

**Forum:** The Special Committee

**Issue:** The question of reducing tensions between Iran and the United States with a specific focus on nuclear weapon disarmament

**Student officer:** Mohammad Massad

**Position:** Chair of the SPCMEC

1. **Introduction:**

Political tensions, to be exact, the tensions between Iran and the United States. The tensions between these two nations, have been a very modern conflict occurring, that gave a scare to the world into starting WWIII. The conflict between these two powerful nations was the scariest, as these two nations have such strong forces that they have the power to start a nuclear war, leading to the extinction of the human civilization. The last time these two nations were contending against each other was back at the Islamic revolution, in the 20th Century. Hatred between these two nations strived and there has been no truce between these two countries since then

The conflict between these two countries have been triggered once again earlier in 2020, due to Donald Trump’s assassination of Iran’s supreme general Qassim Soleimani. This assassination made it seem to start WWIII, because of the fact that Qassim Soleimani was assassinated Baghdad, Iraq, from the American forces that were approved by Donald Trump sending Killer drones to assassinate him in the Baghdad airport. This in fact, showed all the other countries that allies were going to be involved in such a conflict, especially the countries located in the middle east

At that point, the Iranian government offered an 80-million-dollar reward, to the person with Donald Trump’s head, as for avenging Qassim Soleimani. When the world saw all of this fiasco happening, all the other countries thought it was time hop in, for next World War. All of the Gulf Nations and Western Europe were already allied with the USA, whereas the powerful countries Russia, China and North Korea were siding with Iran, since they were Publicly USA enemies. These two nations received all of their helped so that they can achieve the nuclear supremacy amongst each other

If these tensions continued to escalate all throughout the year, then it will be affecting the middle eastern countries strongly. This is due to the influence that the countries are altering to the middle east, since the tensions between these countries are forcing them to start allying with the middle eastern countries in purposes of their location, and forces Their location can be a principled use since both nations can construct their forces in a preferable location for battle use. The middle eastern forces can be used since they have one of the strongest forces, which can be used in war purposes. The USA, also uses the middle east industry wise, as for the strong industry in the Gulf Nations

1. **Definition of key terms**

**Tensions**

Denotation: strain or conflict in between two or more entities

Connotation: conflict found between the United States and Iran

**Ally**

 Denotation: formal cooperation or aid between two nations or military base

 Connotation: USA are allied with the Gulf Nations and Western Europe, whereas Iran allies with Russia, China and North Korea

**Nuclear power**

Denotation: operative power generated using nuclear energy

 Connotation: nuclear weapons used by Iran and the USA, powered using nuclear energy, potentially used to start a nuclear war

**Disarmament**

Denotation: the depletion or withdrawal of armed forces or weapons

 Connotation: the reduction of the nuclear forces found in Iran and the USA

1. **General overview – background information**

**general information**

It all started in 1979, when the Persian (Iran) Leader, Mohammed Reza Pahlavi was in full support for the USA. He was supporting them, by being a reckless leader and overthrowing the Muslims that were in the country, to please the USA. After the USA felt like they are dominant over Persia; Persian Leader, Mohammed Reza Pahlavi greeted lots of USA settlers, that many Iranian people weren’t pleased with. It all remained the same, until an Iranian Muslim politician, ayatollah Khomeini stepped in

When he saw the chaos that was happening, he took action for the Muslims in the area. Ayatollah declared a protest, for the Muslims in the country to gain their rights, against the Persian government, since Mohammad Reza put the American settlers above the Muslims. Due to his action, ayatollah was declared Iran’s Religious and political leader for life. In response of the protests, more that 90% of the country has voted for ayatollah Khomeini to be their leader. The new leader was not the most pleasing to the USA, therefore hatred grew in between them. After taking advantage of the new leader, Iranian settlers contempt America, therefore taking American embassy workers hostage for almost a year. This action was later exposed to the public, which then lead to a long-term hatred between the USA and Iran

 **Effect on Middle eastern countries**

The middle east has been affected from that specific conflict, since both the USA and Iran, are arrogant countries, ready to take advantage of any useful aspect. Firstly, the USA should really be looking forward to planting military forces around the middle east since their location can be dangerous and intimidating to Iran. Iran, on the other hand, will not mind constructing military bases around it, since having extra support around the country will intimidate the USA from attacking it. The USA and Iran will be affecting the middle east in another way, by taking advantage of their strong military forces. The USA and Iran are willing to use the military forces of the middle eastern countries to gain power over each other

Finally, due to the large amount of oil supply that the gulf nations own, the gulf nations export very large amounts of oil all over the world, that neither Iran nor the USA are willing to give up. The gulf nations which are located in the middle east contain hundreds of trillion-dollar oil companies, that export from nation to nation. If it were to have the USA being allied to the gulf nations, then hatred will grow in between Iran and the gulf nations, and vice-versa, therefore the middle east is under a lot of pressure, when having such a large conflict, between powerful countries

