



The 63rd Pugwash Conference

**80 Years after the Atomic Bombing
Time for Peace, Dialogue and
Nuclear Disarmament**

Hiroshima, Japan
1-5 November 2025

Conference Schedule



63rd Pugwash Conference on Science & World Affairs

80 Years After the Atomic Bombing – Time for Peace, Dialogue and Nuclear Disarmament

Hiroshima 1-5 November 2025

SATURDAY 1 NOVEMBER	
PRELIMINARY ACTIVITIES: HIROSHIMA PEACE MEMORIAL MUSEUM	
08:45	Arrivals – Memorial Hall (B1, Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum)
09:00 – 09:40	Film Screening – <i>Hiroshima: A Mother's Prayer</i>
09:40	Welcome by Director of Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum
10:00 – 12:00	Visit to Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch
CONFERENCE OPENING	
VENUE: INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTER HIROSHIMA	
13:30 – 14:00 <i>Open Session</i>	PL1 – Opening Ceremony Welcome: Prof. Tomohiro Inagaki , chair of the Conference Organizing Committee Welcome by Pugwash officials: H.E. Dr. Hussain Al-Shahristani & Prof. Karen Hallberg Video message from UN High Representative H.E. Izumi Nakamitsu Chair: Dr. Keiko Nakamura , Nagasaki University
14:00 – 14:30 <i>Open Session</i>	PL2 – Keynote Welcome Speeches Hon. Kazumi Matsui , Mayor of Hiroshima City H.E. Hidehiko Yuzaki , Governor of Hiroshima Prefecture
14:30 – 16:00 <i>Open Session</i>	PL3 – Dialogue with <i>Hibakusha</i> and Citizens Ms. Keiko Ogura , Hiroshima Hibakusha Ms. Natsuki Kai , high school peace ambassador, Hiroshima H.E. Dr. Hussain Al-Shahristani , President of Pugwash Chair: Prof. Luli van der Does , Hiroshima University
16:00 – 16:30	Coffee break
16:30 – 18:00 <i>Open Session</i>	PL4 – 80 Years Since Hiroshima and Nagasaki: Towards the Abolition of Nuclear Weapons Dr. Ruth Mitchell , International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW) Dr. Tilman Ruff , International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) Prof. Tatsujiro Suzuki , Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs Prof. Terumi Tanaka , Nihon Hidankyo Chair: Ms. Yumi Kanazaki , Chūgoku <i>Shimbun</i>
18:00 – 18:40	Film Screening – <i>It Rained Black in 1945</i>
19:00 – 20:30	Buffet Dinner (Crystal Hall, RIHGA Royal Hotel Hiroshima)



SUNDAY 2 NOVEMBER

THE 6TH SIMONS SYMPOSIUM: DISARMAMENT AND NUCLEAR RISKS

09:00 – 09:10	Introduction: Dr. Jennifer Allen Simons , President, The Simons Foundation Canada
09:10 – 10:40 <i>Open Session</i>	PL5 – The Urgency of Nuclear Reductions Amb. (ret.) Sergey Batsanov , Pugwash Council Dr. Steven E. Miller , Belfer Centre for Science and International Affairs, Harvard University Dr. Tong Zhao , Carnegie Endowment for International Peace Chair: Prof. Götz Neuneck , Chair, Pugwash Council
10:40-11:00	Coffee break
11:00 – 12:30 <i>Open Session</i>	PL6 – Practical Steps and Instruments for Nuclear Disarmament Amb. Carlos Duarte , Brazilian Ministry of External Relations Amb. (ret.) Karim Haggag , Stockholm International Peace Research Institute Amb. (ret.) Yasuyoshi Komizo , former Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan Dr. Manpreet Sethi , Centre for Air Power Studies Chair: Amb. (ret.) Paul Meyer , Canadian Pugwash
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch
13:30 – 15:00 <i>Open Session</i>	PL7 – The Role of Scientists in Reducing Nuclear Threats Prof. David Harel , Israeli Academy of Sciences Prof. Frank von Hippel , Princeton University Mr. Anton Khlopkov , Center for Energy and Security Studies Prof. Michiji Konuma , Keio University Chair: Ms. Talia Weiss , Director, International Student/Young Pugwash
15:00 – 16:30 <i>Open Session</i>	PL8 - Dorothy Hodgkin Lecture: Consequences of a Nuclear War Prof. Alan Robock , Department of Environmental Sciences, Rutgers University Chair: Prof. Tatsujiro Suzuki , Pugwash Council
16:30 – 17:00	Coffee break
17:00 – 18:30	<i>Working Groups meet in parallel sessions</i>
18:30 – 19:00	“Hiroshima's legacy, future threats and the development of human rights”, sponsored by Project "Topologies of Air"
19:00	Buffet Dinner (Crystal Hall, RIHGA Royal Hotel Hiroshima)
20:30 – 21:30 <i>Open Session</i>	PL9 – Briefing on Fukushima Prof. Hisako Sakiyama , 3.11 Fund for Children with Thyroid Cancer Mr. Shigenori Kanehira , freelance journalist Chair: Prof. Hiroko Takahashi , Nara University



