

BISA Global Nuclear Order Working Group Annual Conference 2021

Reassessing Key Debates in the Nuclear Field

King's College London
02-03 December 2021 (online)

Programme

Day 1 Thursday 2 December 2021

12.00 Welcome from BISA GNO, update on working group activities

12.15-1.55pm Panel 1: Reassessing uncertainty and stability as core nuclear concepts
(Chair: Laura Considine)

- **James Johnson** - *Inadvertent Escalation in the Age of Intelligence Machines: A new model for nuclear risk in the digital age.*
- **Artur Honich** - *The Overlooked Pillar of U.S. Missile Defense: Assessing the Conceptual Issues with 'Left-Of-Launch' Operations.*
- **Henrietta Wilson** - *Verification: How Much is Too Much? Can Open Source Research Revolutionise Nuclear Nonproliferation and Disarmament?*
- **Robin Vanderborght** - *Strategic stability as a social construct: how international practices produce an ever-evolving understanding of one of the nuclear field's core concepts.*
- **Fabian Hoffmann** - *Reconsidering Conventional-Nuclear Integration: From Capability to Function.*

2.00-3.30pm Panel 2 - Rethinking deterrence and the nuclear future
(Chair: Patricia Shamai)

- **Lyndon Burford** - *At the nuclear Hotel California: the prison of nuclear deterrence.*
- **Paul Schulte** - *"New (?) Terminology in The Moral and Strategic Debate over the Nuclear Future.*
- **Aylin Matle** - *The possible merits and pitfalls of a sole purpose policy for NATO.*
- **Kjølv Egeland** - *The "Cosmic Bluff" Revisited. Extended Nuclear Deterrence in the U.S.–Norway Alliance.*

3.30-3.45pm Break

3.45-5.30pm Panel 3 - Strategy, culture and identity in the nuclear state

(Chair: Nicola Leveringhaus)

- **Geoffrey Chapman** - *Sub-strategic Trident: Material Change or Mirage?*
- **Emily Ferris and Luba Zatssepina** - *Russian Strategic Culture: Implications for Arms Control Futures.*
- **Thomas Fraise** - *Democracy, secrecy and the nuclear state: how do nuclear weapons affect democratic states?*
- **Tim Street** - *Nuclear disarmament: democratise or perish?*
- **Ann George** - *Constructing the China threat: the Indian strategic community's interpretation of Chinese HGV tests.*

5.30pm End of Day 1

Day 2 Friday 3 December 2021

9.15-9.30am Welcome back

9.30-11.00am Panel 4 – Narrative, discourse and gender as means to rethink the nuclear world (Chair: Patricia Shamai)

- **Laura Considine** - *Narrative and nuclear weapons politics: the power of the nuclear origin myth*
- **Benoit Pelopidas** - *Imagining the possibility of nuclear war to confront it. The role of fiction since 1950.*
- **Carolina Panico** - *Less violent and more responsible possessors? The role of disarmament discourses in upholding the nuclear status quo.*
- **Abhishek Sharma** – *Engendering the negotiations on nuclear disarmament: locating and analysing the gender element in the negotiations.*

11.00-11.15am Break

11.15-12.45pm Panel 5 – Contextualising approaches to nuclear disarmament

(Chair: Rhys Crilley)

- **Ramesh Balakrishnan** - *The US "Creating an Environment for Nuclear Disarmament (CEND)" disarmament initiative and the prospects for global nuclear disarmament.*
- **Joelien Pretorius** - *Situating the Nuclear Ban Treaty in the context of outlawing war.*
- **Tobias Vestner** - *Treaty law to signal to outsiders: The case of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.*
- **David Morales** - *The impacts of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and its contributions to the Nuclear-Weapons-Free Zones.*

12.45-1.00pm Closing remarks

All are welcome to join. Please register for the event at:
<https://www.bisa.ac.uk/members/working-groups/gno/events/reassessing-key-debates-nuclear-field>