

# STUDY OF THE ROLE AND NUCLEAR ARMS RACE

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## ABSTRACT

*The role of nuclear armament is one of the topics that are of great strategic importance. The role has many concepts and definitions which confirmed that the role is a concept related to the studies of humanity and psychology. On the political side, the foreign policy maker is expected to see the main areas of his country, by using his influence and his perception of the main motivations of his country's foreign policy, the function he can perform, and the role has a group of characteristics to be effective and influential, the role is affected by the economic, military and political capabilities, either nuclear armament, it is also linked to a variety of internal and external factors that affect the effectiveness of states and armament is the cornerstone of the power of the state, and the possession of nuclear weapons is an influential factor in the foreign policy of states, and in order to talk about the nuclear weapons race, we should address to nuclear energy and clarify its concept, where its divided into peaceful nuclear energy and martial nuclear energy . Studies show the importance of nuclear weapons as a tool to resolve important wars. Nuclear weapons have developed the world's major power, the concept of the nuclear test, which means the detonation of a nuclear weapon in any environment to test the effectiveness of nuclear weapons, has been demonstrated. Nuclear experiments are aimed at achieving a set of objectives that have been addressed in the research.*

*At the conclusion of the research, a set of conclusions is reached, as the terms of role, nuclear weapons and nuclear energy are of great importance in international and strategic studies. This affects the status and effectiveness of countries at the regional and international levels.*

*Key words: Role; Armament; Nuclear arms race, Nuclear energy*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The role and of nuclear armament occupies a great strategic importance ,as the role has many concepts and definitions that emphasized that the role is related to human studies, and nuclear armament is one of the subjects that occupy great importance and affect the effectiveness of countries at the regional and international level. Accordingly, the following topics will be addressed: Role, armament and the nuclear arms race, nuclear energy and the nuclear testing.

## 2. THE IMPORTANCE OF THE STUDY

The study deals with clarifying the conceptual framework of the concept of nuclear role and armament, and the factors affecting the role and the data of nuclear armament and to shed light on the nature of the nuclear

test and the nuclear energy that countries seek to acquire, as well as, the study shows the impact of this role and nuclear armament on the countries regionally and internationally, finally, The study arises from being a new resource that can benefit specialists in strategic studies and international studies.

Moreover, it is possible to say that roles affect in one way or another status of a particular country, especially since the role is a fundamental component of certain variables like: geographical, economic resources, social and military variables. It can be said that the countries sought to acquire nuclear weapons to achieve deterrence. Moreover, those nuclear tests are aimed at achieving a set of objectives, the most important of which is the possibility of achieving nuclear deterrence. The nuclear arms race also affects the status, influence and roles of the regional and international powers.

Although there is a great deal of research and studies on the role and nuclear armament at different levels, one still feels that there is a problem that draws attention in the research that dealt with the role and its relationship with nuclear armament, as armament is to support the power of the state and can be used for peaceful and military purposes, and it's the strategic aspect that emphasizes the importance of roles and the need to achieve the status of the state at the regional and international levels and the use of armaments and nuclear armament in particular to achieve its objectives, so the problem starts from the following questions:

1. What is the meaning of the role and what are the factors supporting that role?
2. What is the meaning of nuclear armament?
3. What is the concept of nuclear experiment and nuclear energy?

### 2.1 Hypothesis of the study

The study is based on the hypothesis that the role and nuclear armament is of great importance in political studies and international relations and that nuclear armament has had a great impact on the role of powers at the international and regional levels.

### 2.2 The Research structure & Methodology

The descriptive, the historical and the analytical approach are adopted to study the role and the nuclear arms race and is divided into the following sections:

Section One: the role

Section Two: armament and the nuclear arms race

Section Three: Nuclear energy

Section Four: Nuclear Test

#### Section One

### 3. THE ROLE

The role can be defined at the social level (as a system of social norms directed at the individual alone and for himself as a member or representative of a group, who are psychologically distinct)<sup>(1)</sup>, the social structure

consists of the basic structural institutions that determine the nature of society and it is consist of the integration of the social roles of its members and the social roles cannot be fixed and entrenched unless they are assigned and justified by the institutional authority to which they belong and subject to its provisions and laws, therefore, the social roles in the family are no longer legitimate and cannot be accepted if they are not adopted by the patriarchal authority in the family and the social roles in the state or the political party cannot be legitimate and acceptable, if they are not adopted by the leader of the state and its president or founder of the political party and its leader. When the social roles are supported by the Authority and accepted by the individuals who occupy them, they are transformed into a social institution with specific leadership, rules and laws that define the behavior and relations of its members and members. Therefore, social roles can be counted as building units to form the institution<sup>(2)</sup>.

