

ANDRE MALRAUX MODEL UNITED NATIONS



January 10th - 12th, 2019

First Edition

Special Political Committee

**“AI’s development leading to a
Cyber Cold War”**

Chairs:

Ismail Meiouet & Abdelaziz El Yazami

Table of content

I.	Context and Historical Background	3
II.	Keywords	4
III.	Questions to consider	4
IV.	Bibliography and useful link.....	5



I. Context and historical background

Historical Background: The Cold War corresponds to the open yet restricted rivalry that developed after World War II between the United States and the Soviet Union and their respective allies. The Cold War was waged on political, economic, and propaganda fronts and had only limited recourse to weapons. The term was first used by the English writer George Orwell in an article published in 1945 to refer to what he predicted would be a nuclear stalemate between “two or three monstrous super-states, each possessed of a weapon by which millions of people can be wiped out in a few seconds.” It was first used in the United States by the American financier and presidential adviser Bernard Baruch in a speech at the State House in Columbia, South Carolina, in 1947.

Currently the word Cold War can be used to refer to describe the heated debates between the world’s superpowers which are the USA, Russia and China.

Context: It is easy to confuse the current geopolitical situation with that of the 1980s. The United States and Russia each accuse the other of interfering in domestic affairs. Russia has annexed territory over U.S. objections, raising concerns about military conflict. As during the Cold War after World War II, nations are developing and building weapons based on advanced technology. During the Cold War, the weapon of choice was nuclear missiles; today it’s software, whether its used for attacking computer systems or targets in the real world. Russian rhetoric about the importance of artificial intelligence is picking up – and with good reason: As artificial intelligence software develops, it will be able to make decisions based on more data, and more quickly, than humans can handle. As someone who researches the use of AI for applications as diverse as drones, self-driving vehicles and cybersecurity, The United Nation worries that the world may be entering – or perhaps already in – another cold war, fueled by AI.

II. Key words

Cold war: The heated conflict between the Sovietic (communist) east and the capitalist west during the second half of the 20th century. Nowadays, it can refer to the tensions between the US, Russia and eventually China (since its political regime is a communist dictatorship opposed to democracy).

Artificial Intelligence: It is the capacity of a non-human (basically digital) form to behave like a human and produce a thought by reasoning.

Nuclear Weapon: A nuclear weapon is an explosive device that derives its destructive force from nuclear reactions, either fission (fission bomb) or from a combination of fission and fusion reactions (thermonuclear bomb)

Arming Race: Strategy adopted by a state in which the country government tries to develop as much armement as possible.

III. Questions to consider

- How to prevent a new Cold War between the US and Russia thanks to AI ?
- In what ways could AI be used in the Arming Race ?
- What can be the UN and more specifically the SpecPol committee influence over the matter ?
- How to prevent the use of artificial intelligence in the making of a cyber conflict between these two major powers ?

IV. Bibliography and useful links

- <https://www.britannica.com/event/Cold-War>
- <https://www.army-technology.com/features/cyber-cold-war-russian-us-security-systems-draw-new-lines-map/>
- <https://news.sky.com/story/russian-cyber-attacks-are-we-in-the-midst-of-a-new-cold-war-11516801>
- <https://theconversation.com/artificial-intelligence-is-the-weapon-of-the-next-cold-war-86086>
- <https://money.cnn.com/2017/01/19/technology/cyber-cold-war/index.html>