

Science4Peace Forum



Welcome !

All infos on: [Science4Peace Webpage](https://science4peace.com/Public-Events/Entries/2025/5/science4peace-discussion-on-civil-clause-paper-draft.html)

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SIPRI report



- SIPRI report: [Trends in World Military Expenditure, 2024](#)

- The 9.4 per cent increase in 2024 was the steepest year-on-year rise since at least 1988.
- Taken together, European NATO members spent \$454 billion and accounted for 30 per cent of total NATO spending, compared with 28 per cent in 2023
- In 2024 Germany's military expenditure rose for the third consecutive year to reach \$88.5 billion, or 1.9 per cent of GDP, making it the fourth largest spender globally and the biggest in Central and Western Europe for the first time since reunification.
- To reach the level of 5.0 per cent of GDP, European NATO members would have needed to spend \$663 billion, or 146 per cent, more than their actual spending in 2024.

Rank		Country	Spending (\$ b.), 2024	Change in spending (%)		Spending as a share of GDP (%) ^b		Share of world spending (%), 2024
2024	2023 ^a			2023–24	2015–24	2024	2015	
1	1	United States	997	5.7	19	3.4	3.5	37
2	2	China	[314]	7.0	59	[1.7]	[1.8]	[12]
3	3	Russia	[149]	38	100	[7.1]	[4.9]	[5.5]
4	7	Germany	88.5	28	89	1.9	1.1	3.3
5	4	India	86.1	1.6	42	2.3	2.5	3.2
Subtotal top 5			1 635	60

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Situation in Gaza



- Situation in Gaza (and Westbank) is terrible !
 - Netherlands urges review of EU-Israel trade deal over ‘catastrophic’ Gaza aid block ([Guardian](#)). Quotes from Dutch foreign minister:
 - *With the International Court of Justice sitting in the Hague, the Dutch government feels it has an added duty to uphold ICJ judgements.*
 - *“I don’t have any illusions that Hamas will ever apply international humanitarian law, but from a democracy such as Israel, democracies fight differently, and Israel has to abide by international humanitarian law, and with the latest statements by Israeli ministers, such as minister Smotrich that he aims for a total destruction of the Gaza strip, we cannot ignore any longer such statements.*
 - *“I say this as someone that feels close to Israel, and as a former ambassador, this is not a sustainable policy by Israel, and it is time to work for peace”.*



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Situation in Gaza



- Situation in Gaza (and Westbank) is terrible !
 - Proposal by G. Ortona

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Seminar series on Nuclear Bomb



- 80 years victory over Nazi Germany
- 80 year remembrance of Hiroshima/Nagasaki
- 70 year of Einstein Russel [manifesto](#)
- Seminar series:
 - 18. June: Hitlers Atomic Bomb - Mark Walker
 - 16. July: Responsibility of scientists - Manhattan Project - participation in military projects
 - 13. August: Hiroshima/Nagasaki - lessons for today - nuclear disarmament
 - 10. Sept: Nuclear threat in Asian region
 - 8. Oct: Nuclear Bomb for Europe - nuclear participation

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invites



Hitler's Atomic Bomb by Prof Mark Walker

18 June 2025, 5:00 pm (CEST)

virtual event - ZOOM only

please register at:

see also

After the discovery of nuclear fission, scientists in several different countries, including National Socialist Germany, brought the potential military applications of fission to the attention of political and military authorities. This talk will examine the wartime German uranium project, which ran parallel to the American Manhattan Project. What the Germans did and did not understand about nuclear weapons, the effect of the war on the research, and the motivations of the scientists will all be examined.

Prof Mark Walker is the John Bigelow Professor of History at Union College in Schenectady, NY USA, where he teaches the history of science and technology and modern European history. He has recently published a book, *Hitler's Atomic Bomb: History, Legend, and the Twin Legacies of Auschwitz and Hiroshima* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2024).



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Agenda



- Discussion on Civil Clause Paper Draft

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Civil Clause Paper Draft



- What we have:

Science for Peace and the need for a Civil Clause in civilian research institutions and public universities

J. Altmann, M. Barone , J. Beullens, S. Brentjes , J. Ellis , A. Glazov , H. Jung* ,
L. Lönnblad  M. Renneberg, Th. Riebe, J. Scheffran , T. Suzuki, M. Walker

The Science4Peace Forum* 

- Everyone who contributes and/or wishes to support the paper and ideas is welcome to join the author list.

