

PUGWASH CONFERENCES ON SCIENCE AND WORLD AFFAIRS

Nobel Peace Prize 1995



Message from the new President

On 29 August 2017, former UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, Amb. Sergio Duarte, became the new President of Pugwash.

In the field of global affairs, Pugwash is an organization of huge prestige. Throughout my time working in the Foreign Service of Brazil and for the United Nations, Pugwash was a name synonymous with efforts toward disarmament, non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, international security and the maintenance of peace. I am thus honoured to accept the role as President and I look forward to exerting my best efforts to fulfill the Pugwash agenda in the coming years.

I have worked for many years as a diplomat dealing with issues of a global scope. From this experience, I learned that these complex issues require the harmonization of national interests with those of humanity. Enlightened statesmen and national leaders who understood this simple truth have rendered invaluable service to their own people and to mankind as a whole. Over the past few centuries some progress has been achieved in this direction, but much remains to be done.

My challenge is to help find the most effective way to achieve these objectives, with the participation and support of the men and women who make up the membership of Pugwash. I am enthusiastic for the opportunity to work with all Pugwash members, which encompasses scientists, academics, former diplomats like myself, and young people, among others.

This is a task that involves perseverance and a firm belief in the values of humanity to which Pugwash is dedicated.



To the Pugwash Community

The work of Pugwash has never been more relevant. At a time of grave nuclear risks, lack of dialogue and understanding remain crucial problems in many areas. Through track 2 discussions, Pugwash continues to develop and support the use of scientific, evidence-based policymaking to address regions of nuclear danger.

In keeping with its tradition, Pugwash seeks a world free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction. Through our long-standing tradition of “dialogue across divides” that earned us the 1995 Nobel Peace Prize, we foster creative discussions and promote policy development that is cooperative and forward-looking. Over the past two years, the activities of Pugwash have provided the platform for experts to analyze, dissect, and debate the serious obstacles to resolving conflict.

Pugwash was proud to support the Nuclear Ban Treaty and will carry on the work to ensure the implementation of the treaty. Getting to elimination is a long-term activity; while disarmament can take place, there remain areas of the world that can be described as being of ‘nuclear danger’ – relatively new areas where nuclear weapons are present or where there is a serious risk of further nuclear proliferation. We continue to promote dialogue about the security situation across the Middle East, South Asia, and East Asia, ensuring that debates on disarmament and non-proliferation are integrated with an understanding of the complex security environments. We continue to believe that this approach is a fundamental step to facilitate conflict resolution across these regions.

The following pages highlight the many activities that Pugwash and the many Pugwashites across the world have organized. We look forward to pursuing this work in the future, leading toward the 63rd Pugwash International Conference to be held in Yerevan, Armenia in August 2019.

Paolo Cotta-Ramusino, Secretary General of Pugwash



62ND PUGWASH CONFERENCE ASTANA, 25-29 AUGUST 2017

Sixty years after convening the first conference, Pugwash held its 62nd conference in Astana, Kazakhstan, on “Confronting New Nuclear Dangers.”

More than 250 people were gathered in the Kazakh capital city of Astana for the 62nd Pugwash Conference. Participants included government officials, former government or diplomatic representatives, scientists, and opinion leaders from over 30 countries, as well as young Pugwashites from science and academia. The first day’s proceedings were held in the impressive Palace of Peace and Reconciliation that allowed for a further 200 members of the public to attend.

The conference was opened with speeches by Pugwash officials, the Chairman of the Senate of the Parliament of the Kazakhstan and the UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs. This was immediately followed by a presentation by Dr. Lassina Zerbo, the Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Organization, who pointed to Kazakhstan as a country having suffered so grievously from nuclear exposino tests and subsequently has set an example of pushing for the abolition of nuclear testing and weapons.

“It feels really enlivening to be around people who share the goal of making the world safer through science and international cooperation.”

