

Sharon K. Weiner  
Securing Russia's Nuclear and Bioweapon Facilities

The collapse of the Soviet Union left its nuclear, biological and chemical weapons complex scattered over half a dozen successor states and raised international concern about the security of not only the weapons themselves, but the people with the knowledge to produce them. This former Soviet arsenal is seen in the US as the most significant proliferation danger of our time and the most likely source from which terrorists can gain access to weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and the knowledge and materials need to produce them. This session will provide an overview of the threat from the former Soviet nuclear and biological weapons complexes as well as U.S. efforts to counter this proliferation concern. Some of these U.S. efforts have been successful, others have not. This session will look at the major obstacles faced by these efforts and the changes that are needed before more success can be achieved.

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### EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Political Science, 1998, Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Areas of Concentration: security studies, international relations, and American politics and public policy.

M.A. in International Relations, 1987, University of Lancaster, United Kingdom  
Graduated with Distinction

B.A. in Political Science, B.S. in Economics, 1986, Truman State University, Kirksville, Missouri  
*Summa Cum Laude* Graduate

### AWARDS

Visiting Scholar Fellowship, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, 2005-2006.  
Lifton Fellowship for Teaching Nuclear Weapons Issues, 2004-2005  
American University Research Award, 2005-06.  
Carnegie Scholar of Vision Award, 2001-2003.  
Bloomfield Fellowship in Foreign Policy, 1993-1994.  
Rotary International Fellowship, 1986-1987.

### CURRENT POSITION

*Assistant Professor*, School of International Service, American University, 2004 – present.  
Research on U.S. national security and foreign policy and policy making, teaching undergraduate and graduate students about various topics in these areas including the politics of national security making in the United States, analysis of foreign policy, and international security and arms control.

### EXPERIENCE

*Research Associate*, Program on Science and Global Security, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University, 1999 – 2004.

Analysis and evaluation of U.S.-Russian cooperative efforts to reduce and convert Russia's nuclear weapons complex and re-employ its personnel, creating and expanding the roles for NGOs in this conversion, monitoring and encouraging arms control research at four nonproliferation research centers that employ former Russian weapons scientists.

*Lecturer*, Department of Politics, Princeton University, Spring 2004.

Designed and taught an advanced undergraduate course on the partisan and organizational politics of U.S. defense and national security policy.

*Thesis and Independent Research Advisor*, Department of Politics, Princeton University, 2003-2004.

Advised independent research and senior thesis projects for undergraduates interested in topics relating to international security, terrorism, and weapons of mass destruction.

*Fellow*, Rockefeller College, Princeton University, 2003-2004.

Advised freshmen and sophomores on course selection, counseled sophomores about selecting a major, and befriended freshmen as they transitioned into Princeton University life.

*Lecturer*, Princeton Writing Program, Princeton University, Fall 2003.

Designed and taught a writing-intensive course for freshman on the influence of weapons of mass destruction on international politics and U.S. domestic and international behavior.

*Lecturer*, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University, Spring Semester, 2000.

Teaching assistant for introductory undergraduate course on international relations, international political economy, and the causes of war.

*Research Assistant*, Security Studies Program, Center for International Studies, MIT, 1991 – 1998.

Research in various areas of U.S. defense and security policy including the relationship between the organization of the policy making process and policy outcomes, congressional influence on defense and military policy, interservice rivalry, and the organization and decision making processes of national security institutions.

*Arms Control Assistant*, Union of Concerned Scientists, Cambridge, MA, 1995-1997.

Organized all aspects of annual international conference on science and arms control, audited and reported conference budgets to major U.S. foundations, managed logistics and visa requirements for visiting international scientists, created web-based virtual community for young scientists who are interested in arms control and nonproliferation.

*Research Assistant*, Seminar XXI Program on Foreign Politics, International Relations, and the National Interest, Center for International Studies, MIT, 1993 – 1994.

Research and literature reviews of selected foreign policy topics, analytic summaries of various subjects within international relations, and facilitating discussion on such topics among a class composed of senior U.S. government and military personnel.

*Teaching Assistant*, Department of Political Science, MIT, spring semester, 1994.

