CAPS Nuclear Tracker

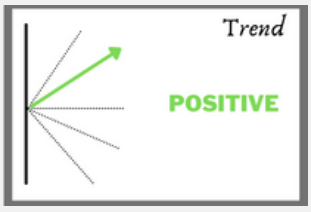
Issue VII: January-March 2023

The period Jan-March 2023 marked the entry of the ongoing Russia – Ukraine conflict into its second year. Fortunately, no 'real' use of nuclear weapons has yet taken place. But the 'political' use of the weapon has been evident now for over one year. The last three months have not seen any spectacular nuclear developments on the long-standing proliferation issues of Iran and North Korea, nor on non-proliferation and disarmament. On all these fronts, the trendlines have remained either negative or neutral at best. The most negative dimensions were visible in the sphere of vertical nuclear proliferation where the nuclear-armed states continue to test new missiles of varied ranges and types even as relations between major nuclear powers remain stressed.

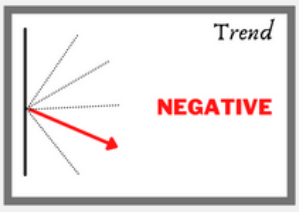
However, in nuclear power and nuclear security, the trend remains positive. As you can see in the relevant sections, there is a clear buzz around nuclear energy, especially on cooperation for new build-up as well as around small modular reactors.

As we get settled into 2023, NukeNerds at CAPS will be keeping a close watch on all dimensions of the nuclear space to mark the most significant trends for you. Please keep sending us your thoughts and suggestions.

TREND OVERVIEW

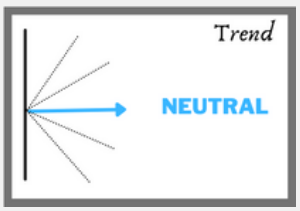


- **Nuclear Energy**
  Dr Dhruba Tara Singh
  Ms Rishika Singh
- **Nuclear Security**
  Ms Prachi Lokhande



- **Vertical Nuclear Proliferation**
  Ms Shayesta Ahmed
- **Missile Developments**
  Mr Jay Desai
- **Nuclear Proliferation**
  Dr Manpreet Sethi
- **Iran**
  Dr Silky Kaur
- **North Korea**
  Dr Silky Kaur

- **Nuclear Arms Control**
  Dr Silky Kaur

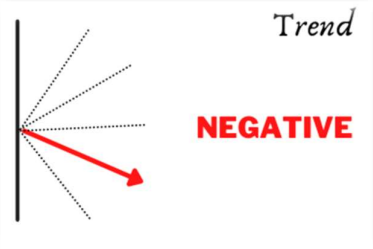


- **Nuclear Disarmament**
  Dr Manpreet Sethi
- **Sea-Based Nuclear Developments**
  Mr Anubhav S. Goswami

Vertical Nuclear Proliferation

Shayesta Nishat Ahmed

Previous Trend: Negative



North Korean leader Kim Jong Un after launching an unprecedented number of missiles in 2022, stated plans to dramatically expand the country's nuclear arsenal, which currently has 40 to 50 nuclear warheads. Kim noted that North Korea would mass-produce tactical nuclear warheads against South Korea in a speech at the Workers' Party plenary meeting on 1 January 2023. The country conducted an ICBM test on 18 February 2023, which according to the leader would enable "quick nuclear counterstrike" capability. According to Kim, the expansion is necessary to fight South Korea's "preparations for war" and worrisome military actions taken by the US and other hostile forces against North Korea. North Korea's missile operations in 2022 imply that preparations are made to accomplish the goals mentioned by Kim in his address. According to the official Korean Central News Agency of North Korea, the launch of the country's Hwasong-15 ICBM was planned suddenly and without previous notice at the leader Kim Jong Un's request.

It was reported that Los Alamos National Laboratory's record $4.6 billion budget for this fiscal year will give officials an unprecedented amount of money for its nuclear weapons program, which still makes up the bulk of the lab's spending. Roughly 70 percent of the lab's funding is for its nuclear weapons program, which includes research, computer testing and pursuing the goal of producing 30 plutonium bomb cores or "pits" per year by 2026.