 **Effects of a nuclear war**

If the Iranian-American conflict arose even more, it could start a nuclear war. The USA and Iran, have always been from the top military forced countries, meaning that they will surely have nuclear weapons. Having two countries in a conflict that are in possession of nuclear weapons, is a total dreadful war to happen. A nuclear war will not result fortunate to any opponent, as it is powerful enough to demolish all-natural civilizations including humans, animals, plants into extinction

Firstly, a nuclear war would start by regular tensions, such as the tensions going on with Iran and the USA. Then, the tensions would be promoted into an all-out war between two countries involving powerful allies. Modern wars involving allies will definitely be involving nuclear weapons, since many countries have the ability start a nuclear war. This would start with a nuclear strike for one side of the battle, then the other side would respond by striking, and vice-versa. This sequence of events, will lead to a huge drop in the human population since the war will be including many parties other than Iran and the USA. Not only will the strikes be powerful, but will also have an after-effect to organisms, due to the radiation, that injures living things, where the bomb fires up to 10,000 km and can last up to 5 years after the explosion, able to destroy an entire city

1. **Major parties involved**

**Iraq**

Iraq’s a main party that is related to anything to do with Iran and the USA communicating. Back in the Iraqi war with Iran, there was not much of a partnership between these two countries. However, in the Iraqi war, the country that stood by its side was the USA, which was the country that has been supplying Iraq with billions of dollars in order to support it in the war. The USA aided Iraq, by providing its best military and by tracking Iraq’s arm sales in the country, to make sure they gain all the help they need. On the other hand, after the war Iraq has always been side-by-side with Iran protecting their citizens of their countries from ISIS

**China**

China has always been on a moving relation with Iran, since Iran has been moving from conflict to conflict. Conflicts nowadays will always involve nuclear weapons; therefore, china is the best ally to have in such a case. China has the best nuclear forced arsenal in the world; thus, Iran is a lucky country to jump in a conflict with the second best nuclear forced arsenal in the world. in the Iranian-American conflict, china will be a major party involved, since this conflict is a nuclear war, therefore china will be exporting nuclear weapons to aid Iran

**Russia**

Russia’s a party involved in many conflicts, and especially a conflict between two of the strongest forces in the world. since is Russia is a strategic ally Iran, it will definitely be aiding it and supporting it in any war. As Iran is one of the strongest nuclear forced countries in the world, Russia and china are going to aid Iran. Russia has the ability to assist Iran since it has one of the biggest nuclear forces in the world leading the USA with about 1600 active strategic nuclear warheads

1. **Timeline of events**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **DATE** | **EVENT** |
| January 7th, 1978 | the Islamic/Iranian revolution started by overthrowing the leader of Persia, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi due to his support from the USA |
| September 22nd, 1980 | The Iraq started a war against Iran, with full support gained from the USA |
| April 18th, 1983 | Hezbollah bombing, that killed 17 Americans, in the US embassy in Beirut, which was ruled to be carried out with Iranian support |
| April 18th, 1988 | The USA, strike an OPM (operation praying mantis) against Iran, known to be the biggest bombing by the USA since WWII |
| July 3rd, 1988 | The USA, strikes down a scheduled commercial flight, killing 290 civilians |
| September 20th, 1988 | The Iran-Iraqi war ended with truce, between them, but hatred remained between the USA and Iran |
| January 3rd, 2020 | The assassination of major general, Qassim Soleimani in Iraq, sent by USA striking drones |

1. **UN Involvement, Relevant Resolutions, Treaties and Events**

**Assassination of Qassim Soleimani**

According to the UN, they have discussed solutions and prevention of war, in result of the assassination of Qassim Soleimani. In the meeting, a US ambassador, has pledged that they have assassinated Iran’s major general Qassim Soleimani, only for self-defense. The US ambassador, in the UN reports, the pledge in UN security council meeting. The US ambassador also committed that the US would repeat such an action in order to serve its own interests, only necessary

 **Iranian missile attacks in Iraq’s US forces**

Iran strikes missiles against US forces located in Iraq avenging the assassination of Qassim Soleimani. The UN secretary general involves himself by continuing his “active engagement” by de-escalating tensions between Iran and the USA, and to prevent full scale wars from happening. The UN secretary general also states that such an attack is harmful because it is affecting the Iraqi citizens

 **Iran’s response after missile strike against US**

Iran’s UN ambassador, states that Iran, is not looking forward for any further struggle with the USA. Iran’s ambassador also states that the missile strike against US forces in Iraq was a retribution for the assassination of Qassim Soleimani, meaning that the strike was meant for everything to be even, since Qassim Soleimani is considered a major general to Iran. Finally, the Iran ambassador states that Iran is prepared for any further operation gestured by the US

1. **Evaluation of Previous Attempts to Resolve the Issue**

**Resolution 2231**

Regarding the United nations resolution 2231, which was debated on the Iran nuclear issue background, the Iranian government almost totally ignored the resolution. Ever since the resolution was submitted and passed, the government of Iran has been becoming more and more powerful in terms of its nuclear arsenal. Iran is even looking forward to starting a nuclear warfare with the USA