Dr Lassina Zerbo,
Executive Secretary of the Preparatory
Commission of the CTBTO



The opening day also saw the 5th Simons Symposium, sponsored by The Simons Foundation Canada and focused on “Prospects for Nuclear Disarmament.” Pugwash was proud to host HE Elaine Whyte Gómez, who had served as President of the UN Conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading to their total elimination. The ‘Ban Treaty’ and its likely effects for disarmament were debated by a number of experts joining her on the panel. This was followed by experts from Iran, Egypt, and Kazakhstan discussing the issue long-stadning objective of a Middle East weapons of mass destruction free zone. Subsequently, former officials from India, Pakistan, and Israel took part in a panel exploring new nuclear dangers. These panels all emphasized the Pugwash tradition of reducing nuclear risks through dialogue and conflict resolution.

The second day of the conference began with a discussion of the security situation in North East Asia. In particular, the North Korean nuclear standoff was a key focus, with participants noting that misperceptions on both sides risked escalation to a larger-scale conflict. There followed the traditional report by the Secretary-General on the priorities and activities of Pugwash. The third and final panel of the day looked at moving toward peace in Afghanistan. Participants discussed the possible changes to US policy under a new President, as well as the various domestic challenges coming from the stand-off between the Government of Afghanistan and the Taliban.

The first panel on day three of the conference focused on the threat posed by ISIS/Daesh both to the Middle East and more widely to Europe and beyond. Hussain Al Shahrstani, the former deputy Prime Minister of Iraq, provided a keynote address on what the challenges are in facing down extremist ideologies and hteir appeal to the disenfranchised youth in different regions. The following panel convened six eminent experts from Central Asian countries to discuss the various common security problems of the region. In particular, the threat of ISIS/Daesh was seen as a future challenge that cannot be ignored while focusing on the economic development of the region.

The fourth day of the conference hosted a plenary session that marked the end of the tenure of Jayantha Dhanapala as President of Pugwash. In his valedictory speech he noted the opportunity that the Nuclear Ban Treaty has for Pugwash to continue its work on nuclear disarmament with innovative strategies.

This was followed by a special discussion event with Sam Nunn and Ernest Moniz to explore reducing global nuclear dangers. They drew upon their broad and extensive involvement in a range of non-proliferation and disarmament measures in a lively Q&A session with the audience.

“The situation with JCPOA implementation risks a very quick deterioration and it is quite easy to imagine the setbacks to international and regional security.”

Hon. Sergey Ryabkov,
Deputy Foreign Minister of the
Russian Federation



On the final morning of the conference, the Deputy Foreign Minister of Russia, Sergey Ryabkov, spoke on the issue of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action. He noted that, after two years of implementation by Iran and the other parties, there was some concern that the new US administration was undermining the spirit of the agreement in its sanctions policy, and may ultimately withdraw all together. Nonetheless, other panellists argued that Iran, Russia, China, and the European states must continue to abide by the agreement. One possible future solution was subsequently the focus of the following panel, the last of the conference. Three experts discussed the future of civilian nuclear energy and the internationalization of the nuclear fuel cycle. This topic coincided with the opening of the low-enriched uranium fuel bank in Kazakhstan that took place later the same day.

Beside these plenary sessions, participants also engaged in working group sessions throughout the conference, focused on seven key themes on the Pugwash agenda. The first of these explored the UN negotiation process that led to the nuclear weapons ban and how this would contribute to disarmament. The group noted that, beyond prohibition, any serious progress on disarmament would need a global process to reduce the salience of nuclear weapons and undercut deterrence theory. Working group two explored the relationship between civilian nuclear energy and non-proliferation risks. In the context of climate change and new technologies, understanding and exploring the relation between peaceful use of nuclear energy and its proliferation risks is of the utmost importance today in order to prevent future crises such as are on the international agenda today.

