

The Verification and National Implementation of International Instruments for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Security

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Abstract

Collective international efforts to address and mitigate the risk of nuclear misuse have resulted in an expanding body of instruments that can be called the global nuclear regime. This article examines the role played by some of the major international instruments in the nuclear field particularly the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and UN Security Council Resolution 1540 in addressing nuclear proliferation and security. In particular, it introduces and explains the concepts of verification and national implementation as important components of nuclear control regimes and addresses the role they play in ensuring that states are abiding by their international obligations. Specifically, the article examines some of the verification mechanisms and national implementation measures developed for these instruments, and discusses how they operate.

Resumo

A Verificação e a Implementação Nacional de Instrumentos Internacionais de Não-Proliferação Nuclear e Security

Os esforços conjuntos internacionais para lidar e mitigar o risco de má utilização nuclear resultaram numa expansão do número de instrumentos que são apelidados de regime nuclear global. Este artigo examina o papel assumido por alguns dos principais instrumentos internacionais na área nuclear, em particular o Tratado de Não-Proliferação Nuclear e a Resolução nº1540 do Conselho de Segurança das Nações Unidas na gestão da proliferação e segurança nuclear. Concretamente, introduz e explica os conceitos de verificação e implementação nacional como importantes componentes dos regimes de controlo nuclear e aborda o papel que estes têm para garantir que os Estados cumprem as suas obrigações internacionais. Examinam-se ainda alguns dos mecanismos de verificação e medidas de implementação nacional desenvolvidas por estes instrumentos e a forma como operam.