

Professor Benoît Pelopidas
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www.sciencespo.fr/nk/en and <https://www.sciencespo.fr/ceri/nuclear/>

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

January 2025 –	Full Professor of political science, Sciences Po (Paris)
February 2022 – December 2024	Associate Professor of political science, Sciences Po (Paris)
Sept 2016 – Feb 2022	Assistant Professor of political science, Sciences Po (Paris) (Permanent position)
Sept. 16 – Dec. 17 and July 2018	Visiting Fellow, Princeton University's Program on Science and Global Security and PIIRS Global Systemic Risk research cluster
Sept 2012-August 2016	Lecturer in International Relations, School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies (SPAIS), Faculty of Social Sciences and Law, University of Bristol. (Tenure granted in 2013)
Sept 2012-	Affiliate, Center for International Security and Cooperation, Stanford University
2011-2012	Postdoctoral Fellow, Center for International Security and Cooperation, Stanford University
2010-2011	Postdoctoral Fellow, James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies, and Adjunct Faculty Member, Monterey Institute of International Studies
2009-2010	Predocctoral Fellow at the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies, Monterey Institute of International Studies, Monterey, USA

INTERNATIONAL PRIZES AND AWARDS

2025	Keynote at the Nobel Peace Conference, Oslo, August 6
2024	Inaugural keynote speaker for the 'Unthinkable salon' series from the Nuclear Threat Initiative
2016-2019	Chair of excellence in security studies (USPC)
2018	Swedish Pugwash Annual Lecture, Stockholm. 29 May
2017	Chapman Annual Lecture, Department of Politics and IR, University of Auckland, NZ
2016	British Academy Rising Star Engagement Award.
2011	Best Dissertation in International Studies in Switzerland for the year 2010 – Swiss Network of International Studies
2011	Best Graduate Paper of 2010 from the International Studies Association – International Security Studies Section
2010	"Outstanding Student Essay Prize" – McElvany Nonproliferation Essay Competition
2009	Best article of the year in the <i>Swiss Political Science Review</i>

MAIN SCHOLARLY GRANTS

2024-2026	PI of Carnegie Corporation of NY funded project on "The bureaucratic politics of nuclear alliance management" (440 000 \$)
2022-2024	Mentor of Dr Sanne VERSCHUREN's Marie Curie Fellowship (€184k)
2019-2021	Mentor of Dr Kjølv EGELAND's Marie Curie Fellowship (€184k)
2018-2025	European Research Council Starting Grant: PI of NUCLEAR, €1,5 million
2018-2022	ANR [French National Research Council, blind peer-review] Young Researcher Grant (€253000): VULPAN. Political vulnerabilities in the nuclear age.
2016-2019	USPC Chair of Excellence Grant (€378000) [French Ministry of Research]
2015-2017	British Academy's Newton Advanced Fellowship on "Global Nuclear Vulnerability: the effects of the Cuban Missile Crisis on British, French and Brazilian nuclear policies". Co-PI with Pr Carlo Patti, £ 74000.

¹ In France, *Nuclear Knowledges* is the first scholarly research program on the nuclear phenomenon, which is fully independent and transparent on its funding sources. We categorically refuse conflict of interest and only accept funding based on the assessment of scholarly work on the basis of scholarly criteria, by peers.

5. Selected peer-reviewed publications based on the aims of the research visit

Repenser les choix nucléaires. La seduction de l'impossible [Rethinking nuclear (weapons) choices. The Seduction of the Impossible], Paris, Presses de Sciences Po, 2022, with a foreword by David Holloway.

A conversation with Dr Emma Belcher on the findings of the book ([Press the Button](#) podcast) an [article](#) by Alexandra Hall on the findings of the book for *The National Interest* and a [roundtable in English](#) with H-Diplo featuring Matthew Evangelista (Cornell University), Beatrice Heuser (Glasgow University), John Krige (Georgia Tech), Grégoire Mallard (Graduate Institute, Geneva) and Lori Maguire (University of Reims)

[Nuclear France. New Questions, New Sources, New Findings.](#) London: Routledge, 2024 [Editor and contributor.]

1 edited volume under contract with McGill-Queens University Press, 'Global Nuclear History' series [Sole editor]: *The Rise of Nuclear Vulnerability. A Global History of the Cuban Missile Crisis*

On luck and nuclear weapons

“[The False Promise of Nuclear Risk Reduction](#)”, [with Kjølrv Egeland], *International Affairs* 100:1, January 2024, pp. 345-360.

“[Facing nuclear war. Luck, learning and the Cuban Missile Crisis](#)” in Christian Reus-Smit et. al. (eds.), the *Oxford Handbook on the History of International Relations* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2023), pp. 705-720 [with Richard Ned Lebow].

“[Power, luck and scholarly responsibility at the end of the world\(s\)](#)”, *International Theory*, 12(3), November 2020: 459-470

“[The unbearable lightness of luck. Three sources of overconfidence in the controllability of nuclear crises](#)” *European Journal of International Security* 2:2, July 2017: 240-262

On nuclear memories for the future

“[Nuclear Memories for the Future: Gaps and Forgetting in European Publics' Understandings of the Atomic Bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki](#)” [with Sterre van Buuren and Alexander Sorg], *Thesis* 11.

“[How dawn turned into dusk: Scoping and closing possible nuclear futures at the end of the Cold War](#)” [with Heba Taha and Tom Vaughan], *Journal of Strategic Studies*, early view.

“[What Europeans believe about Hiroshima and Nagasaki and why it matters](#)”, *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, August 3, 2020 [with Kjølrv Egeland]

On the need to develop new modes of coordinated research and teaching networks on nuclear and related risks

“[No such thing as a free donation. Research funding and conflicts of interest in nuclear weapons policy analysis](#)”, *International Relations* 39(1), 2025 [with Kjølrv Egeland], pp. 125-47.

“[The Tragified Politics of Nuclear Weapons and Armed Drones and the Making of Unaccountability](#)”, [with Neil C. Renic] *Ethics & International Affairs* 38 :2, 2024, pp. 209-31.

“[Existential Silos. The compartmentalization of the futures of environmental change and the nuclear threat.](#)” [with Sterre van Buuren and Thomas Fraise], *Futures*, online first.