MONDAY 3 NOVEMBER

09:00 – 09:30 <i>Closed session</i>	PL10 – Rethinking Middle East Security in a changing environment Keynote: H.E. Javad Zarif , former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Islamic Republic of Iran Chair: H.E. Dr. Hussain Al-Shahristani , President of Pugwash
09:30 – 10:00 <i>Closed session</i>	PL11 – Rethinking Middle East Security in a changing environment Col. (ret.) Itamar Yaar , Former IDF Commander and former Deputy National Security Adviser Chair: Mr. Arnold Luethold , Pugwash Council
10:00 – 10:30	Coffee Break
10:30 – 11:00 <i>Closed session</i>	PL12 – Rethinking Middle East Security in a changing environment Dr. Saeed Khatibzadeh , Deputy Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran Chair: Mr. Arnold Luethold , Pugwash Council
11:00 – 12:30 <i>Closed session</i>	PL13 – The future of the European Security Architecture Amb. (ret.) Thomas Countryman , Board Chairman, Arms Control Association, USA H.E. Pavlo Klimkin , Centre for National Resilience and Development, Kyiv Col. (ret.) Wolfgang Richter , former German Federal Army Prof. Sergey Oznobishchev , Military-Political Analysis Sector, IMEMO Chair: Dr. Katariina Simonen , Pugwash Council
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch
13:30 – 15:00 <i>Closed session</i>	PL14 – Averting Escalation and Working towards Stability in Northeast Asia Prof. Kiichi Fujiwara , Juntendo University Prof. Jun Hae-won , Korea National Diplomatic Academy Prof. Sharon Squassoni , The George Washington University Dr. Tong Zhao , Carnegie Endowment for International Peace Chair: Dr. Mark Suh , Pugwash Council & Ms. Elisabeth Suh , International Student/Young Pugwash
15:00 – 16:30	<i>Working Groups meet in parallel sessions</i>
16:30 – 17:00	Coffee Break
17:00-19:30	<i>Working Groups meet in parallel sessions</i>
19:45-20:45	Buffet Dinner (RIHGA) Royal Hotel Hiroshima Crystal Hall) Dinner speech: Prof. Paolo Cotta-Ramusino , former Pugwash Secretary General
20:45-22:15	Dialogue between Pugwash International, National Pugwash Groups, and ISYP



TUESDAY 4 NOVEMBER

09:00 – 11:00	<i>Working Groups meet in parallel sessions</i>
11:00 – 11:30 <i>Closed session</i>	PL15 – The situation in Gaza Mr. Roland Friedrich , UNRWA West Bank Chair: Amb. (ret.) Khaled Shamaa , Pugwash Council
11:30 – 13:00 <i>Closed session</i>	PL16 – The future of the Palestine-Israel Peace Process H.E. Nasser Al-Kidwa , former Foreign Minister for the Palestinian Authority H.E. Ehud Olmert , former Prime Minister of Israel Chair: Prof. Karen Hallberg , Secretary General, Pugwash
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 14:15 <i>Closed session</i>	PL17A – President’s Address H.E. Dr. Hussain Al-Shahristani , President of Pugwash
14:15 – 14:45 <i>Closed session</i>	PL17B - Secretary General’s Report Prof. Karen Hallberg , Secretary General of Pugwash
14:45 – 15:00	PL17C – Video messages from the CTBTO and IAEA
15:00 – 18:30	Group Excursion
19:00 – 21:00 <i>Closed session</i>	Banquet Dinner (RIHGA Royal Hotel Hiroshima Crystal Hall) Dinner speeches: H.E. Hidehiko Yuzaki , Governor of Hiroshima Prof. Mitsuo Ochi , President of Hiroshima University

WEDNESDAY 5 NOVEMBER

09:00 – 10:30 <i>Open session</i>	PL18 – Disruptive Technologies and Nuclear Weapons Prof. Yuko Murakami , Rikkyo University Prof. Herb Lin , Stanford University Amb. (ret.) Paul Meyer , Simon Fraser University Chair: Prof. Tomohiro Inagaki , Hiroshima University
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee Break
11:00 – 12:30 <i>Open session</i>	PL19 – The Pugwash Movement and the Renunciation of War: Dialogue across Divides Prof. Izzeldin Abuelaish , Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto Dr. David Ellwood , Pugwash Council Prof. Seigo Hirowatari , Tokyo University Chair: Prof. Yoshiko Kurita , Chiba University
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch



13:30 – 14:30 <i>Open session</i>	PL20 – Reports of the Working Groups and ISYP conference
14:30 – 15:00 <i>Open session</i>	PL21 – Closing Ceremony & Press Conference Pugwash Hiroshima Declaration
CONFERENCE ENDS	

ABOUT PUGWASH

The mission of the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs is to bring scientific insight and reason to bear on the catastrophic threat posed to humanity by nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction. It was in recognition of its mission to “diminish the part played by nuclear arms in international politics and, in the longer run, to eliminate such arms” that Pugwash and its co-founder, Sir Joseph Rotblat, were awarded the 1995 Nobel Peace Prize.

Drawing its inspiration from the Russell-Einstein Manifesto of 1955, which urged leaders of the world to “think in a new way,” to “remember their humanity” and to find peaceful means for the settlement of all matters of dispute between them”, Pugwash focuses on those problems that lie at the intersection of science and world affairs. Pugwash’s main goals remain to seek the elimination of all weapons of mass destruction, to promote dialogue and reciprocal understanding in order to reduce the risks of war, especially in areas where weapons of mass destruction are present and may be used, and to discuss new scientific and technological developments that may bring more instability and heighten the risk of conflicts.

The Conference organizers extend their deep gratitude to the following institutions for financial support:

**The Simons Foundation Canada | Toshiba International Foundation | MacArthur Foundation
Sokka Gakkai | Hiroshima City | Hiroshima Prefecture | Friedrich Ebert Stiftung
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The Shimonaka Memorial Foundation World Conference Religions for Peace Japan
Hiroshima Television Corporation Group | Hiroshima Home Television Co. Ltd
TSS-TV Co. Ltd | Individual Contributions**



BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION OF SPEAKERS

Izzeldin Abuelaish is Professor of Global Health at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto. Dr. Abuelaish is a Palestinian medical doctor who was born and raised in Jabalia Refugee Camp in the Gaza Strip. He is a passionate and eloquent proponent of peace between Palestinians and Israelis and has dedicated his life to using health as a vehicle for peace. He has succeeded despite all odds through a great determination of spirit, a strong faith, and a stalwart belief in hope and family.



