



The Nuclear Transparency Inventory (NUTRI)

The Nuclear Transparency Inventory will be a tool for policymakers and analysts to explore the transparency practices of all nuclear-armed states. It aims to help reduce nuclear threats by facilitating research and dialogue on the nature and impact of transparency practices around nuclear arsenals and doctrines.

NUTRI addresses fundamental concerns that have been widely expressed in the international community, namely, how rapid changes in technology and geopolitics are increasing the likelihood of nuclear use and warfare and how to deal with this new reality. Building on BASIC's reputation for rigorous research and constructive dialogue, the intention is to encourage and facilitate efforts to build mutual understanding and cooperation on arms control and disarmament, goals that remain as important as ever.¹

NUTRI will provide value for government officials, researchers, and policy analysts working on a variety of nuclear weapons issues, from arms control and deterrence to non-proliferation and disarmament, by offering a rigorous, standardised framework for analysing the transparency practices of nuclear-armed states. BASIC takes an impartial approach to the extent possible, not advocating for transparency *per se*, but offering a tool for assessing its nature and impact in different contexts.

The NUTRI framework will incorporate quantitative and qualitative indicators, and will assess transparency practices of nuclear armed states around doctrinal issues, weapons systems, and related infrastructure. Based on the framework, BASIC will employ a native-speaking country expert to produce an annual, peer-reviewed analysis of each nuclear-armed state. The results will be published on a dedicated, interactive website, enabling users quickly and easily to compare the transparency practices of different nuclear-armed states.

The goal of NUTRI is to help reduce nuclear threats by increasing mutual understanding; by facilitating nuanced research, analysis, and dialogue on transparency issues; and by expanding the scope for “strategic empathy”—the practice of considering the underlying drivers and constraints of adversaries’ actions, enabling policymakers to reflect on how their own actions, even if intended as defensive measures, might provoke insecurity and escalation.²

The project is being developed by the Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Programme at BASIC through original research, consultations with international experts and officials, and support from a dedicated project Advisory Board. The Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Programme is also developing the [NPT Monitor](#), a separate but complementary project that will assess the implementation of the NPT. BASIC is grateful to Global Affairs Canada and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands for co-funding both projects.

For more on NUTRI, contact the project manager [Dr Lyndon Burford](#).

¹ BASIC is an independent, nonprofit think tank working to safeguard humanity and Earth's ecosystem from nuclear risks and interconnected security threats, for generations to come. See basicint.org for more information.

² See Claire Yorke, “Is Empathy a Strategic Imperative? A Review Essay”, *Journal of Strategic Studies* 46, no. 5 (2023). <https://doi.org/10.1080/01402390.2022.2152800>.