



NPT NEWS IN REVIEW

Civil society perspectives on the 2017 nuclear Non-Proliferation
Treaty Preparatory Committee 2–12 May 2017



Reaching Critical Will

2 May 2017
Vol. 14, No. 1

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NPT 2017: CAN WE PREVENT CATASTROPHE?

Ray Acheson | Reaching Critical Will, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

We are entering a new Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) review cycle and the first step of any new cycle is usually taking stock of where we are. The picture is bleak.

The last nuclear NPT Review Conference, in 2015, ended without an outcome document. This on its own is a problem, but one that could be overcome with dedicated action towards fulfilling all of the Treaty's objectives.

Unfortunately, there are signs that commitment to the disarmament aspects of the NPT is lacking more than ever. All of the nuclear-armed states have been pouring hundreds of billions of dollars into the so-called modernisation of their arsenals. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) continues to test nuclear explosive devices, and most of the others have continued to test nuclear weapon delivery systems and/or conduct non-explosive tests of their warheads. We are clearly in a new nuclear arms race, with more players and more money and more "kill power" than ever before.¹

Meanwhile, even rhetorical commitment to nuclear disarmament is wavering—if it still exists at all. The new regime in the United States has indicated that it may not believe nuclear disarmament is a "realistic objective" and there are warnings that it may resume explosive nuclear testing.² The DPRK has threatened to use nuclear weapons if it feels threatened enough to do so—whatever that measure may be remains unclear. The current relationship between Russia and the United States is confusing at best. "Proxy wars"—which are not proxy for the people being slaughtered, tortured, raped, disappeared, or displaced—are increasing, both in number and in brutality. The level of unpredictability in the global "strategic stability" matrix is rising fast—and the risk of the use of nuclear weapons is rising with it.

Amidst all this negativity, the one bright light has been the initiative to ban nuclear weapons.³ The vast majority of NPT states parties are engaging constructively in this process,⁴ in part as a means of compliance

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The *NPT News in Review* is produced by the Reaching Critical Will programme of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF).

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See reachingcriticalwill.org for information, statements, papers, reports, archived *NPT News in Reviews*, and more from the NPT.



Editorial, continued

with their article VI obligations to engage in effective measures for multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations. The nuclear-armed states and their allies that support nuclear weapons have opted to boycott and in most cases condemn the efforts to ban nuclear weapons, possibly in contravention of article VI.⁵ The opposition from this minority of states, however, has been overwhelmed by the moral, ethical, legal, political, economic, environmental, and social arguments for the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons.

There is little else going on that seems like it could help facilitate nuclear disarmament at this time, though other initiatives on the table would compliment the ban nicely. The twenty-plus year process to end the production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons continues to stagger along, with a new consensus-based working group of limited membership poised to meet for discussions over the next two years. If it were able to reach agreement to start negotiating a fissile materials treaty that also includes existing stockpiles of weapons-usable material, this would be instrumental to helping achieve and maintain a nuclear weapon free world. A working group on nuclear disarmament verification will start its work in 2018, which will hopefully help facilitate verification of disarmament undertakings compelled by the ban treaty.

There is clearly an appetite for work by the majority of countries on nuclear disarmament-related initiatives—even by some of those that continue to adhere to the misguided notion that nuclear weapons could

provide them with any security. But the refusal of some states to join the most promising nuclear disarmament initiative in decades is not the best context for the start of this new NPT review cycle. It will be up to those states boycotting the ban in particular to take strong, concrete action over the next few years to be more transparent about their relationship with nuclear weapons (particularly if they host others' weapons on their territories), withdraw their support for deterrence and modernisation, and help compel their nuclear-armed allies to be serious about disarmament before it's too late for us all. Achieving nuclear disarmament now, amidst rising tensions and increasingly belligerent use of force around the world, is more important than ever. It is every country's right and responsibility to take concerted action now. •

Notes

1. For details, see *Assuring destruction forever: 2017 edition*, Reaching Critical Will of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, April 2017.
2. Steve Herman, "Trump Administration Reviewing What Role US Nuclear Weapons Should Play," *Voice of America*, 25 March 2017.
3. See <http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/disarmament-fora/nuclear-weapon-ban> for details.
4. See <http://www.icanw.org/why-a-ban/positions> for information on government attendance and positions.
5. Tim Wright, "Is Australia violating the Non-Proliferation Treaty?" *The Interpreter*, 23 March 2017.



Events of Mayors for Peace at M building, Vienna Int'l Centre

The Mayors for Peace A-bomb Poster Exhibition

May 2nd - 12th at M0E Exhibition Area

**See What Happened
under the A-bomb Blast!**



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Mayors for Peace Youth Forum

May 8th 11:00 - 13:00

Conference room M3

**Listen to the Voices
of Youth
from the World!**

NEW NUCLEAR WEAPONS: THREATS TO THE INF TREATY AND THE NPT

Wolfgang Schlupp-Hauck | Friedenswerkstatt Mutlangen

The Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty resulted in the withdrawal from Europe of most US and Russian non-strategic nuclear weapons. Where nuclear missiles once stood, in Mutlangen, there today stand building cranes. A residential area and a solar field have been created. An art installation by Klaudia Dietewich remembers the history of the nuclear threat and the task of nuclear disarmament. Mutlangen's former Mayor Peter Seyfried said, "As we are now nuclear weapons free, we fight for a world without nuclear weapons."

