

ASSER
INSTITUTE

Centre for International & European Law



Disarmament and Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction in a Changing World

3 to 8 September 2017

Sunday 3 September: Welcome		
17.00 – 18.00	Welcome and reception	

The Eight Annual WMD Summer Programme

Monday 4 September: Overview on Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)		
08.30 – 09.00	Registration	
09.00 – 09.30	Opening	
09.30 – 10.30	Keynote Address by the Director-General of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, Ambassador Ahmet Üzümcü	
10.30 – 10.45	<i>Coffee break</i>	
10.45 – 12.15	WMD from a Geo-Political Perspective <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The reasons why states pursue WMD; • WMDs and the international order; • The role of arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation; • Case studies. 	
12.15 – 13.15	<i>Lunch</i>	
13.15 – 14.45	International Law and the Use of Force <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The use of force under international law; • Humanitarian Intervention; • The Responsibility to Protect; • Case studies. 	
14.45 – 15.00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
15.00 – 16.00	International Humanitarian Law and WMD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jus in bello and weapons law; • Restrictions on the use of nuclear weapons; • Prohibitions on the use of chemical and biological weapons; • Humanitarian Nuclear Weapons Initiative. 	
16.00 – 16.15	<i>Coffee break</i>	
16.15 – 17.15	Scientific and Technological Aspects of Nuclear Weapons <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do nuclear weapons work? • What is involved in their production? • What is necessary for their deployment, and their control? • Could a non-state actor (such as a terrorist group) make/use a nuclear explosive? 	
18.00	Opening Dinner	

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Tuesday 5 September: Disarmament and Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons + Field Visit		
09.00 – 10.45	Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History leading to its adoption; • Three pillars of the NPT; • Review Conferences and 1995 extension; • Current state of play. 	
10.45 – 11.00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11.00 – 12.00	Nuclear Safeguards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The various types of safeguard agreements and their progressive development in view of proliferation cases; • State-level approach. 	
12.00 – 12.15	<i>Coffee break</i>	
12.15 – 13.15	Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Towards universalization; • The link with Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR); • Transparency measures. 	
13.15 – 14.00	<i>Lunch in bus</i>	
14.15 – 17.00	Field visit: TU-Delft Nuclear Research Reactor	

Wednesday 6 September: Disarmament and Non-Proliferation of Nuclear and Biological Weapons		
09.00 – 10.15	Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty at 20 years <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current challenges and policy issues; • Nuclear Weapon Free Zones. 	
10.15 – 10.30	<i>Coffee break</i>	
10.30 – 11.30	The Importance of a Fissile Materials (Cut-off) Treaty for Nuclear Disarmament <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why and how to prohibit the production of fissile materials; • What are the prospects of an international agreement? 	
11.30 – 11.45	<i>Coffee break</i>	

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11.45 – 12.30	The future of US-Russia Arms Control <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation New Start Agreement; • US considerations; • Russia considerations. 	
12.30 – 13.30	<i>Brownbag lunch:</i> Professional opportunities in the sphere of WMD	
13.45 – 14.30	Life Sciences, Chemistry and Disarmament <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific underpinning of treaty implementation; • Scientific development and security concerns; • Need for and role of science in policy; • Hague Ethical Guidelines. 	
14.30 – 14.45	<i>Coffee break</i>	
14.45 – 17.30 (incl. coffee break)	The Biological Weapons Convention at crossroads <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treaties, regulations, codes of conduct; • The Implementation Support Unit; • Intersessional meetings; • Current challenges and policy issues. 	

Thursday 7 September: Disarmament and Non-Proliferation of Chemical Weapons		
09.00 – 10.00	The Chemical Weapons Convention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History leading to its adoption; • Main pillars of the CWC; • New and emerging challenges; • Transition in focus from disarmament to non-proliferation. 	
10.15 – 10.15	<i>Coffee break</i>	
10.15 – 11.00	The OPCW: Mechanism of Verification from declarations to inspection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obligation of state parties; • Verification by the OPCW: three types of inspections; • Addressing non-compliance. 	
11.00 – 11.15	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11.15 – 12.45	Chemical Terrorism: Threat and Response	
12.45 – 13.45	<i>Lunch</i>	
13.45 – 14.30	<i>Travel to field visit</i>	

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14.30 – 17.00	Field visit: OPCW laboratory and equipment store in Rijswijk	

Friday 8 September: Multi Stakeholder Approaches to WMD Diplomacy & Current Challenges		
09.00 – 10.30	Scientific and Technological Development: Opportunities and Challenges to Chemical and Biological Disarmament: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Converging sciences; • Technology development; • (Bio)chemical disarmament in a technologically evolving world. 	
10.30 – 10.45	<i>Coffee break</i>	
10.45 – 12.00	Export Control Regimes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuclear Suppliers Group; • Zangger Committee; • Missile Technology Control Regime; • Wassenaar Agreement; • Australia Group. 	
12.00 – 13.00	<i>Lunch</i>	
13.00 – 14.30	Simulation exercise	
14.30 – 15.45	An International Order in Transition: Prospects for WMD Disarmament and Non-Proliferation	
15.45 – 16.00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
16.00 – 16.30	Programme summary and evaluation – Open Session	
17.00 – 18.30	Closing reception	

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