear materials. These groups often exploit corruption, porous borders, and weak enforcement to operate across multiple jurisdictions. Monitoring and disrupting these networks requires enhanced coordination between national security agencies and international partners. OPANAL can serve as a bridge to foster dialogue, transparency, and collective action on these issues.

Public Health and Security Implications

The unauthorized circulation of nuclear materials poses severe threats to public health, particularly in densely populated urban areas. Exposure to radioactive substances can lead to acute radiation sickness, increased cancer risk, and long-term genetic damage. In the event of a radiological incident, health systems in the region may lack the necessary infrastructure to respond adequately. This gap could result in widespread panic, mismanagement, and loss of life. Security risks also intensify as illicit trafficking networks may seek to weaponize radioactive materials in the form of “dirty bombs” or radiological dispersal devices (RDDs). Although these devices are not as destructive as nuclear weapons, they can cause mass disruption, fear, and economic paralysis. Ports, airports, and border zones are particularly vulnerable entry points. Strengthening monitoring and response protocols in these areas is crucial.

The psychological and socio-political consequences of a nuclear-related emergency are equally significant. Fear and misinformation can undermine public trust in institutions and disrupt regional stability. Coordinated health and civil protection strategies are essential

to mitigate both physical and mental harm. OPANAL, in coordination with international health and safety agencies, must promote awareness, training, and technical cooperation among its Member States.

Regional and International Cooperation

Regional cooperation has been a cornerstone of OPANAL's effectiveness since the adoption of the Treaty of Tlatelolco. Member States have worked jointly to ensure compliance with nuclear-weapon-free status through regular consultations and verification mechanisms. This cooperation reinforces mutual trust and transparency, which are essential to maintaining Latin America and the Caribbean as a nuclear-weapon-free zone. Joint initiatives with regional organizations, such as the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), have further strengthened this framework. These alliances provide platforms to promote disarmament education and technical support.

On the international stage, OPANAL maintains close coordination with the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and other key stakeholders. These partnerships enhance technical capacity, enable better monitoring systems, and align Latin American efforts with global non-proliferation goals. OPANAL's observer status in relevant global forums ensures that the region's voice is represented in international nuclear discourse. Moreover, collaboration with the IAEA facilitates the implementation of safeguards and assists Member States in developing peaceful nuclear energy under strict controls.

OPANAL also actively engages in inter-zonal cooperation with other Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones (NWFZs), such as those established in Africa, Central Asia, Southeast Asia, and the South Pacific. This cooperation fosters a unified stance among NWFZs in advocating for universal disarmament and challenging doctrines like nuclear

deterrence. OPANAL has participated in international conferences and issued joint declarations with other zones, urging nuclear-weapon states to fulfill their disarmament obligations. These interactions create momentum for disarmament diplomacy and set precedents for global norms. Continued inter-zonal solidarity is essential to maintain pressure on nuclear-armed states.

Despite these efforts, challenges remain in ensuring consistent implementation and political commitment across Member States. Economic constraints, competing national priorities, and shifting foreign policy agendas can hinder regional coherence. Delegates must explore innovative solutions to revitalize regional mechanisms and engage youth, civil society, and academia in disarmament efforts. Establishing permanent working groups or task forces may enhance institutional capacity and ensure continuity. A strong, coordinated regional approach will allow OPANAL to remain influential in the global push toward disarmament.

Committee and Member States Positions

The Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) has consistently reaffirmed its commitment to maintaining the region as a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone under the Treaty of Tlatelolco. As the principal regional body in nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, OPANAL promotes the peaceful use of nuclear energy and strict control over nuclear material. The agency works closely with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to ensure transparency and compliance. However, OPANAL recognizes the emerging threat of illicit nuclear material trafficking as a regional security risk that must be addressed.

Mexico, as a founding member and a strong advocate for disarmament, has pushed for the expansion of nuclear safeguards and border control protocols. Argentina and Brazil,

which operate civilian nuclear programs, have prioritized enhancing domestic regulations while promoting bilateral cooperation through the Brazilian–Argentine Agency for Accounting and Control of Nuclear Materials (ABACC). Chile and Colombia have expressed concern about maritime routes being exploited for smuggling. Caribbean states, though lacking nuclear programs, have called for international technical assistance to reinforce port and customs security.

