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# **The Impact of the War in Ukraine on Nuclear Non- Proliferation and Nuclear Security**

# Impact on Nuclear Deterrence and Nuclear Weapons' Status and Salience

- Deterrence worked (prevented the US/NATO from direct engagement in the conflict)
- However, it also demonstrated the limits of deterrence
- Gap between NWS & those under nuclear “umbrella” and the rest of NNWS & disarmament proponents will likely grow
  - Greater reliance on alliances and security guarantees (Sweden, Finland joining NATO)
  - Concerns over US extended deterrence in Asia and suggestions for the return of US tactical nuclear weapons or inviting nuclear sharing

# Impact on Disarmament and Arms Control

- Reduces chances for nuclear disarmament
- Quantitative build-up by some (particularly China) and qualitative build-up by other nuclear weapon states started before the war in Ukraine and will likely continue

The war makes it difficult:

- To contain the appetite for expansion and enhancements of nuclear weapons, particularly in the absence of arms control measures
- Revival of arms control and new arms control measures are not likely in the near-term

# Impact on Non-Proliferation

- Not likely to lead to further proliferation and proliferation cascades

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- However, it will and already has a negative affect on the non-proliferation regime and its institutions as well as on multilateralism in general, including:
  - NPT Review Process, as demonstrated by the Tenth Review Conference and Russia's blocking the outcome document
  - Ability to deal with and find consensus on issues of proliferation concern (Iran/JCPOA, DPRK)
  - Overall functioning of multilateral institutions and organizations, including the IAEA, CTBTO, and others