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Type: **Poster**

Necessity of Academia-Industry-Political for Nuclear Awareness

We live in an interconnected world characterized by the emergence of new actors and a fast pace technological environment. Prevention and awareness are critical if we wish to prevent rapid escalation of crisis and massive retaliation with Nuclear Weapons from one state to another or the use of so called “Backpack Nukes” from individual persons. Arms control should be sought within the broader scope of technology policy along with collaboration from the political and educational realms. In the 1990s the Triple Helix Concept of academia-industry-government interactions was introduced by Etzkowitz and Leydesdorff. The Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty is the opportunity to bring policy-makers and engineers working together on alternative technological tools with a dual-use component, using this concept. For instance, the CTBT verification systems also contributes to environmental threat preventions. This talk will seek to first give an overview of current dual-use activities and assess their success in raising awareness. We will then explore possible case studies of synergies between the three sectors and expected positive outcomes on the CTBT and the economy. Thus, the case studies will include a political and engineering component to encompass the whole subject matter. We will conclude with recommendations and challenges to overcome.

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Track Classification: Theme 5. CTBT in a Global Context