

# Science4Peace Forum



Welcome !

All infos on: [Science4Peace Webpage](https://science4peace.com)

<https://science4peace.com/Public-Events/Entries/2025/7/science4peace-the-black-flag-initiative-in-academia.html>

# Science4Peace Forum

Seminar series on Nuclear Bomb



- Seminar series:
  - 18. June: Hitlers Atomic Bomb - Mark Walker
  - 16. July: Responsibility of scientists – Philip Webber (Scientists for Global Responsibility, UK)
  - 13. August: Hiroshima/Nagasaki - lessons for today - nuclear disarmament (ICAN & IPPNW)
  - 10. Sept: Scientists and Nuclear Weapons Today – Stewart C. Prager (Physicist Coalition, US)
  - 8. Oct: Nuclear threat in Asian region
  - 5. Nov: Nuclear Bomb for Europe - nuclear participation

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Next Seminar



- Please register at: <https://tinyurl.com/S4PseminarJuly2015>
- See also: <https://tinyurl.com/S4P-July16-2025>

Science4Peace Forum  
invites

## The responsibility of scientists by Dr Philip Webber

**16 July 2025, 5:00 pm (CEST)**

**virtual event - ZOOM only**

**please register at: <https://tinyurl.com/S4PseminarJuly2015>**

**see also: <https://tinyurl.com/S4P-July16-2025>**



Scientists and engineers have played a vital role in the development of weapons since the early days of warfare, and this role has only grown, especially with the creation of nuclear arms: weapons of mass destruction (WMD) with the capability to end civilization.

I will give a brief description of the evolution of the Manhattan project and I would intend that this background can lead to discussion about the responsibility of scientists:

- to try to reduce harm - ideally to agree to 'do no harm' - a directive that every medical doctor should work to
- to influence decision-makers of the dangers of arms races and the extreme levels of destruction that WMD are capable of - including the ability to destabilize the global climate killing billions of people.
- to refuse work on arms, especially WMD or at least to avoid such work

**Dr Philip Webber** has chaired Scientists for Global Responsibility (SGR) since its creation in 1992 (except for 2001-3). He began his career as a research physicist at Imperial College. Phil has written widely on the unacceptable risks of nuclear weapons and growing militarism. He was one of the expert witnesses on the impacts of nuclear weapons for the conferences leading up to the UN nuclear ban treaty (TPNW). In 2017, this collective effort was awarded the [Nobel Peace Prize](#).



Science4Peace web page: <https://science4peace.com>

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# Science4Peace Forum

## The wars



- The Science4Peace Forum condemns very strongly all wars:
  - we condemn the war against Ukraine
  - we condemn the war against Gaza and Westbank
  - we condemn the war against Iran
- Dedicated killing of persons cannot be tolerated ... independent which country is behind it:
  - scientists have been killed in Iran during war
  - scientific institutions have been target during the war, both in Iran and Israel
- We must clearly speak out against all wars and against any violation of international laws, independent of the country !
- International law must be applied to ALL, not only to some !

# Science4Peace Forum

> 10 Iranian Scientists killed



*These two people held political positions as well:*

**Fereydoun Abbasi** – expert in nuclear engineering [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fereydoon\\_Abbasi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fereydoon_Abbasi)

**Mohammad Mahdi Tehranshi** – physics expert [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mohammad\\_Mehdi\\_Tehranchi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mohammad_Mehdi_Tehranchi)

*Others with only scientific positions:*

**Seyed AmirHossein Feghhi** - Nuclear physicist [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seyyed\\_Amir\\_Hossein\\_Feghhi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seyyed_Amir_Hossein_Feghhi)  
(he took part in a research program at CERN)

**Abdol-Hamid Minoushehr** – expert in reactor physics [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abdolhamid\\_Minouchehr](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abdolhamid_Minouchehr)

**Akbar Motalebi Zadeh** – expert in chemical engineering [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Akbar\\_Motalebizadeh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Akbar_Motalebizadeh)

**Ahmad Reza Zolfaghari Daryani** – expert in nuclear engineering [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ahmadr\\_eza\\_Zolfaghari\\_Daryani](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ahmadr_eza_Zolfaghari_Daryani)

**Saeed Barji** – materials engineering expert [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saeed\\_Borji](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saeed_Borji)

**Mansour Asgari** – physics expert <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/sjygn69mex>

**Amir Hassan Fakhahi** – physics expert [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Assassinations\\_of\\_Iranian\\_nuclear\\_scientists](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Assassinations_of_Iranian_nuclear_scientists)

**Ali Bakhoei Katirimi** – expert in mechanics <https://www.iranintl.com/en/202506147983>

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> 10 Iranian Scientists killed



- Long history of killing nuclear scientists – plans to kill Heisenberg during a lecture in Switzerland (see [Bulletin of Atomic Scientists](#))
- But, according to international humanitarian law, scientist are civilians and fall under the Geneva convention. They can be only targeted if they participate directly in concrete attacks.
- Science organizations should clearly speak out against dedicated killing of scientists (and others)



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The double moral standard



- After stopping scientific cooperation with Russia end of 2024, many had hopes, that the still ongoing cooperation with JINR would allow colleagues to participate at CERN, if they have a JINR affiliation.
- **But, not really:**
  - “Accordingly, in order to register ... with JINR as their Home Institution, ... must be employed by – and only by – JINR. Any kind of employment relationship with a Russian institute would run counter to the Council Resolution.” (from a letter of CERN research director to JINR)
- It is shocking that within the scientific community there are people aiming to destroy any cooperation, no matter the costs – this is a shame not only for those who do it but also for those who let it happen

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The double moral standard



- in the [CERN council declaration](#) from 2022 against Russia and Belarus, it is stated: *“That aggression of one country by another runs against the values for which the Organization stands”*
- At the CERN council meeting in June 2025, any discussion about the war against Gaza was excluded, with the words of the new chair: *“...believed that CERN should be kept out of politics.”*
  - Israel is member state of CERN, violating international law
  - Palestine has [cooperation agreements](#) with CERN
  - Iran has [cooperation agreements](#) with CERN
- Not a single word to condemn the war and the killing of so many people ( ~ [100 000](#)), using starvation as a weapon, displacement ..
- This is a clear case of double moral standard – or perhaps just:  
**“NO moral standard”**



# Science4Peace Forum

Today's discussion: Black Flag Action Group



- Black Flag action group from Israeli academics against the war in Gaza and Westbank
  - “An urgent call to the heads of academia in Israel”
    - more than 1400 signatures
  - Nimrod BenZe'ev

**“Black Flag” Action Group**



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AOB



- AOB

# Science4Peace Forum

Organization



- Science4Peace Webpage: <https://science4peace.com/>
  - Science4Peace Fund: ZOOM account and web page independent of any institution
- Please check <https://science4peace.com/> for further infos:
  - collection of links to statements from research institutions
  - public events (like this one, with slides)
  - any other further infos
- For discussions on Science4Peace matters, please use (and register) at our Signal channel ([Signal registration](#))

# Science4Peace Forum

Science4Peace Fund



- Science4Peace Webpage: <https://science4peace.com/>
  - Science4Peace Fund
    - source can be used to support scientists with a small amount
    - donations can be made online with PayPal