Encouraged by the steps to disarmament and the end of the cold war, which were made possible through the INF Treaty, and concerned about the plans for modernizing nuclear weapons, German Mayors for Peace released the Mutlangen Manifesto. It demanded the multilateralization of the INF Treaty and the ban of nuclear weapons by a nuclear weapons convention.

Promoting disarmament with art

With a traveling exhibition from 2018, Klaudia Dietewich wants to carry this matter into the world. The Project is coordinated by Hannover, the German Lead City of Mayors for Peace. 50 exhibits from 50 member cities of Mayors for Peace are to remind us that 50 years have passed since the signing of the NPT. The art found on the streets and on the walls of the cities are signs against a traceless oblivion. Cities are not targets. Nuclear weapons have to be banned.

In the traveling exhibition, art and peace are linked through accompanying events. This should stimulate us to think and to become active. This year at the NPT Preparatory Committee, the artist and the Friedenswerkstatt Mutlangen will present the project and

to look for interested people for create the route of the traveling exhibition until 2020, when in the NPT Review Conference will be held in New York.

Since the 2010 US Nuclear Posture Review, a new trend has emerged

Over the last many years, the United States and Russia have been pursuing modernization programs for their strategic and sub-strategic nuclear weapons, and are accusing each other of violating the INF Treaty. The US Department of Foreign Affairs recently reported that Moscow had started the deployment of land-based cruise missiles that would violate the Treaty. President Trump promptly repeated the accusation. Russia denied it. "But if the accusation proved to be right, it could trigger a new debate of nuclear armsrace in Europe," warned Otfried Nassauer from the Berlin Informationcenter for Transatlantic Security.

In the first half of 2018, we are likely to set the course. The newly elected US administration, under President Trump, must submit its Nuclear Posture Review to the US Congress to provide information on its plans for nuclear stockpile, nuclear strategy, and the future role of nuclear weapons. In addition, planning documents for conventional forces and the future of missile defense are to be presented. The NATO summit in the summer of 2018 is expected to address the future role of nuclear weapons in Europe, its future deployment, and will reflect the planned modernization of tactical nuclear weapons in Europe.

We therefore want to take the NPT PrepCom as an occasion to remember the historic importance of the INF Treaty and to contribute with a side event to the actual debate. This event will be held on Thursday, 4 May from 10:00–11:30 in M3. •



Mayors for Peace and Members of Peace Groups demand the ban of nuclear weapons in Germany with "City-Signs"

APPEAL FOR ACTION

Marc Morgan

Every year an international fast is held between 6 and 9 August to mark the anniversaries of the US atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Last year fasts were held in France, Germany, Nigeria, Togo, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

The Hiroshima-Nagasaki fast has always been intended as a call to action and to awareness, as well as a gesture of commemoration. It has gained more media coverage in recent years, and this has led to a renewed emphasis on direct action as an accompaniment to the fast. The fast brings together the different nationalities around a common absolute rejection of nuclear weapons, at the same time as involving targeted actions reflecting the specific situation in each country.

In France and the US, actions are conducted directly outside the nuclear research facilities of the two countries, to overcome the secrecy of the respective nuclear establishments. In the UK the fast is conducted in the vicinity of Parliament and the key ministries involved. In Germany, the fast has mostly been held at Büchel, the NATO base at which nuclear weapons are stationed; a group of fasters there have vowed to fast one additional day each year, until all nuclear weapons are removed from German soil. The fasts in Togo and Nigeria gave expression to the billions of

people in this world who are the potential victims of the nuclear arms race.

These events are local, but the strong message and the conviction behind the fast are fully international, and convey a common message. This is truer than ever this year, as the fasters jointly call for the signing and ratification of an international treaty to ban nuclear weapons, as currently being discussed at the United Nations. The fast is a common expression of civil society across the different participating nations, underlining the urgency of such a treaty.

The Appeal launched by the fasters highlights our absolute determination that the ban under discussion at the UN may lead to the definitive eradication of these terrifying weapons, and the threat they pose to humankind as a whole. We call upon activists and sympathisers to join us in fasting or in supporting the fast, both as a commemorative act and as a strong statement made to our governments and decision-makers calling for the treaty to be concluded and brought into effect. •

For more information, please contact: Marc Morgan marcwmorgan@btinternet.com, Dominique Lalanne, do.lalanne@wanadoo.fr, or Mathias Engelke mwengelke@outlook.de.

REMEMBERING THE VICTIMS

A short Interfaith Prayer Vigil

to remember all nuclear weapons victims, and to pray for progress at the NPT PrepCom, will be held each morning from 2nd to 5th May 8.00 – 8.15 am outside the International Centre.

