

Country:Austria

Committee:Disarmament and International Security

Prohibition of Chemical and Biological Weapons

Delegate:Elif EROL

Austria, a country that upholds the principle of neutrality, is dedicated to foster global dialogue and peace. With its EU membership, we aim to strengthen integration and take a leadership role in addressing global issues. Among its foreign policy objectives are the preservation of peace, the empowerment of human rights, and the enhancement of international prestige through cultural diplomacy. As the delegate of Austria, I strive to support these efforts and contribute to global peace.

Austria strongly emphasizes the universal importance of chemical and biological disarmament. Recognizing the potential threats posed by the use of these weapons to both humanity and the environment, Austria actively supports international cooperation and disarmament efforts. From Austria's perspective, the elimination of such weapons is crucial for global peace and security. Therefore, the realization of international efforts for chemical and biological disarmament holds a significant place among Austria's foreign policy priorities.

Additionally, Austria has reinforced its commitment to disarmament by playing a significant role in recent initiatives. Particularly, Austria actively participated in the adoption and successful conclusion of negotiations for a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons under the United Nations framework. The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, adopted on July 7, 2017, with the support of 122 states, has been open for signature since September 20, 2017. It entered into force in January 2021 after reaching 50 instruments of ratification, with Austria ratifying the treaty on May 8, 2018. Austria also chaired the first Meeting of States Parties in June 2022 in Vienna.

Moreover, Austria's historical commitment to disarmament is evident through its previous endorsement of the Geneva Protocol, Biological Weapons Convention, and Chemical Weapons Convention. These international agreements underline Austria's dedication to disarmament efforts and its active role in upholding global norms in this crucial area.

Austria takes the impact of chemical and biological weapons on the environment and humanity gravely and is actively seeking a global solution to address this issue. In this context, Austria believes in seeking universal support for treaties promoting disarmament, emphasizing the need for international cooperation and empathy among nations. Austria strongly supports the active involvement of non-governmental organizations in both short-term and long-term international collaboration for biological and chemical disarmament. This includes advocating for campaigns organizations to encourage all nations to sign disarmament treaties, fostering awareness and public support for global disarmament efforts. Additionally, Austria emphasizes the importance of transparency in the export and import data of chemicals used in weapons production, contributing to trust-building among nations. The country also advocates for implementing embargoes on nations using biological and chemical weapons as a diplomatic measure to discourage their use, demonstrating a commitment to comprehensive disarmament.

As Austria, we are conscious of our responsibility in addressing the global impact of chemical and biological weapons. In this context, we aim to emphasize our commitment to establishing strong diplomatic relations and collaboration with other countries. Our country is ready to encourage information sharing with other nations to reduce the effects of chemical and biological weapons and contribute to the security of the international community. Strengthening diplomatic relations can enhance opportunities for international cooperation and assist us in finding common solutions. Within this framework, we express our dedication to working together to minimize the effects of chemical and biological weapons by engaging in open and sincere dialogue with other countries.

In conclusion, Austria's steadfast commitment to global dialogue, peace, and disarmament reflects its dedication to fostering a safer and more secure world. The country's active participation in international initiatives and its emphasis on treaties promoting disarmament underscore its role as a responsible global actor. By prioritizing the elimination of chemical and biological weapons, Austria not only addresses immediate threats but also contributes to the broader goals of international peace and security. As an Austrian delegate, I am aligned with these principles and eagerly anticipate collaborative efforts with other nations to build a future free from the devastating impact of such weapons, ensuring the well-being of humanity and the preservation of our shared environment.