As well as, the role in language refers to the status or position that the individual represents and which determines his or her duties and social rights<sup>(3)</sup>. Political sociologists see the role as a concept related to modern psycho-social studies. It is a function and a structured model of behavior and is related to a particular situation of the individual in an effective structure. It also involves the status of commitment, as each role and situation is related to other roles and situations. In his approach to the concept of role, (Jane Snutzl) went on to say that it is a social system of rules that is directed at the individual alone and for himself as a member or representative of a group, who are psychologically distinct individuals<sup>(4)</sup>. The "role is also a collection of socially predictable behaviors associated with a particular function"<sup>(5)</sup>

There are those who see or know the social role as "a pattern of inherited or inherently imposed behavior, built around the rights and duties associated with a particular location within a social association or social union." It must be said that social change creates new roles in society and adjusts old roles in terms of personality or nature<sup>(6)</sup>

The role is of two types, either acquired or inherited, as for the inherited or inherently imposed role is the role that given to the individual immediately after birth or a

certain age, but it results from many advantages such as age, sex, race, profession, religion and social class, based on the wider social circumstances or conditions. The acquired role is one that someone chooses or gets, which makes it open at least to anyone who has the required levels of skill, intelligence and science<sup>(7)</sup>.

According to Dr. Mohamed El-Sayed Selim, "the role is "the perception of the foreign policy maker of the main areas of a state, with his influence and vision of the main motives of the foreign policy of his country and the function that can be performed and expectations of the magnitude of the expected change in the international or regional system"<sup>(8)</sup>.

### 3.1 Characterizations of the concept of the role <sup>(9)</sup>:

1. The function of the role is not only depending on the perception of the foreign policy maker, but also includes how it is practiced in the field of foreign policy and the development of plans to do so.
- 2 - The concept of role not only includes the perception of the foreign policy maker for the role of his state, but also includes his perception of the role played by the main enemies in the international arena.
- 3- Political unity can play more than one role at the same time, and this is the most common situation.
4. The state can play a certain role at the global level and another one at the regional level.

It is worth mentioning that the political units differ from each other in the order of objectives and interests that seek to achieve them as well as their differences within the capabilities and capacities of material and non-material and therefore they differ in their external political behavior in a way that is reflected on the nature of the role they play as active, mid and less active role or otherwise depending on the different ranks of countries within the infrastructure of the international system, as major, medium or weak countries<sup>(10)</sup>.

### 3.2 The dimensions of the external role of the International Unit <sup>(11)</sup>:

1. The perception of the foreign policy maker of the unit center in the international arena, which means his perception for the main areas in which the unit have the

influence, the foreign policy maker may think that the money has the main role at the regional or global level and at each level provides a perception of the degree of expected influence.

2- The foreign policy maker conceives of the main motivations of the foreign policy of the international community. These motivations vary between cooperative motives such as (international mediation) and conflict motives such as (anti-communism).

3. The foreign policy maker's expectations of the extent of the possible change in the international pattern as a result of his function in this pattern.

### 3.3 The variables of the role

The role depends on the interaction of the group of physical and social variables that constitute the elements of (national capabilities), which in turn constitute the basic components of the state, and the most important of which are <sup>(12)</sup> geographical, economic resources, social variables.

#### 1- Geographical variables:

The geographical location determines the direct dynamic sphere of the foreign policy of the state and the nature of the threats to the security of this state, which often directs its foreign policy to the geographic area, near to its borders, which it is the vital area on which the theories of (McNader and Spikeman) were based. Moreover, the area and the strategic depth in this country or that indicate the effectiveness of the state in the face of threats against it.

#### 2- Economic resources:

It includes the available human nature that forms the material basis of economic growth that enables them to enter into different economic relations as well as their ability to enter an arms race or wars.

#### 3- Community variables:

And what related to it of cultural values, social traditions and historical experiences affecting the formation of public opinion and pressure groups and the social framework of the political system, related parties, ideologies and wills.

#### 4- The military variable:

Means the range of capacities and the martial resources, the material and nonmaterial ones, available to the state at some point.

### 3.4 The role & the status

The role is linked in one way or another to the status and it defined by Dr. Mohamed Sayed Salim as follows:

"The social status of an individual or group of persons in a particular social system is to place this community in the manner in which it appears to the persons involved and where it confirms the functions to be performed, the fulfilled roles and the prestige attributed, in accordance with the known values and norms, in range of behaviors exchanging established in this situation"<sup>(13)</sup>.

It should be noted that the role is approaching a certain degree of the term international status especially that the international status means:

"Is the prestige and respect accorded by the international community to a state, and may be based on perceptions of force, competition or reputation in respect of international conventions"<sup>(14)</sup>.

The effectiveness of the regional powers to shape its position will be come from the interaction shown within the regional system. This interaction will reveal the extent of the influence they have within the region and thus define the roles that can be played within the regional system<sup>(15)</sup>.

