



Universität Regensburg



„Global Zero” – A World Free of Nuclear Weapons?

International Conference of Experts

21.-22. July 2011

University of Regensburg

Großer Sitzungssaal des Philosophikums (PT 3.0.79)

In January 2007 four eminent American elder statesmen - George Shultz, William Perry, Henry Kissinger and Sam Nunn - launched their “global zero”-initiative. They called for the elimination of all nuclear weapons worldwide by 2023 and for the complete dismantling of all remaining nuclear warheads over the following seven years. Rarely has an idea created more interest and debate in politics and academia. Pursuing Global Zero even became one of the principal objects of American foreign policy with President Obama’s speech in Prague in April 2009.

What are the pros and cons of the initiative? Why does Washington declare “global zero” a pivotal foreign policy goal? What does it mean for NATO which always relied on nuclear weapons as an essential part of its deterrence strategy? Can “global zero” alter the dynamics of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East and put pressure on Iran to abandon its enrichment program?

These and other questions will be discussed by outstanding international experts at the University of Regensburg. The two-day-conference is jointly organized by the Hanns Seidel Foundation and the Institute of International and Transatlantic Relations at the University of Regensburg. We look forward to welcoming you at our conference.

Prof. Dr. Stephan Bierling
Professor of International
and Transatlantic Relations,
University of Regensburg

Prof. Dr. Reinhard Meier-Walser
Head of the Academy for Politics
and Current Affairs,
Hanns Seidel Foundation

Thursday, July 21th, 2011

10.00 a.m. Welcome

Prof. Dr. Stephan Bierling, Professor of International and Transatlantic Relations, University of Regensburg

Prof. Dr. Reinhard Meier-Walser, Head of the Academy for Politics and Current Affairs, Hanns-Seidel-Foundation

Panel I:

The Concept of Global Zero

10.15 a.m. Speaker: *Dr. Herbert Maier*, University of Regensburg

Does Nato Need Nukes?

10.30 a.m. Speaker: *Michael Rühle*, Head of the Energy Security Section: Emerging Security Challenges Division, NATO, Brussels

Chair: *Dr. Herbert Maier*, University of Regensburg

Panel II:

Iran's Nuclear Program: The Challenge of the Changing Middle East

02.00 p.m. Speaker: *Prof. Dr. David Menashri*, University of Tel Aviv

Chair: *Gerlinde Groitl M.A.*, University of Regensburg

3:30 p.m. Coffee Break

Panel III:

Preconditions for a Nuclear Weapon Free World: From Vision to Strategy

04.00 p.m. Speaker: *Prof. Dr. Harald Müller*, Executive Director, Peace Research Institute Frankfurt, Goethe-University Frankfurt a.M.

Chair: *Prof. Dr. Reinhard Meier-Walser*

Friday, July 22th, 2011

Panel I:

The Future of Global Zero

10.00 a.m. Panel Discussion:

Prof. Dr. James Davis, University of St.Gallen

Prof. Dr. Harald Müller, Executive Director, Peace Research Institute
Frankfurt, Goethe-University Frankfurt a.M.

Prof. Dr. David Menashri, University of Tel Aviv

Michael Rühle, Head of the Energy Security Section: Emerging Security
Challenges Division, NATO, Brussels

Chair: Prof. Dr. Stephan Bierling

Discussants:

Fabian Grass, Advisor, Permanent Representation of Switzerland to the Conference on
Disarmament, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs FDFA, Geneva

Conference Chairs:

Prof. Dr. Stephan Bierling

Prof. Dr. Reinhard Meier-Walser

Conference Organisation: Lucia Görke