

Nobel Peace Prize: Those Committed to "Security by Military Means" have taken charge of the Peace Prize...

New Book

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New book: The Nobel Peace Prize (Praeger, 2010)

In his newest book, *The Nobel Peace Prize* (2010), Norwegian lawyer and author Fredrik S. Heffermehl, shows how far the custodians of Nobel's prize for "the champions of peace" have moved the prize away from the testator's actual intentions. Part I offers the first known legal analysis of the testament Nobel wrote in 1895, and in Part II an analysis of the political methods used by official Norway to stonewall the truth about the mismanagement of Nobel's great vision of peace. The book, in part a case study of democracy and the rule of law in Norway, takes us from the inception of the prize 115 years ago to the present, including a riveting dissection of the 2009 award to US president Barack Obama. It explains how the military sector – in all nations – undermines human security and welfare, preferring to pursue narrow self-interest to solving the real security needs of the world.

For the first time *The Nobel Peace Prize* provides access to the highly secretive Nobel committee room, by publishing the revealing private diaries of the longest sitting chair of the Nobel committee, Gunnar Jahn.

What happened to the Nobel Peace Prize?

The Nobel Peace Prize. What Nobel really wanted (Praeger, 2010), offers undisputable evidence that Nobel intended to support the "Champions of peace", those struggling to replace militarism with an international order based on law and abolition of national military forces; the power of the law must replace the law of power. Since 1948 the parties in the Norwegian parliament have delegated the appointment of the Nobel committee to the major parties who misuse the attractive seats as a reward to their party veterans, people lacking not only insight but also loyalty to the peace ideas that Nobel wished to support.

In fact the committee members are opposed to the idea of the prize! People who believe in security by military means have taken charge of a prize meant to support a demilitarized world order.

The prize has long ago ceased to challenge the forces it intended to combat and instead been used to promote Norwegian policies and business interests.

Claiming that the Norwegian parliament and the Nobel committee have violated the law for

six decades, the book also becomes an illuminating case study of how elites in the advanced Scandinavian societies circumvent the basic tenets of democracy and the rule of law.

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