

**Evaluating Megatons to Megawatts:
Managing Cooperation**

Monday, June 15, 2026

Columbia University's AC4 at the Interchurch Center - Conference Room A/C
61 Claremont Avenue, New York City

[Bios](#) - [Process](#) - [Methodology](#) - [Hughes' Monograph](#)

The US-Russia “HEU Deal,” subsequently branded as “Megatons to Megawatts” (M2M), achieved significant results from 1993-2013:

- Eliminated 500 metric tons of highly enriched uranium (HEU), taken from Russian nuclear weapons, the equivalent of 20,000 nuclear bombs
- Made use of the greatly diluted HEU for use as fuel for civilian nuclear reactors, producing about 10 percent of US electricity over the period

This true swords to plowshares agreement helped prevent nuclear chaos in Russia after the collapse of the USSR, providing needed benefits driven by market forces, demonstrated sustained nuclear cooperation was possible between former arch Cold War rivals, and defined an energy pathway for nuclear threat reduction with the ecological benefit of reduced carbon.

The 2026 [CNDSI](#) Working Seminar is the second of three occasions dedicated to the evaluation of the M2M program. This will focus on the actual experience of M2M especially in regards to the conditions that made cooperation possible and the program successful. All CNDSI Working Seminars are expected to occur on the third Monday of June at Columbia University. They are by invitation only, and participants must attend in person. Preparatory activities such as individual interviews, research and workshops will occur online prior to the Working Seminar.

Schedule

Sunday, June 14, 2026

7:00 PM Opening Dinner
(Hosted by Azin Aliabadi, 188 E 78th St, New York, NY 10075)

Monday, June 15, 2026

8:30 - 9:00 AM Breakfast at Columbia University's AC4 at the Interchurch Center
Conference Room A/C - 61 Claremont Avenue, New York City

9:00 - 9:15 AM Introductory Remarks on Megatons to Megawatts Evaluation Project

Andrea Bartoli and Jeff Hughes

9:15 - 11:45 AM Session One - Commercial Dimension
"Uncertainties and Strategies to Beginning & Sustaining the HEU Deal"

Gerald W. Grandey

Sean Quinn

Fletcher Newton

10:30 - 10:45 PM Break

11:45 - 12:30 PM Lunch - Sharing

12:30 - 1:50 PM Session Two - Congressional Dimension
"The Domestic, Budgetary and Russian Politics of Making the HEU Deal Work"

Alex Flint

1:50 - 2:00 PM Break

2:00 - 3:00 PM	Session Three - Executive Dimension “The Executive Branch and Russian Politics of Making the HEU Deal Work” Jeff Hughes
3:00 - 3:15 PM	Break
3:15 - 4:00 PM	A Summing Up: What We Have Learned So Far (and Today) Jeff Hughes and Andrea Bartoli
4:00 - 4:20 PM	Closing Remarks Joshua D. Fisher
4:20 -	Next Steps
6:30 - 8:30 PM	Closing Dinner at Pisticci

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2027 Working Seminar on “Outcomes” Monday, June 14, 2027