

# The Neutrals and the Bomb

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## The Tlatelolco Treaty: A model for export?

# **The Cuban Missile Crisis (1962)**

# **Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean, known as the Treaty of Tlatelolco (1967)**

- Prohibits the development, testing, manufacturing, production, possession, acquisition, stockpiling, and transportation of nuclear weapons in Latin America.
- Nuclear Weapons States pledge not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against members of the zone.
- Organizational framework to ensure compliance: Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL)

# Milestones of the Tlatelolco Treaty

Latin America was the first region that established a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone despite other proposals in other regions

First nonproliferation regime created by “neutrals”

Article 7 of the NPT

UN guidelines 1975 and 1999

Replicated by other regions

# **Nuclear Weapons Free Zones (NWFZs)**

Latin America- Tlatelolco Treaty, 1967

South Pacific- Rarotonga Treaty, 1985

Southeast Asia- Bangkok Treaty, 1995

Africa – Pelindaba Treaty, 1996

Central Asia – Semipalatinsk Treaty, 2006

Middle East- A prospect of NWFZ

# Question

How and why did the Tlatelolco Treaty become a model emulated by other regions?

# How did the Tlatelolco Treaty become a model emulated?

Norms cycle:

Norms entrepreneurs

Organizational Platforms

Institutionalization

# The Tlatelolco Treaty

## **Norms entrepreneurs:**

States: Mexico and Brazil

Individuals: Mexican diplomat Alfonso Garcia Robles and Brazilian diplomat Jose Sette Camara

## **Organizational Platform:**

Commission for the Denuclearization of Latin America (COPREDAL)

## **Contributions:**

Peaceful uses of nuclear energy, negative security assurances, mandatory safeguards



# The NPT

## **Norms Entrepreneurs:**

Mexico and Brazil

## **Organizational Platform:**

Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament

## **Contributions:**

Article 4

Article 6

Article 7

# Institutionalization of NWFZs

Article 7 of the Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT);  
UN Resolutions on the Tlatelolco Treaty;  
UN Resolutions on NWFZs in the Middle East, South Asia  
and the South Pacific;  
UN guidelines on Nuclear Weapons Free Zones  
Replications by other regions

# Why was the Tlatelolco Treaty emulated?

- The Tlatelolco Treaty became a model of emulation since it rapidly gained international legitimacy after it was approved.
- Latin American transformed the idea into a concrete model with specific guidelines.
- As a result of the regionalist tradition of Latin America, for other regions it was somehow natural to emulate the Tlatelolco Treaty as they looked for precedents to build upon their own regional regimes.

Thank you

Questions?