In summary, we agree with the definition of Dr. Mohamed Sayed Salim, which states that "The role is the perception of the foreign policy maker of the main areas of his country with his influence and vision of the main motives of the foreign policy of his country and the function that can be played and expectations of the magnitude of change expected in the international and regional system as a result of its practice of this function"

## Section Two

### 4. ARMAMENT AND THE NUCLEAR ARMS RACE

The armament has many definitions, according to the different visions, due to the differences in the thinkers opinions, as for Dr. Ismail Sabri, he found that the strengthening of the situation, economic control and economic bloom, were the main reasons behind the armament, i.e. armament is the decisive tool by employing the military capabilities of the state in its balance with the other powers With a view to reducing their internal economic burdens<sup>(16)</sup>.

While the other believes that armament is based on the provision of a range of internal factors, political, economic, social, scientific and military, that led to armament and therefore armament is the inevitable result of the interaction of those factors, on this basis, armament, particularly nuclear armament, is based on the availability of nuclear and conventional capabilities, financial capacity, scientific and technological base and the ability to produce conventional and nuclear weapons consisting of nuclear warheads, hydrogen bombs, (Neutron), as well as the availability of launch bases and delivery means of missiles, warplanes and command and control systems and communication<sup>(17)</sup>.

#### 4.1 Definitions of Armament

On the other hand, armament has been defined as "the main instrument by which any state tries to preserve what is at its disposal to maintain or re-establish the balance of power"<sup>(18)</sup>.

Dr. Kazem Hashim described the armament as "the activity that the state uses in order to increase its military capabilities to improve its relative position by means of an intentional change in the relations of forces in its favor through armaments"<sup>(19)</sup>.

There are those who believe that armament and the arms race are not a military phenomenon, but rather a political, economic, and perhaps technical phenomenon. In the framework of competition between states or opposing forces, each party seeks to improve its weapons systems, as well as to increase productive

relations to the best defensive and offensive capabilities<sup>(20)</sup>.

That armament is the main element in the power of the state and the most prominent element in the translation of that power to a political influential role, and it linked to the national power, especially that the national power is means the "psychological impact, i.e. the outcome of the relations of interaction between the two parties or more and characterized by the ability of one of the parties to push the other to do work, that the other party certainly does not do it on its own, either by resorting to formulas of material coercion or not resort to "<sup>(21)</sup>.

#### 4.2 Classification of nuclear countries

After the acquisition of nuclear weapons, the countries that adopt the nuclear strategy, have divided the countries into certain classes, super states, major and small nuclear states and states on the path of the nuclear club, deterrence is the main feature of the nuclear strategy, actually it's the key to modern strategy, deterrence is not strategy phenomenon or doctrine coincides with the nuclear age alone, it is associated with the conflicts on many levels and the views differ in its definition but they meet at two main points, which they are: the physical aspects ie the ability to achieve destruction and the psychological or mental aspects, which is determined to use force. John Collins defines it as "measures to prevent war rather than to be implemented using psychological means rather than natural means."

#### 4.3 Arms Deterrence Background

In the deliberations of the United Nations General Assembly, it has been mentioned, that the phenomenon of deterrence has existed since the early periods of human life and is based primarily on the threat of the use of force to prevent a party from carrying out what it intends. Deterrence may take the form of threatening to inflict some serious consequences if certain acts are carried out and this is called the deterrence of punishment or deterrence in the form of the threat of prevention by force of the practical implementation of the act, ie deterrence by deprivation,(Andre Bofer) defined deterrence as: "deterrence aims to prevent a hostile state from making the decision by using its weapons, or more generally to prevent it from acting or

responding to a particular situation, by taking a range of measures and procedures that form a sufficient threat and thus, the result by using threat will be psychological "<sup>(22)</sup>.

Deterrence also involves behavioral relationships between the deterrent party and the party that the deterrence applied on. The behavior of the deterrent directly affects the behavior of the other party <sup>(23)</sup>.

On the other hand, the subject of armaments is linked to the concepts of arms control, which are defined as (an agreement between two or more states that includes the organization of certain aspects of the capabilities of military states).

There are those who defined the arms control process as a process in the field of military security, which increases the strategic stability in the interrelationship between the states involved in the conflict by controlling certain types of weapons and reducing their acquisition <sup>(24)</sup>.

There is also a difference between the terms disarmament and arms control. The first refers to the total abolition of weapons, while arms control means dealing with specific issues related to the regulation of arms mechanisms, with maintaining a certain level of weapons and with specific types. In general, arms control is part of the disarmament process, if the disarmament process is the framework, the arms control process is substance and essence<sup>(25)</sup>.

