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# ECO-CENTRIC DIPLOMACY AS A WAY TO DETERRENCE



# THE OVERLOOKED LINK BETWEEN ENVIRONMENTAL DIPLOMACY & ARMS CONTROL

💡 **Why is this important?**

1. When we think of nuclear weapons, we often focus on deterrence, military power, and geopolitics, but their environmental impact is rarely discussed.
2. Meanwhile, environmental diplomacy has mainly focused on climate change mitigation, not security issues.





## HOW CLIMATE CHANGE FUELS INSTABILITY

Climate change exacerbates existing security threats by increasing competition over scarce resources. Extreme weather leads to water shortages & food crises, which in turn cause:

- Mass migration → Political instability.
- Resource wars → Territorial disputes.
- State failure → Weak governance, terrorism, insurgencies.

## WHY TRADITIONAL SECURITY APPROACHES ARE FAILING

- The military-first approach ignores the root causes of instability (resource scarcity, displacement, environmental collapse).
- Current arms control agreements don't account for environmental damage caused by nuclear arsenals.

# BEYOND IMMEDIATE DESTRUCTION: THE LONG-TERM IMPACT OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

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## Nuclear Winter

- Massive atmospheric soot clouds block sunlight → cooling effect on the planet.
- Reduced agricultural yields → famine risks (up to 2 billion at risk of starvation).

## Radioactive Fallout

- Fallout pollutes air, soil, and water for decades to centuries.
- Causes ozone depletion, increasing exposure to UV radiation.

## Ecosystem Disruption

- Contaminates forests, oceans, and farmland, reducing biodiversity.
- Acidification of marine ecosystems disrupts fisheries.



# POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

## 1. LINK ARMS CONTROL TREATIES WITH ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS

- Integrate nuclear disarmament provisions into climate treaties (e.g., Paris Agreement).
- Expand existing disarmament treaties (NPT, CTBT) to include ecological damage assessments.

## 2. USE ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING FOR COMPLIANCE

- Radiation monitoring & ecological impact assessments as verification tools.
- Example: CTBTO's International Monitoring

## 3. MOBILIZE PUBLIC & CIVIL SOCIETY SUPPORT

- Grassroots movements can pressure policymakers.
- Example: The ICAN Campaign won the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize for public advocacy.



# THE FUTURE OF ENVIRONMENTAL DIPLOMACY IN ARMS CONTROL

## Final Reflection:

Why does this matter? Nuclear weapons don't just threaten global security; they jeopardize planetary survival.

## Call to Action:

- Policymakers, scientists, and civil society must treat nuclear disarmament as an environmental necessity.
- International institutions must enforce ecological accountability in arms control agreements.





THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION!