



UNIDIR Lunchtime Panel Event

Crises and the Usability of Nuclear Weapons

Friday 1 December 2017

13:30-15:30

Room VII, Palais des Nations, United Nations Office at Geneva

Organized by the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR)
with support from the Government of Switzerland

Difficult relations among some of the nuclear-armed powers have contributed to an atmosphere that lends itself to the onset of crisis. With a proportion of existing arsenals already on high alert status, the warning and decision time available to nuclear decisionmakers is short in crisis situations. How does this affect thresholds against use of nuclear weapons? What are feasible means to reduce the risk of nuclear detonations happening?

13:30	Welcoming Remarks
	Ms. Sabrina Dallafior , <i>Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the Conference on Disarmament</i>
13:40	Moderator's Introduction
	Dr. John Borrie , <i>Chief of Research, UNIDIR</i>
13:45	The Korean Missile Crisis
	Professor Scott D. Sagan , <i>Senior Fellow, Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC) and the Freeman Spogli Institute, Stanford University</i>
14:10	The Unbearable Lightness of Luck in Nuclear Crises
	Professor Benoît Pelopidas , <i>Chair of Excellence in Security Studies, SciencePo, Centre de Recherches Internationales</i>
14:35	Cyber Threats and Nuclear Weapons
	Dr. Patricia Lewis , <i>Research Director—International Security, Chatham House (The Royal Institute of International Affairs)</i>
15:00	Questions and Discussion
15:25	Concluding Remarks

The meeting will be held in English. A sandwich lunch will be available at 13:00 outside the room.

Interested participants are invited to register with their names and affiliations with wilfred.wan@un.org. For those without a UNOG badge, registration is obligatory.