Tuesday 2nd May: Victims of Nuclear War

Wednesday 3rd May: Victims of Nuclear Testing

Thursday 4th May: Victims of Nuclear Weapons Production

Friday 5th May: Victims of Nuclear Deterrence Policy

All are invited to take part.



Christian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament
Christians working and praying for a nuclear weapons-free world
<http://christiancnd.org.uk>

NO MORE NUCLEAR VICTIMS

The Christian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament invites you to

Presentations and Discussion

at the **Donau City Church** (just outside the International Centre)

6.30 pm, Wednesday, 3rd May.

A conversation on the place of 'Peace' and 'the Victim/Victims' in different Faith traditions and their application to nuclear weapons, the NPT and the coming Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty.



Panellists include:

Tarafa Baghajati

Chair, Austrian Muslim Initiative

Murphy Yanashima

Program Officer for Peace and Human Rights,
Soka Gakkai International

More speakers tba

All are Welcome. Refreshments.



Christian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament
Christians working and praying for a nuclear weapons-free world
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

When	What	Where	Who
8:00	Interfaith prayer-vigil for the success of the NPT PrepCom	Outside UN building	Christian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament
10:00-13:00	Plenary	M-plenary	
13:15-14:45	NATO and nuclear weapons	M3	PAX, INESA, IALANA, IPB
13:15-14:30	Bridging the gap between Nuclear-Weapon States and Non-Nuclear-Weapon States	M-plenary	Hiroshima Prefecture, UNIDIR, SIPRI
13:15-14:30	EU support to the CTBTO	M2	European Union
15:00-18:00	Plenary	M-plenary	
15:00-18:00	Fighting nuclear weapons in Europe	M3	INES, IPB
17:00-18:30	Nuclear arms control in a stalemate? The work of the trilateral US-Russian-German Deep Cuts Commission	M2	Government of Germany
18:00-18:30	Student simulation prep	M3	INESAP
19:00	The future role of nuclear weapons in Europe	Diplomatic Academy of Vienna, Festaal, Favoritenstrasse 15	IPI, ASPR, IPPNW, BITS, Diplomatic Academy of Vienna, ICAN

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Reaching Critical Will provides tools and resources for governments, civil society, UN staff, and academics on many disarmament- and arms control-related issues.

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The *NPT News in Review* will be published regularly throughout this conference. The next edition will be published Thursday, 4 May, after the general debate has concluded. To receive upcoming editions via email, please sign up to our NPT mailing list at www.reachingcriticalwill.org/news/subscribe.

You can also follow NPT news and alerts live on Twitter with **@RCW_** and using the hashtag **#NPT2017**





HIROSHIMA PREFECTURE



STOCKHOLM INTERNATIONAL
PEACE RESEARCH INSTITUTE



UNITED NATIONS INSTITUTE
FOR DISARMAMENT RESEARCH

Bridging the Gap between Nuclear-Weapon States and Non-Nuclear-Weapon States

Date & Time:
Tuesday, May 2
13:15-14:25

Place:
M-Plenary,
Vienna International Centre

Opening Remarks:

- H.E. Fumio Kishida, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan
- Thomas Markram, Director and Deputy to the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, UNODA

Speakers:

- Tim Caughley, Resident Senior Fellow, UNIDIR
- Gaukhar Mukhatzhanova, Director for International Organizations & Nonproliferation Program, James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies
- Tariq Rauf, Former Alt. Head IAEA NPT Delegation
- Hidehiko Yuzaki, Governor, Hiroshima Prefecture

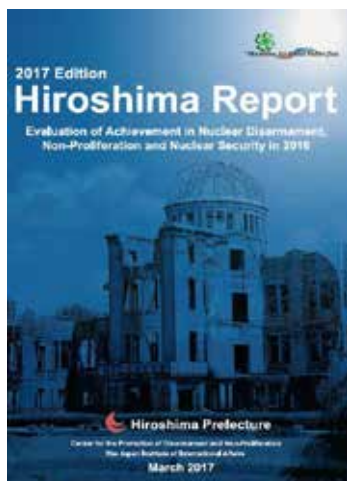
More speakers may be added.

Moderator:

- Nobumasa Akiyama, Minister-Counselor, Permanent Mission of Japan to the International Organizations in Vienna *

* Dr. Akiyama is a member of Hiroshima Prefecture's "Hiroshima for Global Peace" Plan Promotion Committee.

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New publication

Hiroshima Report 2017: Evaluation of Achievement in Nuclear Disarmament, Non-proliferation and Nuclear Security in 2016

For further reading on our effort for nuclear disarmament, please refer to our report. *Hiroshima Report 2017: Evaluation of Achievement in Nuclear Disarmament, Non-Proliferation and Nuclear Security in 2016* can be downloaded at:

<http://www.pref.hiroshima.lg.jp/site/peace-en/hiroshimareport2017e.html>

For the "Hiroshima for Global Peace" Plan, please visit:

<http://www.pref.hiroshima.lg.jp/site/peace-en>