Sergey Batsanov is a member of the Pugwash Council. He served as USSR then Russian Ambassador to the Conference on Disarmament from 1989-1993, after having worked on arms control and disarmament issues in Moscow. He was a senior member of the secretariat of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) from 1993-2004.



Thomas Countryman was chosen in October 2017 to serve as Chairman of the Board of the Arms Control Association. The ACA is a nonpartisan NGO, committed to analysis of key national security issues and advising the executive branch, Congress and the public on choices that promote global security and reduce the risk that weapons of mass destruction will be used. He retired from the Senior Foreign Service in January 2017 after 35 years of service. At that time, he served simultaneously as acting Undersecretary for Arms Control and International Security, and as Assistant Secretary for International Security and Non-proliferation, a position he held since September 2011. The ISN Bureau leads the US effort to prevent the spread of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons.



Luli van der Does is Director of The Center for Peace and an Associate Professor in the Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences, at Hiroshima University. Her research explores the nexus of mind and society by looking closely at transient linguistic, visual, and/or sensory representations of individual and collective memories and their impact on our decision-making processes.



Carlos Duarte is the serving Secretary for Africa and the Middle East at the Ministry of External Relations of Brazil, Brasília. He is a career diplomat within the ministry, serving also as Permanent Representative of Brazil to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Vienna (2021-2023); Ambassador of Brazil to Chile, Santiago (2017-2021); Deputy Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations, New York (2015-2017); Ambassador of Brazil to India, New Delhi (2012-2015); Director, Department of International Organizations, Ministry of External Relations, Brasília (2007-2011); Head, United Nations Division, Ministry of External Relations, Brasília (2002-2004).



David Ellwood is a theoretical physicist and mathematician who served for more than a decade as Research Director of the Clay Mathematics Institute. He is a member of the Pugwash Council and the Executive Committees of International Pugwash and the British Pugwash. David has held academic appointments at Harvard University, Boston University, Université de Strasbourg (IRMA), ETH Zürich, Université de Paris VI (UPMC) and the Institut des Hautes Études Scientifiques. He is also a trustee of the Atlantic Peace Foundation.



Kiichi Fujiwara is professor of international politics at Juntendo University and professor emeritus of the University of Tokyo, where was director of the Institute for Future Initiatives. He has been the chair for Hiroshima Roundtable since 2013. His works include Remembering the War, A Democratic Empire, Peace for Realists, Conditions of War, and World in Flames. Professor Fujiwara writes a monthly column for the Asahi.



Karim Haggag is the Director of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). He is a former career Egyptian diplomat with over 25 years of service in Egypt's diplomatic corps serving in numerous positions focusing Middle East regional security, arms control and non-proliferation, and Arab-Israeli diplomacy. Previously, he was a Professor of Practice at the School of Global Affairs and Public Policy (GAPP) and Director of the Global Affairs program at the American University in Cairo, and a visiting professor at the Near East and South Asia Center for Strategic Studies National Defense University in Washington DC (2011-2013).



Karen Hallberg, PhD in Physics, is Secretary General of the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs. She is an Associate Professor of Physics at the Balseiro Institute, and Principal Researcher at the Bariloche Atomic Center, National Atomic Energy Agency and National Research Council, Argentina. She is an Institute Associate of the International Center for Theoretical Physics, Trieste, member of the Latin American Academy of Sciences and corresponding member of the Argentine Academy for Exact, Physical and Natural Sciences. She was awarded the 2019 L'Oreal-UNESCO International Prize For Women in Science for Latin America. She holds two honorary doctorates, is a former Board Member of the American Physical Society and a member of the World Economic Forum Global Future Councils on the Future of Quantum Economy and Next-Generation Computing.



David Harel is President of The Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities, and Institute Professor in the Department of Computer Science and Applied Mathematics at The Weizmann Institute of Science. Harel is a fellow of the ACM, the IEEE, the AAAS, and the EATCS, and a member of several international academies, including the US National Academy of Engineering, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the US National Academy of Sciences, the Chinese Academy of Sciences and a fellow of the British Royal Society (FRS). His areas of interest include software and systems engineering, visual languages, modeling and analysis of biological systems and of art & music creation, odor reproduction and analysis, analysis of prosody. (In the past, also computability and complexity theory, logics of programs, theory of database queries, automata theory, layout of diagrams, computer science education). He has received many awards, including the ACM Karlstrom Outstanding Educator Award, the Israel Prize, the ACM Software System Award, the Emet Prize, the IEEE Harlan Mills Award, and six honorary degrees in France, Italy, the Netherlands and Israel.



Frank von Hippel, a nuclear physicist, is a Senior Research Physicist and Professor of Public and International Affairs emeritus with Princeton University's Program on Science and Global Security, which he co-founded. He also co-founded the International Panel on Fissile Materials in 2006 and co-chaired it for its first nine years. During 1983-90, he worked with President Gorbachev's advisor, Evgenyi Velikhov, to develop initiatives that helped end the US-Soviet nuclear arms race and reduce global stocks of nuclear warheads by about 85 percent. During 1993-4, he served as Assistant Director for National Security in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy and helped develop U.S.- Russian cooperative initiatives to reduce risks of nuclear-material diversion. He has received many awards for his work.