Some Member States have reported difficulties in monitoring and securing borders due to lack of technological capacity and specialized training. While all Member States oppose nuclear proliferation, varying levels of infrastructure and resources create disparities in enforcement capabilities. This has led to calls for more equitable access to detection technologies and risk assessment systems. Regional solidarity remains essential to ensure collective preparedness.

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Topic B

Reinforcing Nuclear Verification Mechanisms for Peaceful Use of Nuclear Energy in Latin America and the Caribbean

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Introduction

The peaceful use of nuclear energy in Latin America and the Caribbean has grown significantly, with several countries expanding their civilian nuclear programs under international supervision. While these programs aim to address energy demands and contribute to scientific development, they must be rigorously monitored to prevent potential misuse. The Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) play essential roles in establishing and verifying compliance with non-proliferation standards. Ensuring effective verification mechanisms is crucial to preserving the region's status as a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (NWFZ)..

Verification measures are the cornerstone of trust in any nuclear program, especially in regions with growing energy needs and geopolitical interest. Inconsistencies in national regulatory frameworks and technical capacities can lead to vulnerabilities that might be exploited. Moreover, the presence of foreign investment and advanced dual-use technologies raises the importance of transparency and safeguards. Strengthening nuclear verification is therefore not only a regional priority but also a global responsibility. The Treaty of Tlatelolco has served as a foundation for regional commitment to disarmament and peaceful nuclear development. However, new challenges demand enhanced cooperation, technical expertise, and institutional coordination. As Member States advance in their nuclear capabilities, verification must keep pace with innovation and ensure accountability. OPANAL is positioned to lead this effort, promoting regional cohesion and trust through effective monitoring and verification protocols.

Historical Background

The history of nuclear verification in Latin America and the Caribbean is deeply rooted in the

adoption of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean, commonly known as the Treaty of Tlatelolco. Signed in 1967, the Treaty was the first of its kind to establish a legally binding commitment to maintain the region as a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (NWFZ). Its establishment marked a significant diplomatic achievement, born out of the Cuban Missile Crisis and Cold War tensions. The Treaty created OPANAL to ensure compliance and uphold the regional commitment to peace and nuclear disarmament.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has worked closely with OPANAL to develop safeguards agreements and Additional Protocols with Member States. These mechanisms enable the verification of declared nuclear material and facilities to ensure peaceful use. Over the decades, Latin American countries such as Argentina, Brazil, and Mexico have developed civil nuclear programs under these agreements. The bilateral ABACC (Brazilian-Argentine Agency for Accounting and Control of Nuclear Materials) is a regional example of effective cooperation in nuclear verification.

Despite the region's progress, historical limitations in technology, funding, and regulatory coherence have challenged the implementation of uniform verification standards. National approaches to nuclear regulation have evolved at different paces, resulting in uneven oversight capacities. As global non-proliferation regimes have become more sophisticated, regional frameworks have had to adapt accordingly. Strengthening verification today requires not only reaffirming past commitments but also innovating to meet emerging threats and opportunities.

Current Context

Today, Latin America and the Caribbean maintain a strong commitment to nuclear non-proliferation through mechanisms under the Treaty of Tlatelolco and collaboration with

the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Most countries in the region have comprehensive safeguards agreements and Additional Protocols in place, allowing for regular inspections and verification. However, as civil nuclear technologies evolve—particularly in medical, agricultural, and energy sectors—verification systems must adapt to new technical complexities. Innovations like Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) and advanced radiological techniques present verification challenges not previously encountered.

Additionally, disparities in national regulatory capacity persist across the region. While countries like Brazil and Argentina have robust nuclear infrastructures and independent regulatory bodies, smaller states lack the same level of institutional development. This creates vulnerabilities that could be exploited, especially if dual-use technologies are mismanaged or improperly monitored. Regional harmonization of verification standards remains a necessary, though challenging, objective. Cybersecurity has emerged as a key concern for nuclear verification systems in the 21st century. The increasing digitization of nuclear facilities introduces risks of data breaches and sabotage, which could undermine verification integrity. Moreover, regional cooperation through OPANAL must be enhanced to ensure that nuclear activities remain transparent and peaceful, especially in light of growing global tensions. These current conditions call for renewed political will and strategic investment in verification infrastructure.