The US military has informed Congress that China currently has more land-based intercontinental missile launchers than the US. The notification comes as the US struggles to counter China's expanding nuclear arsenal and Russia's sizable nuclear arsenal. The United States cannot expand its arsenal to deter Russia and China because of restrictions on long-range forces imposed by the New START treaty between the United States and Russia, which will expire in 2026. On 31 January 2023, Rep. Mike Rogers, chair of the House Armed Services Committee, raised the issue.

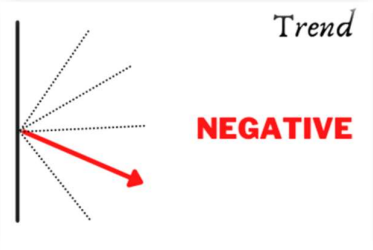
A US official at the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Strategic Forces reported how Rosatom is providing highly enriched uranium for Chinese fast breeder reactors. It is suspected that this could also go towards the increase in the Chinese nuclear arsenal.

President Vladimir Putin announced the suspension of Russia's participation in the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, also known as New Start, in a speech before the upcoming anniversary of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Afterwards, the foreign ministry declared that Moscow intended to adhere to the treaty's limitations on the number of warheads it may have. The NYT story highlighted that Russia had canceled a diplomatic meeting of the bilateral commission in November and had declared in August 2022 that it was blocking American inspectors' access to its nuclear weapons

Missile Developments

Jay Desai

Previous Trend: Negative

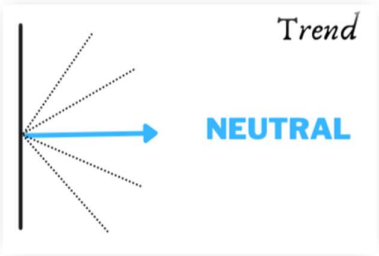


On January 27, 2023, India tested its hypersonic technology demonstrator vehicle. It is a hypersonic cruise missile as stated by the Indian Ministry of Defence. Currently, the hypersonic technology demonstrator vehicle is going through the rigours of testing. On February 18, 2023, North Korea launched its Hwasong-15 Inter-Continental Ballistic Missile (ICBM). North Korea fired this missile after it warned the US and South Korea of military drills. On February 18, 2023, Russia tested the SARMAT ICBM for the second time. SARMAT has been developed to replace the SS-18 ICBM. SARMAT is a very heavy ICBM which is a thirty-five-meter-tall, three-staged, liquid-fuelled ICBM with a range of 18000kms. It can also carry a mounted hypersonic glide vehicle (HGV) like the Avangard.

Sea-Based Nuclear Developments

Anubhav Shankar Goswami

Previous Trend: Neutral



The UK Ministry of Defence (MoD) released an update to its report to parliament on the state of the country's upcoming nuclear deterrent programmes on March 8, 2023. The report stated that the Dreadnaught SSBN programme "remains within its overall budget and on track for the first of class, HMS Dreadnaught, to enter service in the early 2030s". The four Dreadnaught-class boats are being constructed by BAE Systems to replace the Royal Navy's present fleet of four Vanguard-class SSBNs, which were put into service starting in 1993 and now serve as the country's continuous at-sea nuclear deterrent. The first two SSBNs, Dreadnaught and Valiant, are presently being built, and on February 9, 2023, BAE Systems announced that work on the third vessel 'Warspite' has started. Once the Dreadnaught class enters service, it is due to operate for a minimum of 30 years at the very least.

The Australia-U.K.-U.S. (AUKUS) security alliance's broad contours, meanwhile, finally emerged in March 2023. When the pact was announced in 2021, it didn't include any information beyond stating that the United States and Great Britain will provide technologies to Australia for the deployment of nuclear attack submarines (SSN). The most recent updates filled in the blanks: AUKUS is now a multistage project. Australian personnel will be taught to operate nuclear-powered vessels as part of stage one, which would see US submarines making frequent port visits to that country. Up to five American and British submarines will be sent ahead to Western Australia in stage two, about 2027. Australia will purchase three Virginia-class submarines in stage three, in the early 2030s, with the possibility of two more. On the other hand, the three nations will create a new class of submarines based on a British design, using state-of-the-art American technology and being constructed in Australia and Britain. From the late 2030s through the late 2050s, a sub will be built every two years, eight of which will be built in Australia. Australia's 20,000 new employment opportunities are expected to be a bonus for that nation. The first AUKUS

submarine will be delivered to the United Kingdom in the late 2030s, while Australia will receive its first in the early 2040s.

