

ISODARCO

since 1966



International School on Disarmament and Research on Conflicts

www.isodarco.com

Welcome to the 63rd ISODARCO Course

Volterra (Pisa) 6 – 13 August 2025

Peace and Stability in the Age of Militarized AI and Cyber-conflicts: New Challenges and Risks

After two experimental courses in North Cyprus, Famagusta, July 2017, and Kyrenia, April 2019, the 63rd course is again outside our traditional series of Winter Courses in a ski resort in the Alps.

We decided on this move at the request of three learned colleagues who proposed to Isodarco a timely course on the hot and rapidly evolving topic of Militarized Artificial Intelligence, AI. Added incentives have included the possibility of using the facilities of SIAF, the International School for Higher Education, located in the ancient city of Volterra, a powerful Etruscan Locumonia (seat of provincial government) dating back to the 9th Century BC.

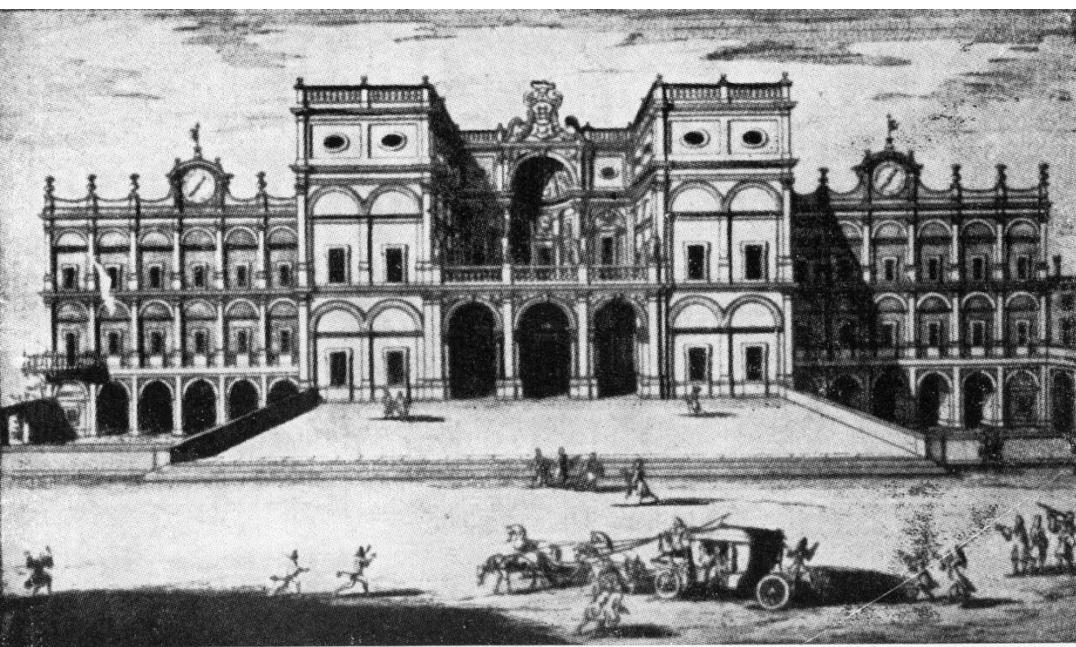
This is our first time here, and while the collaboration of the SIAF staff has been very helpful in solving our logistics problems, some issues may not have been effectively addressed.

If you experience any inconvenience, please let us know and we will do our best to help.

Ask, and Thou shalt be given

(if possible)

ISODARCO



Isodarco started its activity in June 1966 by organizing the first summer course at Villa Falconieri in Frascati. In its first fifty-nine years, Isodarco has organized 83 events: 62 courses, five special seminars (Amman, Venice, and 3 in Taipei), and 16 Seminars in China.

The last one, held in October 2019 in Shenzhen (near Hong Kong), has been organized in collaboration with the China Arms Control and Disarmament Association (CACDA), the Program for Science and National Security Studies (PSNSS-Beijing-China), and the Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI-USA).

ISODARCO

As an example of the early impact of Isodarco, Evan S. Medeiros, of the Rand Corporation and a China expert on the staff of the US National Security Council, in his book, *Reluctant Restraint – The Evolution of China's Non-Proliferation Policies and Practices, 1980-2004*, devotes several pages to the role of the Isodarco seminars in the development of Chinese strategic thinking in the field of non-proliferation.

