



# LINDAU NOBEL LAUREATE MEETINGS

Lindau, 3 March 2022

## Press Release

### Call for peace from more than 100 Nobel Laureates

- Responsible use of scientific knowledge
- Urgent appeal never to use nuclear weapons
- Call on President Putin to recall armed forces
- [Full text of the declaration with all signatories](#)

More than 100 Nobel Laureates from a wide range of disciplines are calling for peace in the face of war emanating from Russian soil. To this end, they have signed a declaration initiated by the Max Planck Society and supported by the Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings.

The declaration continues the tradition of the [Mainau Declaration 1955 on Nuclear Weapons](#). It was co-initiated by Otto Hahn, a 16-time participant in the Lindau Meetings and the first president of the Max Planck Society, at the 5<sup>th</sup> Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting. The current statement reads: “The discovery of nuclear fission created the basis for the construction of nuclear weapons of destruction. Their current volume has the potential to make the Earth uninhabitable for humans and to wipe out human civilisation. Such weapons must therefore never be used!”

The 104 signatories call on governments and business leaders to use scientific knowledge and technologies responsibly and with awareness of their long-term consequences. Russian President Vladimir Putin is called upon to respect the agreements under international law, to recall his armed forces, to start negotiations and to establish peace.

The Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings and the Max Planck Society are convinced that science must continue the dialogue, even if politics remains silent – or fights. With this comes the hope that this initiative, along with countless others, will lead as soon as possible to a return to peaceful exchange between nations.

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## About the Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings

Since their foundation in 1951, the Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings have developed into a unique international scientific forum. The annual Meetings provide an opportunity for an exchange between different generations, cultures and disciplines. The theme of the Lindau Meetings alternates between Physics, Chemistry or Physiology and Medicine – the three Nobel Prize scientific disciplines. Every five years an interdisciplinary Meeting takes place, while the Lindau Meeting on Economic Sciences is held every three years. Through the medium of various declarations (2020 for Open Science, 2015 on Climate Change, 1955 Against the Use of Nuclear Weapons) the scientists have repeatedly joined in the public debate with political appeals.

It was the Lindau physicians Franz Karl Hein and Gustav Wilhelm Parade who approached Count Lennart Bernadotte af Wisborg with the idea of a conference of Nobel Laureates and proceeded to jointly implement this with him – since 1953 with the participation of young scientists. Some 35,000 students, PhD candidates and post-docs have since taken part. Their experience of the Meeting may be literally once-in-a-lifetime, but they remain permanent members of the Lindau Alumni Network and ambassadors for scientific dialogue.

All year long the Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings continue to pursue their 'Mission Education' aimed at emphasising the importance of science and advocating science and research. This is also the purpose of the Lindau Online Mediatheque as a learning platform with teaching materials for schools.

### Further Information

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