Seigo Hirowatari is professor emeritus of the University of Tokyo and is president Pugwash Japan since October 2020. Prof. Hirowatari served as director of the institute for social sciences and vice rector of the University of Tokyo. He was professor of German Law at Senshu University. He served as member of the Science Council of Japan eleven years and as president of the Science Council of Japan. His works include Study on German Law, Comparative Study on Law and Society, Dynamics of Law in the German Unification and Jurisprudence of Private Law in Weimar Republic.



Tomohiro Inagaki is Professor in the Information Media Center at Hiroshima University and chair of Pugwash Japan. Prof. Inagaki's research focuses on fundamental questions in theoretical physics, including the origin of the universe and the nature of dark matter and dark energy. He has also developed teaching materials for physics education using tools like ActionScript



Hae-Won Jun is the Director General of the Department of North American and European Studies and a Professor at the Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security (IFANS) of the Korea National Diplomatic Academy (KNDA), a research and training organisation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of South Korea. Her main areas of research are the European Union, European politics, NATO, the EU-Asia relations including the EU-Korea security cooperation, and Korean politics. She received an MSc EU Policy-making from LSE and a DPhil in Politics from the University of Oxford.



Natsuki Kai is a peace ambassador at Hiroshima high school.

Yumi Kanazaki is the director of the Hiroshima Peace Media Center of the Chugoku Shimibun. She began her career as a journalist at the Chugoku Shimibun in 1995 and has served in her current role since 2020. Ms. Kanazaki was a co-recipient of the 2017 Japanese Association of Science and Technology Journalists (JASTJ) Grand Award for the series "Gray Area: Effects of Exposure to Low-Level Radiation." She led the reporting team for the series "Striving to Fill Voids in Hiroshima 75 Years After the Atomic Bombing," which won the Japan Newspaper Publishers & Editors Association Award in 2020. In 2025, the Hiroshima Peace Media Center received the Freedom of the Press Award (Japan Award Honorable Mention) from the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan. Ms. Kanazaki co-authored Setsuko Thurlow's autobiography Crawl Towards the Light: Seeking a World Without Nuclear Weapons, published by Iwanami Shoten.



Shigenori Kanehira is a journalist and Visiting Professor at Waseda University Graduate School. Part-time lecturer at Okinawa International University. Born in Asahikawa City, Hokkaido in 1953. Joined TBS (TOKYO BROADCASTING SYSTEM TELEVISION, INC.) in 1977. Since then, he has held various positions at TBS, including Moscow Bureau Chief, Washington Bureau Chief, Editor-in-Chief of "Tetsuya Tsukushi NEWS23," and Director of the News Department. He served as the anchor of "Hodo Tokushu" (News Special) from 2010 to September 2022. He received the Vaughn-Ueda Memorial International Journalist Award in 2004 and the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan's "Freedom of the Press Award" in 2022. His numerous books include "Okinawa Wajiwaji Tsushin" and "Tetsuya Tsukushi NEWS23 and Its Era." His translated work includes "Facts Are Facts, It's the Truth."



Saeed Khatibzadeh is Deputy Minister and President of the Institute for Political and International Studies (IPIS) at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He is former Ambassador of Iran to Croatia and since 2000 a career civil servant in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



Anton Khlopkov is Director of the Center for Energy and Security Studies (CENESS). He is also Director and Co-Chair of the Moscow Nonproliferation Conference, and Chair of the Advisory Board for the Master Program on Strategic Studies at the St. Petersburg State University. He is a Member of the U.N. Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters and Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR). Before CENESS, he worked for almost 10 years in the Center for Policy Studies in Russia (PIR Center), including as Executive Director. Mr. Khlopkov is the editor-in-chief and co-author of the 'Nuclear Nonproliferation Encyclopedia' and co-editor of the report 'DPRK Strategic Capabilities and Security on the Korean Peninsula: Looking Ahead'. Among his publications are 'Iran's Nuclear Program in the Russia-US Relations' (author), 'Restoring the Effectiveness of the JCPOA: Principles and Approaches', 'A View from Russia' (co-author), and 'Prospects for Nuclear Power in the Middle East: Russia's Interests' (co-author).



Nasser Al-Kidwa is a prominent member of Fatah as well as member of the Palestinian National Council (PNC). A graduate of Cairo University's Faculty of Medicine, Dr. Al-Kidwa served as the PLO/Palestine Observer to the United Nations in New York from 1991 to 2004, playing a key role in bringing Palestine's case against Israel's Wall to the International Court of Justice in 2003-2004. In 2005, he became the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Palestinian National Authority. In 2012, he was appointed as Deputy Special Envoy of the UN-LAS Joint Special Mission for Syria under the leadership of Kofi Annan. He also served in 2014-2015 as the League of Arab States Special Envoy to Libya. In 2021, he founded the National Democratic Assembly and headed the "Freedom" list for the Palestinian elections that were arbitrarily cancelled. Both the creation of the NDA and of the "Freedom" list led to an illegal expulsion from the Fatah Central Committee and removal as Head of the Yasser Arafat Foundation. In 2024, conclusion of a Joint Proposal with the former Israeli Prime Minister, Ehud Olmert, for a political solution. Dr. Al-Kidwa is presently a member of the Board of the International Crisis Group.



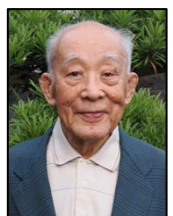
Pavlo Klimkin is a nonresident senior fellow in the Russia and Eurasia Program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. He served as the foreign minister of Ukraine from 2014 to 2019. Klimkin joined the Ukrainian foreign service in 1993 and worked on a variety of portfolios, including arms control, nuclear disarmament and safety, nonproliferation, energy security, and EU and NATO affairs. He served at Ukraine's embassies in London and Berlin, including as ambassador to Germany from 2012 to 2014. Klimkin led Ukraine's negotiating team for the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement. Prior to his diplomatic career, Klimkin worked as a researcher in the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences. He holds degrees in physics and mathematics. Klimkin is a member of the boards of the Come Back Alive Foundation and the Renaissance Foundation.