Grade assessment and tutoring engineering students with difficulties understanding and mastering an undergraduate course on the role of Congress in the policy process.

*Research Assistant*, Center for National Security Studies, Los Alamos National Laboratory, 1991 – 1995.

Research, analysis, and synthesis of contemporary changes in U.S. defense policy, force structure, planning and threat assessment.

*Teaching Assistant*, Introduction to American Government, Harvard University Summer School, 1992 – 1998.

Grading exams, assessing student performance, tutoring students on writing and studying techniques.

*Staff Assistant*, Armed Services Committee, U.S. House of Representatives, Subcommittee on Investigations (Top Secret security clearance), 1988 – 1990.

Committee case work, writing press releases and statements for Members of Congress, planning hearings, coordinating and administering subcommittee's role in annual defense authorization process, and research on the War Powers Resolution.

*Assistant Instructor*, American National Government, Truman State University, 1986.

Delivering lectures, tutoring, grade assessment, and exam design for two sections of an introductory course on American government for undergraduates (approximately 70 undergraduates each).

## **PUBLICATIONS**

“Preventing Nuclear Entrepreneurship in Russia’s Nuclear Cities,” *International Security* Vol. 27, No. 2, Fall 2002.

Reprinted in: *New Global Dangers: Changing Dimensions of International Security* (Cambridge, MIT Press, 2004).

“Cooperative Nuclear Security – U.S. Efforts to Secure Nuclear Weapons, Materials and Expertise in the Former Soviet Union,” in *Nuclear Weapons and the Academy*, Michael Flynn, editor (forthcoming).

(with Oleg Bukharin and Frank von Hippel) *Conversion and Job Creation in Russia’s Closed Nuclear Cities*, Program on Nuclear Policy Alternatives, Center of International Studies and Center for Energy and Environment Studies, Princeton University, November 2000.

(with Oleg Bukharin, Harold Feiveson, Frank von Hippel, Matthew Bunn, William Hoehn, and Ken Luongo) *Helping Russia Downsize its Nuclear Complex: A Focus on the Closed Nuclear Cities*, Program on Nuclear Policy Alternatives, Center of International Studies and Center for Energy and Environmental Studies, Princeton University, June 2000.

*Nuclear Disarmament and Nonproliferation: Choices for the World*, report of the 31<sup>st</sup> United Nations Issues Conference, The Stanley Foundation, April 2000.

*Nuclear Cities Newsletter*, an electronic newsletter covering activities in and assistance to ten cities in Russia’s nuclear weapons making complex, December 1999.

(edited with Michael Desch) “A Growing Civil-Military Gap? Wrap-up Panel Discussion of the Olin Institute's U.S. Military and Post-Cold War American Society Project”, Working Paper Number 14, Project on U.S. Post Cold-War Civil-Military Relations, John M. Olin Institute for Strategic Studies, Harvard University, October 1998.

“The Changing of the Guard: The Role of Congress in Defense Organization and Reorganization in the Cold War,” Working Paper Number 10, Project on U.S. Post Cold-War Civil-Military Relations, John M. Olin Institute for Strategic Studies, Harvard University, June 1997.

“The Politics of Resource Allocation in the Post-Cold War Pentagon,” *Security Studies*, Vol. 5, No. 4, Summer 1996.

(with Harvey M. Sapolsky ) "Dodging a Bullet," *Breakthroughs*, Vol. 3, No. 1, Spring 1994.  
Reprinted in: *Across the Board*, October 1994; Social Issues Resources Series,  
Volume 4: Defense, 1995.

(edited with Michael Desch) "Colin Powell as JCS Chairman: A Panel Discussion on American Civil-Military Relations", Working Paper Number 1, Project on U.S. Post Cold-War Civil-Military Relations, John M. Olin Institute for Strategic Studies, Harvard University, December 1995.

(with Harvey M. Sapolsky) "War Without Killing," *Breakthroughs*, Vol. 2, No. 2, Winter 1992/93.

"Environmental Concerns at U.S. Overseas Military Installations," Defense and Arms Control Studies Working Paper, MIT Center for International Studies, July 1992.

