

FAS MATTERS

FAS NEWS FROM DC HEADQUARTERS

2012 Nuclear Security Summit

In March 2012, the 2012 Nuclear Security Summit was held in Seoul, South Korea, where 53 heads of state and international organizations came together to discuss international cooperative measures to protect nuclear materials and facilities from terrorist groups. The Nuclear Security Summit has come at a critical juncture. Global terrorist attacks have prompted concerns about nuclear terrorism, and many states may continue to shop for nuclear reactors to meet their energy supply needs, despite the horrific incident at Japan's Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant. Against this backdrop, world leaders are charged with the difficult task of agreeing on measures that will secure vulnerable materials around the world. FAS recorded two podcasts featuring FAS President Dr. Charles D. Ferguson. In the first he examines the safety of U.S. nuclear power plants post-Fukushima. The second podcast focuses on the policies implemented as a result of the first nuclear summit held in Washington, DC 2010, and the significance of South Korea hosting the 2012 summit. Dr. Ferguson also discusses the security of radioactive materials, which was the subject of a new paper, "Ensuring the Security of Radioactive Sources," released in March 2012. Listen to the podcasts here: <http://www.fas.org/podcasts/>.

USA Science and Engineering Festival

On April 27 - 29, 2012, FAS staff worked a booth at the 2nd Annual USA Science and Engineering Festival in Washington, DC. FAS developed hands-on activities for kids interested in learning more about the role of science in policymaking. The goal of the festival is to reinvigorate the interest of our nation's youth in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

Non-Strategic Nuclear Weapons

On May 3, 2012, Hans Kristensen, director of the Nuclear Information Project, briefed congressional staffers on Capitol Hill on a new FAS Special Report on "Non-Strategic Nuclear Weapons" published three weeks before 28 NATO member countries convened in Chicago in May 2012 to approve the conclusions of a year-long Deterrence and Defense Posture Review (DDPR). Among other issues, the review determined the role of the U.S. non-strategic nuclear weapons deployed in Europe and how NATO might work to reduce its nuclear posture as well as Russia's inventory of such weapons in the future. Lack of transparency fuels mistrust and worst-case assumptions, and the concerns some eastern NATO countries have about Russia have been used to prevent a withdrawal of the remaining U.S. nuclear weapons from Europe. The report concludes that non-strategic nuclear weapons are neither the reason nor the solution for Europe's security issues today but that lack of political leadership has allowed bureaucrats to give these weapons a legitimacy they don't possess and shouldn't have. Read the report here: <http://www.fas.org/pubs/reports/nsnw.html>.

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Bridging the Generational Divide in Nuclear Security

On May 8, 2012, FAS hosted an event on how to bridge the generational divide on nuclear security. FAS works to engage young scientists and engineers in important security issues. FAS President Dr. Charles D. Ferguson revealed the many ways in which FAS is reaching out to the next generation, like the new Nuclear Transparency Project and the Security Scholars Program. FAS also recognized the Honorable Rose Gottemoeller, Acting Under Secretary for Arms Control and International Security, as well as Assistant Secretary for Arms Control, Verification and Compliance, and Dr. Sidney Drell, Deputy Director Emeritus of the SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory at Stanford University, for their work towards a nuclear free world at the Reykjavik Awards Ceremony and luncheon at the Menlo Circus Club in Atherton, California. The Master of Ceremonies was Dr. Ferguson. Learn more here: <http://www.fas.org/press/events/reykjavik.html>.

FAS Security Scholars

Launched as part of FAS's new Science and Security Initiative, the Security Scholars Program provides students with experience in science and security policy. FAS staff and members from government, academia and policy fields mentor scholars on collaborative and independent research. Through this partnership, scholars contribute to the ongoing security debate with reports, articles and blog posts for publications and FAS.org website. This summer, FAS hosted four scholars who conducted research on cyber security, Brazil's uses of nuclear technology, Pakistan's nuclear weapons, and security challenges related to climate change. To learn more, please visit: <http://www.fas.org/about/security-scholars.html>

FALL ISSUE OF PIR

- Pakistan's Nuclear Weapons
- Brazil's Nuclear Future
- The Homegrown Threat
- Continuing Terrorist Threats
- How Prepared Are First Responders?

The PIR welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed 300 words and may be edited for length and clarity. The deadline for the Fall issue is **September 21, 2012**. To submit a letter, please email pir@fas.org or fax 202-675-1010.

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