Dr. Joseph Gerson is President of the Campaign for Peace, Disarmament and Common Security (CPDCS), Co-chair of the Committee for a Sane U.S.-China Policy, Co-Convener of the International Peace and Planet Network. For the past year and a half, he has been a participant in a confidential Track II process with elite national security figures from Europe, Russia and the United States and is a former Vice President of the International Peace Bureau.

He educates and organizes at local, national, and international levels for peaceful and just alternatives to U.S. foreign and military policies, concentrating on great power tensions, nuclear dangers and disarmament, working closely with Asian and European peace movements and advocates.

Joseph was a 1960s Civil Rights movement activist, a Vietnam War-era draft resister, Director of Arizonans for Peace (1969-73), Southwest field organizer for Clergy and Laity Against the Vietnam War (1971-73), Director of the War Resisters International in London and Brussels (1973-75) Peace Secretary and Director of Programs for the American Friends Service Committee’s New England Regional Office (1976-2020), and launched the Campaign for Peace, Disarmament and Common Security in 2017. He helped to launch the 1980s Nuclear Weapons Freeze movement and led the successful opposition to efforts to transform Boston Harbor into a nuclear weapons base. As co-convener of the Peace & Planet International Network he organized major civil society conferences led international civil society mobilizations for the 2010, 2015 and 2022 Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty Review Conferences, organized many Peace & Planet conferences and consultations, and is currently coordinating peace movement planning to impact the November Second Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty for Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Dr. Gerson did his undergraduate work at Georgetown University’s School of Foreign Service and received his PhD in politics and international security studies from the Union Institute and College. His books include Empire and the Bomb: How the US Uses Nuclear Weapons to Dominate the World, The Sun Never Sets...Confronting the Network of U.S. Foreign Military Bases, The Deadly Connection: Nuclear War and U.S. Foreign Military Intervention and With Hiroshima Eyes: Atomic War, Nuclear Extortion and Moral Imagination. His articles have appeared in The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, the Boston Globe, Eurasia Review, Common Dreams, Truthout and other publications.