Working group three looked at European security, particularly where it concerns arms control issues between Russia and the US/NATO. There was a feeling that the chances of an inadvertent accident or an unwanted conflict are higher than anytime since the end of the Cold War, and the major emphasis must be to rebuild communication and ultimately trust in the diplomatic and track II relationships. A fourth working group explored the serious conflicts taking place throughout the Middle East. The violent and persistent confrontations in Syria, Yemen, and Gaza are all compounded by humanitarian crises and the interventions of external actors. In each case, more emphasis must be placed on political and diplomatic processes of dialogue, rather than pursuing military solutions. Working group five considered South Asia and its two main issues: the challenge of building peace and stability in Afghanistan, and India-Pakistan relations. In Afghanistan, it was felt that neither the government nor

the Taliban will emerge victorious; both parties must thus make some conciliatory moves in negotiations based on values and guarantees. Between India and Pakistan it was clear that dialogue is urgently needed on a range of topics, but that it should not be preconditioned on progress on other areas of mutual interest. Working group six focused on current perceptions on the nuclear program of the DPRK and the knock-on effects to regional dynamics. It was recognized that much work lies ahead for creating conditions in which a more permanent Korean peace agreement can be reached.

The last working group kept to the Pugwash tradition at the interface where science and technology interact with society and policy. In exploring emerging technologies, the group highlighted their often dual-use security risks, which pose obstacles to the formulation of policy and the creation of legal regulatory structures and frameworks. It was felt that the role of independent technical experts in reviewing scientific and technological developments in these areas remains crucial to ensuring proper governance.

Full reports of these discussions
as well as videos of plenaries are
available on the Pugwash website

“From Prohibition of Nuclear Testing toward Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons”

The Astana Declaration of the
Pugwash Council calls upon all
Governments and people of the world
to reflect on the grave and irreversible
ecological and humanitarian
consequences of nuclear weapons.



Featured: Nuclear weapons policy



“Pugwash calls on all States to take this important step toward the achievement of peace and security for all nations and peoples by signing the Prohibition Treaty”

Statement on the opening for signature of the Nuclear Ban Treaty, 18 September 2017

Pugwash seeks a world free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction. Throughout its 60 years of experience, Pugwash has proven its ability to promote arms control and disarmament through a range of mechanisms including small consultations, larger workshops and study groups, publications, and other outreach. The ‘founding’ document of Pugwash, the Russell-Einstein Manifesto of 1955, has consistently been the basis of the Pugwash approach. The Manifesto clearly spells out the correlation between nuclear dangers and war in general. Although the present situation is markedly different from the cold war situation of 1955, the risk that conflicts in different parts of the world may create nuclear dangers is still there.

During the past two years, Pugwash officials have participated in a number of meetings, as well as issuing statements on the various developments on the international scene. In particular, the troubling situation on the Korean Peninsula has drawn several interventions, and there has been a continuing programme of track 2 dialogue on the issue. More generally, Pugwash has consistently advocated for de-escalation in rhetoric between the US and DPRK and called for resumption of high-level engagement along the lines of the six-party talks that had been abandoned.

More generally, Pugwash has continued its work on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. On 26-27 September 2016, Pugwash held a major roundtable meeting to discuss “Security Challenges and Nuclear Weapons in Europe.” Co-hosted with the Centre for International Studies and Diplomacy in London, it gathered 30 European and American experts for discussion of the US nuclear weapons based in Europe, as well as the strategic relationship between Nato and Russia.



Pugwash continues to push for discussion on a WMD-Free Zone for the Middle East as a means to engage all regional states together on arms control. We organized a plenary discussion on the topic hosted by the League of Arab States in Vienna on 4 May 2017 that was attended by more than 75 participants from State Missions, International Organizations, and other experts.

Also in Vienna, Pugwash organized a roundtable meeting on nuclear energy and proliferation risks on 9 May 2017 that incorporated discussion on the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) with Iran and prospects for the internationalization of the nuclear fuel cycle. It was noted that regional stability and non-proliferation could be enhanced by extending some of the JCPOA provisions to the Middle East and beyond it.

