

# THE NONPROLIFERATION REVIEW

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In contrast to the past, much of the work in the nonproliferation field today is not so much a matter of building from scratch, but of building upon prior efforts and agreements. While past accomplishments in international nonproliferation policy do provide some stability, however, they do not always make today's tasks any easier. The growth of an international "norm" against nuclear proliferation is one measure of progress whose effects are hard to quantify. But it is instructive to look back to a period when such a norm did not exist. Avner Cohen (U.S. Institute of Peace) examines the failure of the *bilateral* U.S. approach to the Israeli nuclear program of the late 1950s and shows how it led Washington to shift to a *multilateral*, regime-based policy. Eric Arnett (SIPRI) explains how a norms-based reexamination of the Swedish case offers a possible alternative perspective to widely held pessimism regarding Iran's nuclear intentions today. One practical challenge facing nonproliferation efforts is how to establish internationally accepted technical practices in countries where they are lacking. James Doyle (SAIC) and Stephen Mladineo (Battelle Pacific Northwest National Laboratory) analyze U.S. Department of Energy efforts to improve MPC & A practices in the former Soviet Union, while Tamara Robinson (CNS) outlines similar programs (and proliferation threats) in the Caucasus. Central to the notion of building shared nonproliferation norms is the ability of key states to serve as "role models." In this regard, Robert Johnston (American University and Parvus International Corporation) discusses the mixed signals being sent by U.S. export control policies in the high performance computer sector, where recent cases suggest a lax U.S. attitude towards the control of sensitive dual-use technologies. In a similar vein, Cynthia Miller (ANSER, Inc.) and Christina Larson (SAIC) analyze the practical dilemmas facing U.S. efforts to meet the destruction deadline for the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC). As Tariq Rauf (CNS) notes, greater efforts by all the nuclear weapon states may be needed if the 1998 NPT PrepCom in Geneva is to proceed smoothly. One possible method of promoting international perceptions of fairness might be for the weapon states to place their fissile materials under full-scope safeguards, a proposal outlined by Annette Schaper (Peace Research Institute Frankfurt). Jonathan Tucker (CNS) sets out another forward-looking proposal, showing how international efforts to establish a ban on nuclear weapons could benefit from drawing on the verification mechanisms of the CWC. But mutual mistrust among the weapon states remains an obstacle to any movement on these ideas. Hongxun Hua (Chinese Aerospace Corporation) examines U.S.-Chinese disputes in the missile field, arguing that Chinese modernization is moving more slowly than critics charge. In order to bridge this and other perceptual gaps, Alexandra von Meier, Jennifer Miller, and Ann Keller (University of California, Berkeley) suggest that greater efforts by parties to identify (and build upon) common security goals could be a route to the creation of a new consensus for nonproliferation cooperation. We hope the current issue contributes to this process.

James Clay Moltz  
Editor

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