

## INVITATION TO ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

### “Global and Regional Nuclear Orders in a Moment of Geopolitical Uncertainty”

Thursday, March 16, 2017

1:00-3:00 PM

United Nations, UN Delegates Dining Room 6

#### HOSTED BY

**H.E. Mr. Jan Kickert**

Permanent Representative of Austria

#### SPEAKERS

**Ramesh Thakur**

Director of the Centre for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament,  
The Australian National University and Editor-in-Chief, *Global Governance*

**Daryl G. Kimball**

Executive Director, Arms Control Association

#### MODERATOR

**Angela Kane**

Senior Fellow, Vienna Centre for Non-Proliferation and Disarmament;  
former UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs

#### CLOSING

**Bettina Luise Rürup**

Executive Director, FES New York Office

Registration is required and seating is limited. Please RSVP to Roberta Spivak, Managing Editor of *Global Governance* journal at [rspivak@oneearthfuture.org](mailto:rspivak@oneearthfuture.org) with the name and title of the attendee.

**Kindly indicate if a UN Guest Pass is required.**

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Recent geopolitical shifts continue to stress-test the existing regional and global nuclear orders: The international community grapples with an appropriate answer to North Korea’s nuclear weapons program, tensions around the P5+1 agreement to limit Iran’s sensitive nuclear activities are on the rise. Moreover, as a new US administration is taking office, there is a heightened awareness that changes in the American foreign and nuclear weapons policy may affect US–Russia nuclear relations and efforts countering proliferation risks in the Middle East and the Korean peninsula.

Against this backdrop, two conferences will be convened in New York this year (March 27-31 and June 15-July 7) to negotiate a treaty to ban nuclear weapons. Such treaty negotiations were agreed upon in December 2016, when the UN General Assembly adopted resolution 71/258. Calling for negotiations on a “legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading toward their total elimination,” the resolution was adopted by a substantial majority the resolution was adopted by two thirds of voting countries.

This co-sponsored discussion is planned as an exchange of ideas among those who embrace the upcoming negotiations as a global effort to delegitimize nuclear weapons and others who see such talks as a distraction from the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapon. Expert speakers will bring to the UN timely insights and analyses about global nuclear policy challenges as well as an update on US policy debates from Washington. It is intended to benefit UN Member States, Secretariat officials, and the wider UN environment in their preparations for the upcoming nuclear weapons ban treaty negotiations.