

Topic: Nuclear risk anywhere is challenge to peace everywhere

Outline

1. Introduction

Thesis statement:

Nuclear weapon poses a severe threat to global peace in the wake of dynamic global landscape. These threats can be averted if the states are able to implement effective measures to strengthen peace.

2. Understanding Nuclear Risk in dynamic global landscape

3. Disruption of peace due to Nuclear Risk

- a) Proliferation of lethal weapons
- b) Fosters security dilemma in region
- c) Enhance hybrid warfare

d) Disrupt balance of power

e) Technological advancement in

f) ^{military affairs}

g) ^{Threat to} Global trade connectivity

h) Lack of attention to non-conventional threats

i) Creates environment for regional or global escalation

4. Prevention of Nuclear Risk: A Way Forward

a) Ratification of Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

b) Following liberal values of repeated interaction

c) Strengthening international institutions

d) Transition towards rule based just world order

5. Conclusion

The Essay

"I am become death,
the destroyer of the world"

Robert Oppenheimer

These are the words said by the father of atomic bomb upon the Trinity test in New Mexico. Thereafter, the world witnessed the destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki through nuclear weapons. This marked the beginning of nuclear arms race globally, where states, opting for realistic lens, started building nuclear weapons to maintain credible deterrence. The global peace started

crumbling and the terrorism of another destructive conflict after WW2 emerged. Today, it is same, nuclear risk is a challenge to global peace amid proliferation of lethal weapons that is fostering security Dilemma across the states. Moreover, states are shifting to hybrid warfare with the technological advancement resulting in disruption of balance of powers. Besides these challenges, it also threatens global trade connectivity, and diverts attention from non conventional threats. By ratification of treaties, strengthening international institutions and liberal values, states can deescalate this risk. In a globalized connected world, this challenge requires immediate attention. Hence, nuclear weapon poses a severe threats to global peace in the wake of dynamic

global landscape. These threats can be averted if the states are able to implement effective measures to strengthen peace.

With the rise of China and another cold war on economic fronts, the world is moving towards polarity. This transition has led the middle power states to enhance their nuclear capabilities. This can create a spillover effect where a country gaining nuclear ability can compel other regional states to become nuclear state to maintain deterrence. In this way, nuclear risk can directly challenge the global peace. One of its example is Iran which is under economic sanctions because of nuclear ambitions. Amid Israel-Palestine war, this ambition has

reemerged that can foster arm
race ~~in~~ with other states like Saudi
Arabia

In this essay, we will discuss
how nuclear risk poses a threat
to disrupt global peace and
how the states can prevent
this threat.

The ~~threats~~ most significant
threat posed by nuclear risk
to disrupt global peace is
proliferation of lethal weapons.
Lethal weapons are considered
as the deadliest after nuclear
weapons as they are able to
destruct at large scale. While
nuclear weapons are largely opted
for defense and deterrence purpose,
the states are proliferating their

lethal capabilities to enhance their power over the others. The emergence of hypersonic missile is one of the favoured example for lethal weapon. States like Russia have already used hypersonic missile in conflicts. This has compelled other states to develop this technology specifically USA. Hence, nuclear risk escalate proliferation of lethal weapon which disrupt global peace.

Moreover, proliferation of lethal weapons inculcate fear among states resulting in security dilemma. Security dilemma is a concept where one state view other with mistrust despite cooperation. It results in arms race as states balance this relation by creating an alliance with off-shore

balancer. For instance, with the proliferation of Nuclear submarines by China in South China and Pacific Ocean, Japan has an alliance with USA and has a protection under its nuclear umbrella.

This alliance emerged from the security dilemma in the region.

Hence, nuclear risk fosters security dilemma in region that destabilizes the region.

Besides conventional tactics, nuclear risk has enhanced non-conventional warfare fronts resulting in hybrid warfare. To maintain deterrence, credibility of it is an important measure. Hybrid warfare ~~are~~ ^{is} a great operation that does not create credible threat. For instance, Iran's proxies named axis of resistance are

are a hybrid tactic. Iran use Hezbollah to maintain balance of power against Israel. However, the attack from Hezbollah is not a credible threat for Israel to launch nuclear attack. Hence, hybrid warfare blurs the line of deterrence that has emerged against the use of nuclear weapons resulting in disruption of peace.

Moreover, nuclear risk disrupt balance of power emerging as a threat for global peace. States, according to realist theorists, ^{maintain} ~~prevent~~ balance of power to safeguard its national interest. However, nuclear proliferation disrupts this balance of power in the region or globally. For example, India has enhanced its

nuclear ability by assuming nuclear triad and second strike capability. This has disrupted the balance of power in the region, fostering Pakistan to enhance its nuclear capacity in the region. Hence, nuclear risk disrupt regional or global peace by disrupting balance of power.