Pugwash was involved throughout 2017 in the UN negotiations to prohibit nuclear weapons, that successfully culminated in the ‘Nuclear Ban Treaty’. In particular, new President Sergio Duarte delivered statements on behalf of Pugwash to the proceedings at the UN in New York, as well as organizing a roundtable discussion in June 2017 that focused on the problem of nuclear weapons hosted by non-nuclear weapon states. Pugwash welcomed the Treaty on 7 July, noting that it “established a clear, binding legal norm leading to the complete elimination of nuclear weapons.” Pugwash will continue to push states to sign and ratify the Treaty in order to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons.



Featured: Afghanistan

Throughout 2016-17, Pugwash maintained its efforts to bring together different elements of Afghan society to discuss ways to build a peaceful future in the country. Over many meetings and consultations, Pugwash gathered hundreds of people from all of the provinces of the country. We achieved consensus amongst many parties on some points for inclusion in a possible peace agreement and this document has continued to evolve.

The situation has largely been one of a stalemate between the Government of Afghanistan and the Taliban – in one sense this provided an opportunity to promote dialogue. The Pugwash leadership sensed that momentum must be maintained in this area and, in fact, expanded where possible. There is currently a high level of mistrust and discontent with the Government from across the civil spectrum, but a decisive and concrete advancement in the peace process could induce Afghans to see the

55 senior participants drawn from across the political spectrum of Afghanistan. This followed up on a similar meeting of May 2015.

Within Afghanistan, many meetings have been facilitated by a growing local Afghan group. Pugwash has created a space where all sides can accept the need to better understand one another's vision for the future of the country, particularly in respect of uniting against Daesh (ISIS) and other extremist groups trying to further destabilize the country.

There is an urgent need of a compromise and an agreement in order for weapons to be finally laid down over the entire territory of Afghanistan. Pugwash has consistently promoted a number of ideas that are incorporated in our "19-Point Peace Plan" that is available on our website.



Government in a more positive way. In particular, heavy consideration and discussion were given to the notion of an agreement that could pave the way for a ceasefire by all Taliban (acknowledging that control over disparate forces is a controversial topic in itself). All parties within Afghanistan must be repeatedly engaged if a lasting peace is to be achieved. Pugwash has been able to consult, encourage debate, and convey information and perspectives between senior political and tribal figures within Afghanistan to this end.

Notably, Pugwash organized a large meeting in Doha on 23-24 January 2016, supported by the Qatari Foreign Ministry, gathering together some

Pugwash also included those actors and groups outside of Afghanistan, who will be almost equally important in respecting and maintaining a peaceful political settlement. In particular, due consideration has been given to the relationship with its neighbor Pakistan, bearing in mind the sensitive and hugely precarious possibility of cross-border terrorism. There have therefore been meetings in Pakistan, notably a significant one in Islamabad in November 2016.

The progress of the Pugwash project has been noted by, amongst others, the Wall Street Journal, New York Times, Harper's Magazine, and Reuters, as well as national press in Afghanistan including Tolo, Pahjwok, and New Afghan Press.



Pugwash Secretary General Paolo Cotta-Ramusino with Khalilullah Safi and Karim Khalili, former Vice-President of Afghanistan

Upcoming Pugwash Meetings

- 1 THE NEW NUCLEAR ARMS RACE
A roundtable in the margins of the NPT PrepCom
23 April 2018
- 2 CTBT: BRIDGING THE GAP
A roundtable in the margins of the NPT PrepCom
Geneva, 25 April 2018
- 3 THE FUTURE OF MULTILATERAL DISARMAMENT
A roundtable in the margins of the High Level Conference on Disarmament
New York, 14 May 2018
- 4 4th EURO-PUGWASH MEETING
Coordination of the European Pugwash network on "Facing the Future"
Madrid, 11 June 2018
- 5 63RD PUGWASH CONFERENCE
Yeravan, August 2019 (tbc)

