Safeguarding Al biodesign tools

Nuclear fail-safe reviews

No nuclear testing What does it take to build a safer world? Strengthening the global nuclear order

Safe and secure nuclear energy

2024 Impact Report



Empowering diverse and young leaders

Creative engagement from Hollywood



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Letter from the NTI Co-Chairs

ars in regions with nuclear weapons, advances in artificial intelligence, the cascading effects of climate change, the early weeks of Donald Trump's second presidency, and the spread of a new avian flu have rocked our collective sense of order and reinforced the reality that the world will continue to change at a dizzying pace.

Against that backdrop, NTI remains laser-focused on developing innovative, durable solutions to address rapidly evolving and persistent nuclear and biological threats. As our record reflects, NTI in 2024 demonstrated that we know how to answer a fundamental question: What does it take to build a safer world?

On nuclear risks, the current environment demands creative solutions that are not dependent on treaties, agreements, and state-led coordinated actions. That's why NTI promoted **nuclear "fail-safe" reviews**—a process to reduce the likelihood of unauthorized, inadvertent, or mistaken nuclear use. With NTI's urging, Congress mandated that the United States conduct a unilateral review. It was completed in 2024, and NTI is now encouraging other countries to take action. Ernie and Sam took a high-level delegation to China in October where key Chinese experts learned about the review and shared the concept with their top government officials. The trip was just one element of NTI's engagement with China, at a time of strained relations between governments; we also held two other track two meetings on nuclear materials security and biosecurity with Chinese experts.

NTI | bio is at the forefront of reducing risks at the nexus of emerging technologies and biosecurity. In 2024, we released an important software tool, developed over five years, that helps DNA synthesis providers screen for biosecurity risks. The team also launched the **AlxBio Global Forum**, convening leading artificial intelligence (AI) companies, biosecurity professionals, and policymakers to build international consensus on global governance mechanisms around AI and the life sciences.

Recognizing that emerging technologies are inextricable from the nuclear and biosecurity landscape, NTI launched **FutureSafe: AI and Emerging Technology**. This is a new program led by our new Vice President for Science and Technology Dimitri Kusnezov, PhD. FutureSafe will work across governments, industry, academia, and non-governmental organizations to define the implications of AI for nuclear weapons modernization; catalyze the development of AIenabled nuclear security technologies such as proliferation-detection and verification tools; and, in partnership with NTI | bio, promote urgent actions to safeguard AI-bio capabilities.

In 2024, NTI launched other new projects that meet the moment in critical mission areas:

As momentum for nuclear energy continues to build worldwide to deliver progress on climate, so does its potential to create new nuclear risks. The **Nuclear Scaling Initiative**—a unique collaboration between NTI, Clean Air Task Force (CATF), and EFI Foundation (EFIF)—works across the nuclear energy ecosystem to enable the rapid expansion of safe and secure nuclear energy that does not lead to more nuclear weapons.

NTI's Critical Mass project is the new home for our efforts to build awareness and public engagement about the risks posed by nuclear weapons. In 2024, "Make Nukes History" leveraged the attention on the Oscar-winning film Oppenheimer to remind people that although the story of the dawn of the atomic age is history, nuclear weapons are not. With impressive support among Hollywood icons, the campaign made a splash online and in Los Angeles, attracting the attention of millions.

As we ushered in these new efforts, we also transitioned two NTI-developed initiatives to fly independently—in keeping with our strategic model of systemic change by starting, incubating, and releasing new organizations. The International Biosecurity and Biosafety Initiative for Science (IBBIS), created by NTI | bio in 2022, is now independently established and headquartered in Geneva and successfully working with global partners to strengthen biosecurity norms and

develop innovative tools to uphold them. The Cyber-Nuclear Forum—which NTI launched in 2019 to protect nuclear facilities by fostering the exchange of knowledge and best practices among cybersecurity experts from around the world—will continue its important work under the auspices of the World Institute for Nuclear Security (another thriving organization that NTI established in 2008).

From our founding in 2001, NTI has innovated and implemented solutions to reduce risks and build a safer world. We are extraordinarily grateful to the foundations, families, and individuals who put their trust in us by providing financial support. We thank new funders and long-time supporters, including Carnegie Corporation of New York, the Gates Foundation, Giving What We Can, Open Philanthropy, the Peter G. Peterson Foundation, and Ploughshares.