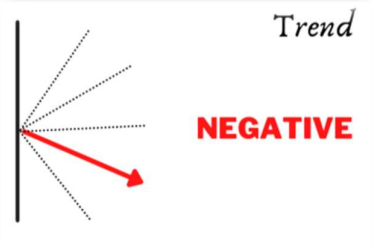
On March 12, North Korea successfully fired off two "strategic cruise missiles" from the Sinpo-class submarine "8.24 Yongung" (Aug. 24 Hero), which was positioned off the coast of Kyongpho Bay in the East Sea. For the first time ever, North Korea fired a submarine-launched cruise missile (SLCM). The launch was intended to demonstrate the "determination of heroic soldiers to stand against American imperialists and its puppet South Korea engaging in dangerous military maneuvers targeting Pyongyang." A day later, the North tested two ballistic missiles (SLBMs) that were launched from submarines and travelled 930 miles before touching down in the seas between North Korea and Japan. The way the missiles flew suggested that they were meticulously regulated from the minute they were launched from a submarine, making them ideal, if done right, for focusing on relatively small targets. The largest combined American-South Korean war drills in five years began on the same day as the test.

According to a report by Hindustan Times, *Arighat*, India's second SSBN, might go into service by 2024. The submarine is an improved version of the sole SSBN currently in use, the *INS Arihant*. The vessel will carry 12 K-15 SLBMs or four K-4 SLMBs, with a displacement of around 6,000 tonnes. The K-4 can reach targets up to 3,500 kilometres distant, whilst the K-15 has a range of just 750 kilometres. The inclusion of the K-4 missile in India's arsenal of nuclear weapons delivery systems would enable India's SSBNs in the northern Bay of Bengal to target some areas of China due to its extended range.

Nuclear Proliferation

Manpreet Sethi

Previous Trend: Negative



In January 2023, the South Korean President stated that his country could acquire nuclear weapons or ask the US to redeploy them on ROK territory in face of growing North Korean nuclear and missile capabilities. Results of a Gallup poll revealed on January 30, 2023, showed 76% of the respondents were in favour of the ROK having its own nuclear weapons.

In reaction to North Korea's increasing provocations, South Korea's president Yoon Suk Yeol has suggested that Seoul may pursue an independent nuclear deterrence. However, the US has opposed this position of South Korea as this could lead to a regional arms race that would irrevocably impair international non-proliferation efforts. The US wants to reaffirm its dedication to South Korea's defense. The US has sent fighter planes and bombers equipped with nuclear bombs to the Korean peninsula in recent months. On 31 January 2023, South Korean Defense Secretary Lee Jong-sup and US Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin met in Seoul to discuss ways to reinforce the United States' commitment to South Korea. In a joint statement, they disclosed additional initiatives, such as holding a nuclear tabletop exercise this month and raising the "level and scale" of their joint drills. The joint drill, named "Freedom Shield" exercises started on 13 March 2023, but North Korea responded to it by firing two cruise missiles from a submarine on 12 March 13, 2023, thus renewing Pyongyang's objection against the US and South Korean military drills in the region.

On Feb 22, 2023, USA and ROK conducted their 8th tabletop exercise at the Pentagon to finetune their deterrence and response posture in case of the use of nuclear weapons by North Korea. On Mar 13, South Korea and the US began their 11-day-long joint drills in the region. North Korea launched several missiles during this period to express its anger with the exercise.

