

Results of the 63rd Pugwash Conference on Science & World Affairs and Hiroshima Prefecture-Hosted Event

1. Summary

The 63rd Pugwash Conference on Science and World Affairs, bringing together scientists worldwide working toward nuclear abolition, was held from November 1 to 5. On the closing day of the conference, Hiroshima Prefecture hosted a public event featuring world-leading scientists participating in the conference as panelists.

2. Current Situation and Background

Hiroshima Prefecture supported this conference in collaboration with Hiroshima City to provide an opportunity for strong advocacy based on scientific perspectives toward nuclear abolition. Concurrently, the public event aimed to expand support for the prefecture's efforts toward nuclear abolition.

[Reference] About the Pugwash Conferences

An organization of scientists worldwide that has addressed issues in science and society, including nuclear abolition, since 1957. Awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1995. At its World Conferences, held every one to two years, global opinion leaders and researchers gather to discuss and communicate about the abolition of nuclear weapons and war.

3. About the 63rd Pugwash Conference in Hiroshima

(1) Dates

From Saturday, November 1, 2025 to Wednesday, November 5, 2025

(2) Venue

Hiroshima International Conference Center

(3) Organizer

Pugwash Conference on Science and World Affairs

(4) Main Theme

"80 Years After the Atomic Bombing -Time for Peace, Dialogue and Nuclear Disarmament"

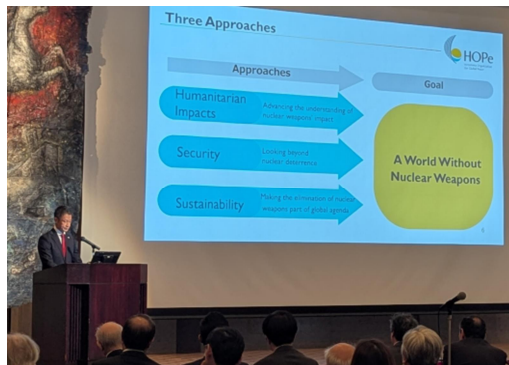
(5) Number of Participants

Approximately 150 (invited participants from 38 countries worldwide)

(6) Content

The conference was conducted according to the schedule in Appendix 1

On the final day, Wednesday, November 5, the "Hiroshima Declaration" (Appendix 2), adopted by the 63rd Pugwash Conference Council, was announced.



4. Hiroshima Prefecture-Hosted Event (Public Symposium)

(1) Date

November 5, 2025 (Wednesday) 17:00-18:30

(2) Venue

Hiroshima International Conference Center, Dalia Hall
(1-5 Nakashima-cho, Naka-ku, Hiroshima City),
Online Streaming (Simultaneous Japanese-English Interpretation)

(3) Organizer

Hiroshima Prefecture / Hiroshima Organization for Peace (HOPE)

(4) Theme

Beyond Nuclear Deterrence

(5) Speaker Presentations

<Moderator>

Keiko Nakamura,

Associate Professor, Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition, Nagasaki University
(Presentation) Report of the Pugwash Conference on Science and World Affairs

<Panelists>

① Dr. Ana Maria Cetto Kramis

Chair, UN Independent Scientific Panel on the Effects of Nuclear War
Former Deputy Director General, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

(Presentation)

- The Dangers of Relying on Nuclear Deterrence - Insights from the UN Panel
- The Risks of Nuclear Proliferation -Lessons from IAEA Experience

(Summary)

- The world must move away from the nuclear deterrence doctrine inherited from the previous Cold War era. This perverse notion has not only being shown to be of no benefit of to humanity it has also driven us down a more dangerous path.
- Therefore, the UN Independent Scientific Panel on the Effects of Nuclear War, which I lead, will conduct serious study, submit a final report to the UN General Assembly, and strive to disseminate the outcome to decision-makers and the general public, including younger generations.



② Dr. Frank von Hippel

Senior Research Physicist, Science and
Global Security Program, Princeton University, and
Professor Emeritus of Public and International Affairs

(Presentation)

Transitioning to Security Not Relying on
Nuclear Deterrence

(Summary)

- I propose two points for moving toward security not reliant on nuclear deterrence.
 - A policy of no first use of nuclear weapons, which could be the next step toward zero nuclear weapons.
 - While a long road remains to reach zero, the ultimate challenge is verifying that all nuclear weapons have been destroyed.



(6) Panel Discussion

Building on the panelists' reports, discussions highlighted the importance of creating a world without secrecy regarding nuclear matters to achieve nuclear abolition. Further opinions were exchanged on proposals for mechanisms involving citizen oversight, and on the cost-related arguments within nuclear deterrence theory specifically, that the irreversible consequences if deterrence fails are not adequately considered.

(7) Participants

128 people (including online participants)

5. Outcomes

- At the 63rd Pugwash Conference in Hiroshima, various challenges toward nuclear disarmament were discussed. The "Hiroshima Declaration" was compiled, outlining proposals for nuclear abolition, including the importance of dialogue and eliminating reliance on nuclear weapons. This provided a strong, science-based message for nuclear abolition. Additionally, some sessions were open to the public, helping to promote understanding among prefectural residents regarding the challenges toward nuclear abolition.
- At the prefecture-sponsored public symposium, scientists who have led the world in nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation were invited. Discussions covered the dangers of reliance on nuclear deterrence and the steps needed to transition to security without nuclear deterrence. This confirmed the necessity of examining the problems of nuclear deterrence from a scientific perspective.
- Soon we will continue to disseminate information about the prefecture's efforts, including posting videos of this symposium on our website.

