

– The Neutrals and the Bomb – Conference on the N+N States and Non-Proliferation

International Conference
National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS), Tokyo
December 14 & 15, 2019

Call for Papers

One of the gravest issues facing the international community today remains the problem of how to live with the most destructive weapon mankind has ever invented. With recent advancements in technology, and some of the Cold War arms control agreements crumbling—like the INF treaty—we could be at the threshold of a new nuclear age. It is therefore even more important to understand one of the central agreements of the nuclear order we currently live in. The regulation of nuclear technology through the “Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons” (NPT) was a landmark agreement during the Cold War, which has shown unexpected longevity. With a total of 191 signatory states, and remarkable success in halting the spread of the deadliest weapon systems known to humanity, the NPT was—and still is—one of the most essential features of the global security architecture.

Academic research on the origins, the development, and the status of Nuclear and Non-Proliferation-related movements has often focused on the roles of the Great Powers on both sides of the iron curtain, whose signatures became the centerpiece for the success of the NPT-regime. What has repeatedly been overlooked is the role of other states that were also influenced by nuclear questions but tried to distance themselves from the block mentality. Neutral and Nonaligned countries (“N+N States”) are usually not included in the systematic analysis of Global Nuclear History. Despite, for example, that the UN-initiative for the NPT came from Ireland, that the treaty was mostly negotiated in Switzerland, and that the first signatory was Finland, the N+N states have never received much attention neither for their role in the treaty process nor in the developments after that.

This conference will fill the void. In collaboration with the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (Tokyo), Waseda University (Tokyo), and the Institute for Policy Research at the Catholic University of America (Washington DC), we call upon researchers from all disciplines to participate in a two-day venue in Tokyo, Japan. The conference will bring together insights about the Nuclear Histories of the N+N states in general, and their engagement with the NPT in particular, since the 1950s until today. We welcome research in all areas, especially Cold War History, Diplomatic History, Nuclear History, Security Studies, and Neutrality Studies. Some leading questions might be:

- What was the role of N+N states in the formulation of the NPT?
- What were their security considerations on the occasion of joining the NPT?
- What was the role of energy security in this consideration?
- Did the N+N states consider acquiring independent nuclear capabilities?

Application

First Name:	Last Name:
Title:	Affiliation:
Country:	Telephone:
Email:	Paper Abstract (200 words maximum)

- Applications and inquiries should be emailed to conference@nptresearch.org
- The deadline for applications is June 30, 2019
- Acceptance to the conference will be informed by mid-July

Organizing Committee

Co-Director: Dr. Pascal Lottaz, Waseda Institute for Advanced Studies, Tokyo
Co-Director: Dr. Yoko Iwama, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies, Tokyo
Secretary: Oktay Kurtulus, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies, Tokyo
Associate: Dr. Herbert R. Reginbogin, Fellow at Catholic University of America, Institute for Policy Studies

Date & Place

Saturday, December 14 & Sunday, December 15, 2019

National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies, 7-22-1 Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-8677



Supported by

National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS), Tokyo

Waseda University, Waseda Institute for Advanced Studies (WIAS), Tokyo

Catholic University of America (CUA), Washington DC — Permanent Neutrality Working Group



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