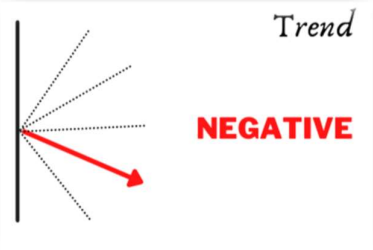
Additionally, US President Biden engaged with Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida on 13 January 2023 and issued a joint statement to reaffirm the trilateral commitment of the US towards both Japan and South Korea following North Korea's decision to exponentially increase its nuclear force and codify its right to a first strike. Japan has approved its largest military expansion since the Second World War, revealing plans to create a counterstrike capacity supported by record defense spending. The plans, which the administration unveiled on 16 December 2022, reflected growing concern over a more assertive Chinese military and a North Korean state that keeps advancing its nuclear and ballistic missile capabilities. Yet, the modifications have also drawn criticism for what some see as Japan's abandonment of the more than seven decades of pacifism enshrined in its post-World War II constitution. In contrast to its post-war vow to maintain expenditure at 1% of GDP, Japan plans to boost defense spending to 2% over the next five years.

A quarterly IAEA report of January 2023 found uranium particles enriched up to 83.7% purity in Iran's Fordow nuclear facility. The report describes that the inspectors have discovered two cascades of IR-6 centrifuges configures in a way "substantially different" from what had been previously declared. Since only particles have been seen, the IAEA does not suspect that a stockpile of uranium enriched to this level may yet have been accumulated.

Iran

Silky Kaur

Previous Trend: Negative



Ongoing discussions are being held to determine whether Iran, the United States, Britain, France, Germany, Russia, and China will recommence negotiations concerning the JCPOA, also known as the Iran nuclear deal. Nevertheless, at present, Iran appears to be prioritizing the establishment of new facts on the ground that would need to be taken into account in any attempts to revive the nuclear agreement. According to a senior official from the U.S. Department of Defense, Iran now has the capability to produce enough fissile material for one nuclear bomb in just 12 days, which is a significant decrease from the estimated one-year timeline under the 2015 Iran nuclear agreement.

During a meeting with Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi in Beijing on February 14th, 2023, Chinese President Xi Jinping expressed his support for Iran in safeguarding its rights and interests while calling for the resolution of the Iran nuclear issue. Xi also stated that China would continue to play a constructive role in participating in talks aimed at resuming negotiations on implementing the Iran nuclear agreement in the near future. In more than 20 years, it was the first such trip by an Iranian leader to China.

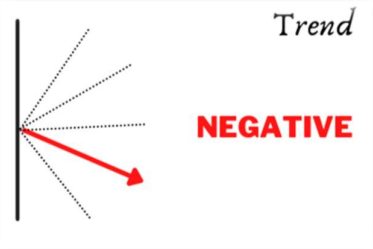
Moreover, Iran and Saudi Arabia, long-standing oil-producing rivals in the Middle East, have reached an agreement to restore diplomatic relations and reopen embassies after seven years of severed ties. The deal was brokered through talks in Beijing facilitated by China. The agreement stipulates that Iran and Saudi Arabia will reopen their respective embassies within two months, according to a joint statement reported by Iran's state news agency, Irna. It is being speculated that the increased diplomatic engagement between Iran and Saudi Arabia, could potentially lead to more cooperation and trust-building measures, which could help address concerns about Iran's nuclear program.

On March 4, 2023, Rafael Mariano Grossi, the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), visited Tehran and met with Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi and other high-ranking officials. Following the meeting, Grossi announced that Iran had committed to restoring monitoring equipment and cameras at its nuclear sites and to allowing increased inspections at a facility where uranium particles enriched to a level close to that required for nuclear weapons had been detected.

North Korea

Silky Kaur

Previous Trend: Negative



North Korea began 2023 by launching a short-range ballistic missile, signalling its intention to continue developing weapons throughout the year. On February 8, 2023, North Korea held a widely anticipated night-time military parade to mark the 75th anniversary of the founding of the North Korean army. This parade at Kim Il Sung square displayed nearly a dozen advanced intercontinental ballistic missiles such as Hwasong-17 and a new launcher that may indicate the development of a new solid-fuel missile system. It is said to be the largest demonstration to date of its nuclear attack capability. This occurred less than two months after North Korean leader Kim Jong Un called for a significant increase in the country's nuclear arsenal, citing alleged threats from South Korea and the United States.