Without all our supporters, we would not be able to do this important work.

Ted Turner

Ernest J. Mor/iz

Sam Nunn





WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO BUILD A SAFER WORLD? It takes harnessing the power of emerging technologies.

Convening the AlxBio Global Forum

NTI | bio launched the AIxBio Global Forum, an international coalition of high-level biosecurity professionals, AI experts, and policymakers, to advance lasting solutions that reduce rapidly evolving biosecurity risks at the convergence of AI and the life sciences. Inaugural meetings in April and December convened participants from China, Europe, India, Nigeria, South America, the United Kingdom, and the United States; Anthropic and Google DeepMind; and multilateral institutions. The meetings focused on developing a shared vision of risks and benefits and establishing a research agenda to reduce biosecurity risks with the application of AI in biology.

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Unpacking AI and Nuclear Weapons

The U.S. government has taken steps to ensure that humans and not AI make decisions over the use of nuclear weapons. Although this declaration is a useful start, the complex set of risks at the intersection of AI and the nuclear weapons system requires a deeper interrogation. That's why NTI is conducting research to better understand how the intersection of AI and other emerging technologies might both increase the chance that nuclear weapons will be used, and hold promise for nuclear threat reduction. The findings, to be released in 2025, will include recommendations for governments.

Safeguarding AI Biodesign Tools

Al biodesign tools (BDTs) enable the engineering of biological systems and have the potential to yield many benefits, including developing new vaccines and therapeutics. However, as these tools become more capable, the risk that they could be exploited to design dangerous pathogens is growing. NTI | bio's report, *Developing Guardrails for Al Biodesign Tools*, recommends a range of risk-reduction measures. To follow up, NTI launched a pilot effort with Lattice Automation, a company that designs synthetic biology software. Lattice and NTI | bio are developing a process that will give DNA synthesis providers and others a clearer understanding of the origins of novel biological designs so they can more effectively screen for biosecurity risks.



A New Era for the Cyber-Nuclear Forum

An integral part of NTI's impact model is institutionalizing proven practices and programs to ensure long-term success. In 2019, NTI identified a critical need at the cyber-nuclear nexus: a venue for cybersecurity experts from nuclear facilities around the world to exchange information and best practices. NTI founded the Cyber-Nuclear Forum to fill this gap. After five years as the Forum's leader, NTI passed responsibility on to the World Institute for Nuclear Security (WINS). "Looking confidently to the future, WINS is honored to have been chosen to continue the work of NTI and... [the] essential mission of strengthening cyber security at nuclear facilities worldwide," said Lars van Dassen, WINS Executive Director.

NTI'S INNOVATION FORUM

Eric Schmidt, former CEO and chairman of Google, sat down with Ernie Moniz at NTI for a livestreamed discussion on how AI fundamentally transforms the foundations of nuclear, biological, and cybersecurityand society at large-and what it means for the future. The event was NTI's inaugural Innovation Forum, designed to spur fresh thinking on how to tackle critical nuclear and biological security challenges. "There is a great deal of concern that we're building the tools that will accelerate the dangers that are already present," Schmidt said. "Trying to get the notion of innovation into D.C., which is what you're trying to do, is really important."



U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS

EX II

NTI's fall Board of Directors dinner featured a conversation about U.S.-China relations between Director of National Intelligence Avril Haines and NTI Board Member and former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Mike Mullen, who had just returned from Beijing as part of the NTI delegation on nuclear fail-safe. PBS's Judy Woodruff moderated the session, during which Haines and Mullen highlighted the two countries' shared interest in maintaining dialogue and engagement, even amid intense competition.

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WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO BUILD A SAFER WORLD? It takes tackling urgent nuclear risks.

Reducing Nuclear Risks with Fail-Safe Reviews

Rapidly evolving modern technologies are introducing new risks to nuclear weapons systems, underscoring the urgent need for nuclear-armed states to undertake "fail-safe" reviews of their nuclear weapons and command-and-control systems. NTI began encouraging the U.S. government and others to conduct a fail-safe review in 2020 to identify risk-reduction measures to prevent unauthorized, inadvertent, or mistaken use of nuclear weapons. Congress and the White House agreed, and the Pentagon completed its review of U.S. nuclear weapons systems in 2024.

