



Occasional Report

The Arms Control Program at the Institute of International Studies, Tsinghua University

(This program is an academic group conducting arms control research and education.)

Tsinghua University is a top-ranked multidisciplinary university in China with a focus on applied science and engineering. In 1997, The University founded the Institute of International Studies to conduct research on international issues, to train graduate students, to provide common courses for undergraduate students, and to promote international exchanges. The institute now has eight full-time faculty members and a few adjunct research professors. Some of the members have experience working with the Chinese government, and therefore, their research is more policy-oriented. The institute is very active in promoting public understanding of international affairs and has won wide recognition in both China and the rest of the world. The institute has graduate programs for master and doctorate degrees.

The Arms Control Program at the Institute of International Studies was established in 2001, and it now has three members in residence and three part-time researchers. It takes a multidisciplinary approach to study international arms control issues, especially those relevant to China's security. The director of the program is Professor Li Bin.

Li Bin received his bachelor and master degrees in physics from Peking University and his Ph.D. in physics from China Academy of Engineering Physics. From 1994–1996, he studied arms control as a postdoctoral fellow at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the Center for Energy and Environmental Studies at Princeton University. In 1996, Dr. Li Bin joined the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty negotiations as a technical advisor to the Chinese negotiating team. Before joining Tsinghua University, Dr. Li Bin directed an arms control research group at a defense institute and also an

Received 24 January 2002.

independent arms control group. Li Bin is now an associate professor of Tsinghua University's Institute of International Studies. Since 1990, he has been working on various issues including missile defense, the nuclear test ban, deep nuclear reductions, and Chinese arms control policy.

The Arms Control Program carries out three kinds of work. First it conducts research on arms control and international security. The program hopes this independent research can make a contribution to building a less threatening world. Its current research projects include fissile material control and China's approach to arms control. During the last year, program members published about 10 papers on missile defense and other arms control issues in Chinese and international journals and in proceedings of international conferences. Among those are: "The Effects of NMD on the Chinese Strategy," *Jane's Intelligence Review*, Vol. 13, No. 3; "The Impact of US NMD on China's Nuclear Modernization," *Pugwash Newsletter*, No. 1, Vol. 38; "China Will Have to Respond," *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, Vol. 57, No. 6; "The Current Situation and Future of Arms Control," (in Chinese) *International Economic Review*, No. 5 (2001).

The second kind of work done by the program is to provide arms control training and education. The Arms Control Program trains graduate student for the master's degree. It currently has four graduate students studying arms control. The program provides a course on Arms Control and International Security, focusing on analytical methods for graduate students, and a course on Science, Technology and International Security for undergraduate students. The arms control courses engage both science and social science students from Tsinghua University. To exchange experiences in arms control education with international experts, Prof. Li Bin attended the meeting with the Group of Governmental Experts to Prepare a United Nations Study on Disarmament and Nonproliferation Education in Monterey, California, in August, 2001, where he gave a speech on arms control education in China. Besides conducting education at Tsinghua University, the program also organizes public education on arms control.

The third kind work by the program promotes public understanding about arms control issues and mutual exchanges between Chinese and foreign security experts. In the past year, program members explained their observations on arms control by publishing articles in newspapers, talking to news media, and consulting with policymakers. The voices of program members now appear frequently in important Chinese and American news media, for example, Chinese Central Television (channel 1, 4, and 9), People's Daily, Washington Post, and New York Times. The program is active in communicating with foreign security

experts by hosting foreign visitors, attending international conferences, and issuing newsletters. The Arms Control Program has built cooperation with similar organizations in both China and the rest of the world. Through all these activities, the Arms Control Program seeks to continue to raise its influence in the Chinese and international security communities.