



**Old Dominion University
Department of Physics**

**Virtual Colloquium
(Zoom info on next page)**

**Tuesday, February 16, 2021
3:00 pm**

**"Walking the World Back From the Nuclear Brink:
What can Scientists do?"**

**Dr. Sebastien Philippe
Princeton University**

3:00 pm: Colloquium

4:00 pm: After the colloquium, there will be a discussion led by Dr. Philippe about nuclear policy advocacy and the Physicists Coalition for Nuclear Threat Reduction.

Abstract: Despite shrinking significantly at the end of the Cold War, the world nuclear weapon arsenals continue to represent a significant threat to humanity. About 14,000 nuclear weapons are still deployed or in reserve and other 700 intercontinental ballistic missiles are ready to be launched within minutes. Recent trends indicate the risks of nuclear war may be growing with the return of great power competition, the modernization of existing arsenals, the abandonment of arms control agreements, the development of new types of strategic weapons, the rapid militarization of emerging technologies, and the increasing entanglement of conventional and nuclear forces. This talk will present the current nuclear crisis, discuss possible approaches to walk back from the brink, and make suggestions on what physicists can do both as scientists and informed citizens to reduce the dangers of nuclear war.

Bio: Sebastien Philippe is a scientist and associate research scholar with the Princeton University Program on Science and Global Security. His research focuses on nuclear arms control and disarmament verification as well as understanding the impact of emerging technologies on the safety, security and vulnerability of nuclear forces. Philippe is a member of the International Panel on Fissile Materials, an associate editor of the journal Science and Global Security, a member-at-large of the APS Forum on Physics and Society executive committee, a former strategic nuclear weapon safety engineer, a former postdoctoral fellow at the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, and hold a PhD in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering from Princeton University.

"Walking the World Back From the Nuclear Brink: What can Scientists do?"

Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 3:00 pm

4:00 pm: Discussion to follow

Dr. Sebastien Philippe, Princeton University

Join Zoom Meeting

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213.19.144.110 (Amsterdam Netherlands)

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103.122.166.55 (Australia Sydney)

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149.137.40.110 (Singapore)

64.211.144.160 (Brazil)

69.174.57.160 (Canada Toronto)

65.39.152.160 (Canada Vancouver)

207.226.132.110 (Japan Tokyo)

149.137.24.110 (Japan Osaka)