

30 years of Tlatelolco Treaty. Introduction

The appearance of nuclear weapons opened up the possibility of destruction of all life forms on the planet. Although the threat continues to exist, in recent decades there have been some encouraging signs in meeting it. One of these, a landmark in the search for a world without nuclear arms, is the Treaty of Tlatelolco. The introduction of this edition of the *Revista Mexicana de Política Exterior* stresses the importance of this treaty and the period it has been in effect. Firstly, it briefly describes the obligations of the treaty, and later examines the background of the initiative and the negotiation process that made it possible. Finally, it studies the current scopes of this legal instrument.

Sergio González Gálvez, Latin America as a Peace Zone: the Problem of Arms Control

The Treaty of Tlatelolco made Latin America a Nuclear Weapons-Free Zone (NWFZ). On Mexico's initiative, Latin America decided to begin talks in order to face two serious problems: illegal weapons trafficking first of all, a phenomenon that worsens problems like drug trafficking, terrorism and organized crime, and secondly, control of conventional offensive weapons in the region. The purpose of this is to avoid the diversion of funds needed for development of Latin American countries. Besides being a NWFZ, Latin America's desire is to be an all-round zone of peace and development. This essay is divided into two large sections: the first analyzes the need to reach disarmament agreements; the second does an historical study of disarmament proposals in Latin America. The essay stresses the basis laid down by the governments of the region to undertake new efforts that ensure new disarmament agreements to make Latin America a peaceful, prosperous zone, through talks.

Mónica Serrano, *The Treaty of Tlatelolco; the Contention of the Nuclear Threat in Latin America*

The Treaty of Tlatelolco created the first nuclear weapons-free zone in a densely populated region. Thirty years later, the context established for non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean is still in force, and has shown singular flexibility and a surprising ability to adjust, as demonstrated by the successful containment of Brazil's and Argentina's nuclear aspirations and their decision to renounce all military nuclear ambition. The purpose of the essay is to offer some thoughts on the success of denuclearization policies and the effectiveness of the non-proliferation rule in the region. In the first of two sections, it analyzes the negotiation process that, under Mexico's creative leadership, would achieve participation by those States that had nuclear aspirations, and later would create mutually acceptable institutional agreements. The second section examines the importance of a network of institutions and organizations that, like the Organization for Proscription of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL in Spanish), would take part in the effort to legitimize the non-proliferation rule in the region, and lastly, its consolidation.

Enrique Román-Morey, *The Treaty of Tlatelolco, an Example for the Creation of New Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones*

This essay is divided into five large sections. The first emphasizes how the bellicose use of nuclear energy required humanity to forge a new code of ethics that must be remembered so as not to allow ourselves to be seduced by the recent tendencies toward "nuclear complacency". The second section underlines the importance of establishing a Nuclear Weapons-Free Zone (NWFZ) in Latin America through the Treaty of Tlatelolco. The third section sums up the objectives and characteristics of this treaty and the NWFZ it creates. The fourth section defines what the NWFZ is; it also briefly reports the NWFZ's that exist up until today and underlines the importance of the territory they cover. The last section includes thoughts about what, in the author's opinion, constitutes the current main challenges of the Organization for the Proscription of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL).

Andrea García Guerra, *Toward the Integration of Nuclear Weapon-Free Zones in the Southern Hemisphere*

This essay analyzes in first place, the direct events that originated in the “nuclear weapons-free zone in the southern hemisphere and adjacent zones” resolution recently approved by the General Assembly of the United Nations. Secondly, it examines the conceptual framework in which this initiative takes place, closely tied to the Treaty of Tlatelolco and other treaties that followed along the road that Treaty inaugurated. Later, important convergences are studied in the establishment of weapons-free zones, a measure that seems expressly destined to create a nuclear weapons-free southern hemisphere. By way of conclusion, the last section of the essay reflects on the importance of the initiative for a nuclear weapons-free zone in the southern hemisphere and adjacent zones as an explicit manifestation of a growing claim by the international community for a new nuclear disarmament law.