Key Perspectives and Subtopics

One of the most critical subtopics is the modernization of verification technologies in response to emerging nuclear innovations. The use of artificial intelligence, satellite imaging, and automated sensor networks has begun to complement traditional inspection tools. For Latin America and the Caribbean, the adoption of these technologies depends on both financial capacity and technical training. Establishing regional initiatives for joint

technological development and knowledge sharing is vital. Another key perspective involves strengthening the legal and institutional frameworks that support verification. While the Treaty of Tlatelolco and IAEA protocols provide a foundation, gaps remain in national implementation and enforcement. Some states lack independent regulatory agencies or sufficient legislative clarity on verification obligations. Greater collaboration with international experts can help these nations build resilient and transparent verification regimes.

Lastly, it is essential to address the human factor in nuclear verification. Skilled personnel, ongoing training, and inter-agency communication play a decisive role in ensuring consistent oversight. A regional nuclear verification training center, supported by OPANAL and the IAEA, could ensure standardized qualifications and build trust. Fostering a culture of safety, accountability, and regional solidarity is necessary to uphold the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

Regional and International Cooperation

Regional cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean has been central to the effectiveness of nuclear verification mechanisms. The Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) plays a coordinating role, particularly through the implementation of the Treaty of Tlatelolco. Member States have engaged in capacity-building initiatives and technical consultations, often in collaboration with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Such partnerships have been essential in standardizing inspection procedures and promoting transparency across the region.

Internationally, Latin American and Caribbean countries have cooperated with agencies such as the IAEA, the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), and the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO). These

collaborations have facilitated access to verification technology, training programs, and expert advisory missions. Notably, regional workshops led by IAEA experts have helped harmonize national nuclear regulatory frameworks. Continued engagement with international institutions reinforces national commitments and deters potential misuse of nuclear technology.

There is growing momentum toward forming interregional partnerships with nuclear-weapon-free zones (NWFZs) in Africa, Southeast Asia, and the South Pacific. These collaborations aim to share best practices, verification models, and multilateral oversight strategies. Latin America and the Caribbean can benefit from replicating successful protocols used in other regions to strengthen its verification capacity. Joint declarations and regional summits may serve as platforms for deepening collective commitments to peaceful nuclear use.

Public Health and Security Implications

Ensuring that nuclear materials are used exclusively for peaceful purposes has direct implications for public health and safety. Accidents resulting from unregulated nuclear facilities or inadequate safety standards can expose populations to harmful radiation. Verification mechanisms help prevent such incidents by ensuring compliance with safety protocols and international standards. Strengthening these systems minimizes the likelihood of public health emergencies linked to nuclear mismanagement. Beyond health concerns, the misuse or diversion of nuclear materials presents a significant security risk. Insufficient verification can create opportunities for unauthorized actors to exploit weak regulatory environments. This can lead to illicit trafficking or the development of clandestine programs, posing threats at both national and regional levels. Therefore, robust verification is essential to prevent the destabilizing consequences of nuclear insecurity.

Moreover, the environmental health of surrounding communities is often overlooked in discussions about nuclear regulation. The improper disposal or handling of nuclear by-products can contaminate water sources, soil, and air, impacting human and ecological health for generations. Enhanced verification frameworks also promote environmental monitoring, ensuring that nuclear practices remain sustainable. Public trust in nuclear energy increases when governments demonstrate their commitment to health and safety through effective oversight.

Committee and Member States Positions

The Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) has consistently advocated for the strict verification of nuclear materials to uphold the peaceful use of atomic energy. As a custodian of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, OPANAL maintains that robust verification systems are essential to preserving the nuclear-weapon-free status of the region. The organization supports the role of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in conducting impartial and thorough inspections. It also encourages technical assistance and training programs to strengthen the verification capacities of national authorities.

Member States with nuclear research facilities, such as Argentina and Brazil, actively collaborate with the IAEA through safeguards agreements and transparency measures. These countries promote the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, including medicine, agriculture, and energy production. Their cooperation reflects a regional commitment to non-proliferation and responsible governance of nuclear technology. They also play a leadership role in advocating for regional frameworks to enhance verification standards.

Smaller states in the Caribbean region, while not directly involved in nuclear activities, support the strengthening of verification mechanisms to ensure collective security.

Many of these countries rely on technical cooperation with OPANAL and the IAEA to monitor compliance and to build regulatory capacity. They often advocate for increased access to peaceful nuclear technology under strict oversight. Their positions highlight the importance of equitable participation in global nuclear governance. Across the region, there is broad consensus that verification mechanisms are not only a matter of security but also of trust and transparency. Member States view robust verification as a way to promote sustainable development while preventing the misuse of nuclear materials. OPANAL continues to serve as a platform for coordination, dialogue, and capacity building among its members. This unified stance reinforces Latin America and the Caribbean as a model for peaceful nuclear governance.