Yasuyoshi Komizo is a freelance communicator for Peace. His former professional positions include: Chairperson, Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation (2013-2019), Secretary General, Mayors for Peace (2013-2019), Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the State of Kuwait (2010-2012), Ambassador of Japan to the International Organizations in Vienna (2008-2010), Director, International Nuclear Energy Cooperation Division, MOFA (2004-2008), Senior Assistant for Legal Affairs, Treaties Bureau, MOFA (2002-2004), and Special Assistant to Mohamed ElBaradei, Director General of the International Atomic Energy (IAEA) (1997-2002).



Michiji Konuma is Professor Emeritus at both Keio University and Tokyo City University. A theoretical physicist specializing in particle physics, he is former President of the Physical Society of Japan, former President of the Association of Asia Pacific Physical Societies, and a founding member of Pugwash Japan in 1957. He first participated in Pugwash at the 14th Conference, taking place in Venice, Italy, in 1975. He subsequently served on the Pugwash Council from 1992-2002. In his career he has been a visiting professor at Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa, and the Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium, as well as a full professor at Keio University and Musashi Institute of Technology, Tokyo, where he was also Dean.



Yoshiko Kurita is professor of Middle East history in the Faculty of Letters at Chiba University. Her work explores the dynamics of social change, popular resistance, and political shifts in the Middle East following the 19th-century colonial era. Prof. Kurita is a former president of the Japanese Association for Middle Eastern Studies, a former member of the Pugwash Council, and she serves on the Pugwash Advisory Board.



Herb Lin is senior research scholar at the Center for International Security and Cooperation and Research Fellow at the Hoover Institution, both at Stanford University. His research interests relate broadly to the impact of emerging technologies on national security, especially in the digital domain (cyber, artificial intelligence, information warfare and operations), and has written extensively on the role of offensive operations in cyberspace as instruments of national policy. In addition to his positions at Stanford University, he is Chief Scientist, Emeritus for the Computer Science and Telecommunications Board, National Research Council (NRC) of the National Academies, where he served from 1990 through 2014 as study director of major projects on public policy and information technology.



Arnold Luethold is a member of the Pugwash Council. He is former Assistant Director and Head of Operations, Middle East and North Africa, Center for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF) in Geneva. His career has been focused on research, consulting, and capacity-building related to security sector reform (SSR) and good governance in the Middle East and Africa, with a special focus on the Arab region.



Kazumi Matsui is the Mayor of Hiroshima, first elected in 2011 and re-elected for a further three consecutive terms. He serves as the president of Mayors for Peace, an organization that brings together 7,700 cities across the globe with the goal of creating a world without nuclear weapons. In August 2025, Matsui delivered the Peace Declaration on the 80th anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, urging global leaders to work towards the abolition of nuclear weapons



Paul Meyer is Fellow in International Security and Adjunct Professor of International Studies at Simon Fraser University, and a Senior Advisor to ICT4Peace. He has served as Chair of the Canadian Pugwash Group from 2017 to 2021 and is currently the Director of the organization. Prior to taking up his current positions in 2011, Mr. Meyer had a 35-year career with the Canadian Foreign Service, with a specialization in international security policy. His diplomatic postings included serving as Canada's Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations and to the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva (2003-2007)



Steven E. Miller is Director of the International Security Program at Harvard University's Belfer Center. He is also Co-Principal Investigator of the Project on Managing the Atom and Editor-in-Chief of the International Security journal. He is a member of the Pugwash Council and a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, where he is a member of their Committee on International Security Studies (CISS). Previously, he was Senior Research Fellow at the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) and taught Defense and Arms Control Studies in the Department of Political Science at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



Ruth Mitchell is a paediatric and adult neurosurgeon and leading voice in humanitarian discourse. Her research interests include brain tumours, skull base surgery, injury prevention and global surgery. She has also published on the impact of artificial intelligence on human health. Dr Mitchell works in Sydney, Australia with a subspecialty interest in epilepsy surgery. She is a passionate medical educator. Dr Mitchell is also an international public speaker on peace, security and equity, a leader in the anti-nuclear movement, and an advocate for diversity and inclusion in surgery, and science. She chairs the board of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW) (Nobel Peace Prize 1985), the first woman to hold this role, and has provided leadership to the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) (Nobel Peace Prize 2017) since its inception in 2007. Her commitment to health equity and global surgery has led to current board roles with the Children First Foundation and the Foundation for Surgery of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons.



Yuko Murakami is Professor in the Graduate School of Artificial Intelligence and Science at Rikkyo University. She obtained her Ph.D. (Indiana University, Philosophy) focusing on philosophical logic of actions and moral reasoning. She is currently working on philosophical analysis of social issues of information technology with perspectives from philosophy and history of science and technology.



Keiko Nakamura is Keiko Nakamura is an Associate Professor at the Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition (RECNA), Nagasaki University. Before joining RECNA in 2012, she served as a researcher and Secretary-General at Peace Depot, a Yokohama-based non-profit organization dedicated to nuclear disarmament and peacebuilding. Her current work focuses on analyzing global trends in nuclear disarmament and on advancing both practical initiatives and theoretical research in peace and disarmament education. Her recent publications include the co-edited volume *Getting to Nuclear Zero in Northeast Asia: The Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone as a Vehicle for Change* (Routledge, 2025).