In a major development on February 18, 2023, North Korea conducted the launch of an intercontinental ballistic missile, Hwasong-15. It was claimed that the missile test demonstrated the country's growing capability for a "fatal nuclear counterattack" and showcased the "reliability" of its nuclear deterrent. This was the first missile test by North Korea since January 1, 2023. The launch has raised concerns about the potential for increased tensions and destabilization of security in the region. The US responded to this missile test on February 19, 2023, by conducting joint air exercises with both South Korea and Japan.

South Korea's military released a statement confirming that the joint military exercise with the United States demonstrated their strong commitment to defending the Korean Peninsula and implementing extended deterrence. Japan's Defence Ministry also issued a statement noting that the bilateral exercise reaffirmed the strong determination between Japan and the United States.

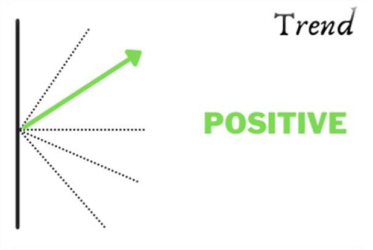
Again on Feb. 23, North Korea launched four cruise missiles off its east coast to demonstrate what it called its "deadly nuclear counterattack capability." On March 09, 2023, North Korea launched six-short range ballistic missiles off its west coast. The purpose of this launch was to test its ability to attack military airfields in the South. Three days later for the first time North Korea launched cruise missiles from a submarine.

Nuclear Energy

Rishika Singh

Dhruba Tara Singh

Previous Trend: Positive



The trend for nuclear energy remained positive for the first quarter of 2023. Nuclear energy received attention for new build and technological advancement in reactor designs of varying capacity. There has also been an increase in strategic and technological collaborations between countries.

As President Yoon Suk Yeol of South Korea aimed to lead his nation towards a carbon-neutral future, South Korea and the UAE decided to enhance strategic collaboration in four important areas: conventional energy and clean energy, peaceful nuclear energy, economy and business, defence and defence technology, and other mutual interests such as space, emerging industries, and culture. The European Utility Requirements (EUR) organisation officially approved Korea Hydro & Nuclear Power's (KHNP) APR1000 reactor design as compliant on March 2, 2023. The APR1000 is an evolutionary pressurised water reactor (PWR) based on the established OPR1000 architecture. On February 08, 2023, Russia and Myanmar inaugurated Nuclear Technology Information Center in Yangon. Both parties discussed the efficient use of nuclear energy in the health and farm sectors, as well as future collaboration in the peaceful use of nuclear energy. The International Atomic Energy Agency and Pakistan on February 15, 2023, discussed areas of cooperation in peaceful applications of nuclear science and technology in health, cancer treatment, improving agriculture, and combating the climate crisis.

In Europe, during a meeting in Europe on February 27-28, 2023, energy ministers from European Union nations advocated for a strengthening of European collaboration in the area of nuclear energy. The ministers agreed to foster closer cooperation between their national nuclear sectors to ensure the best cooperation across supply chains, as well as to explore joint training programmes and industrial

projects to support new projects, particularly those based on innovative technologies, as well as the operation of existing power plants. On February 22, 2023, Poland's Polskie Elektrownie Jadrowe and American Westinghouse declared the completion of a contract for pre-design work on what would be the country's first nuclear power facility. Six AP1000 pressurised water reactors with a combined generation capacity of 6 GW to 9 GW would be installed at the nuclear facility. On January 11, 2023, the Swedish government voted to resent laws allowing the construction of new nuclear power plants. Sweden's environmental legislation limits the number of reactors to ten, and new nuclear power plants can only be constructed where there are already reactors. The administration wishes to have these laws repealed. The UK government declared the establishment of a £75 million Nuclear Fuel Fund to aid in the creation and commercialization of domestic nuclear fuel production and advanced fuel technologies. This involves increasing the UK's conversion capability for newly mined and reprocessed uranium, which will be used to fuel current and future advanced nuclear plants. The European Commission suggested new regulations on February 13, 2023, under which hydrogen produced with nuclear energy would be deemed green. However, rather than being labeled as "renewable," hydrogen produced using nuclear energy will be referred to as "low-carbon" hydrogen.