Conclusion

The peaceful use of nuclear energy remains a fundamental priority for the Member States of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL). As regional interest in nuclear applications continues to grow, so does the necessity of strengthening verification mechanisms. These systems are essential not only for preventing diversion of materials, but also for building trust among nations. The region's commitment to non-proliferation must be matched by a commitment to transparency and accountability.

Reinforcing verification protocols requires coordinated action across national, regional, and international levels. It involves improving technical capacity, expanding the role of safeguards, and ensuring adherence to international standards. Member States must also consider new technologies that enhance the reliability and efficiency of verification. Multilateral cooperation, particularly with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), remains critical to this effort.

Verification is not merely a technical requirement; it is a safeguard of peace, development, and international credibility. In a world where nuclear risks are global, even peaceful programs must be thoroughly monitored. OPANAL plays a central role in ensuring this oversight aligns with the values of the Treaty of Tlatelolco. Its leadership offers an example to other regions striving to balance development with non-proliferation. Looking forward, Member States must continue to innovate and collaborate to adapt verification measures to new challenges. From climate-driven disruptions to evolving technological landscapes, the path ahead demands vigilance and unity. With robust frameworks and a shared sense of responsibility, Latin America and the Caribbean can remain a global leader in peaceful nuclear governance. Ensuring the integrity of nuclear verification today is an investment in the stability and security of tomorrow.

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Glossary of Forbidden Words

Forbidden Words

Defined by the United Nations, are non diplomatic terms participants must avoid to mention during their speeches on the debate and in the writing of resolution projects

Forbidden Words	Permitted equivalents
First world countries	Developed countries
Third world countries	Developing countries
Gay ⁶	Member of the LGBTIQ+ community
War ⁷	Belic conflict
Rape	Sexual abuse
Terrorist	Extremist
Kill or murder	Deprive someone of their life
Death	Casualties
Assassination	Homicide
Army	Military forces
Money	Economic resources
Poor	Lack of resources
Okay	Yes or agree
Black ⁸	Afrodescendant

⁶ The word Gay is replaced by a more inclusive term, recognizing that not all people within the LGBTIQ+ community identify in the same way.

⁷ The word War can be used in order to refer to historical contexts, such as the Cold War, the First World War, etc. It can only be used in the Security Council to refer to armed conflicts.

⁸ The word Black, in reference to ethnicity, is not prohibited but it is recommended to limit its use and refer to this sector as a dark-skinned person or afrodescendant as the case may be.

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Glossary for Resolution Projects

Preambulatory Phrases

Preambulatory Phrases are used at the beginning of every Resolution Paper in order to give context about the resolutions made for the topic. Preambulatory Phrases must be written in italics followed by a sentence that gives said context. For each Resolution Paper there must be five sentences beginning with a Preambulatory Phrase.

Affirming	Desiring	Noting with deep concern
Alarmed by	Emphasizing	Noting with satisfaction
Approving	Expecting	Noting further
Bearing in mind	Expressing its appreciation	Observing
Believing	Fulfilling	Reaffirming
Confident	Fully aware	Realizing
Contemplating	Further deploring	Recalling
Convinced	Further recalling	Recognizing
Declaring	Guided by	Referring
Deeply concerned	Having adopted	Seeking
Deeply conscious	Having considered	Taking into consideration
Deeply convinced	Having examined	Taking note
Deeply disturbed	Having received	Viewing with appreciation
Deeply regretting	Keeping in mind	Welcoming

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Glossary for Resolution Projects

Operative Clauses

Operative Clauses are used at the beginning of every resolution within the Resolution Paper on the debated topic. They must be written in italics and bold.

Accepts	Endorses	Notes
Affirms	Draws the attentions	Proclaims
Approves	Emphasizes	Reaffirms
Authorizes	Encourages	Recommends
Calls	Expresses its appreciation	Regrets
Calls upon	Expresses its hope	Reminds
Condemns	Further invites	Requests
Confirms	Further proclaims	Solemnly
Congratulates	Further reminds	Affirms
Considers	Further recommends	Strongly
Declares accordingly	Further requests	condemns
Deplores	Further resolves	Supports
Designates	Has resolved	Takes note of
		Transmits
		Trusts

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