“Role-Play Simulations as Effective Participatory Learning Techniques in Science Diplomacy Education”

Ms Elena Tsyvkunova
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National Research Nuclear University MEPhI
The NPT Review Conference Model (2020, 2021)

- an effective participatory learning technique in science diplomacy education
- a prime example of an extended role-play simulation
- a great opportunity to delve into non-proliferation, disarmament & nuclear test ban
- a thought-provoking exercise aimed at investigating the NPT-CTBT nexus & showcasing the role of the CYG
Role-Play Simulations as Effective Participatory Learning Techniques in Science Diplomacy Education

Elena Tsyvkunova, Professor, National Research Nuclear University MEPhI, EATsyvkunova@mephi.ru

Outline

1. The Institute of International Relations MEPhI & Science Diplomacy Club: Background Information & Tasks

2. The NPT Review Conference Model: General Overview & Main Objectives

3. The NPT Review Conference Model: Methodology & Key Takeaways

Disclaimer: The views expressed on this presentation are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the view of the CTBTO
Institute of International Relations MEPhI:

- specialists in the field of international scientific, technological and industrial cooperation

Science Diplomacy Club - under the auspices of the Institute of International Relations

- outreach and education activities:

  - webinars with experts, career talks, presentation contests, Science Diplomacy School, student-led seminars, role-play simulations, summer seminars for pre-university students, online quizzes
Role-Play Simulations as Effective Participatory Learning Techniques in Science Diplomacy Education

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Science Diplomacy Club - to nurture a new generation of experts

- willing to bridge diplomatic challenges & technical solutions
- curious about cross-cutting issues at the interface of science & international relations
- ready to harness the power of atom for peaceful purposes
- eager to learn more about current challenges in the field of nuclear test ban, non-proliferation & disarmament
The NPT Review Conference Model: General Overview

**Duration** - 3 online sessions, intersessional activity, a closing session

- **March 29** an Introductory Session
- **April 12** the General Debate: National & Group Statements, the Right of Reply Session
- **April 26** the Deliberations on the Final Document
- **April 29** a Closing Session (a hybrid format)

### Online Session 1, March 29, 2021

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<th>Format</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tr>
<td>The Opening of the II RevCon Model</td>
<td>Welcoming Remarks</td>
<td>E.A. Tsyvkunova</td>
<td>8:30 - 8:40</td>
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<td>Interactive Lecture</td>
<td>The NPT RevCon Model (1) the Rules of Procedure (2) Follow-On Tasks</td>
<td>Gleb Maslov</td>
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<td>Q&amp;A Session</td>
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<td>Gleb Maslov</td>
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<td>Break</td>
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<td>10:00 - 10:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Welcoming Remarks</td>
<td>Chairs of the Model</td>
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<td>2-minute statement</td>
<td>Welcoming Remarks of the Delegates (23 speeches)</td>
<td>All the delegates of the 10:25 – 11:30 Model</td>
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<td>Closing remarks</td>
<td></td>
<td>Gleb Maslov</td>
<td>11:30 – 11:45</td>
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The NPT Review Conference Model: General Overview

- Participants from **Russia, Kazakhstan, India, Mongolia**

- **29 Delegates** divided into **4 Groups**:
  - **P5** – the permanent members of the UNSC
  - **NAM** - the Nonaligned Movement
  - **NPDI** – the Non-Proliferation & Disarmament Movement
  - **VG10** – the Vienna Group of Ten

- **2 Chairpersons**
- **an Expert & Secretariat**
- **2 Keynote Speakers**

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The NPT Review Conference Model: General Overview

- **Keynote Speakers** – representatives of international organizations

- **Natalia Zhurina** - Session 2: the General Debate, the OPANAL statement

- **Maria Chepurina** - Session 3: the Deliberations on the Final Document

  an interactive session focusing on the NPT-CTBT nexus & the role of the CYG
The NPT Review Conference Model: Main Objectives

- to provide a virtual platform to grasp the realities of non-proliferation & disarmament agenda
- to build bridges between academic theory & diplomatic practice
- to enhance soft skills through a real-life multilateral negotiation exercise
- to foster the development of cross-cultural & cross-discipline competences
- to develop decision-making & task prioritizing skills
- to improve public speaking skills as well as writing skills
The NPT Review Conference Model: Methodology

- **a pre-Model test** to check the basic knowledge of the NPT

- **an access to enrichment materials** on the educational platform of the IIR (authentic articles, useful links to 2019 NPT PrepCom statements, video materials)

- **an active use of social networks** to provide assistance & monitoring of the Model (**online networking**: 4 Groups_Chats + 22 States_Chats + 1 Chairs_Chat + 1 Expert_Secretariat Chat)

- **progress checks** (national statements, group statements, reports to the capitals + feedback)
The NPT Review Conference Model: Key Takeaways

1) an important step to encourage youth to be involved in non-proliferation & disarmament agenda

2) a powerful learning technique for interdisciplinary, multicultural and inter-institutional collaboration

3) one of the best ways to learn & practice soft skills

4) an effective tool to engage participants in the interactive, authentic & self-driven acquisition of knowledge

5) an inspiring role-play simulation to boost out-of-the-box thinking

A bumpy ride but very rewarding and impactful!
“… since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defenses of peace must be constructed…” (UNESCO Constitution)

Section V “Disarmament & Non-Proliferation Education & Training”

unanimously adopted

Science Diplomacy education is a win-win game!

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Role-Play Simulations

effective, capacity building exercises with a view to nurturing science diplomacy experts

Thank you for your attention!

EATsyvkunova@mephi.ru

Twitter: @tsyvkunova