Götz Neuneck is Chair of the Federation of German Scientists (VDW) and Chair of the Pugwash Council. Until 2019, he was Deputy Director of the Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy IFSH at the University of Hamburg and Head of the Interdisciplinary Research Group Arms Control and Disarmament (IFAR²). Trained as a physicist at the University Düsseldorf, he received his PhD. in mathematics at the University of Hamburg. Since 2007 he is a Professor Emeritus at the Faculty of Mathematics, Informatics and Natural Sciences at the University of Hamburg. Since 2001 he is also a speaker of the Working Group “Physics and Disarmament” of the German Physical Society.



Mitsuo Ochi is the President of Hiroshima University. An orthopedic surgeon by profession, he has held the position since April 1, 2015. As president, he has promoted a "peace-pursuing spirit" at Hiroshima University. He also hosts the University Presidents for Peace Conference, which brings together university leaders from around the world to discuss peacebuilding through education. He has been awarded the Science Council of Japan President's Award, the Medal with Purple Ribbon from the Emperor of Japan, and the Commendation for Science and Technology from the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.



Keiko Ogura is a prominent hibakusha (atomic bomb survivor) of Hiroshima who has become a leading interpreter, guide, and activist dedicated to telling her story and advocating for a world without nuclear weapons. In 1984, she founded the Hiroshima Interpreters for Peace (HIP), a citizen's group that guides and informs international visitors about the realities of the atomic bombing. She has spoken to international audiences in over 50 countries, including meeting with G7 world leaders during their summit in Hiroshima in 2023. In 2011, she was appointed an official A-bomb storyteller by the Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation, and she has published several books, including guides to Hiroshima and its Peace Park.



Ehud Olmert served as Prime Minister of the State of Israel from 2006 to 2009. Born in 1945 in Israel, he is a graduate of the Hebrew University in Psychology, Philosophy and Law. He served in the Israeli Knesset from 1973 - 2009 and was elected twice the Mayor of Jerusalem 1993-1998. He was elected Prime Minister in 2006 as the leader of Kadima. He led Israel during the Second Lebanon War. His primary priority as Prime Minister was a peace agreement with the Palestinians. In November 2007 he attended the Annapolis Peace Conference led by President George W. Bush, and in 2008 he proposed the Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas peace on the basis of the two states solution. Olmert has agreed together with Dr. Nasser Al-Kidwa to propose a framework for a cessation of the war in Gaza and the framework for a two state solution for the Israel - Palestine historical conflict.



Sergey Oznobishchev is head of Military-Political Analyses and Research Projects, Institute for World Economy and International Relations, Russian Academy of Sciences; Professor, Moscow State Institute for International Relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He is Deputy Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the International Luxembourg Forum on Preventing Nuclear Catastrophe; Deputy Chairman of the Association Russia-USA; Member, Council on Foreign and Defense Policy; Member of the Governing Board of the Russian Association of Political Science. Prof. Oznobishchev is formerly Head of the Analytical Directorate, Presidium, Russian Academy of Sciences (1998-2001) and leading scientist, Head of the Section, Director of the Center for International Security, Institute of USA and Canada, Russian Academy of Sciences (1983-1996).



Wolfgang Richter has been working as a security analyst after retirement from military service in 2010. From 2010 to 2022 he was a Senior Associate with the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP) in Berlin. Since 2023 he works as an Associate Fellow with the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP). His research areas and numerous publications cover the European security order including the role of the OSCE, NATO-Russia relations, territorial conflicts, conventional and nuclear arms control, and military strategies. He also published policy papers on the use of armed drones and the use of explosive weapons in populated areas (EWIPA). In 2009, he contributed to the Independent International Fact Finding Mission on the Conflict in Georgia (IIFFMCG). In his military career as a general staff officer in the German Federal Armed Forces he dealt with strategic planning, nuclear deterrence and conventional defence concepts, military tasks and capabilities of the Bundeswehr, and arms control issues.



Alan Robock is a Distinguished Professor of climate science in the Department of Environmental Sciences at Rutgers University. His areas of expertise include climate intervention (also called geoengineering), and the climatic effects of nuclear war and volcanic eruptions. He is the co-founder and co-leader of the Geoengineering Model Intercomparison Project (GeoMIP). He serves as Editor of Reviews of Geophysics, the most highly-cited journal in the Earth Sciences. His honors include being a Fellow of the American Geophysical Union, the American Meteorological Society (AMS), and the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and a recipient of the AMS Jule Charney Medal. Prof. Robock was a Lead Author of the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007). In 2022, Prof. Robock was a winner of the Future of Life Award, "For reducing the risk of nuclear war by developing and popularizing the science of nuclear winter."



Tilman Ruff AO is a physician, co-founder, founding chair and Australian board member of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (Nobel Peace Prize 2017); board member and past co-president of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (Nobel Peace Prize 1985); Honorary Principal Fellow, School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne; and member of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons Scientific Network. A past president of the Medical Association for Prevention of War (Australia), he was director of travel medicine at Royal Melbourne Hospital, worked on hepatitis B control, immunisation and maternal and child health in Indonesia and Pacific island countries; and documented the link between nuclear tests and outbreaks of ciguatera fish poisoning in the Pacific. He was Australian Red Cross international medical advisor 1996-2019 and a founding member of WHO's Western Pacific Expert Resource Panel on Hepatitis B Control.



Hisako Sakiyama is Chair of the Board of Directors, the 3.11 Fund for Children with Thyroid Cancer. She served as a member of the National Diet of Japan Fukushima Nuclear Accident Independent Investigation Commission. She received her M.D. and Ph.D. from Chiba University School of Medicine and was a research associate in the department of biochemistry at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) (1968-1972). She was a senior researcher at the National Institute of Radiological Sciences (NIRS), working on cancer cell biology (1975-2000).



