

Announcement

Symposium on the Non-Proliferation Treaty Nuclear Disarmament, Non-proliferation, and Energy Fresh Ideas for the Future

New York, 28 April 2015

The ninth Review Conference of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) will be held at the UN Headquarters in New York from April 27-May 22, 2015. This is the fourth such conference since the indefinite extension of the NPT in 1995. Participating governments will discuss nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation, and the peaceful use of nuclear energy with a view to arriving at consensus on a number of issues.

Academic experts contribute to the review process through the generation of new ideas and concepts. Also, while governments are oftentimes bound by political and other practical constraints, scholars can contemplate issues more independently and with a longer time horizon.

For that reason, the Netherlands government has taken the initiative to organize, together with the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs of Harvard University, and the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies at the Monterey Institute an academic symposium at the start of the 2015 Review Conference, to take place on April 28.

The main purpose of this event is to gather a view of worldwide research related to the NPT and to learn from scholars about present and future challenges and opportunities. The symposium aims to bring together early-career scholars from around the world to present their work on the three pillars of the treaty to members of the participating delegations and other review conference attendees. The symposium will help to expand the international network of researchers studying the NPT and strengthen future decision making with new ideas and knowledge.

The symposium will be a one-day event with panel discussions, poster board presentations, and a high level panel. The event will include lunch and a concluding reception. All three pillars of the NPT will be covered. The details of the program will be announced closer to the date of the event. The venue will be the ECOSOC room in the Headquarters of the United Nations in New York.

The Netherlands Government will offer support for travel and accommodations to selected participants who are invited either to give a presentation on one of the panels, or a poster board presentation. UNODA will publish papers from the symposium. The academic co-sponsors will select the presenters. For those interested in possibly participating as a presenter, please send an email by January 31, 2015 to atom@hks.harvard.edu. Those who register their interest will receive more detailed instructions on how to submit a paper/poster proposal.



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