On February 4, 2023, India, France, and the UAE officially announced a trilateral project that will concentrate on solar and nuclear energy, as well as climate change mitigation and biodiversity conservation, especially in the Indian Ocean area. On 18 February 2023, India's Union Minister Jitendra Singh announced North India's first nuclear power plant in Gorakhpur, Haryana. The Nuclear Energy Corporation (Enec) of the UAE has declared that its affiliate Nawah Energy Company (Nawah) has started commercial operations at the Barakah NPP's unit 3. Korea Electric Power Company (Kepco) is leading the group that is constructing the facility, which will include four APR1400 reactors.

The developments in Small Modular Reactor (SMR) technology in the first quarter of 2023 are providing a promising alternative to traditional nuclear power plants. On February 9, 2023, the Rolls-Royce SMR and Polish group Industria signed

a Memorandum of Intent to collaborate on deploying SMRs in Poland. The Czech Republic has identified the preferred locations for its second and third SMRs at coal-fired power plants at Detmarovice and Tusimice. Estonia is building its first nuclear power plant, and it has selected GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy's BWRX-300 SMR for potential deployment. Canada has launched a program to support the commercial development of SMRs providing USD 21.8 million of funding to develop supply chains for SMR manufacturing and fuel supply and security, and to fund research on safe SMR waste management solutions.

Nuclear Security

Prachi Lokhande

Previous Trend: Neutral

As the Russia-Ukraine war completed one year, the safety and security of the nuclear power plants in Ukraine continues to be a cause of concern. Director General of IAEA travelled to Ukraine with the IAEA team on 16th January where he asserted that the organisation was expanding its presence in Ukraine to help prevent a nuclear accident during the ongoing conflict and to provide assistance in nuclear safety and security as the war continues. DG met Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelensky on 20th January and informed him about the expanding and intensifying activities of the IAEA to help Ukraine ensure nuclear safety and security at its nuclear facilities during the military conflict. Discussions are in progress for setting up a nuclear safety and security protection zone around the Zaporizhzhya nuclear power plant. The Director General stressed that the zone is essential for preventing a severe nuclear accident and said he would press ahead with his efforts to make it happen as soon as possible. In a statement to the board of governors of IAEA, DG Grossi informed that the long-delayed IAEA Support and Assistance Mission to Zaporizhzhya Nuclear Power Plant (IZAMS) rotation was successfully completed in February and that the sixth expert IAEA team is now on site. The IAEA issued a report on 23rd February on Nuclear Safety, Security, and Safeguards in Ukraine, covering the period between February 2022 and February 2023. The 52-page report provides an overview of the situation and the IAEA's activities to reduce the likelihood of a nuclear accident during the armed conflict. The DG, of the IAEA, noted that in the past year, several of Ukraine's five nuclear power plants and other facilities have come under direct shelling. Every single one of the IAEA's seven indispensable pillars for ensuring nuclear safety and security in an armed conflict has been compromised in Ukraine, including the physical integrity of nuclear facilities; the operation of safety and security systems; the working conditions of staff; supply chains, communication channels, radiation monitoring, and

emergency arrangements; and the crucial off-site power supply. China has pledged to donate 200,000 euros to Ukraine's nuclear safety and security technical assistance program, aiming to strengthen the safety of Ukraine's nuclear facilities with concrete actions.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is looking to add nuclear to its energy mix and the IAEA is supporting the enhancement of Saudi Arabia's National Nuclear Legal Framework that would support the implementation of its nuclear energy programme in a safe, secure, and transparent manner. Similarly, Burkina Faso is also enhancing its Nuclear Legal Framework with IAEA Assistance. Member countries of the Arab Network of Nuclear Regulators (ANNuR) met recently in Tunisia to exchange best practices, challenges, and opportunities related to the implementation of nuclear security activities within the framework of their respective Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plans (INSSPs). The meeting highlighted the importance of regional approaches to improve regulatory and operational capacities – approaches that are inherent in the IAEA nuclear security programme. An IAEA International Nuclear Security Advisory Service (INSServ) team said Sudan has strengthened its national nuclear security regime by implementing extensive nuclear security systems and measures in relation to materials out of regulatory control. Pakistan has collaborated with the IAEA to strengthen the Nuclear security regime in Pakistan under the aegis of the IAEA-Pakistan Nuclear Security Cooperation Program.

