

- o In addition to China, several other “outside” nations, such as the United States and the former Soviet Union, have had a major influence in South Asia since 1947. These outside influences, which have changed since the end of the Cold War, must be taken into account when considering regional stability.
- o Concerned countries have urged India and Pakistan to abide by the MTCR guidelines. However, the effect of the MTCR on India and Pakistan is unquestionably unequal. When the MTCR was announced in 1987, India already had ambitious indigenous ballistic missile and space programs. Since that time, it has developed and tested the Prithvi missile fifteen times, and it has successfully test-fired the Agni missile. Pakistan’s efforts to match India’s ballistic missile program will most likely be unsuccessful, given the existence of the MTCR and increased emphasis in the West on non-transfer of dual-use technology; however, Pakistan will develop and/or acquire a more advanced ballistic missile capability with assistance from China.
- o The efforts of the international community to rollback or constrain India and Pakistan’s nuclear capabilities have thus far been unsuccessful.

Real and Perceived Threats in the View of India and of Pakistan

- o Despite international efforts, India and Pakistan continue to pursue ballistic missile programs, both are developing missiles with a deep-strike capability, and each accuses the other of developing missiles to carry nuclear warheads--an accusation both countries strongly deny.
- o There would be several motivations for Indian acquisition and use of nuclear weapons on its ballistic missiles: to counter China (a long-term goal), as a hedge against Pakistan’s nuclear capability, to resist coercion on the part of other countries, for prestige and internal politics, and as evidence of scientific or technological credibility. Pakistan also has its goals: to counter Indian nuclear capability, to deter or defend against India’s conventional capability, for internal political reasons, and for international prestige, particularly in the Islamic World.

Past Endeavors Aimed at Achieving Strategic Relationships

- o India and Pakistan have recognized that greater transparency in the defence area can help reduce regional tension. Delhi and Islamabad have signed a number of measures intended to improve their bilateral relationship and prevent the escalation of tensions, including an agreement not to attack each other’s nuclear installations and facilities; advance notification of military exercises, manoeuvres and troop movements, and an agreement permitting overflights and landings by military aircraft. The countries have also agreed to a “Joint Declaration on Prohibition of Chemical Weapons,” which