Manpreet Sethi is Distinguished Fellow at the Centre for Aerospace Power and Strategic Studies, New Delhi, and Senior Research Advisor, Asia Pacific Leadership Network. Since receiving her doctorate in 1997, she has worked on nuclear energy, strategy, missile defence, arms control, nuclear risk reduction & disarmament. She is author/co-author/editor of nine books and 140 papers. She is member of the Science and Security Board, Bulletin of Atomic Scientists which sets the Doomsday Clock; Co-chair, Women in Nuclear-India; Board Member, Missile Dialogue Initiative, IISS. Dr. Sethi is a recipient of K Subrahmanyam award (2014), Commendation by Chief of Air Staff (2020) and Commendation by Commander-in-Chief, Strategic Forces Command (2022).



Hussain Al-Shahristani is the President of the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs. A graduate of Imperial College London and the University of Toronto, he started his professional life as a nuclear scientist at the Iraqi Atomic Energy Commission in 1970. Dr. Al-Shahristani was imprisoned after refusing to work on Saddam Hussein's nuclear weapons program. He spent ten years in solitary confinement at Abu-Ghraib prison, escaping to Iran and then Britain during the 1991 Gulf War. During the 1990s and early 2000s, Al-Shahristani was deeply involved in humanitarian work, providing aid to and campaigning for justice for the Iraqi people. He founded the Gulf War Victims organisation and served on the Iraqi Refugees Relief Council. After the fall of Saddam, Dr Al-Shahristani served as First Deputy Chairman in the Transitional National Assembly of Iraq, before holding ministerial roles in the government of Iraq, including as Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq for Energy Affairs, Minister of Oil and a former Minister of Higher Education. He was awarded the "Freedom from Fear 2012", one of the Four Freedoms Award by the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute.



Khaled Shamaa is a career diplomat of the Egyptian foreign Service, who served as Permanent Representative to International Organizations in Vienna, Ambassador to Austria, Mexico and Belize, as negotiator on disarmament, non-proliferation and trans-national threats and as chair of the UN Commission on Drugs. In his 30-year career, he held a variety of portfolios related to multilateral affairs, international security, disarmament, and sustainable development. He is a member of the Pugwash Council.



Katariina Simonen is Adjunct Professor at the National Defence University (Finland) and a Visiting Researcher at the Department of World Cultures, University of Helsinki. Katariina is also Pugwash Council Member as well as Ministerial Advisor for the Finnish Government. She has held various advisory positions in Government and in the EU and NATO. Her LL.D. degree is from University of Turku (2010), in the field of public international law. Her current research interests include law of armed conflict, arms control and humanitarian law.



Jennifer Allen Simons C.M., Ph.D., LL.D is an award-winning educator, thought leader and nuclear disarmament specialist. As Founder and President of The Simons Foundation Canada, an innovative private foundation based in Vancouver, Dr. Simons has pioneered research, advocacy and action in advancing nuclear disarmament, peace, human rights and global co-operation, and regularly speaks on nuclear disarmament issues at international conferences and other events. Dr. Simons is active within academic circles, serving as Adjunct Professor with Simon Fraser University's (SFU) School for International Studies, and Senior Fellow and Dialogue Associate at SFU's Centre for Dialogue.



Sharon Squassoni is a research professor at the Institute for International Science and Technology Policy, Elliott School of International Affairs, at the George Washington University. She has specialized in nuclear non-proliferation, arms control and security policy for three decades, serving in the US government at the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, the State Department, and the Congressional Research Service. A political scientist by training, she holds degrees from the State University of New York at Albany, the University of Maryland, and the National War College.



Mark B. M. Suh is a Pugwash Council member and political scientist from South Korea. He was a senior researcher and Korea Projects Coordinator at the Free University of Berlin until his retirement in 2012, teaching courses on East Asian security issues for more than 20 years. He was a visiting scholar in 2013 at the Institute for Security and Development Policy (ISDP), Stockholm, and is a member of the German Council on Foreign Relations. Dr. Suh visited the DPRK for the first time in April 2001 with Sir Joseph Rotblat and has been to the DPRK 17 times until 2020. He successfully conducted many capacity building projects, mainly in workshops or seminars, in Vietnam, Mongolia and China for DPRK scientists on energy and environmental issues.



Elisabeth I-Mi Suh volunteers, in her private capacity, for International Students/Young Pugwash (ISYP). She is a PhD Fellow with the Institute for Peace Studies and Security Policy at the University of Hamburg (IFSH) with her graduation pending. In her official capacity, Betty works for the conventional/humanitarian arms control division at the German Federal Foreign Office. Previously, she analysed nuclear arms control and non-proliferation at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP), the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP) and the Peace Research Institute Frankfurt (PRIF).



Tatsujiro Suzuki is President of a non-profit organization "Peace Depot" and a Visiting Professor of Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition at Nagasaki University (RECNA), Japan. Before joining RECNA, he was a Vice Chairman of Japan Atomic Energy Commission (JAEC) of the Cabinet Office from January 2010 to March 2014. Until then, he was an Associate Vice President of the Central Research Institute of Electric Power Industry in Japan (1996-2009) and an Associate Director of MIT's International Program on Enhanced Nuclear Power Safety from 1988-1993 and a Research Associate at MIT's Center for International Studies (1993-95). He is now a member of Advisory Board of Parliament's Special Committee on Nuclear Energy since June 2017. He is a Council Member of Pugwash Conferences on Science and



World Affairs (2007-09 and from 2014-present). He is also a non-resident Senior Fellow at UN Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) since 2024. Dr. Suzuki has a PhD in nuclear engineering from Tokyo University (1988).

