Twenty years ago,
Pugwash and Joseph Rotblat won the Nobel Peace Prize

(Left to right) Francesco Calogero and Joseph Rotblat receiving the jointly-awarded Nobel Peace Prize.

On October 13, 1995, the Nobel Peace Prize was jointly awarded to Joseph Rotblat and the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs, for their 40-year effort "to diminish the part played by nuclear arms in international politics and in the longer run to eliminate such arms." This was the first peace prize to be given in equal parts to an individual and an organisation.

However, as Rotblat and the organisation's thousands of members pointed out at the time, their work was far from done. The challenges to peace and nuclear disarmament in a post-Cold War world would be different and more difficult to tackle.

Celebrating the Nobel Peace Prize award at the Pugwash Rome Office, 1995.

2015 marks the 20th anniversary of the Nobel Peace Prize award

As we look back to celebrate the work that Pugwash has accomplished, it also serves as a timely reminder of Pugwash's broader purposes that remain relevant today – that of minimising the risks of armed conflict, and seeking cooperative solutions to global problems through debate, discussion and collaborative analysis.

While it has been almost 60 years since Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the memories and scars of the tragedy remain. The Pugwash movement calls upon all governments and individuals to do as Russell and Einstein urged:

'Remember your humanity'

LINKS:
- Read Joseph Rotblat's Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech
- Read John Holdren's Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech, on behalf of the Pugwash Conferences

Nobel medal displayed at the Thinkers' Lodge, Pugwash, Nova Scotia.