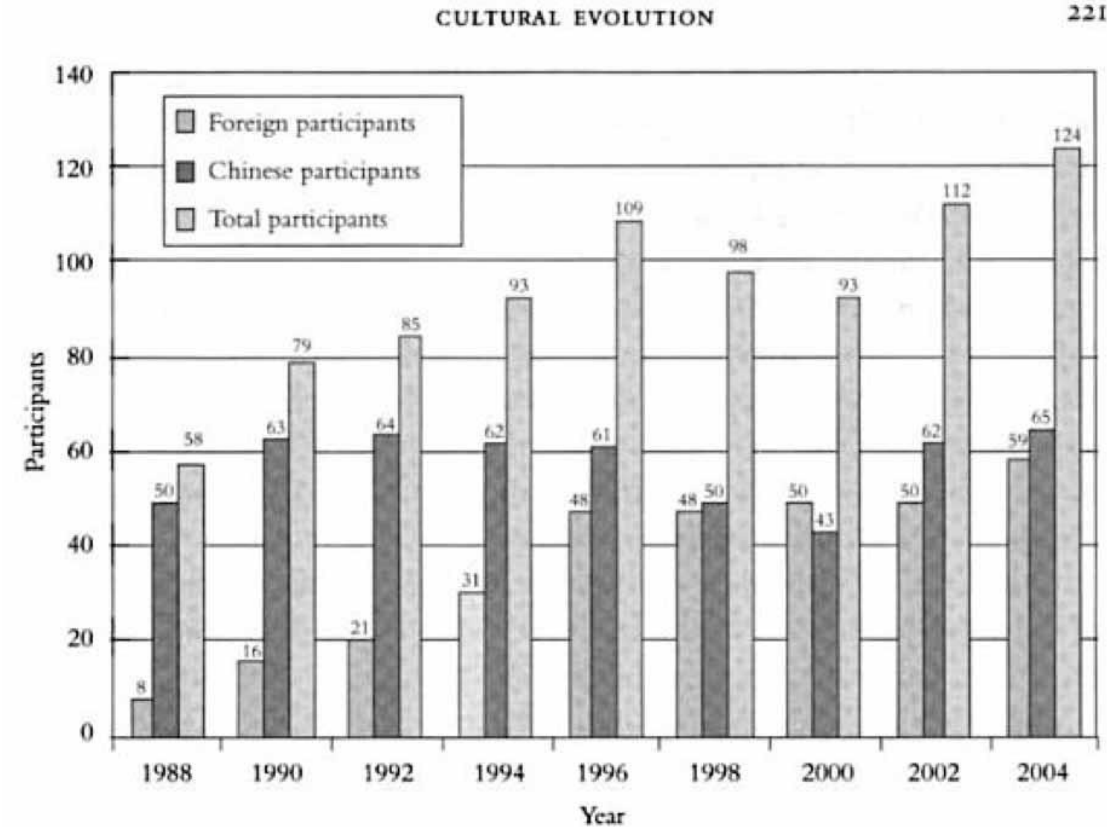


FIGURE 5.1 Participation in the ISODARCO-Beijing arms-control seminars, 1988–2004
SOURCE: All of the numbers in this graph were taken from the official participation list for each seminar and from IAPCM publications.

ISODARCO STATISTICS

Total number of presences at Isodarco Courses: 4295;

Number of different participants: 2439;

Total number of Lecturers: 932;

Number of different Lecturers: 507;

Total number of course Directors: 109;

Number of different course Directors: 34;

Number of participants in different countries: 110.

ISODARCO

The original idea was that disarmament and arms control are political problems. However, a correct understanding of them requires extensive scientific and technical knowledge that is generally unavailable even to qualified public officials and politicians.

Isodarco was supposed to provide this knowledge through residential courses lasting 6-10 days. Senior experts would teach and live with people, both young and old, who were interested in understanding these problems better.

The participants would include scientists, engineers, social and political scientists, journalists, junior diplomats, military people, and people from the peace movement who wanted to play a more culturally and technically qualified role in their activity.

ISODARCO Publications

Isodarco has published 30 books based on the material supplied in our courses.

Routledge recently reprinted our books on terrorism published in the 1970s:

URBINO 1974, "**International terrorism and world security.**"

Edited by David Carlton and Carlo Schaerf:

Published by Croom Helm (London) and John Wiley (New York), 1975;

ARICCIA 1978, "**Contemporary terror: studies in sub-state violence.**"

Edited by David Carlton and Carlo Schaerf:

Published by Macmillan (London) and St. Martin's Press (New York), 1981.

And:

1972, The Dynamics of the Arms Race;

1996, The Search for Stability in Russia and the Former Soviet Bloc;

1998, Technology Transfer.

Arms Control and Disarmament

50 Years of Experience
in Nuclear Education

Edited by Paolo Foradori,
Giampiero Giacomello
and Alessandro Pascolini



50th Anniversary Book

Paolo Foradori, Giampiero Giacomello, Alessandro Pascolini (Eds.)

Arms Control and Disarmament

50 Years of Experience in Nuclear Education

- It contains contributions from leading names in the field, including Nobel Laureates.
- Classic readings with continued relevance for understanding today's nuclear weapons issues.
- A successful story in nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament education.

This volume collects contributions by world-leading experts in the nuclear field who participated in the International School on Disarmament and Research on Conflicts (ISODARCO) educational activities. It features some of the most prominent scholars and practitioners who fundamentally shaped policies, strategies, theories, scholarly studies, and debates in non-proliferation and disarmament. On the occasion of ISODARCO's 50th anniversary, this book revisits a selection of contributions that capture the pressing issues during the five decades of continuous engagement in disarmament and non-proliferation education.