NTI achieved another important breakthrough in this area in October when Chinese experts agreed to meet to discuss the fail-safe concept, at a meeting organized by the Asia-Pacific Leadership Network. Ernie Moniz and Sam Nunn traveled to Beijing with NTI Board Member and former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Mike Mullen, former U.S. Senator Bob Corker, and former Commander of U.S. Strategic Command John Hyten for a workshop with the experts about the value of conducting regular, independent reviews of nuclear systems, policies, and procedures to minimize the risk of nuclear use due to accident or blunder. The Chinese participants recognized the relevance of such reviews, and there was mutual interest in reconvening to discuss related issues in 2025.



Securing Nuclear Materials and Facilities Worldwide

After the 2023 NTI Nuclear Security Index sounded the alarm about backsliding on the security of weapons-usable nuclear materials and nuclear facilities in countries around the world, NTI brought tailored recommendations to officials from more than 40 countries in advance of the 2024 International Conference on Nuclear Security in Vienna. At the conference, hosted by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), NTI also released a paper on *Nuclear Facilities in Times of Crisis* with recommendations for protecting facilities during armed conflict and natural disasters.

Organizing Against Nuclear Weapons Testing in Nevada

PAID FOR BY NUCLEAR THREAT INITIATIVE. NTI DOES NOT ENDORSE OR O

Amid calls from some in Washington to resume explosive nuclear tests for the first time in more than 30 years at the Nevada National Security Site, NTI commissioned a poll showing 73 percent of Nevadans oppose the idea. This informed NTI's "Nevadans Against Nuclear Weapons Testing" campaign, which encouraged residents and powerful interests to publicly express their opposition ahead of the November 2024 election. NTI built a diverse in-state coalition which included Chambers of Commerce, the Culinary Workers Union, political leaders, conservation groups, and more. *Oppenheimer* actor Matthew Modine and Grammynominated Nevada-native band The Killers also shared the message with their followers. In 2025, NTI will continue this effort to organize resistance to explosive nuclear weapons testing.

"The case [to resume testing] is not justified by science or military necessity, especially when a resumption of U.S. nuclear testing could trigger an even more precarious nuclear arms race abroad and endanger the physical and economic health of Nevadans at home."

ERNIE MONIZ IN THE NEVADA INDEPENDENT

CLEARCHAT

NONUKETESTS.ORG

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Centering Security in an Expanding Nuclear Energy Ecosystem

At New York Climate Week, NTI, EFIF, and CATF announced the formation of the Nuclear Scaling Initiative (NSI), a collaborative effort to enable the rapid expansion of safe and secure nuclear energy and help satisfy growing global demand for reliable carbon-free electricity—while preventing the spread of weapons-usable nuclear materials and sensitive technologies. NSI is embarking on an ambitious agenda toward a world where nuclear energy propels progress toward climate solutions, energy security, and economic development goals without leading to more nuclear weapons.



"Current geopolitical tensions... reinforce the importance of scaling up [nuclear energy] in a way that maintains strong nuclear nonproliferation and security standards. If greater energy security leads to more nuclear weapons, the nuclear energy enterprise will be compromised."

ERNIE MONIZ AND CATF'S ARMOND COHEN IN AN OP-ED FOR THE BOSTON GLOBE

Working with Experts in China to Strengthen Nuclear Security

For five years, NTI and the China Arms Control and Disarmament Association (CACDA) have collaborated on nuclear security, showcasing the leading role both countries play in securing the most dangerous nuclear materials. For the first time since the pandemic, NTI and CACDA experts gathered in person outside of Beijing to explore ways to strengthen nuclear security at specific facilities.



"Stopping Iran from producing a bomb will not be easy, but reducing Tehran's nuclear capabilities will be even harder. Washington should make Iran a priority and bring U.S. diplomatic and economic might to bear to prevent the catastrophe of Iran as a permanent threshold state, or one armed with nuclear weapons." NTI'S ERIC BREWER IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Forging Consensus on the Future of U.S. Nonproliferation Policy

NTI, the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at Harvard Kennedy School, and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace have assembled more than a dozen former senior government officials and experts with deep national security experience for a Task Force on Nuclear Proliferation and U.S. National Security. "We've gathered some of the top minds in the national security space for a necessary stocktaking of the key proliferation challenges of today. Working together, I'm confident that we can chart a course through an incredibly fraught moment in our history, to a safer future for all," said Ernie Moniz. The bipartisan group will continue meeting in 2025 and produce policy recommendations to guide U.S. national security policy.

