

Benchmark III

In Benchmark I you learned about nuclear technologies and how they have for either civilian or military uses or both. You also learned the nuclear posture of each of the parties in Northeast Asia. In Benchmark II you learned about the interaction of the CIF domains in the area. In this Benchmark you will learn how nuclear issues have led to a crisis in the region. You will also be introduced to two non-Asian players: Russia, and the United States. Finally, you will begin to work out possible solutions to the crisis. Your task is to investigate and comprehend the nuclear crisis on the Korean Peninsula. In your investigations you will examine the objectives and policy options of China, Japan, North Korea and South Korea as well as the objectives and options of Russia and the United States.

Objective 1: Analyze and report on the events which have led up to the present crisis.

Suggested activities:

- 1) Analyze and be prepared to describe the development of nuclear related events on the Korean peninsula since 1991.
- 2) Interpret and report on the political and diplomatic interactions among the parties resulting from the crisis.
- 3) Evaluate the attitudes and reactions of the parties to key events in the crisis and be able to discuss.

Objective 2: Develop and prepare options for resolution of the nuclear crisis on the peninsula.

Suggested activities:

- 1) Evaluate and report the efforts of the various parties to resolve the crisis.
- 2) Arrange an interview with a local representative to your national government to learn about your country's options for resolution of the Korean Peninsula nuclear crisis.
- 3) Compare and contrast two or more of the following strategies for resolving the crisis: economic sanctions, military action, negotiations, treaties and regimes.
- 4) Use the results of the previous activities to determine the objectives of each party in a resolution of the crisis. Develop a menu of options for success from the viewpoint of one or more of the parties.

Objective 3: Evaluate and present the options you have developed.

Suggested activities:

- 1) Debate the costs and benefits of the options you developed above.
- 2) Write a position paper presenting the best option for resolving the crisis.
- 3) Compose a speech for the Secretary General of the United Nations or the head of state of one of the parties announcing and promoting the chosen option above.
- 4) Conduct a simulation of the six party talks.
- 5) Construct scenarios for possible consequences if the crisis is not resolved.