

Empirical Analysis of the Impact of Norm and Threat on Nuclear Issues

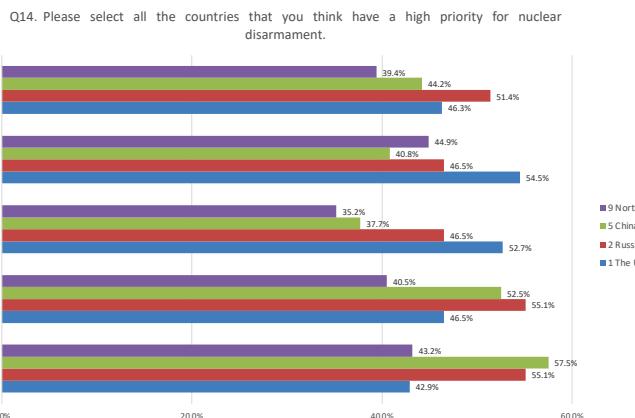
芝井 清久 データ科学研究系 特任助教

Summary

Nuclear deterrence and nuclear taboo are basis on the discussion of nuclear weapons issues. Norm theory shows effect of nuclear weapons' inhumanity to decision making. Deterrence theory verifies that the security effect is the main reason to possess nuclear weapons. The two theories have been tested separately and are rarely tested for their influence at same time. This article clarifies the effect of nuclear deterrence and nuclear taboo on public opinions simultaneously with qualification methods and survey data. Especially it identifies which variable has the greater effect and how interactions affect.

Nuclear norm and threat clearly have effect on people's values and opinions. However, they are not independently effective but there will be an interaction in each situation. For example, Japanese and Koreans are more in favor of US disarmament than North Korea, even though they are under the nuclear umbrella of the US and nuclear weapons of North Korea is serious threat to their national securities. If the security effect of nuclear deterrence is the main variable, the Japanese and Koreans would no more insist on US nuclear disarmament than North Korea. If the norm is the main variable, they would agree that there is no reason to nuclear possession and use of nuclear weapons.

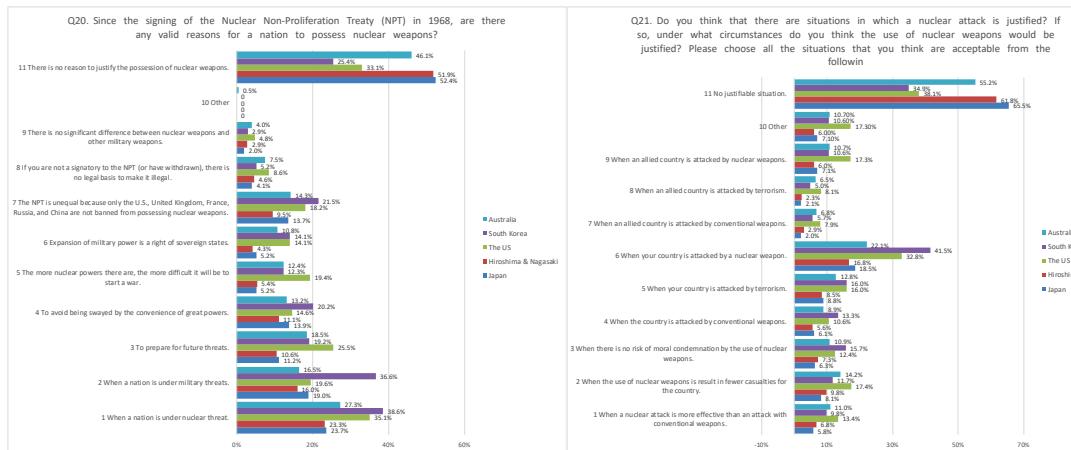
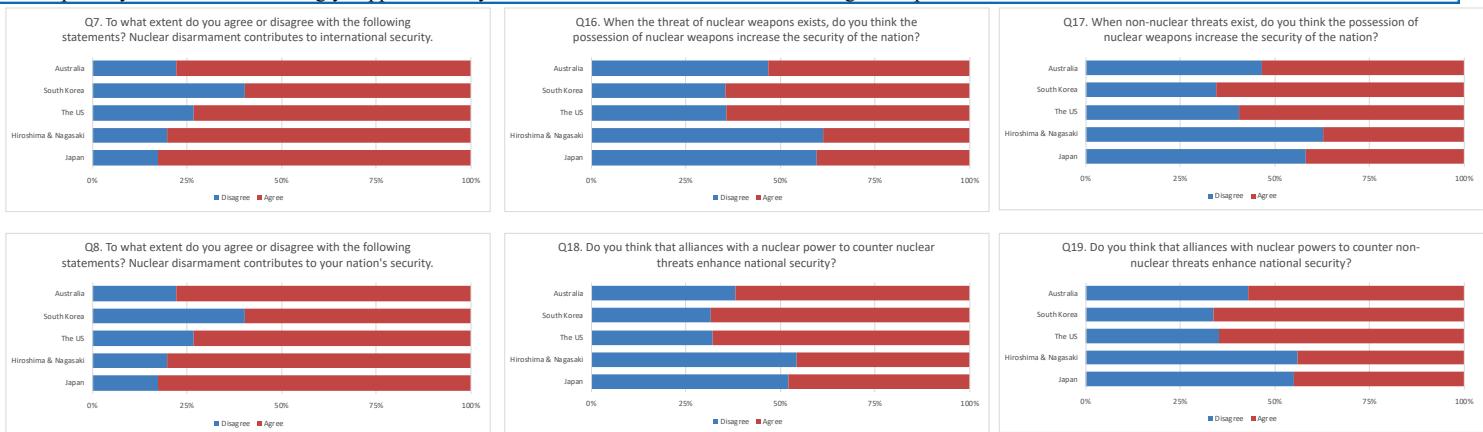
The procedure of my analyses is as follows. First, measuring effect of each nuclear threat and norm's variable. Second, measuring the interactions of these variables. And third, constructing logit regression models to clarify the structure of the public opinions in every country. These are comparative analyses to verify the different characteristics among four types countries: country to have ever suffered atomic bombings (Japan, Hiroshima, and Nagasaki), nuclear power (the US), potential nuclear power (South Korea), and non-nuclear power (Australia).



- Japanese and South Koreans have been threatened by North Korean nuclear weapons for more than 10 years. However, the percentage of the U.S. is not different from the percentage of North Korea in Japan, while the percentage of the U.S. is much higher than the percentage of North Korea in South Korea.
- Tendencies of Japanese, Hiroshima and Nagasaki resident's responses are partly consistent with the hypothesis of nuclear threat.
- Tendencies of Americans and Koreans responses are partly consistent with the hypothesis of nuclear norm.
- If only nuclear threat influenced on their answers, no Japanese and Koran would choose the US.
- If nuclear norms would strongly work, people could easily choose the US which is the strongest nuclear power.
- These complicated distributions of responses show that there will be interactions between nuclear threat and norm in nation's values.

Nuclear threat and nuclear deterrence.

- There are many positive answers about nuclear deterrence in the US (nuclear powers) and South Korea (potential nuclear powers).
- Especially South Koreans strongly support security effect of nuclear deterrence and have negative opinions on nuclear disarmament.



Nuclear norm and nuclear taboo.

- There are many negative answers about nuclear deterrence in Japan (atomic bombed country) and Australia (non-nuclear powers).
- However, only Japan's majority agrees that there is no justification for a nuclear attack and nuclear possession.
- The data show that it is difficult for norm to outweigh threat.