Other Pugwash Activities 2016

- On 6 January 2016, Pugwash Secretary General Paolo Cotta-Ramusino and President Jayantha Dhanapala issued a statement on the nuclear test of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and urged the relevant countries to resume the six-party talks, as well as substantive and productive communication inside the Korean Peninsula.
- From 7-14 January, the 29th ISODARCO Winter Course was held on "Nuclear Governance in A Changing World" in Andalo, Italy.
- From 16-29 February, the Secretary General travelled to Doha to explore a follow-up to the January 2016 meeting. He then went on to Islamabad for further consultations with relevant groups, both Pakistani and Afghan, before reaching Kabul and other Afghan cities.
- On 1 April, the Pugwash President addressed the Convention on Conventional Weapons third informal meeting of experts on lethal autonomous weapons systems, "The security impacts of lethal autonomous weapons systems," in Geneva.
- On 2-3 May, the Canadian Pugwash group organized a series of public and private meetings for the visit of Mr. Kim Wan-soo, High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, United Nations Office of Disarmament Affairs (UNODA). This was under the auspices of Canadians for a Nuclear Weapons Convention (CNWC), and subsequently co-sponsored by Global Affairs Canada.
- Between 6-18 May, the Secretary General travelled to Afghanistan via Doha for further consultations.
- On 15 May, Pugwash published an opinion piece by members of the Japan Pugwash group that welcomed "the courageous decision by the US President Barack Obama to visit Hiroshima on May 27, 2016."



Council member Francesco Lenzi with Sergio Duarte in Castiglione, September 2017

- In May, British Pugwash held a workshop bringing together US and UK scientists involved in developing undersea sensing, communications and robotics. It looked at key technologies, and the future trajectory in acoustic and optical undersea sensing, magnetic anomaly detection, undersea robotic vehicles, artificial intelligence, and undersea communications.
- Between 1-3 June, the Spanish Pugwash National Group organized the 41st CICA International Conference on 'Cyberspace and

the Nuclear Issue', in collaboration with Nebrija University.

- On 3 July, the French Pugwash Group held a conference on "Nuclear Weapons and Disarmament" for about 100 young volunteers of the French Civic Service.
- On 8-12 August, Geneva Office Director Sergey Batsanov participated on behalf of Pugwash at the Preparatory Committee for the 8th Review Conference of the BWC in Geneva, Switzerland.
- On 18 August, prompted by some debate in the US about its own policy, the Pugwash President and Secretary General issued a statement on the adoption of a "no first use" policy by nuclear weapons states.

Reports of many Pugwash meetings and statements are available on the website www.pugwash.org

- On 19 August, the Russian Pugwash Committee jointly with Primakov National Research Institute of World Economy and International Relations (IMEMO RAS) published a collection of scientific articles "Prospects for Arms Control, Disarmament and Nonproliferation: 70 Years after the Hiroshima and Nagasaki Atomic Bombings".
- On 29 August, the Pugwash President spoke at the "International Conference: Building a nuclear-weapon-free world" hosted in Astana.
- On 27 August-18 September, the Secretary General travelled to Afghanistan, Qatar, and Pakistan. On 5 September, there was a major peace Jirga in Kabul of about 300 Afghans in support of the Pugwash document "Points for a possible Peace Agreement."
- On 11 September, the Pugwash President and Secretary General issued a statement on the second nuclear test conducted by the DPRK.
- On 13 September, the British Pugwash group jointly convened a conference on the "Impact of Emerging Technologies on the Future of SSBNs", with BASIC and the University of Leicester, including a special report "Will the Atlantic become transparent" looking at how autonomous vehicles might be employed to detect and track SSBN in the future.
- In September, the 24th political consultation between Pugwash and the DPRK was held in Pyongyang. Council Member Mark Suh has been the lead organizer of these activities since 2001.
- On 10-11 October, Council member Sergey Batsanov spoke at the international conference in Reykjavik to commemorate the 1986 summit meeting between the Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and US President Ronald Reagan.
- On 24 October, Pugwash Japan launched its

new blog, featuring several publications in the new Pugwash Japan History Project.

