

THE SIMONS FOUNDATION CANADA
Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Education and Training Activities

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FULL SUBMISSION for posting on the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs website

Graduate Research Awards for Disarmament, Arms Control and Non-Proliferation Research (GRA)

The [Graduate Research Awards for Disarmament, Arms Control and Non-Proliferation Research \(GRA\)](#) were initiated in 2003 by The Simons Foundation Canada in partnership with the International Security and Outreach Programme of Global Affairs Canada (formerly Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada) to enhance Canadian graduate-level scholarship on disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation issues. Since its inception, the Graduate Research Awards programme has provided more than CAD\$425,000.00 in scholarships to over 76 Canadian graduate students working on these policy-relevant disarmament issues and has helped to encourage a new generation of young scholars dedicated to further expanding their knowledge and expertise on these critical issues.

The 2020-2021 GRA programme provided cash awards of CAD\$5,000 to four winning students and 2021-2022 competition recently selected four students to receive CAD\$5,000 cash awards at a special seminar at Global Affairs Canada headquarters this fall.

Arctic Security Briefing Papers

The Simons Foundation Canada produces and distributes briefing papers on military policies and practices in the Arctic region by Ernie Regher, Senior Fellow in Arctic Security and Defence at The Simons Foundation.

Circumpolar Military Facilities of the Arctic Five

This compilation of current military facilities in the circumpolar region prepared by Ernie Regher, Senior Fellow in Arctic Security and Defence Policy, continues to be updated and offered as an aid to addressing a key question posed by the Canadian Senate several years ago: “Is the [Arctic] region again becoming militarized?”

Canadian Defence Briefing Papers

The Simons Foundation Canada produces and distributes periodic briefing papers by Ernie Regher, Senior Fellow in Arctic Security and Defence, as an ongoing contribution to the further public discussion of Canadian defence policy, including attention to the defence of Canada and North America, Canada’s contributions to international peace and security, and key procurement and program decisions.

Canada and the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons conference

In November 2021, The Simons Foundation Canada and Canadians for a Nuclear Weapons Convention (CNWC) co-convened a conference on [Canada and the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons](#) to build a strategy for bringing Canada into conformity with the TPNW through re-energized and re-focused action on disarmament and by challenging NATO's current strategic posture of reliance on the threat of nuclear attack. A report on the conference is forthcoming and will be distributed widely.

The Ottawa Declaration

[The Ottawa Declaration](#) emerged out of the *Canada and the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons* conference and was published in The Hill Times. Endorsers include conference participants and also CNWC supporters, all of whom are recipients of the Order of Canada.

The declaration's policy proposals include:

1. a call on Canada to support the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) and to join NATO allies Norway and Germany in participating as observer in the forthcoming First Meeting of States Parties to the TPNW; and
2. a call, first issued by the House of Commons Standing Committee on National Defence, for Canada to "take a leadership role within NATO in beginning the work necessary for achieving the NATO goal of creating the conditions for a world free of nuclear weapons."

The Bruce Blair Memorial Fund, Program on Science and Global Security Princeton University

In 2022, The Simons Foundation Canada provided Princeton University with a grant dedicated to the Bruce Blair Memorial Fund to support research in the Program on Science and Global Security.

The Simons Chair in Disarmament, Global and Human Security The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada

The Simons Foundation Canada established this Chair in 2014. Among other activities, this Chair supervised the previously established Simons Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Disarmament and NonProliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction and Their Delivery Systems and the UBC Simons Student Policy Research Program in Peace and Disarmament. The Simons Foundation also supported the development of the ongoing UBC program in Disarmament, Global and Human Security and the establishment of the Simons Graduate Award in Disarmament, Global and Human Security; the Simons Undergraduate Research Assistantships; and the Simons Visiting Scholars Program.

Simons Award in Nuclear Disarmament and Global Security The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada

Since 2019, the Liu Institute for Global Issues in the UBC School of Public Policy and Global Affairs has offered this annual award to UBC students intending to undertake research on topics related to nuclear disarmament and global security. The award is funded by an endowment

provided by The Simons Foundation Canada to advance the understanding of disarmament and arms control issues among UBC students.

Students selected each year will produce a research paper. They will also be expected to attend any seminars, workshops and other activities related to nuclear disarmament and global security organized by the Liu Institute for Global Issues or the School of Public Policy and Global Affairs. Upon satisfactory production of the paper, undergraduate and graduate students will receive awards of \$1,000 and \$1,500 respectively.

Simon Fraser University Vancouver, Canada

The School for International Studies at Simon Fraser University continues to publish the “Simons Papers in Security and Development” and the “Simons Lectures in the Social Dynamics of Peace and Conflict” established by The Simons Foundation Canada.

Global Zero

Dr. Jennifer Allen Simons is Founding Partner and The Simons Foundation Canada is Principal Sponsor of Global Zero, which combines cutting-edge policy development and direct dialogue with governments with public outreach, including media, online and grassroots initiatives to make the elimination of nuclear weapons an urgent global imperative. Their recent disarmament education activities include:

[NATO-Russia Crisis Brief](#)

In December 2020, the Global Zero Nuclear Crisis Group (NCG) — a task force of seasoned diplomats, military leaders, and national security experts from nuclear-armed and allied countries working to prevent the use of nuclear weapons — published a new report about the risks of NATO-Russia escalation to nuclear use, and the steps governments can take to mitigate tensions, lower the odds of miscalculation, and enhance stability. Featuring insight from six eminent experts and former officials from the United States, Russia, and Europe, the *NATO-Russia Crisis Brief* proposes near-term steps to improve stability and reduce the risks of conflict and escalation in Europe, demonstrating a wide range of options to enhance security in what the NCG has identified as a “nuclear flashpoint” — one of four regions in the world where the risk of nuclear conflict is highest.

[NATO-Russia Nuclear Risk](#)

In September 2021, Global Zero released a new report that provides evidence of the heightened risk of nuclear conflict between NATO and Russia. The first in a series of regional analyses examining military encounters between nuclear-armed states, the report analyzed nearly 1,000 military incidents from 2014-2019 and found the Baltic Sea region has become a key focal point for military activity. With communication channels limited and NATO and Russian militaries frequently coming into close contact in the field, a small misstep could lead to rapid military escalation and even the use of nuclear weapons at almost any time. Russian and U.S. leaders must recognize that the risk of nuclear use is dangerously high and take real steps to reduce those dangers.