

POWER IN THE NUCLEAR AGE

Won Kwang Paik

OBJECTIVES:

- 1) To examine how the nuclear age has been governed not by one kind of power, but by the interplay of hard (violent/non-violent), soft, legal, moral/philosophical power
- 2) To broaden the conversation and explore the different types of **actors** (state, NGO, individual, etc.) that can wield these different forms of power

“Power is the ability to affect others to produce the outcomes you want. You could do this through coercion and threats, so-called “sticks.” You could also do it with payments, which we call “carrots.”” – Joseph Nye, *Soft Power and Great-Power Competition*, (2011) p. 30.

Form of Power	Examples
 Hard Power Uses of force or the credible threat of force, whether through conventional military force and Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs) or non-violent forms such as economic sanctions. “...the ability to get others to act in ways that are contrary to their initial preferences and strategies” (Joseph Nye, <i>The Future of Power</i> (2011), p. 11.	US airstrikes on Iran, Israel airstrikes on Lebanon, UN Security Council resolutions demanding Iran’s suspension of Uranium enrichment, warning/enforced with sanctions, UN sanctions on North Korea
 Soft Power Attracts, persuades, and builds relationships, trust, and cooperation. “The ability to achieve preferred outcomes through attraction rather than coercion or payment.” (Joseph Nye, 2011) Conventional Diplomacy by state actors, Public Diplomacy, Cultural Diplomacy, Mutual Cooperation and Co-Existence, Globalization of Values and Global Village perspective	Eisenhower’s “<i>Atoms for Peace</i>” Speech (1953), peaceful use of science, Hiroshima Mayor Takeshi Araki addresses the UN General Assembly calling for an international network of cities that promote denuclearization and peace (Mayors for Peace (1982)), Basis of Attraction: peace and cooperation, Joint Declaration on the Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula (1992), Korean Wave as a public diplomacy. Basis of Attraction: vision of peace and cooperation, mutual co-existence
 Legal Power Creates authoritative norms and obligations Can be both ‘offensive’ and ‘defensive’ offensive legal power: <i>creating or changing legal norms</i> defensive legal power: <i>invoking existing legal protections</i>	Creation of the NPT (Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty) (1970) (offensive) International Court of Justice Advisory Opinion on the Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons (1996) (mainly defensive, but perhaps also offensive)? Commission of Inquiry for Crimes Against Humanity in North Korea (2013/2014) (mainly defensive) Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (2021) (offensive)
 Moral & Philosophical Power Clarifies intention and responsibility/ form conscience and moral imagination	Ham Sok Hon’s “Great Declaration” (1953) Russell–Einstein Manifesto (1955) Anscombe's <i>Mr. Truman's Degree</i> (1956)

Note that the *different types of actors* who can wield *different types of power* (chart below includes examples which go beyond nuclear issue) and an actor can work simultaneously in more than one domain

ACTOR	 Hard Power (Uses coercion or the credible threat of coercion, whether through military force or non violent forms such as economic sanctions.)	 Soft Power (Builds relationships, trust, and cooperation)	 Legal Power (Offensive vs. Defensive; creates authoritative norms and obligations.)	 Moral/Philosophical Power (Clarifies intention and responsibility/ form conscience and moral imagination)
States	Nuclear deterrence of Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD): If you attack, we retaliate; If you enrich uranium, sanctions	Atoms for Peace; cultural diplomacy; Six-Party Talks	Signing or withdrawing from treaties; accepting legal obligations	Official doctrines, declarations, and statements of principle (e.g., Four Freedoms, Atoms for Peace, Three Non-Nuclear Principles).
International Governmental Organizations	UN Security Council; NATO, Bilateral and Multilateral Security Alliances	WHO; UNESCO	IAEA, NPT, ICC, UN Treaty Bodies	UN-designated international observances (Peace Day, Holocaust Remembrance Day); UNESCO World Philosophy Day
Civil Society / Non-Governmental Organizations	Nonviolent coercive action/Greenpeace (placing inflatable boats between whalers and whales)	Doctors without Borders; Mayors for Peace; Diplomacy; public education; Multinational Corporations	International Campaign for the Abolition of Nuclear Weapons (ICAN); Strategic litigation; treaty campaigns	Policy institutes such as the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace; Nuclear Threat Initiative, etc.
Individual	John Brown/Harper's Ferry; (Violent Hard Power) Albert Bigelow and the <i>Golden Rule</i> sailing into the Pacific nuclear test zone (Non-Violent Hard Power)	Public leadership; Individual activism, individual participation	Civil Disobedience; James Lawson (Conscientious Objector – refuses to engage in Korean War)	Anscombe's <i>Mr. Truman's Degree</i> Artists - Violet Oakley (murals in the PA Capitol); Music "We Shall Overcome" Sacrificial Witness (self-immolation) Ham Sok Hon's "Great Declaration" and other works.

Consider these cases?

1. U.S. Declaration of Independence demonstrate which typologies of power? Which one cast the longest 'shadow'?
2. Truman's Decision to use nuclear weapons in Japan—Hiroshima and Nagasaki? Truman's decision not to use nuclear weapons in the Korean War?
3. With the end of the Cold War, nuclear exchange between the superpowers of the US and Soviet has been dissipated, but are there possibility of nuclear war in the future?