- On 6-7 November, Pugwash Secretary General Paolo Cotta-Ramusino and Pugwash Executive Committee member Tatsujiro Suzuki visited Astana, Kazakhstan, for further discussions on the modalities of the 2017 Pugwash Conference.
- On 10 November, Geneva Office Director Sergey Batsanov addressed, on behalf of Pugwash, the 8th Review Conference of the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention in Geneva.
- On 18-21 November, the First Meeting of International Panel on Establishing NWFZ in North-East Asia was held in Nagasaki.
- On 24 November, the Russian Pugwash group organized a meeting on "Security and Scientific Cooperation" in Moscow.
- On 30 November, Geneva Office Director Sergey Batsanov delivered, on behalf of Pugwash, remarks to the 21st session of the Conference of States Party to the Chemical Weapons Convention in The Hague.
- From 18-24 November, the Secretary General was in Pakistan for a set of meetings, including a bilateral Pakistan-Afghanistan meeting with the participation of more than 30 senior participants.
- From 26-27 November, the Pugwash Secretary General and Council Members Arnold Luethold and David Menashri met in Nicosia, Cyprus, for a planning meeting on activities in the Middle East.
- On 27 November, a new Pugwash Japan held its 1st General Meeting with a Public Symposium on "Military Research and Social Responsibility of Scientists" and "Japan-US Alliance and Nuclear Deterrence."
- From 10-24 December, the Secretary General returned to Afghanistan for further meetings in Kabul and Jalalabad. A major meeting was held on December 13 with around 40 political leaders of different orientations.
- On 15 December, Pugwash Council Member Mark Suh and the Korean Pugwash Group conducted a one-day seminar on North Korea for 50 South Korean decision makers.

"Even in the darkest moments of the Cold War and other intractable conflicts, dialogue across divides has helped to build peace and less dangerous world. The Pugwash Council urges States to seek or promote diplomatic engagement and eschew rhetoric that exacerbates tensions and conflict."

Excerpt from the Pugwash Council Statement, August 2017

Other Pugwash Activities 2017

- On 1 January 2017, the Pugwash President and Secretary General issued a statement on avoiding a re-start of the nuclear arms race.
- From 8-15 January, the 30th ISODARCO Winter Course was held on “Advanced and Cyber Weapons Systems: Technology and Arms Control”, in Andalo, Italy.
- In February, the Secretary General spent 9 days through the Gulf, Islamabad, Peshawar and Kabul for ongoing consultations on the Afghan national reconciliation project.