### Section Three

## 5. NUCLEAR ENERGY

### 5.1 Nuclear Energy Definition

Nuclear energy is defined as energy emitted as a result of the splitting of the nucleus of the atom, called the mother nucleus, where it is divided into two nuclei, the mass of which is less than the mass of the mother nucleus, and the cluster mass of nuclear fission becomes a huge energy, and studies show that nuclear energy was known for many years and the first discovered by Western countries that sought to benefit from it in various fields, although the United States of America has preceded other countries in harnessing this energy for military purposes and this created a great

desire of European countries to enter this field And trying to acquire nuclear weapons<sup>(26)</sup>.

### 5.2 Nuclear energy classification

Nuclear energy is divided according to its approved uses into peaceful nuclear energy and military nuclear energy. The peaceful nuclear energy consists of two basic types: nuclear power reactors for research and production of radioisotopes for medical, agricultural and industrial purposes and the other for the production of electricity and water desalination, as for the military nuclear energy, the military use of nuclear energy for nuclear weapons used at the end of the Second World War, which emphasized the importance of nuclear weapons as a tool to resolve important wars. After the war, the United States and Britain, the two countries that developed, produced and used the first nuclear weapons, found themselves in a trouble; where there have been tendencies to try to capture nuclear secrets in general and military ones in particular<sup>(27)</sup>.

## Section Four

### 6. NUCLEAR TEST

#### 6.1 Nuclear test definition

The nuclear test can be defined as any nuclear weapon explosion in any environment to test the effectiveness of nuclear weapons and their arsenal in the possessing countries and the extent of their destructive effect, and includes in this definition any other explosions, including those used for peaceful applications, which can be used to develop and test nuclear explosives For military purposes, The nuclear explosion, can be defined as any nuclear explosion individually or collectively when there are two individual explosions or more, the time between them does not exceed five seconds, for peaceful or military purposes and result of it are high temperature, destructive pressure, atomic dust and effective radiation, which its extension and effects ranges, depending on the environment of the bombing and its purposes<sup>(28)</sup>. A peaceful nuclear explosion is a term that means the activity of nuclear explosion through fission or nuclear fusion, which releases nuclear energy at a very rapid rate and is only for scientific research or peaceful applications.

#### 6.2 Nuclear Tests Aims

It is worth mentioning that the nuclear tests aim to achieve several points:

- 1- Work on the advancement of nuclear technology, especially with regard to the development, evolution and production of new types of nuclear weapons and test and increase their destructive capabilities.
2. Expanding the range of military options that meet new military and international conditions and developments.
- 3- Maintain effective and vital stockpiles of nuclear weapons and ensure that they meet safety and reliability requirements.
- 4 - The destruction of nuclear weapons, which are outdated compared to the arrival of modern technology from the production of more sophisticated, especially as the process of storage is materially expensive.
- 5- Increase the ability of the state to identify and assess the threat from other nuclear states on the basis of advanced nuclear weapons to ensure the ability to maneuver.
6. Fissile or fusion nuclear tests are used as a means of peaceful applications in order to support and serve the national economy of states with technical capabilities.
7. Achieving the possibility of nuclear deterrence.

#### 6.3 Factors of intensifying the nuclear arms race<sup>(30)</sup>:

It is worth mentioning that there are several factors that helped to intensify the nuclear arms race, including:

- 1- The presence of a human cadre of a high level of scientific and technological specialization and the will to create progress and industrial development capable of achieving excellence, especially with the availability of economic potentials, scientific and technical data and the ability to experience and test these industries.
- 2- The international cooperation between scientists from many countries contributed to the proliferation of the nuclear weapons industry. Cooperation between the United States and Britain after the Quebec agreement in 1943 included military and peaceful nuclear industry,

and the dissemination of information on nuclear energy through cooperation, espionage or exchange.

3- Contradictions between the trends of the great powers and the major powers contributed to the doubling of efforts in the arms race and generate an incentive to produce and possess such weapons.

4 - The above has contributed to the increase in international tension and then increase the arms race in order to achieve more security and influence.

In addition to the above, it can be said that at the beginning of 2011, all the five nuclear-weapon states recognized by the NPT, namely China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States, are determined to remain strong Nuclear power and is working to modernize its nuclear forces, despite the view that the number of strategic warheads should be reduced, but it does not amount to what former US President Barack Obama said of the need to reduce nuclear weapons in the US national security strategy, and put an end to cold war logic but, on the other side there is a confirmation of the importance of nuclear weapons to the US national security, and recommended to maintenance of a long-range offensive nuclear power.

## 7. CONCLUSION

From the above it can be said that the term role, nuclear armament and other terms are of great importance in international studies and strategic studies, and this affects the status and effectiveness of states and the effects of that on the regional and international levels.

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