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Celebrating 10 Years of the International Partnership for Nuclear Disarmament Verification

For 10 years, NTI, the U.S. Department of State, and a diverse set of countries with and without nuclear weapons have collaborated to address a fundamental challenge related to global nuclear disarmament: how to multilaterally verify the dismantlement of nuclear weapons. The International Partnership for Nuclear Disarmament Verification (IPNDV), now comprising 30 countries, has developed a toolkit of verification options and technologies and built capacity and expertise among policy and technical experts from around the world.

"Fostering a community of political and technical experts familiar with nuclear disarmament procedures, techniques, and technologies is an investment in the future. It is also an expression of optimism that the world won't stay as it is but will move in a positive direction toward a world without nuclear weapons."

NTI PRESIDENT AND COO JOAN ROHLFING TO MORE THAN 100 EXPERTS GATHERED IN GENEVA IN JUNE TO MARK THE IPNDV'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY





NTI AT NukeEXPO

NTI's Patricia Jaworek showcased NTI's work on the global effects of nuclear weapons use during "NukeEXPO: Science Expo on Nuclear Weapons, Risks, and Humanitarian Impacts" in Oslo and Brussels.

Supporting Critical UN Efforts on the Effects of Nuclear Weapons

"Today's complex global landscape demands a reexamination of the far-reaching and long-term impacts of nuclear use," read NTI's statement in support of a UN resolution to establish an independent Scientific Panel on the Effects of Nuclear War. "Global systems are interdependent in ways that generate potential for cascading effects, which in case of a nuclear war could impact populations worldwide." NTI also advised the co-sponsors, Ireland and New Zealand, on the resolution's substance. These efforts paid off in November, when the UN General Assembly voted in favor of this critical step. Separately, NTI leadership briefed the states parties of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons on the importance of nuclear policies that account for the global consequences of nuclear use.

Innovating New Legal Approaches to Achieving a World Without Nuclear Weapons

Achieving a secure and sustainable world without nuclear weapons will require robust institutional, legal, normative, and technical tools and capabilities to manage nuclear risks. To better understand the pathways to prohibiting nuclear weapons in domestic and international legal fora, NTI is partnering with Horizon 2045 to engage a diverse group of experts on environmental, human rights,

and climate law. The project will build awareness of how nuclear use would violate laws designed to protect people, the environment, and the planet; establish a foundation for a future societal agreement that nuclear weapons are illegal and illegitimate; and expand support for a world without nuclear weapons.

Countering Domestic Violent Extremist Threats to Nuclear Facilities

NTI hosted a virtual workshop on "Mitigating Domestic Violent Extremism Nuclear Threats," which brought attention to the growing threat of domestic violent extremism at nuclear facilities, prompted open dialogue about the nature and scope of the challenge, and raised potential security practices to counter the risks. Participants included representatives from government agencies and organizations, national security experts and analysts, and academics.

Strengthening the Global Nuclear Order

Russia's invasion of Ukraine and nuclear saberrattling, China's expanding nuclear arsenal, rapidly emerging technologies, and other factors have disrupted the global nuclear order. NTI gathered experts from the Euro-Atlantic and Asia-Pacific regions to explore the need for a new global security system that does not rely on the threat of nuclear annihilation. Findings and recommendations from the project will be shared in 2025.





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what does it take to build a safer world? It takes building a critical mass for change.



Leveraging Oppenheimer Awards Mania

As the Academy Awards approached in early 2024, everyone was buzzing about *Oppenheimer*'s 13 nominations—but not the world's 13,000 nuclear weapons. NTI launched the "Make Nukes History" campaign to remind Hollywood and the public that although *Oppenheimer*'s story is history, nuclear weapons are not. The awardwinning multifaceted campaign helped ensure that attention on the film also raised awareness of today's threats, reaching millions.