To maintain balance of power, states are compelled to enhance their defense militarily through technological advancement which also poses a threat to peace everywhere. States being a unitary actor preserve their interest politically, socially, economically and in technological sector. For instance, with the emergence of Artificial Intelligence, states are equipping this technology to foster defense

mechanism. The use of AI in nuclear weapon is the biggest fear ^{that} where analysts argue ~~it~~ can pose biggest threat to global peace. Therefore, nuclear risk compel states to advance their technology, in military security that threatens the world stabilization.

Moreover, nuclear risk escalates the threat to nuclear global trade that challenges global peace. A conflict emerging from nuclear risk can result in global panic where trade networks and routes can come under attack. For instance, Pakistan and India, both nuclear powered states, had heightened tension during Kargil war. It had a potential of large scale nuclear escalation that could have disrupted the trade

in south Asia and Indian Ocean from which 80 percent of global trade passes. Hence, nuclear threat is a severe threat to global peace in terms of disrupting trade connectivity.

Subsequently, nuclear risk often result in lack of attention to non-conventional threat such as terrorism and climate crisis. These threats are globalized and require immediate attention by global powers to prevent global fallout. For example, the failure of COP 29 to achieve agreement of targeted climate finance while global power like USA preventing Iran from nuclear ability is one of the example. However, both are threat to

global peace but the climate challenge is often given less attention amid nuclear risk. Thus, nuclear risk in the world diverts resources from countering other non-conventional threats like climate resulting in peace disruption.

Besides, non conventional threats, if nuclear risk creates real conflict escalation in the region or global escalation. States preserve their national interest by gaining relative power and maintaining deterrence against adversary. For instance, Russia's invasion in Ukraine has spiralled threat of regional escalation amid nuclear threat from Russia. The provision of weapons by USA such as long range missile to Ukraine has stirred up the

tensions within in the region. Therefore, nuclear risk can ^{create} enhance the environment for regional and global escalation that can threaten global peace.

However, these threats and nuclear risks can be prevented to stabilize the global peace.

First, to prevent nuclear risk, all nation states are required to ratify the agreement of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. This treaty can prevent states from acquiring nuclear technology that can help in sustainable peace. For instance, North Korea, Israel, India and Pakistan have not ratified the agreement, resulting in ineffectiveness of a treaty. Pakistan is ready to

to ratify the treaty if India do so. This behaviour of states need to be challenged to create a conducive environment. Hence, ratifying nuclear weapon treaty can help in prevention of nuclear threat.

Second, nuclear risk can be prevented by following the liberal and democratic values. Liberals argue with repeated interactions, states can overcome the mistrust between them. This can help states to take measure to demolish weapon that poses nuclear risk and threatens global peace. For example, Cuban Missile Crisis created a hostile environment between two powers of the world. By communicating effectively, both countries were able to diminish the threat which

led USSR to take out its nuclear missile weapon out of Cuba. Therefore, following liberal values and increasing cooperation, states can overcome the threat of nuclear risk.

Third, to prevent nuclear disruption in the world, international institutions need to be strengthened. As realists argue, international politics is characterized by anarchy as there is no institution that can resolve the conflict if states are not willing to. By strengthening international institutions and giving them autonomy to implement justice and avoiding conflict can prevent nuclear fallout. For instance, UN has 5 permanent security council members that can veto any legislation that is against their

interest, making United Nation an ineffective body. Reform in UN where all states are able to represent equally can strengthen UN with more equitable system. Therefore, strengthening institutions that can help in conflict resolution can prevent nuclear risk.

Fourth, the world needs a transition towards more rules based just society order to prevent nuclear risk. The world order showcase a number of fissures where Global North is able to exploit Global South in number of ways. For example, the use of sanctions by west against Global South is like a tool and weapon to destroy the economy that is already in developing stage. More equitable and

just world order can reduce the hostility among Core vs Periphery. Therefore, transition toward just world order where all states are equal can enhance and prevent nuclear risk.

In conclusion, in a changing global landscape with the emergence of new global conflicts, nuclear fallout threatens global peace severely. However, these threats can be countered effectively for a sustainable peace by implementing structural reforms. Nuclear risk is a significant challenge to world peace efforts that has the potential to escalate hostility into a conflict with disrupting balance of power. Moreover, other major challenges get less attention such as climate crisis and development of

technology. These threats can be averted if states are able to strengthen international institutions by enhancing liberal values to diminish the anarchic nature of world. One can hope for the better future where all people are treaty equally and nuclear risk no longer pose a threat to global peace.