Héctor Gros Espiell, *Latin America and the Peaceful Use of Nuclear Power*

Since the first and only use of atom in wartime, the use of nuclear power has raised serious challenges to international law. In fact, it has a double face: the bellicose and the peaceful one. This essay tries to show how international law has dealt with the question of the proscription of nuclear weapons, for example, by creating the International Atomic Energy Agency, and how later it influenced the peaceful use of nuclear power, the consideration of ecological questions, and the obligation to protect the environment. The preamble of the Treaty of Tlatelolco includes a statement establishing that the enormous potential of nuclear fusion is destined for the economic and social developments of the peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean. However, it lacks preciseness in some important topics (such as nuclear explosions for peaceful aims and the subject of ecology), which are a reflection of the context in which it was signed. Later treaties, that create a nuclear weapons-free zones such as the Rarotonga and the Pelinda Agreements, place special emphasis on these aspects.

Luis Javier Herrera Andrade, *Universal Verification Systems and the Treaty of Tlatelolco*

For several decades after the nuclear explosions of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, one of the fundamental concerns of the international community has been to prevent

the propagation of nuclear weapons and strengthen commitments to use nuclear energy exclusively for peaceful aims. This essay's purpose is to analyze the verification systems in the light of the role they play in both the Treaty of Tlatelolco and in the Nuclear Weapons Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT). With this purpose in mind, the safeguard systems are defined first, and a report on their development is given. Later, the weakness and deficiencies of these systems are pointed out, as are the resulting consequences, and lastly, the efforts are described that are currently being made to reinforce and adapt them to the new challenges.

Miguel Marín Bosch, *Nuclear Weapons Non-Proliferation at the End of the 20th Century*

This essay describes the question of nuclear weapons non-proliferation within sight of the 21st century. It is divided into four sections. The first section describes how horizontal non-proliferation was accompanied during the so-called Cold War, by vertical proliferation that, today, is the problem we must face with renewed energy. The second section analyzes the results of what could be seen as a lost opportunity: the 1995 conference for revision and extension of the Nuclear Weapons Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT). The third section examines the conditions that made complete prohibition of nuclear tests possible, in particular, the weight of international public opinion against the renewal of testing by France. The final recommendations underline the fact that achieving a world free from nuclear arms requires greater, more decisive participating by individuals, nongovernment organizations (NGO's), and in general, civil society. Nuclear disarmament is too important to leave solely in the hands of governments and their political and military leaders.

Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado, *National Sovereignty in the Globalization Era*

In recent years a debate has arisen about the scopes of sovereignty and the outlook for the very existence of the domestic State. On the other hand, globalization, economic regionalism and even the growth of transnational companies have affected the concept of the traditional idea of national sovereignty by transferring to community bodies, powers that belonged to the internal jurisdiction of States. On the other hand, the world extension of the political phenomena of society have affected how States and individuals relate; one example of this is the strong appearance of nongovernmental organizations (NGO's) that are trying to fill the empty space left by the traditional organizations such as political parties and union

organizations. However, despite the clear insufficiency of the State in overcoming its problems, there is not yet any other basic form of political organization that surpasses it. A balance will have to be found between the need to maintain the domestic State and that of improving, perfecting and expanding its competence in international organization.

Víctor L. Urquidí, *Bretton Woods and Mexico: Balancing of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank*

The celebration in 1994, of the first fifty years of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank (WB) was a reason for reviewing the role the two institutions have played in maintaining international monetary order and in financial support for development. Since the creation of the two international bodies, Mexico has always had an active participation. In the forties, our country stated its concern that the WB really use financing for development and not just for European reconstruction. Likewise, the Mexican delegation took part in writing up and defining many technical aspects of the IMF's charter. Currently, neither the IMF nor the WB have an adequate structure and operation to confront the global needs that have been generated. It may be necessary for these institutions to coordinate with other bodies in order to establish effective mechanisms for international financial and economic cooperation.