We blanketed Los Angeles with provocative ads and billboards and erected an eye-catching art installation at the famous Grove Farmer's Market. We also organized an open letter in the *Los Angeles* *Times*, signed by *Oppenheimer* cast and crew members and Hollywood luminaries including Michael Douglas, Jane Fonda, Barbra Streisand, Emma Thompson, and Kristen Stewart. The campaign gained the attention of TikTokers and drew media coverage from CBS and CNN to *USA Today*, *The Guardian*, and NHK Japanese Television, as well as *Variety* and *The Hollywood Reporter*. Ernie Moniz and former California governor Jerry Brown also wrote an op-ed for the *LA Times*. The campaign won bronze for best strategy and silver for best guerilla marketing at the 2024 Anthem Awards, the world's largest and most comprehensive social impact awards.



Storytelling to Save the World

Building on the "Make Nukes History" campaign, NTI is engaging on- and off-screen talent, from writers and producers to studio executives and agents, to raise awareness about today's escalating nuclear risks and draw on their power to shape stories that describe the threats and their solutions. As part of this ongoing effort, NTI hosted writers, producers, showrunners, and others in the industry at the home of Hollywood manager Will Ward for a discussion with NTI's Joan Rohlfing, producer Lawrence Bender, and director of *The Day After* Nicholas Meyer.

Supporting *The New York Times'* "At the Brink" Series

In 2024, *The New York Times'* Opinion section unveiled "At the Brink," a powerful series that brought muchneeded attention to "the threat of nuclear weapons in an unstable world." Ernie Moniz, Sam Nunn, and Joan Rohlfing supported the "At the Brink" team by talking to the series editor and reporter—as well as members of the newspaper's Editorial Board. The series focused on issues central to NTI's mission, including the dangers of explosive nuclear testing, rising costs of the U.S. nuclear weapons arsenal, risks inherent to presidential sole authority, devastating effects of nuclear use, and the need for Americans to confront the horrific tragedy of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

NTI'S CREATOR COHORT

NTI assembled a cohort of influential social media creators for a pilot program with experts to increase their fluency in discussing nuclear weapons risks on their platforms. The videos that the creators subsequently produced garnered more than two million views, a testament to the appetite for social media content that unpacks complex issues in accessible and creative ways.





Darisjackson



Our mission is to create a world free from nuclear threats and risks.

#CranesForOurFuture calls on the peoples and nations of the world to

-one crane at a time.

③ 2 days ago

make peace our legacy, not destruction

grossirafaelmariano

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Every August, we join people around

the world to honor those lost in

Hiroshima and Nagasaki 💘 💌 🚯

These paper cranes symbolize our

fervent wish for a future where no one

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With this paper crane, I'm joining the chorus of those demanding a world free of nuclear weapons. Join me Aug. 6-9 in remembering Hiroshima & Nagasaki and committing to work for a more peaceful future. We can make nukes history! #CranesForOurFuture

🕓 2 days ago

Cranes Take Flight

The origami crane symbolizes hope for

#CranesForOurFuture _studio715_

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NTI's fourth annual #CranesForOurFuture campaign, already the world's largest online campaign in support of a world without nuclear weapons, was the most impactful to date, reaching millions online and in-person. New this year: The Cranes Collection, a set of clothes and accessories made by designers and artists inspired by the origami crane. The collection was featured on social media, thanks to influencers, activists, and models who posted photos in bespoke pieces. After the campaign wrapped, NTI brought its message to Chicago with temporary outdoor installations of posts from the campaign, reminding more than one million passersby that a "safer world is in our hands" and that "nukes are on the ballot" in the upcoming election.

ampaign, in was the line and ion, a set ers and lection uencers, bespoke ught door minding

SHOW MORE



At New York Fashion Week, activist and model Liz Plank turned heads in an origami crane dress, contributed to The Cranes Collection by Designer Olivia Cheng of the popular Dauphinette brand.

@JoanRohlfing

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Joan Rohlfing

what does it take to build a safer world? It takes strengthening global biosecurity.



Launching the International Biosecurity and Biosafety Initiative for Science

In early 2024, NTI launched the International Biosecurity and Biosafety Initiative for Science (IBBIS), a first-of-its-kind organization focused on strengthening international biotechnology governance to prevent rapid advances in bioscience and biotechnology from threatening global security. Under inaugural Executive Director Piers Millett, IBBIS began collaborating with governments, international organizations, industry, and academia to develop and promote practical and innovative tools that reduce risks in bioscience and biotechnology research and development.



