

**John Ainslie**

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**From:** rusievents@rusi.org  
**Sent:** 24 November 2005 16:45  
**To:** John Ainslie  
**Subject:** RUSI: Whitehall Dialogue: Nuclear Taboo in World Politics



**Whitehall Dialogue: Nuclear Taboo in World Politics**  
**12 December 2005, 1245 - 1415**  
**RUSI, Whitehall. London**

RUSI would like to invite you to attend a Whitehall Dialogue on: 'Nuclear Taboo in World Politics' given by **Professor T.V. Paul, James McGill Professor of International Relations, McGill University, Canada.**

The 'nuclear taboo' or the 'tradition of non-use' has been a hallmark of the nuclear age. No nuclear weapon has ever been used since the Hiroshima and Nagasaki attacks in 1945. In the post-9/11 world, the tradition may be under challenge. The US nuclear policy under the Bush administration, especially in the areas of pre-emption and prevention, discusses the possibility of nuclear use against states suspected of developing nuclear weapons.

The US, UK, France and Russia have enlarged the scope of nuclear response to chemical and biological attacks. Washington has also shown an interest in developing 'usable' mini-nukes. Under these circumstances, what is the future of the tradition of non-use? What are the implications of a violation of the tradition for non-proliferation? Professor Paul will discuss these and other issues related to the tradition.

**A sandwich lunch will be served from 1215**

For booking information, please contact [Sabrina Downey](#), Events Director. Tel: +44 20 7747 2622

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