



## International Relations Committee Report: *Rising Nuclear Risk, Disarmament and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty* Debate on 16 July 2019

This briefing identifies relevant reports and useful documents, including recent parliamentary materials and press articles, which may be of assistance to Members in preparing for the following debate:

Lord Howell of Guildford to move that this House takes note of the report from the International Relations Committee *Rising Nuclear Risk, Disarmament and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty* (7th Report, HL Paper 338 of session 2017–19).

Copies of the materials are available for collection from the Library.

### Key Information

- House of Lords International Relations Committee, [Rising Nuclear Risk, Disarmament and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty](#), 24 April 2019, HL Paper 338 of session 2017–19, pp 4–10 and 104–9; and [Government Response](#), 4 July 2019

*Summary, introduction, conclusions and recommendations from the committee's report, which examined the causes of nuclear risk and issues relating to non-proliferation before looking ahead to the forthcoming Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference scheduled to take place in 2020. In addition, the Government's response to the committee's 54 conclusions and recommendations.*

- UK Missions to the UN in New York and Geneva, [UNGA 73 First Committee: UK Statement](#), 12 October 2018; [UNGA 73 First Committee: UK Statement on Nuclear Weapons](#), 23 October 2018; [P5 Joint Statement on the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons](#), 24 October 2018; [UNGA 73 First Committee: UK Statement on Regional Disarmament and Security](#), 31 October 2018; and [UNGA 73 First Committee: UK Statement on Disarmament Machinery](#), 1 November 2018

*A selection of statements by the UK Missions to the UN in Geneva and New York on nuclear weapons and non-proliferation issues.*

- House of Commons Library, [Nuclear Weapons—Country Comparisons](#), 9 October 2017, pp 4–7; [Nuclear Weapons: Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Regimes](#), 29 June 2016, pp 4–6; and [A Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons](#), 9 October 2018

*Extracts from House of Commons Library briefings on the countries in the world that either possess or aspire to possess nuclear weapons; the current nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regimes; and the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, to which the UK Government remains opposed.*

## Parliamentary Debate and Questions

- House of Lords, '[Written Question: Nuclear Weapons: Proliferation](#)', 25 March 2019, HLI4582
- [QSD on 'Nuclear Weapons'](#), HL Hansard, 20 February 2018, cols 95–118

## Press Articles and Comment

- *Telegraph* (£), 'Nuclear Conflict Risk Highest Since Cold War, Say Peers', 24 April 2019
- Harry Cockburn, '[Threat of Nuclear War 'Dangerously Close', Parliamentary Report Warns](#)', *Independent*, 24 April 2019
- Simon Tisdall, '[Trump is Provoking a Nuclear Arms Race in the Middle East. What Could Go Wrong?](#)', *Guardian*, 6 June 2019
- Dominic Nicholls and Ben Riley-Smith, '[US Reversal of Nuclear Transparency Policy Puts UK in 'Awkward Position' Say Experts](#)', *Telegraph* (£), 4 May 2019
- Tom Miles, '[Risk of Nuclear War Now Highest Since WW2, UN Arms Research Chief Says](#)', Reuters, 21 May 2019
- Aidan Liddle, UK Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the Conference on Disarmament, '[Disarmament Blog: Preparing for the NPT Review Conference](#)', Foreign and Commonwealth Office, 29 April 2019
- Dr Jacek Durkalec, '[The Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty at Fifty: A Midlife Crisis](#)', *NATO Review*, 29 June 2018
- Stewart M Patrick, '[The Fissile State of International Nuclear Cooperation](#)', Council on Foreign Relations Blog, 3 July 2019
- Chatham House, '[Interview: "It's Not a Problem of Who Has Them; It's a Problem of the Weapon"](#)', 14 March 2018
- Dr Patricia Lewis, '[Pulling Out of the INF Treaty Is a Mistake That Will Affect Us All](#)', Chatham House, 22 October 2018

## Further Information

- House of Lords International Relations Committee, '[Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and Nuclear Disarmament Inquiry](#)', accessed 9 July 2019
- Congressional Research Service, '[Arms Control and Non-Proliferation: A Catalogue of Treaties and Agreements](#)', 18 March 2019
- House of Commons Library, '[Prospects for US-Russian Nuclear Arms Control](#)', 5 February 2019

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House of Lords Library briefings provide a selection of politically balanced reading material intended to help Members prepare for debates. Briefings are published on the Library's [parliamentary intranet site](#) in advance of debates, and are also automatically emailed to those Members who have their name on the speakers' list.

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