Promoting Biosecurity in Life Science Research

Taking an important step forward for guarding against future pandemic risks, NTI in June partnered with the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) to launch the international Bio Funders Compact at the 2024 Global Health Security Conference. The Compact is designed to strengthen funding-based incentives for scientists and technologists to comply with biosecurity and biosafety best practices, reducing the likelihood that funders inadvertently support unduly risky research and promoting a research culture that prioritizes safety and security. In October, NTI | bio hosted the inaugural Bio Funders Forum, a venue for bioscience funders to share best practices for incentivizing biosecurity and biosafety among their grantees and championing responsible research practices.

Disincentivizing the Development and Use of Bioweapons

As part of a broad effort to provide thought leadership and concrete policy proposals that help reduce the risk of countries developing or using bioweapons, NTI | bio in December issued an essay collection, *Disincentivizing Bioweapons: Theory and Policy Approaches*, at the 2024 Biological Weapons Convention Working Group meetings in Geneva. The essays highlight practical approaches to invigorating international efforts to reduce biological threats, explore ways to discourage states from developing or using biological weapons, and identify key open questions that warrant further attention.



Developing Critical New Software Tools

NTI and IBBIS launched the Common Mechanism a free, globally available software tool to screen DNA synthesis orders and to flag potentially risky genetic sequences like toxins, lethal pathogens, or virulence factors. The Common Mechanism culminates more than five years of work to develop this open-source approach to DNA sequence screening and establish such screening as a global norm in responsible bioscience. Several commercial users have adopted or are in the process of adopting the Common Mechanism, now available through IBBIS.

Cooperating with Chinese Partners on Urgent Biosafety and Biosecurity Risks

In the absence of official talks between the United States and China on biosecurity, NTI and the China Arms Control and Disarmament Association (CACDA) are engaged in Track II dialogues to promote mutual understanding and explore cooperation on urgent emerging biosafety and biosecurity risks.

Advocating for a Proactive U.S. Response to Bird Flu

Biodefense and infectious disease specialist and NTI board member Luciana Borio, MD joined NTI | bio's Jaime Yassif for an NTI Seminar about the challenges, opportunities, and priorities for marshalling an effective response to H5N1 bird flu, which poses an alarming threat to animals and, increasingly, humans. Despite the unknowns around the H5N1 strain, countless lessons from the past could guide U.S. response to current H5N1 risks and result in more investment for future pandemic or public health emergencies. Dr. Borio emphasized that the United States is the global leader in preparedness and response and its actions will have wide-reaching implications: "We can't forget that the world is watching."



WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO BUILD A SAFER WORLD?	•	•	•	•	٠
It takes building capacity	•	•	•	•	•
by empowering diverse	•	•	•	•	•
and young leaders.	•	•	•	•	•

Highlighting Diverse Voices in International Security

NTI is committed to highlighting and supporting diverse voices in nuclear security and biosecurity, in part through a "Diverse Voices" blog series. In 2024, NTI interns interviewed Tiffany Blanchard-Case, director of the Office of Nuclear Material Removal and Elimination at the National Nuclear Security Administration, about the importance of mentorship and her advice for young people interested in working on nuclear issues, and Dr. Andrew Hebbeler, Director of Biosecurity at the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) and former NTI | bio Senior Director, about why having diverse perspectives at the table is key to effective problem-solving in biosecurity.



"I think it's…important to find organizations that value diversity—not just as a talking point, but as a core, practiced value. I feel particularly lucky to have worked at organizations like NTI and CEPI where diversity and representation are core elements of not just how they do their work but infused throughout their missions and vision for the world they're trying to achieve."

DR. ANDREW HEBBELER, DIRECTOR OF BIOSECURITY AT CEPI AND FORMER NTI | BIO SENIOR DIRECTOR, AS TOLD TO NTI IN A "DIVERSE VOICES" INTERVIEW

Elevating Young Voices in International Security

In 2024, NTI began a new intern-created blog series, "Young Voices in International Security," to spotlight early-career professionals making their mark among the community of experts and practitioners tackling today's existential threats. The series reflects NTI's commitment to uplift a range of voices and ideas; break down stereotypes that contribute to generational divides on security; and share creative, innovative ideas from young experts. Through these posts, bright young professionals share advice about starting a career and fresh ideas for building a safer world.