Isodarco Golden Jubilee 1966 - 2016

A letter from USA President Barack Obama

A Medal from Italian President Sergio Mattarella

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 2, 2016

I send greetings to all those marking the 50th anniversary of the International School on Disarmament and Research on Conflicts (ISODARCO).

The task of building a safer future requires people from around the world to engage in peaceful collaboration. For half a century, ISODARCO has brought women and men of different backgrounds and beliefs together to study and discuss pressing security concerns. By identifying problems, engaging in debate, and working in a spirit of common purpose to address issues ranging from the threat of nuclear weapons to conflict in cyberspace and the need for greater international cooperation, you are helping reduce the possibility of catastrophe and contributing to better understanding among peoples and states.

As you reflect on your achievements, I commend you for your efforts and wish you the best for the years to come.



SEGRETARIATO GENERALE
DELLA PRESIDENZA DELLA REPUBBLICA
SERVIZIO PER LE ADESIONI PRESIDENZIALI



SAP/SM/3019/01



Gentile Presidente,

ho il piacere di trasmetterLe l'unità medaglia che il Capo dello Stato ha voluto destinare, quale suo premio di rappresentanza, a ISODARCO International School on Disarmament and Research on Conflicts in occasione del 50° anniversario della sua fondazione.

L'occasione mi è gradita per farLe giungere i saluti più cordiali.



Il Capo del Servizio
(Dott.ssa Cinzia Raimondi)



All.: 1 MEDAGLIA e appunto

Prof. Carlo SCHAEFER
Presidente dell'ISODARCO
International School on Disarmament
and Research on Conflicts
Via della Rotonda, 4
00186 ROMA

Basic ISODARCO Rules

Meetings are private but not secret or classified. No specific opinion expressed at the school can be attributed to Isodarco or any participant. But you are welcome to report what has been discussed.

Examples: NO: Mr. A said that ...

NO: Isodarco says that ...

YES: It has been argued that ...

The discussions cannot be recorded. The lectures can be recorded only with the permission of the lecturer.

No material can be circulated or published as an Isodarco paper unless it is an invited lecture or seminar approved by the School's or Course's director.

Duties and Privileges of Chairpersons

A standard session consists of 45 minutes for the presentation and 45 minutes for the discussion.

Start and close the sessions on time. Only very special exceptions must be agreed upon with the school director.

You can regulate the discussion as you think best. There is no need to give the floor in chronological order. Questions and answers can be grouped as you feel best. The speaker does not have to provide individual answers. **Avoid lengthy interventions.**

During the discussion, prioritize the floor to more junior participants and non-lecturers.

Seminars and Extra Activities

Seminars by participants judged particularly relevant to the course will be included in the official program.

Other seminars may be offered on a spontaneous basis during the “free” time:

Extracurricular activities (seminars, discussions, working groups, visual presentations, films, etc.) should not overlap with the school's official working hours.

You should submit your proposals as soon as possible to distribute them over several days rather than putting them all together in the last few days.

ISODARCO Extra Activity

(To be filled by the proponent and returned to the secretariat at Andalo)

Isodarco schedule leaves time free for extra activities offered by participants. The proponents must fill this form and give it to the course secretary who will post it outside the secretariat. When a reasonable number of signatures of interested participants is collected the activity is scheduled during the free time.

Proponent:

Structure:

☐ Seminar ☐ Working Group ☐ Open Discussion ☐ Movie Show
☐ Other:

Title:

Short motivation

All interested please sign below:

Scheduled time (to be filled by the secretariat):

Participants lists

1. For the Isodarco web pages (**100 characters, name, and spaces included**).

Names and affiliations include city (states) and country.

If you do not want to be included, please let us know.

2. For distribution at the course (**400 characters name and spaces included**).

Names, affiliations, and anything you want included: e-mail, address, telephone numbers ...

Please check what we already have, change it if you wish, or rush your version to:

lodoclavarino@gmail.com

With this action, you authorize Isodarco to distribute this information to all course participants.

3. Departing time (for the secretariat): Names and how and when you depart.

64th ISODARCO Course on:
**Nuclear Risk, Technological Disruption,
and International Conflict in an Age of Turbulence**

ANDALO (TRENTO) - ITALY

11 - 18 January 2026

Directors of the Course:

**Poul Christiansen (Pugwash Conferences, Oxford, UK),
Francesca Giovannini (Managing the Atom, HKS, Harvard University, MA, USA)
Steven Miller (Belfer Center, HKS, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA)**

With support from the Carnegie Corporation of New York

The Program

I plead not guilty!

The Program is the responsibility of the
course Directors

WEAR YOUR BADGE AT ALL TIMES

NO SMOKING IN THE FACILITIES

NO EATING OR DRINKING IN THE LECTURE ROOM
(water is allowed)

PRESENTERS:

Please, test your laptop connection to the projector or the compatibility of your file with our computer in advance of your presentation

ENJOY YOUR STAY!!