 **treaty on the prohibition on nuclear weapons**

In regards to the United nations treaty of the prohibition of nuclear weapons, not all countries noticed the treaty, showing that only small countries such as Brunei, Myanmar, etc. have noticed the treaty ad signed it as soon as it has been submitted. Other countries such as the vetoes, have been ignoring the treaty to maintain their power amongst other countries and to be prepared for any war. The US, for example has not had a glance on the treaty therefore, ready to start a nuclear war with Iran

1. **Possible solutions**
* A possible solution to reduce the tension between Iran and the USA, is by banning any direct flights or shipments in between these two countries. This solution will help reduce any conflicts to occur in between these two countries. Firstly, some of the conflicts that happened between these two countries was caused by the missile attacks on the commercial flights, that were scheduled from Iran. If the direct flights were cancelled this would decrease the conflicts happening between Iran and the USA. Secondly, the nuclear weapons that are deployed across country are only deployed through submarines, which is considered an undersea shipment. If the undersea shipments were banned then this would prevent any nuclear bombs caused by any of the two countries deployed on each other.
* Another potential solution to the conflict would be that both the USA and Iran would work in collaboration with the United Nations, so that they would both be disarmed. They would do that by signing the treaty, of the non-proliferation of the nuclear weapons. This would help prevent any more threats caused by any country, since the USA, has the ability to do that in terms of having the biggest nuclear arsenal in the world. this treaty would also show that these two nations are not ready to start any other conflict, specifically a nuclear war conflict. Finally, this treaty will push other countries such as Russia, China, etc. to sign this treaty to not have the world involved in any nuclear warfare, since the nuclear bombs in the world are so powerful that they can demolish the human civilization due to the aftereffect of the explosions.
1. **Guiding questions**
2. What triggered things between Iran and the USA?
3. Since when has there been hatred between Iran and the USA?
4. Which is more powerful Iran or the USA?
5. Which countries are allies with Iran?
6. Which countries are allies with the USA?
7. What is a nuclear weapon?
8. How powerful is a nuclear weapon?
9. How are nukes deployed?
10. What treaties can prevent nuclear warfares?
11. Which country has the best nuclear weapon arsenal?
12. Which countries are non-proliferated to nuclear weapons?
13. Will this conflict start WWIII?
14. Will this conflict affect the middle east?
15. **Appendices and useful links**

"At U.N., U.S. Justifies Killing Iranian Commander As Self-Defense". *U.S.*, 2020, <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-iraq-security-usa-un/at-u-n-u-s-justifies-killing-iranian-commander-as-self-defense-idUSKBN1Z809Q>.

*The above link shows how the UN is involved in the killing of the Iranian commander, and how the US justifies the killing of the general*

"Iran-US Attack In Iraq: Guterres Pledges ‘Active Engagement’ In Further De-Escalation Efforts". *UN News*, 2020, <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/01/1054961>.

*The above link shows how the UN secretary general will be responding to the conflict occurring between the US and Iran, specifically after the missile attack*

"Iran–United States Relations". *En.Wikipedia.Org*, 2020, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iran%E2%80%93United_States_relations#:~:text=United%20States%20attack%20of%201988,-Main%20article%3A%20Iran&text=In%201988%2C%20the%20United%20States,operation%20since%20World%20War%20II>.

*The above link describes all of the Iran and United States Conflict from the beginning and what happened in them*

"NPR Choice Page". *Npr.Org*, 2020, <https://www.npr.org/2020/01/09/794816393/irans-u-n-ambassador-strike-on-u-s-bases-was-measured-proportionate-response>.

*The above link explains the reason that Iran strike the missile on US forces in Iraq, and vowing that they wanted to make things even*

"Nuclear Weapons Treaties | Prohibition Of Nuclear Arms Treaty | NTI". *Nti.Org*, 2020, [https://www.nti.org/learn/treaties-and-regimes/treaty-on-the-prohibition-of-nuclear-weapons/#:~:text=The%20Treaty%20on%20the%20Prohibition,or%20other%20nuclear%20explosive%20devices](https://www.nti.org/learn/treaties-and-regimes/treaty-on-the-prohibition-of-nuclear-weapons/%22%20%5Cl%20%22%3A~%3Atext%3DThe%20Treaty%20on%20the%20Prohibition%2Cor%20other%20nuclear%20explosive%20devices).

*The link above describes the treaty made on the prohibition of the nuclear weapons, that can be signed by any country*

"The US-Iran Conflict: A Timeline Of How We Got Here". *Edition.Cnn.Com*, 2020, <https://edition.cnn.com/interactive/2020/01/world/us-iran-conflict-timeline-trnd/>.

*The link above shows the sequence of events, of the ongoing conflict between the US and Iran*

"These Are The 9 Countries In The World That Have The Most Nuclear Warheads". *Business Insider*, 2020, <https://www.businessinsider.com/9-countries-with-the-most-nuclear-weapons-2019-6>.

*The link above shows the top countries with nuclear warhead arsenals, shown in details and numbers*