

Global Proliferation Trends

A Presentation By
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Objectives

- Provide a review of key proliferation challenges
- Assess the impact on international counter proliferation regimes
- The implications for Europe



Principle Directions for Considering Proliferation Trends

- Philosophical
- Geopolitical
- Technical
- Systemic



Philosophical

- No coherent global view on proliferation
- International community regularly challenged
- Existential crisis meets national security fears
- Reductionism a major concern – non-state actors
- How to eradicate fear?
- Proliferation, miscalculation, and existential risk
- No agreement on proliferation as national security threat or trade enforcement issue



Geopolitical-Challenge 1: Iran

- Potential unraveling of JCPOA
- Separation of missile technology from nuclear technology
- Conflation of global and regional security concerns
- Main emphasis of proliferation will be sustainability of systems and enhancement
- Is there international political will to renegotiate?



Geopolitical-Challenge 2: DPRK

- From sabre rattling to summitry
- Valuable insight into elements of proliferation - oil supplies
- Important to note the rise of indigenous skills and technology
- Financing through export and barter – Syria
- Limits of international counter proliferation regimes



Geopolitical-Challenge 3: Saudi Bomb

- Context of Iran v Saudi Arabia
- Yemeni rocket attacks on Saudi Arabia
- Saudi fear of Iranian nuclear programme
- Will seek their own weapons programme
- Relationship with Pakistan and Israel
- Implications for USA



Geopolitical - Challenge 4: Indian Sub-Continent

- India and Pakistan Arms Race
- Both sides have large and increasing weapon stocks
- India developing submarine-based ballistic missiles
- Concerns over security of Pakistan weapon stockpiles – Jihadist threat



Geopolitical – Challenge 5: Israel

- Alarm over Iranian nuclear weapons
- Concerns over Iranian support to Syria
- Syrian chemical weapon policy
- Admission of attack on Syrian nuclear reactor in 2007
- Implications of possible Iranian rocket facilities in Lebanon

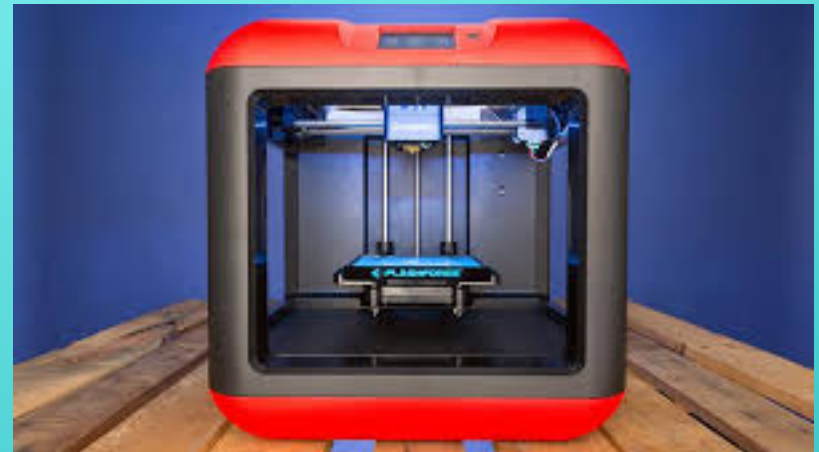


Technical - Dual-use Technologies & Innovation

- Countries of concern seek to exploit explosion of dual-use items and the ability to acquire them
- Greater efforts to use dual-use goods for innovation and enhancement
- Anticipate a proliferation of small brokers and front companies at the forefront of procurement efforts
- Difficulty in combining ‘imagination’

Emerging Technologies

- 3D printing
- Drones and novel delivery systems
- Lasers
- Lethal autonomous weapon systems
- Nanotechnology
- Quantum computing
- Artificial intelligence



Emerging Threats

- Cyber
- Risks associated with life sciences research
- Novel chemical compounds
- Intangible technology transfer – empowering the individual



Systemic Risks and Challenges

- Old proliferation pathways redundant
- Swarm proliferation proving effective
- Not asking ourselves what part of the system we can influence
- Insufficient attention to prediction as a filter

Systemic Risks and Challenges -

Continued

- International community unwilling to admit current systems are failing
- Progressively more difficult to agree on export control lists
- Definition of what constitutes dual-use is shifting
- Data management is subject to extensive manipulation
- Draft in thinking about how best to counter proliferation

Implications for Europe

- Europe in a difficult position
- Has very little hard power to influence proliferation and soft power insufficient carrot in realpolitik
- US pressure on EU to revise Iranian deal
- Need increased proliferation vigilance on foreign fighters and other non state actors
- Need common position on Intangible Technology Transfer



QUESTIONS?