

Oslo Nuclear Project

Submission to the Secretary-General's report on Youth, disarmament and non-proliferation
(A/RES/78/31)

The Oslo Nuclear Project (ONP) is a research initiative based at the University of Oslo that provides research, teaching, and public outreach related to nuclear weapons issues. Since 2019, ONP has promoted youth engagement in nonproliferation and disarmament by providing education, mentorship, and professional development opportunities to audiences in Norway and abroad. ONP has conducted several activities aimed at empowering the next generation of nuclear experts. These efforts include establishing paid opportunities, supporting co-authorship of graduate affiliates in working papers, and organizing events targeting youth engagement. ONP provides support and training for publishing opinion pieces and academic articles, contributing to media conversations on nuclear weapons, and providing university lectures that help promote an informed public debate on nuclear weapons. ONP regularly hosts research affiliates to help create a global network of young people interested in nuclear weapons issues. Since 2023, ONP has hosted 4 students alongside its staff, and included MPhil students in core activities, promoting research and mentorship. ONP members regularly provide feedback on students written work. Members also supervise, mentor, and teach both BA and MPhil students. Educational efforts by ONP are interactive, emphasizing hands-on learning through simulation materials and in-depth classroom discussion. ONP members teach important courses including Conflict and Cooperation and Strategy and Politics in the Nuclear Age. ONP has also created a publicly available simulation to show students the importance of nuclear weapons risk reduction. ONP is dedicated to informing the public debate, especially it's youth participants, through rigorous academic research and corresponding outreach. From July 2023, ONP has hosted 12 public seminars, covering a wide range of topics in nonproliferation and disarmament. Salient themes of these seminars included understanding public opinion on nuclear weapons, emerging nuclear weapons risks in ongoing regional conflict, and exploring nonproliferation solutions. In addition to traditional research seminars ONP has twice hosted graduate student symposiums. To support emerging experts in refining their work, this event is a specialized writing workshop designed to enhance youth research through expert feedback and peer discussion. The workshop helps students write, present, and submit academic research related to nonproliferation and disarmament. ONP regularly hosts reading group sessions to workshop academic articles, particularly amongst its junior staff. To support efforts to achieve nuclear nonproliferation and disarmament, ONP provides updated knowledge about nuclear weapons issues to new generations of experts. Through continuous student and public engagement, ONP provides rigorous, fact-based, knowledge for the next generation of experts, equipping them with necessary skills to reduce future nuclear weapons risk.