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Civil Clause Paper Draft II



Contents

1	Introduction	2
2	Sanctions in Science and the role of geopolitics	4
3	The Civil Clause: history and present	5
3.1	Some historical remarks on science in Germany. Author: M. Walker, John Bigelow Professor of History, Union College, Schenectady, NY USA, M. Renneberg	5
3.2	Commitment not to engage in research for military purposes - Case for Japan. Author: Tatsujiro Suzuki Visiting Professor, Nagasaki University, and President, Peace Depot, Japan	6
3.3	The Civil Clause in Germany. Author: J. Beullens	6
3.4	German Science Institutions and Civil Clauses. Author: S. Brentjes	9
3.5	Civilian and military research in different countries	10

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4	Science and Military: National and international Research Institutions	11
4.1	From Open Science to Military Secrecy: The Risks for DESY.	
	Author: A. Glazov, DESY	11
4.2	Research at CERN: "no concern with work for military requirements".	
	Author: J. Ellis, Kings College London	13
4.3	FONAS statement against undermining the separation of civilian and military research.	
	Authors: Thea Riebe, Technical University of Darmstadt, Germany, Jürgen Altmann, TU Dortmund University, Germany	14
5	Dual-Use Issues	15
5.1	Dual-use and militarization of science and technology	
	Author: J. Scheffran, Hamburg University	15
5.2	Responsibility of Science Institutions and Scientists	17
6	Conclusions	18

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Dual Use issues



5.2 Responsibility of Science Institutions and Scientists

Science and scientists were always trapped between the application for public resources to fund scientific research, the requests from society providing the financial resources, the own job position, and the ideas for new scientific research. Science can therefore never be independent of political and economic situation, where it is embedded in. However, scientists and science institutions cannot deny responsibilities of the application of scientific results, a prominent example is the responsibility of scientists during Germany's Nazi period in their work for developing a nuclear bomb, as well as the scientists in the Manhattan project. As a consequence of this responsibility the Einstein-Russell manifesto [58] was launched in 1955, 70 years ago, where it is said *we urge [the governments], consequently, to find peaceful means for the settlement of all matters of dispute between them.*

In a very similar spirit, the Göttingen Eighteen [59] (among the authors were M Born, O. Hahn, M. v. Laue, and C.F v. Weizsäcker) wrote *Our profession is pure science and its application. Conveying our knowledge to young people make us responsible for the consequences of our profession. This is why we cannot remain silent on all political questions. And they continue None of the signees would be willing to work on the production, testing or use of nuclear weapons.*

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Dual Use issues



But not only the development of nuclear weapons is under the responsibility of scientists, any participation directly or also indirectly in military projects falls also under their responsibility. Not every cooperation with military is against humanistic and peaceful goals, for example participation in arms control as well as in verification of disarmament is at a different level than participation in testing and development material for weapon production.

A civil clause of research institutions helps to guide scientists and science institutions towards peaceful research, towards a commitment for a world without war, and especially without nuclear weapons. The discussion on scientific projects must be performed openly, identifying advantages as well as risks, such that everybody is aware of potential consequences and applications. Ethics principles must be part of the education process and be considered as an important part of a universal scientist, in accordance with the words of the Major-General E.-P. Nares [4] at the opening of the TU Berlin, where he argued, that every scientist must ask: *"Can I do a good job?" but: "Will it be put to good use?"* and he continued saying: *And remember that Society is not one nation nor one class of men, but is the whole world and all men and nations in it.*

Civilian scientific projects should have clear international, peacekeeping, bridge-building aspects and all results must be made available to the public in an open-access way. In applications for new projects, such criteria should be spelled out clearly as advantages, and risks of application for *the bad* should be considered and evaluated. Openness, transparency and internationality are essential, in contrast to secrecy and restriction of access. It must be obligatory that projects are followed from an outside, historical and societal perspective under the premise of peaceful research, and necessary resources and scientific positions for doing so must be created.

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Civil Clause Paper Draft - discussion



- Discussion:
 - content in general acceptable, sufficient ?
 - are the statements on “responsibility of science institutions and scientists” acceptable ?
 - too soft or too strong ?
 - etc ?

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Other issues



- Science4Peace Fund:
 - supported Physics students from Nablus for University fee
 - in previous years, supported students from Cuba for DESY summer-school
 - now: application of a student for support for a conference
- This is all good, but we need a better structure:
 - campaign for funding
 - committee to review requests, etc
 - who wants to volunteer ?
- Need also support for organization of S4P Forum
 - who can/want to help in orga issues → please let me know !

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AOB



- AOB

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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](#))

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- 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