> "I think the emerging generation has a fresh batch of hope, optimism, and zeal for what we can achieve in the nuclear policy field. I also think that the emerging generation of nuclear researchers and practitioners are living in a very different world than the scholars who developed much of the nuclear deterrence or nuclear policy infrastructure. There's a lot of space for new takes on old issues, which presents a lot of opportunities for people to bring new perspectives to the table."

KYLIE JONES, A KNIGHT-HENNESSY SCHOLAR AT STANFORD UNIVERSITY, AS TOLD TO NTI DURING A "YOUNG VOICES" INTERVIEW



Investing in the Next Generation of Biosecurity Experts

For eight years, NTI | bio has hosted the Next Generation for Biosecurity Competition to bring together rising young leaders from around the world to work together to devise innovative solutions to prevent, detect, and mitigate globally catastrophic biological risks. In 2024, John Hurst (United States), James Kimber (Australia), and Pierce Manlangit (Philippines) won the competition with their paper, "Improving Practices in Biosecurity Investment: The Role of Equitable Participation and Resource Distribution in Mitigating Biological Risks." The paper examines inequity in biosecurity as related to both resource allocation and participation in global institutions and proposes more equitable and effective risk-reduction approaches. In August, the winners presented their paper in Geneva at a working group meeting on strengthening the Biological Weapons Convention.

Laying the Foundation for the Future of Euro-Atlantic Security

Understanding that a lack of dialogue between Russia and the West was a significant obstacle to Euro-Atlantic security, NTI and several partners in 2014 launched the Younger Generation Leadership Network (YGLN) to foster a new generation of leaders equipped to tackle global challenges fueled by historic animosities. Today, even as the war in Ukraine rages on, the network continues its work with support from NTI. In 2024, they celebrated their 10th anniversary, bringing 40 members together in Vienna. The network—housed at the European Leadership Network—now boasts 150 members from 40 countries, and continues to bring together Russians, Ukrainians, and their peers from Europe and North America, in both virtual and in-person formats.

Supporting Next-Gen Professional Development

In his memory and to sustain his strong commitment to the professional development of young people, NTI established The Robert E. Berls, Jr. Next Generation Fund. The fund enables promising upcoming experts to engage in opportunities that promote understanding and scholarship among the United States, Europe, Russia, and Asia.

Hosting Scoville Fellows

NTI proudly provides financial support to the prestigious Herbert Scoville Jr. Peace Fellowship, a highly competitive national fellowship program to bring recent college and graduate school alumni to Washington, DC, to work on peace and securityrelated issues. NTI also hosts full-time Scoville Fellows. We consider it a win-win: NTI gains a juniorlevel staffer who brings a fresh perspective to our work and the fellow gains real-world experience in the field. Scoville Fellows often go on to prominent positions in the federal government, academia, public-interest organizations, and the news media.

Interning at NTI

NTI's robust internship program brings roughly 20 paid interns each year to NTI to work as integral members of our teams on projects that make lasting contributions to reducing nuclear and biological threats. Our internships are for undergraduate and graduate students with an interest in the intersection of global security, public policy, science and technology, and national security. Interns attend congressional hearings and briefings at think tanks, write for the NTI blog, develop their professional networks, and engage in other career-enhancing opportunities.





*NTI does not accept funding from the U.S. government but accepts funding from other governments.

Thank you!

We gratefully acknowledge all our 2024 funders, including the following institutions and individuals who gave \$500 or more. Thank you for supporting NTI's work to reduce nuclear, biological, and emerging technology threats during this critical time. NTI's success is only possible through your generosity.

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Angeleno Group	International Company	Si					
Kathryn Bigelow	Emirates Nuclear Energy Company	Μ					
Brooke D. Anderson	Melvin Endy	Ha					
John and Marti Browne	EPZ	Cł					
Michael Brown, Bockus Brown Family Foundation	Favaro Family Foundation	Jo					
Louise and John Bryson	Andrew Fisher	Br					
Ruthie Byers	Fortum	Sı					
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Garrett Camp	Gates Foundation	M					
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As of December 31, 2024

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