



DELEGATION: Germany

COMMITTEE: DISEC – Disarmament and International Security

QUESTION OF: Preventing non-state actors from acquiring weapons of mass destruction

We, as Germany, have taken several measures to prevent non-state actors from accessing weapons of mass destruction (WMD). Here are some of the key steps taken by Germany in this regard:

Export Controls: Germany has strict export controls predominantly United Nations' regulation 2021/821 on control of exports, brokering, technical assistance, transit, and transfer of dual-use items and technologies, which could be used for both civilian and military purposes, including production of weapons of mass destruction. These controls apply to all German companies and individuals, and are enforced by the Federal Office for Economic Affairs and Export Control (BAFA).

Cooperation with International Organizations: Germany cooperates with international organizations such as the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), and the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) to ensure that weapons of mass destruction are not acquired by non-state actors.

Arms Control Treaties: Germany partakes in various international arms control treaties, including the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) and Chemical Weapons Convention which aim to eliminate and effectively prohibit the development, production, acquisition, transfer, stockpiling, and use of biological and chemical weapons and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) which aims to achieve nuclear disarmament. Germany also supports efforts to strengthen these treaties and their enforcement mechanisms.

Non-Proliferation Assistance: Germany provides technical and financial assistance to countries seeking to strengthen their export control systems and prevent the spread of weapons of mass destruction related materials and technologies.

Counter-Terrorism Measures: Germany has taken various counter-terrorism measures to prevent non-state actors from acquiring weapons of mass destruction, including improving border security, intelligence sharing, and law enforcement cooperation with other countries.

Education and Awareness: Germany promotes education and awareness among its citizens and industries regarding the dangers of weapons of mass destruction proliferation, and the need for vigilance and cooperation to prevent it.

Domestic Legislation: Germany has implemented domestic laws to penalize the production, possession, and use of weapons of mass destruction. These laws also impose strict penalties on individuals and organizations involved in the illicit trade of weapons of mass destruction associated materials.

Social Development Goals: As a member of the United Nations, Germany has committed to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including SDG 16, which aims to promote peaceful and inclusive societies, provide access to justice for all, and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels. Regarding weapons of mass destruction, SDG 16 includes the target to "significantly reduce illicit arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime." To address this target, Germany has taken SDG 16 as their main center of attention.

In conclusion, Germany's approach to preventing non-state actors from accessing weapons of mass destruction is based on a combination of legal, regulatory, and practical measures, as well as international cooperation and engagement.

<https://www.opcw.org/about-us/member-states/germany>

<https://cnpp.iaea.org/countryprofiles/Germany/Germany.htm>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chemical_Weapons_Convention

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biological_Weapons_Convention

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32021R0821>

https://www.bafa.de/EN/Foreign_Trade/Export_Control/export_control_node.html

<https://borgenproject.org/sdg-goal-16-in-germany/>