Hiroko Takahashi is Professor in the Department of History, Faculty of Letters, Nara University; Steering Committee Member, Japan Pugwash Conference; Associate Member, Science Council of Japan; Council Member, Peace Studies Association of Japan; Research Fellow, International Peace Research Institute Meiji Gakuin University; Member, Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum Research Committee; Completed graduate studies at Doshisha University. Ph.D. (Cultural History). Major publications: (in Japanese) *Classified Hiroshima and Nagasaki (封印されたヒロシマ・ナガサキ*, rev. expanded ed., Gaifu-Sha, 2012); (in English) “Continuing Nuclear Tests and Ending Fish Inspections: Politics, Science, and the Lucky Dragon Incident” (Living in a Nuclear World: From Fukushima to Hiroshima, co-author, 2022) and “One Minute after the Detonation of the Atomic Bomb: The Erased Effects of Residual Radiation,” *Historia Scientiarum*, 2009).



Terumi Tanaka is Co-Chairperson of the Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations (Nihon Hidankyo). He was born in northeastern China (former Manchuria) in 1932. On August 9, 1945, when a first-year student at Nagasaki Junior High School, Mr. Tanaka experienced the atomic bombing of Nagasaki at a distance of 3.2 kilometers from the hypocenter. Five of his family members who had been near the hypocenter at the time were killed in the bombing, and he personally cremated his aunt's remains in an open field. He began teaching and conducting research at the School of Engineering of Tohoku University in 1960, reaching mandatory retirement age as an associate professor in March 1997. He taught at Jumonji Junior College as a professor until March 2003, when he fully retired, and now serves in the role as professor emeritus. Mr. Tanaka has been involved in the A-bomb survivors' movement since 1974, serving on the board of directors of the Atomic Bomb Survivors Association in Miyagi Prefecture and of Nihon Hidankyo. He assumed the post of Secretary General of Nihon Hidankyo in June 2000 and as Co-Chairperson in June 2017. He has worked to testify about the reality of the atomic bombings both in Japan and overseas, including at the first United Nations Special Session on Disarmament in 1978. When Nihon Hidankyo received the Nobel Peace Prize in 2024, Mr. Tanaka delivered the acceptance speech at the award ceremony.



Talia Weiss is the director of International Student/Young Pugwash (ISYP) and a Physics PhD student at Yale University. She received a B.S. in Physics from MIT and an M.A. in Political Science from the University of Chicago, where her thesis investigated how scientists who developed gene editing technologies viewed the ethics of their research. Talia created the Kimball Smith Series in 2021, an ongoing program at Yale which tackles issues at the intersection of science, ethics, and global affairs, ranging from nuclear weapons risks to AI policy. She previously developed a similar program for the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists. In 2023, Talia was a Next-Generation Fellow of the Physicists Coalition for Nuclear Threat Reduction. She has written and guest-lectured on nuclear weapons and energy, the history of scientific responsibility and self-regulation, and the case of Nazi nuclear physicists.



Itamar Yaar is the CEO of Commanders for Israel's Security, a movement of retired security officials committed to securing Israel's future as the strong democratic home of the Jewish people as part of a two-state solution with the Palestinian people. Col. Yaar had a thirty-year career with the Israel Defense Forces before serving as the Deputy Head of the National Security Council and Head of the Defense and Security Policy Division, leading the National Security Net Assessment process and policy development, strategic threats, defense and security, domestic security, technology and demography. Yaar is a member of the Open University Council, and taught Public Policy as part of an international master degree program, in Tel-Aviv university. He is a graduate of the British Royal College of Defence Studies RCDS (London).



Hidehiko Yuzaki is the outgoing governor of Hiroshima Prefecture. He was first elected governor of Hiroshima in 2009 and went on to win three subsequent elections. As governor, Yuzaki has been a prominent voice for nuclear disarmament. In 2011, he launched the "Hiroshima for Global Peace" project to promote nuclear abolition. He also played a key role in hosting the G7 Summit in Hiroshima in 2023.



M. Javad Zarif is the Founder and President of PAIAB and an Associate Professor of Global Studies at the University of Tehran. He served as the Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran between 2013-2021. He is also a former Vice President for Strategic Affairs and former Permanent Representative of Iran to the United Nations.



Tong Zhao is a Senior Fellow at the Nuclear Policy Program and the China Center of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Formerly based in Beijing, he now conducts research in Washington on nuclear deterrence, non-proliferation, arms control, emerging military technologies, China's security policy, and regional security in the Asia-Pacific. With a technical background, he also serves as a non-resident researcher with Princeton University's Science and Global Security Program.



CONFERENCE WORKING GROUPS

(7.5 hours total working time)

Convenors of working groups are responsible for organizing an agenda and managing the discussions

Working Group 1: Nuclear disarmament and the future of arms control

Co-convenors: **Alexander Nikitin** (Russia) & **Steve Miller** (USA)

Working Group 2: Nuclear Energy and Non-Proliferation

Co-convenors: **Manpreet Sethi** (India) & **Reza Ziaran** (Iran)

Working Group 3: Asia-Pacific and Nuclear Weapons

Co-convenors: **Masako Ikegami** (Japan) & **Elisabeth Suh** (Germany)

Working Group 4: Conflict and WMD in the Middle East

Co-convenors: **Khaled Shamaa** (Egypt) & **Jan Hoekema** (Netherlands)

Working Group 5: European Security

Co-convenors: **Cliff Kupchan** (USA) & **Thomas Jonter** (Sweden)

Working Group 6: Emerging Technologies and their implications for conflict

Co-convenors: **Stewart Prager** (USA) & **Sibylle Bauer** (Germany)

