Badji Mokhtar University, Annaba

**Faculty of Law and Political Science** 

**Department of Political Science** 

Level: 3rd Year (Semesters 6)

**Option: international relations** 

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The arms race has been a significant feature of international relations, especially during

the Cold War when the United States and the Soviet Union competed to build up massive

nuclear arsenals. Today, while the Cold War has ended, concerns over arms buildup remain

high. New threats such as cyber warfare, space militarization, and the development of

hypersonic weapons have shifted the focus of military competition.

At the same time, disarmament efforts continue through international agreements like

the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), the New START Treaty

between the U.S. and Russia, and various United Nations initiatives promoting arms control.

However, achieving global disarmament is challenging due to mistrust among nations,

national security concerns, and the strategic importance of maintaining a technological edge.

Another major obstacle is the emergence of new military powers that were not

traditionally part of major disarmament talks. Countries like India, Pakistan, and North Korea

have developed significant nuclear capabilities outside the framework of global treaties,

making international arms control efforts more complicated and fragmented.

Furthermore, the growing privatization of military technology, including the

development of autonomous weapons by private companies, creates new legal and ethical

challenges. Regulating these technologies requires new international agreements that can

adapt to rapid innovation, ensuring that security does not come at the cost of humanitarian principles.

Thus, balancing between national defense and global security remains a central dilemma in the modern world, making arms control and disarmament essential but difficult goals in international politics.

## Read the text carefully and Answer the following questions

What is the title of the text?
Arms Race and Disarmament

2 What is the general idea

## The Ongoing Challenges of Arms Buildup and Disarmament in International Relations

- sub-ideas?
- Cold War arms race between the U.S. and the Soviet Union.
- Disarmament Efforts
- Challenges of Disarmament
- New Issues in International Relations
- Central Dilemma in Balancing national defense with global security
- 3. What was the arms race during the Cold War?

During the Cold War, the U.S. and the Soviet Union competed by building huge nuclear arsenals

### 4. What are some new threats mentioned in the text?

New threats include cyber warfare, space militarization, and hypersonic weapons

#### 5. Name some disarmament efforts discussed in the text.

Disarmament efforts include the NPT nuclear non -proliferation treaty, the New START Treaty, and UN initiatives

#### 6. Why is global disarmament difficult to achieve?

Disarmament is difficult because of mistrust, national security concerns, and the desire to maintain technological superiority.

#### 7. What role do emerging nuclear powers play in complicating disarmament?

Emerging nuclear powers like India, Pakistan, and North Korea complicate international disarmament efforts.

#### 8. How has the focus of military competition shifted today?

Military competition has shifted to new domains like cyberspace and outer space

## 9. What is the dilemma highlighted at the end of the text?

The dilemma is balancing national defense needs with the goal of global security.

# summary

The text discusses the ongoing issues related to arms races and disarmament in international relations. It explains how, despite the end of the Cold War, military competition continues through new technologies like cyber warfare, space militarization, and hypersonic weapons. Efforts to promote disarmament through international treaties face obstacles such as mistrust, national security priorities, and the rise of new nuclear powers like India, Pakistan, and North Korea. Furthermore, the privatization of military technology adds new challenges. Ultimately, balancing national defense with global security remains a difficult but essential goal.

يتناول النص المشكلات المستمرة المتعلقة بسباق التسلح ونزع السلاح في العلاقات الدولية. ويوضح أن المنافسة العسكرية مستمرة رغم انتهاء الحرب الباردة عبر تكنولوجيات جديدة مثل الحروب السيبرانية، عسكرة الفضاء، والأسلحة فرط الصوتية. تواجه جهود تعزيز نزع السلاح عقبات كبرى، إضافة إلى تعقيدات الخصخصة العسكرية، مما يجعل تحقيق توازن بين الدفاع الوطني والأمن العالمي أمرًا صعبًا ولكنه ضروري.