**Disarmament and Treaties**

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**Non-Proliferation Treaty**

B.A. 4th Semester (Major)

By

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Disarmament is the act of reducing, limiting or abolishing weapons. Disarmament generally refers to a country’s military or specific type of weaponry. Disarmament is often taken to mean total elimination of weapons of mass destruction, such as nuclear arms. Generally and complete disarmament refers to the removal of all weaponry, including conventional arms. Disarmament can be contrasted with arms control, which is essentially refers to the act of controlling arms rather than eliminating them.

Philosophically, disarmament may be viewed as a form of demilitarization part of an economic, political, technical and military process to reduce and eliminate weapons systems. Thus disarmament is part of a set of other strategies, like economic conversion, which aim to reduce the power of war making institutions and associated constituencies. Disarmament need not to be ‘utopian’ project in the sense of being misguided or naïve. Rather, various strategies can be used to promote the political, economic and media power necessary for demilitarization.

**Disarmament Treaties:**

**Strategic Arms Limitation Talks**

The Strategic Arms Limitations Talks refers to two rounds of bilateral talks and corresponding international treaties involving the United States and the Soviet Union-the Cold War super powers- on the issue of arms control. There are two rounds of talks and agreements SALT I and Salt II.

Negotiations commented in Helsinki, Finland, in 1969. SALT I led to the Anti-Ballistic Missiles Treaty and an interim agreement between the two powers. Although SALT II resulted in an agreement in 1979, the United States chose not to ratify the treaty in response to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, which took place later that year. The US eventually withdrew from SALT II in 1986.