The Growing Existential Threat of Nuclear Weapons

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**Date:** April 24, 2015  
**Time:** 9:00am  
**Location:** Harriman Hall Room 132 – Seminar Room on 1st Floor

**Synopsis:**  
The Cold War stimulated the development of a world in which two super-powers confronted each other with tens of thousands of nuclear weapons primed for immediate use. While the international situation has changed, a conceptual framework has yet to emerge that encompasses the current multi-centered reality of nuclear existence. Today, rogue states and non-state entities may be undaunted by the doctrine of mutually assured destruction, that amazingly kept us secure for more than sixty years. Pakistan will soon surpass Britain and France as a nuclear power, but the world's attention is focused on Iran. These issues will be discussed along with the very real potential for nuclear terrorism.

Edward A. Friedman is Professor Emeritus of Technology Management at Stevens Institute of Technology. In the fall of 2013, he taught a course at Stevens on nuclear weapons history and policy entitled, “The Nuclear Era.” In 2012, he was a visiting professor at Seton Hall University where he developed and taught a graduate level course on “Nuclear Weapons in International Affairs.”

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