Pugwash staff at the 62nd Pugwash Conference

- From 2-5 February, Council member Sergio Duarte represented Pugwash at the Nobel Peace Laureates Summit in Bogotá, Colombia.
- On 14 February, the Pugwash President spoke on behalf of Pugwash at the XXV Session – 50th Anniversary of the Treaty of Tlatelolco event held in Mexico City.
- From 21-22 February, Russian Pugwash and IIPPNW jointly held a Symposium in Moscow on “Global Security Problems” with the participation of more than 70 experts.
- At the beginning of March, the Secretary General and Geneva Office Director Sergey Batsanov visited Moscow for discussions with the Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey A. Ryabkov on present nuclear risks and the prospects of resuming arms control initiatives.
- In March, the Secretary General travelled to Berlin for briefings on work in Afghanistan and South Asia with senior German Parliamentary and Foreign Ministry officials. and participated at the meeting of the Afghanistan Committee.
- In April, the Secretary General travelled to Kabul for further consultations with various political Afghan leaders, facilitated by Council member Ahrar Ramizpour.
- In April, the Secretary General and Executive Committee member Prof. Suzuki travelled to Astana for meetings with the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Chairman of the Senate of Kazakhstan.
- From 22-23 April, the National Pugwash Groups of Russia and Sweden organized a joint seminar in Stockholm devoted to “Modern Issues of Nuclear Arms Control and Nuclear Safety.”
- On 4 May, Paolo Cotta-Ramusino, Jayantha Dhanapala, Steve Miller, Tatsujiro Suzuki, and Mark Suh issued a Statement on nuclear risks in North East Asia, calling for restraint and responsible behavior on all sides, and a mutual pullback from the intensifying military confrontation.
- On 25 May, the Finnish Pugwash Group held a national meeting on the future of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.
- At the end of May, the Secretary General travelled to Doha and to Pakistan, where he met with the Foreign Minister Sartaj Aziz.
- At the opening meeting of the Ban Treaty Conference, on 15 June, Council member Amb. Duarte delivered a statement on behalf of Pugwash and followed the negotiations through July 7, when the Treaty was adopted. A Statement on the Nuclear Ban Treaty was issued by Amb. Duarte, the Pugwash President, and Secretary General.
- From 23-25 June, Council members Nikitin, Pan, Suh, and Suzuki participated in the second Meeting of the International Panel on Establishing NWFZ in North-East Asia held in Ulanbaatar.
- In early July, the Secretary General travelled to Tel Aviv for a consultation on future activities in Israel and the Middle East region with Council member David Menashri, among others. They also visited Ramallah for a consultation held on the future of Palestine, organized by Council Member Haifa Baramki.
- From 10-15 July in Famagusta, Cyprus, the 25th ISODARCO Summer Course was held on “International Security in the Evolving Political and Technological Environment.”
- On 14 July Pugwash Japan held a Public Symposium on “Science and Military Research.”
- In July, the Secretary General returned to Afghanistan for further consultations in Kabul and in neighboring areas. Pugwash Council

member Ahrar Ramizpour organized a presentation of Pugwash activities in Afghanistan at the headquarters of UNAMA.

- On 23–26 July, the Canadian Pugwash Group held an Expert Conference in Halifax and Pugwash, NS, “Canada’s Contribution to Global Security,” commemorating Canada’s 150th and Pugwash 60th anniversaries.
- On 15 August Geneva Office Director Sergey Batsanov was invited to address the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva, to explore ways of overcoming the present deadlock in the CD.
- On 31 August - 2 September, there was an International Pugwash seminar in the Presidium of Academy of Sciences, Moscow, on “Climatic Effects of a Potential Use of Nuclear Weapons.”
- On September 3, the new Pugwash President Sergio Duarte and Secretary General issued a statement on the latest nuclear test of the DPRK.
- On 21-23 September, the 17th Castiglioncello International Conference on “International Security in the Trump Era”, was held in Castiglioncello, Italy, joint organized by USPID and Pugwash.



Pugwash President Sergio Duarte speaks with former US Senator Sam Nunn at the 62nd Pugwash Conference in Astana, August 2017

- On September 26, the Pugwash President and Secretary General issued a statement observing the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons.
- On September 26, the Pugwash President, Secretary General, and Geneva Office Director Sergey Batsanov issued a statement welcoming the completion of chemical weapons destruction by Russia.
- On 10-11 November, Pugwash Secretary General participated in the conference “Perspectives for a World Free from Nuclear Weapons and for Integral Disarmament” held in the Vatican City.

ABOUT PUGWASH

Since its founding in 1957, the goal of the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs has been primarily to warn against the risk that the use of nuclear weapons could destroy civilization and possibly mankind. In particular, the Russell-Einstein Manifesto, as the founding document, emphasized the resolution of conflict with a view to ending all war. Pugwash advocates nuclear disarmament, eliminating all weapons of mass destruction (WMD), and preventing nuclear proliferation.

Pugwash has offices in Rome, London, Washington D.C., and Geneva, as well as National Groups and contacts in some 50 countries. We are indebted to the support of our funders: the Carnegie Corporation of New York; The Simons Foundation Canada; The Cyrus Eaton Foundation; The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan; and The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Qatar.