

The Global Zero and Beyond: Theory, Politics and Regional Perspectives

Thursday, 5th September 2013, 10:00 – 15:30

The Mirror Hall, Czernin Palace, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Prague

Renewed calls for a nuclear weapons-free world sparked a wide academic debate on both the attainability of such a goal and the steps that should be eventually taken along the road to “global zero”. Comparably less attention, however, has been paid to theoretically informed considerations of the consequences of nuclear abolition, including its possible systemic and sub-systemic impacts, the strategic implications for global and regional stability, and generally the general influence of the abolition on relations among relevant actors of IR. The academic conference held on the first day of The Prague Agenda 2013 will feature presentations from some of the leading scholars on this matter as well as public discussions, with the aim to cover a wide range of relevant aspects of nuclear disarmament, from its fundamental theoretical and conceptual foundations to various global and regional perspectives.

The conference is organized by the Institute of International Relations Prague, the Metropolitan University Prague and the Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University in Prague, with the kind support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic.

Preliminary Programme:

9:30 - 10:00 *Registration*

10:00 - 10:15 **Conference Welcome, Opening Remarks**

Nik Hynek, Associate Professor, Metropolitan University Prague, Charles University in Prague

10:15 - 12:15 **Panel I: Conceptual Foundations**

Chair: Nik Hynek, Associate Professor, Metropolitan University Prague, Charles University in Prague

Linton Brooks, Senior Adviser, Center for Strategic and International Studies, Washington

Nina Tannenwald, Senior Lecturer, Brown University, Providence

Oliver Thränert, Head of Think Tank at the Center for Security Studies (CSS), Zürich

James M. Acton, Senior Associate in the Nuclear Policy Program, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Washington

12:15 - 13:15 *Buffet lunch*

13:15 - 15:15 **Panel II: Global Politics & Regional Perspectives**

Chair: Michal Smetana, Lecturer, Institute of Political Studies, Charles University in Prague

Bernd W. Kubbig, Senior Research Fellow, Peace Research Institute Frankfurt (PRIF – HSFK)

Camille Grand, Director of the Fondation pour la Recherche Stratégique, Paris

Nikolai Sokov, Senior Fellow, Vienna Center for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation (VCDNP), Vienna

Hans Kristensen, Director, Nuclear Information Project, Federation of American Scientists, Washington

15:15 – 15:30 **Closing Remarks**