

A decorative graphic on the left side of the image, consisting of a network of light blue lines and small circles, resembling a circuit board or a neural network diagram. The lines are of varying thickness and connect to small circular nodes.

ANDREY SAKHAROV

Sakharov was born in [Moscow](#) on May 21, 1921. His father was Dmitri Ivanovich Sakharov, a private school physics teacher and an amateur [pianist](#). His father later taught at the [Second Moscow State University](#). Sakharov's mother was Yekaterina Alekseyevna Sakharova, a great-granddaughter of the prominent military commander Alexey Semenovich Sofiano (who was of Greek ancestry). Sakharov entered [Moscow State University](#) in 1938. Following evacuation in 1941 during the [Great Patriotic War](#) (World War II), he graduated in [Ashgabat](#), in today's [Turkmenistan](#). He was then assigned to laboratory work in [Ulyanovsk](#). In 1943, he married Klavdia Alekseyevna Vikhireva, with whom he raised two daughters and a son. Klavdia died in 1969. He returned to Moscow in 1945 to study at the Theoretical Department of [FIAN](#) (the Physical Institute of the [Soviet Academy of Sciences](#)). He received his [Ph.D.](#) in 1947.



After [World War II](#), he researched [cosmic rays](#). In mid-1948 he participated in the [Soviet atomic bomb project](#) under [Igor Kurchatov](#) and [Igor Tamm](#).

Sakharov's study group at FIAN in 1948 came up with a second concept in August–September 1948. Sakharov later became an advocate of [civil liberties](#) and civil reforms in the Soviet Union, for which he faced state persecution; these efforts earned him the [Nobel Peace Prize](#) in 1975.

The [Sakharov Prize](#), which is awarded annually by the [European Parliament](#) for people and organizations dedicated to human rights and freedoms, is named in his honor. Sakharov later became an advocate of [civil liberties](#) and civil reforms in the Soviet Union, for which he faced state persecution; these efforts earned him the [Nobel Peace Prize](#) in 1975. The [Sakharov Prize](#), which is awarded annually by the [European Parliament](#) for people and organizations dedicated to human rights and freedoms, is named in his honor.



Since the late 1950s Sakharov had become concerned about the moral and political implications of his work. Politically active during the 1960s, Sakharov was against nuclear proliferation. Contrary to normal practice Sakharov, a member of the Academy, publicly spoke out against full membership for Nuzhdin, holding him responsible for "the defamation, firing, arrest, even death, of many genuine scientists. Nuzhdin was not elected, but the episode prompted Sergei Khrushchev to order the KGB to gather compromising material on Sakharov.



In 1973, Sakharov was nominated for the [Nobel Peace Prize](#) and in 1974 was awarded the [Prix mondial Cino Del Duca](#).

Sakharov was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1975. The [Norwegian Nobel Committee](#) called him "a spokesman for the conscience of mankind". In the words of the Nobel Committee's citation: "In a convincing manner Sakharov has emphasised that Man's inviolable rights provide the only safe foundation for genuine and enduring international cooperation."

