Dr. Peter Agre is an American physician and molecular biologist, who served as Chair of the Committee on Human Rights (CHR) of the U.S. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine from 2005-2007. As CHR Chair, Agre headed interventions in support of colleagues subjected to serious human rights abuses worldwide. He also raised awareness of the responsibility of scientists, engineers, and health professionals to conduct their work in accordance with international human rights standards.

Recognizing the significant impact of conflict on human rights, Agre has guided and led numerous international efforts designed to reduce hostility through scientific engagement. As a member of the International Scientific Council of the Israeli-Palestinian Science Organization, he promoted dialogue and cooperation between Israeli and Palestinian scientists and scholars. Later, as President of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Agre led a series of scientific missions to Cuba, Iran, Myanmar, and North Korea with the aim of forging international connections and promoting peace.

Agre’s ongoing work in global public health reflects his dedication to scientific cooperation that transcends borders in the service of human dignity. As Director of the Johns Hopkins Malaria Research Institute, he works closely with colleagues in sub-Saharan Africa to ensure that those most vulnerable to malaria have access to the health care that they need.

“We have a fundamental responsibility to take care of the problems of all mankind...we’re all in this together.”