



Addressing Extremism, Regional Instabilities & WMD Risks:

A Symposium on the 20th Anniversary of the Awarding of the Pugwash/Rotblat Nobel Peace Prize



**18 December 2015, Kohn Room,
The Royal Society
6-9 Carlton House Terrace,
London SW1Y 5AG
09.30 - 13.30**

Including sessions on the imperative of
'Dialogues Across Divides' during the Cold War,
and today in the Middle East and South Asia

**No pre-regisgration
needed for the
LIVE webcast:
www.pugwash.org
18 Dec -09.30 - 13.30**

**Featuring A Special Keynote Address by H.E.
Hussain Al-Shahristani.** Minister for Higher
Education, Iraq, who spent more than a decade
as a political prisoner in Abu Ghraib prison
under the regime of Saddam Hussein for his
refusal to help build an atomic weapon

**For those attending in person:
RSVP: sandra@pugwash.org**





Addressing Extremism, Regional Instabilities & WMD Risks

18 December, The Royal Society, London

Provisional Programme

9.00 – Coffee

SPECIAL WEBCAST SESSION BEGINS

09.30 – 09.45 – Welcome Pugwash Secretary General Paolo Cotta-Ramusino and British Pugwash Chair Christopher Watson



09.45 – 10.45 - “Dialogue Across Divides: The 20th Anniversary of the Pugwash/Rotblat Nobel Peace Prize and the 60th Anniversary of the Russell Einstein Manifesto” with British Pugwash Executive Committee Member Professor Kit Hill and Pugwash Executive Director Sandra Ionno Butcher



10.45– 11.45 – “WMD and the Middle East – What’s Next with Pugwash Council member Dr. Patricia Lewis, Pugwash Council Member and other speakers t.b.c.



11.45 – 12.30 – “Addressing Extremism and Nuclear Risks in South Asia” with Pugwash Secretary General Paolo Cotta-Ramusino, discussing the Pugwash Doha Dialogues involving the Taliban



12.30 - 13.30 - SPECIAL KEYNOTE

ADDRESS “Fighting Against Weapons of Mass Destruction and Extremism in the Middle East: A Personal Journey, A Regional Imperative” by H.E. Hussain Al-Shahristani. Minister for Higher Education, Iraq.



Dr. Al-Shahristani has served previously in several posts, including as Deputy Prime Minister for Energy Affairs, Minister of Oil, member of the Iraqi Parliament, and as First Deputy Chairman of the Iraqi National Assembly. He has been a Professor at Baghdad University and a Visiting Professor at Surrey University in the UK, and is former Head of the Iraqi National Academy of Sciences. Dr. Al-Shahristani spent more than a decade (1979-1991) as a political prisoner in Abu Ghraib prison under the regime of Saddam Hussein. First arrested for his opposition to the government's persecution of political opponents and kept captive after his refusal to help the regime build an atomic weapon, he escaped during a bombing raid on Baghdad during the First Gulf War. He is the 2012 Laureate of the Freedom from Fear Award.

Comment by Dr. Rim Turkmani, a Syrian astrophysicist, Founder of Madani, an NGO that supports the role of Syrian civil society in the peacebuilding of Syria, Research Fellow LSE, former Hodgkin Fellow, Royal Society



CONCLUSION OF OPEN SESSION AND WEBCAST

13.30 - 16.30 - Lunch and closed roundtable discussion exploring next steps and policy options, Chatham House/Pugwash rules. (Please note due to space limitations, lunch & roundtable is special invitation only)

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.

Through meetings and projects that bring together scientists, experts, and policy makers, 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 reduce the risk 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.

www.pugwash.org



British Pugwash

British Pugwash uses the best scientific expertise, including from Pugwash's international network, to inform the government and the public about issues relating to weapons of mass destruction – especially nuclear weapons and nuclear power – issues of war and peace, the environment and the social responsibility of scientists. The British Pugwash Group is a membership organisation that brings together scientists and others concerned with international affairs and disarmament. There is a particular focus on encouraging engagement of young people, especially young scientists.

www.britishpugwash.org

Centre for International Studies & Diplomacy, SOAS

The Centre for International Studies and Diplomacy (CISD) is committed to the promotion of excellence in teaching, scholarship and research. Through varied degree programmes and course offerings, as well a range of extra-curricular activities, the Centre's aim is to deliver cross-disciplinary teaching and learning that combines an understanding of key concepts, theories and debates with effective practical skills training. Drawing on the academic expertise of both the Centre and SOAS departments of Law, Politics, and Economics, and leveraging SOAS' distinctive regional expertise, CISD programmes seek to look beyond the traditional Western-centric approach.

www.cisd.soas.ac.uk