

**PROLIFERATION OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION:
ACTUAL ISSUES WITH A SPECIAL ATTENTION TO
NUCLEAR WEAPONS**

The influence of non-proliferation measures on the security environment

DOCTORATE (PhD) THESIS BOOKLET

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Extract of the Contents

When composing the objectives of the research the summary and analysis of the brief history, the processes of the proliferation process, its forming and role played in our era has been highlighted. During the work the lack of information on proliferator² states and the uncertainty around their developments caused some difficulty, the resolution of which is essential in order to process, interpret this segment of international security of key importance as well as to evaluate the real situation. The detailed and objective presentation leaving daily politics behind reveals the background of the problem of proliferation that faces the politicians, the officers, the experts and the public with new security challenges as the history changes at the end of the 20th century. In my study I have strived to review the different aspects of the problem, free of the daily events, of the international political sides, starting from the fact that for international law each state is equal having the same rights. Paraphrasing it, if not judging with a double measurement, why could a right be taken away from a state that has already been obtained by others and why do mass destruction weapons mean “threat to international peace and security” in the hands of one state and “strengthening it” in the hand of another? The question is actually not legal, rather ethical and political, however, since in politics we cannot talk about ethics, the problem should be approached from a political, more exactly, from security policy aspect. My research has been drawn upon justifying and proving the following presumptions:

- From the aspect of the proliferation of the mass destruction weapons there are factors and reasons that impede the enforcement of the international norms within regions and complexes belonging together for certain security interactions;
- The reasons of the proliferation (developing, manufacturing and purchasing) of the mass destruction weapons derive from the internal statutory being of the regional security complexes;
- After the decay of the bipolar world order the withdrawal of the great power political control and the military power facilitated the uncontrolled proliferation processes despite the fact that the proliferation of the mass destruction weapons – as a security challenge – has been more and more highlighted.

² In my study the expression “proliferator” is meant for states striving to purchase weapons of mass destruction.

Research methods

In order to successfully achieve the research objectives, during presenting the topic, the method of inductive study has been applied. This is justified by the elaboration of the material and the topic on the basis of the approach I have made up as well as by my research objectives that require the application of comprehensive analysis, sufficient comparison and descriptive nature. In order to found the research and to understand the information generated during processing I have consulted experts having experience in the field and I have studied the subject “Nuclear disarmament” at the Budapest Technological University.

In order to achieve the scientific objectives set in my thesis, the following methods have been applied: During quantitative data collection the national and foreign literature has been studied, i.e. the secondary research of particular aspect has been given priority, during which the existing information, documentation, available databases have been systemized and analysed. I wish to emphasize the continuity of proliferation and to present the historical background, by relying on contemporary literature and publications of previous decades.

This is why I have found their use relevant and also to carry out the research by comparing and synthesizing earlier and current publications.

Scientific results

1. It has been proved that among the states and within the regions and complexes belonging together owing to geographical or security considerations certain interactions may impede the enforcement of international norms. The operational mechanism of these political and military interactions is revealed through concrete examples.

2. It has been realized that the reasons of the proliferation (developing, manufacturing and purchasing) derive from the internal statutory being of the regional security complexes, especially in the case where great power influence also strengthens the feeling of danger. It has been revealed that this is further strengthened by the precedent that great powers ensure highlighted position for states having nuclear weapons but not being nuclear powers.

3. It has been proved that the withdrawal of the military power following the decay of the bipolar world order, together with the decrease of the regional influence of great powers facilitated uncontrolled proliferation processes. All this happened in spite of the fact that we have dealt with the proliferation of the mass destruction weapons as a security challenge more than before.

4. Through the examination of the relevance of the earlier theories found in the specific literature studied I have drawn the conclusion that the theories formed in the environment of cold war are not completely relevant today and regimes not complying with the current expectations should be reformed while great powers should make politics with more responsibility.