There have been no reports of damage to Turkey's Akkuyu nuclear power plant after two large earthquakes struck Turkey. Following safety checks, construction is continuing. In a joint statement from the IAEA and the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI), it was stated that Iran "expressed its readiness to continue its cooperation and provide further information and access to address the outstanding safeguards issues."

Members from Australia's nuclear safety agency had the search for a tiny but highly radioactive capsule after it was misplaced in transit on a stretch longer than the length of Great Britain earlier in January, sending Western Australia under a radiation alert. The capsule was later found in February.

The government of Armenia has approved signing a nuclear safety cooperation agreement with the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). Under the agreement with the Nuclear Safety Regulatory Committee of Armenia, NRC will support Armenia to strengthen its regulatory body and to develop the skills and abilities of the Armenian Nuclear Power Plant personnel. With continued efforts by the IAEA to maintain nuclear security standards and the absence of any untoward incident which could jeopardize the safety of any nuclear plant, the trend seems to turn positive this quarter after a year of remaining cautiously neutral.

On 11 February 2023, the Indo-US joint exercise TARKASH featured the "Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) terror response" for the first time. The activity took place in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. The National Security Guard (NSG) and US Special Operations Forces (SOF) were participating in an exercise called TARKASH (SOF). The war between Russia and Ukraine served as a backdrop to the new drill that has been incorporated into the exercise.

Nuclear Arms Control

Silky Kaur

Previous Trend: Negative

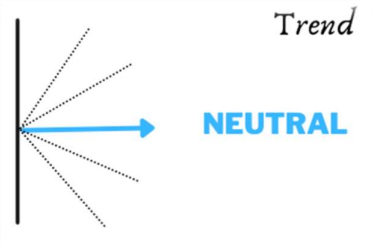
In a significant development in February 2023, Russian President Vladimir Putin announced the suspension of Russia's participation in the only remaining arms control treaty with the United States during his address to a joint session of the Russian parliament and Kremlin officials. Additionally, he stated that Russia must be prepared to restart nuclear weapons testing if the U.S. follows suit, which would end the global prohibition on nuclear weapons testing that has been in place since the end of the Cold War.

In January 2023, there were reports that Russia was breaching the New START Treaty by refusing to allow inspections of its nuclear facilities. According to reports, Russia also failed to comply with the "obligation to convene a session of the Bilateral Consultative Commission in accordance with the treaty-mandated timeline." The New START Treaty was the only agreement regulating the nuclear arsenals of the world's two largest powers. It permitted Washington and Moscow to carry out inspections of each other's weapon facilities. However, these inspections were suspended since 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Nuclear Disarmament

Manpreet Sethi

Previous Trend: Neutral



On Jan 9, 2023, Djibouti became the latest country to sign the Treaty on Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. 33 African countries have signed the treaty and 15 have also ratified it. On a global level, 92 countries are now signatories to the treaty, while 68 have ratified it.

On March 5, 2023, the UN Secretary-General marked the first-ever International Day for Disarmament and Non-proliferation Awareness by calling upon governments and academia, media, civil society groups, industry, and young people to turn up the volume on this collective emergency and raise awareness about the critical importance of disarmament and non-proliferation to humanity's future.

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Centre for Air Power Studies (CAPS) was established in 2001 as an autonomous defence research and analysis body for research and focused analyses on issues related to national security, defence, and aerospace issues in the evolving strategic and international security environment. Its objective is to facilitate a greater understanding of these issues amongst the Armed Forces, the strategic community, and the public besides contributing to policy generation and decision-making.

CAPS research faculty comprises senior retired and serving Armed Forces officers from the three services besides academic scholars from national universities and retired members from the diplomatic community. CAPS also conducts nuclear strategy capsules for the Armed Forces and officers of security and technological organisations.