

the main problem with the first report was the lack of universal participation. Three explanations are offered for this shortcoming: first, some states remain unconvinced that submitting a report will not have a negative impact on their security; second, several nations do not yet understand the reporting system; and, finally, some states, awaiting a demonstration of a concrete link between transparency and restraint, chose not to participate.

Zukang relates that China recommends the consolidation of the current format of the Register. Only after wider participation has been secured should the UN consider expanding the scope of the Register. Expanding it immediately would decrease the number of nations willing to participate and, as a result, would cause the Register to fail.