(with Patrick J. Garrity) "U.S. Defense Strategy After the Cold War," *The Washington Quarterly*, Vol. 15, No. 2, Spring 1992.  
Reprinted in: *U.S. Security in an Uncertain Era*, Brad Roberts, editor, Cambridge, MA: MIT University Press, 1993.

"National Security in the Post-Cold War Era: A Description of the New U.S. Defense Strategy and the Base Force Concept," Center for National Security Studies Briefing, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Volume 2, No. 5, July 19, 1991.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

"The Threat of Nuclear Proliferation from the FSU," Shield New York Against Nuclear and bio-Terrorism," September 29-30, 2005, John Jay College, City University of New York.

"Preventing Nuclear Entrepreneurship in Russia's Nuclear Cities, Ph.D. Seminar Series, SIS, American University, January 21, 2005.

"Cooperative Threat Reduction as a Legacy of the Cold War," guest lecture, American and the Cold War, Department of History, American University, December 7, 2004.

"Proliferation and the Former Soviet Union," The Second Nuclear Age, CUNY, New York, December 3, 2004.

"Nuclear Cooperation with Russia," guest lecture in WWS 556 C, Protection Against Weapons of Mass Destruction, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University, April 20, 2004.

"A Tale of Two Defense Budgets: Institutional Rivalry, Collusion, and Policy Outcomes," American University, December 12, 2003.

"Weapons of Mass Destruction: How are they changing our world?," Rockefeller College, Princeton University, December 10, 2003.

"Preventing Nuclear Entrepreneurship in Russia's Nuclear Cities," Pacific Northwest Center for Global Security, Seattle, March 4, 2003.

“WMD Proliferation from the former Soviet Union – Controlling WMD Expertise,” Graduate Student Seminar, University of Washington, March 4, 2003.

“Sizing and Shaping U.S. Military Forces – A Look at Domestic Influences,” Program on Science and Global Security Seminar Series, Princeton University, October 9, 2002.

“Determining the Size of U.S. Defense Budgets – The Role of Bureaucratic and Domestic Politics,” Institute of International Studies, Tsinghua University, Beijing, August 29, 2002.

“U.S. Cooperative Security Programs,” Guest Lecture, Undergraduate Course on Protection Against Weapons of Mass Destruction, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University, April 8, 2002.

“International Cooperative Programs in the Nuclear Cities,” Second International Working Group Meeting of the European Nuclear Cities Initiative,” European Commission, February 25, 2002, Brussels, Belgium

“Review of On-going U.S. and International Downsizing and Conversion Efforts in Russia’s Nuclear Cities,” Workshop sponsored by the Russian American Nuclear Security Advisory Council, Washington, DC, February 19, 2002.

“Conversion and Job Creation in Russia’s Closed Nuclear Cities,” Workshop sponsored by the Russian American Nuclear Security Advisory Council, Washington, DC, December 19, 2000.

"U.S. Cooperative Activities in Russia's Nuclear Cities," International Conference on "Helping Russia Down-Size its Nuclear-weapons Complex," Princeton University, March 14, 2000.

“The Changing of the Guard: The Role of Congress in Defense Organization and Reorganization in the Cold War,” 1997 Bi-Annual Meeting of the Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society, Baltimore, October 1997.

“The Political Context of Defense Policy,” Ninth International Summer Symposium on Science and World Affairs, Cornell University, July 24 – August 2, 1997.

“The Politics of Resource Allocation in the Post-Cold War Pentagon,” American Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, September 1995.

## **OTHER**

Member, Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) Working Group, Beyond Goldwater-Nichols, 2004-2005.

Member, Council on Foreign Relations Study Group, New Nuclear Weapons, 2003-2004.

Rapporteur, Stanley Foundation United Nations Issues Conference, Nuclear Disarmament and Nonproliferation: Choices for the World, 2000.

Rapporteur, Council on Foreign Relations Independent Task Force, Military Options and Implications of Non-Lethal Technologies, 1995.

## **MEMBERSHIPS**

American Political Science Association (APSA)

APSA is the professional organization of U.S.-based political scientists.

Coalition for Peace Action (CFPA), Princeton (recipient of 2004 Olive Branch award)

CFPA is a non-profit, community-based organization working for nuclear disarmament, an end to the arms trade, and in support of a peace economy.