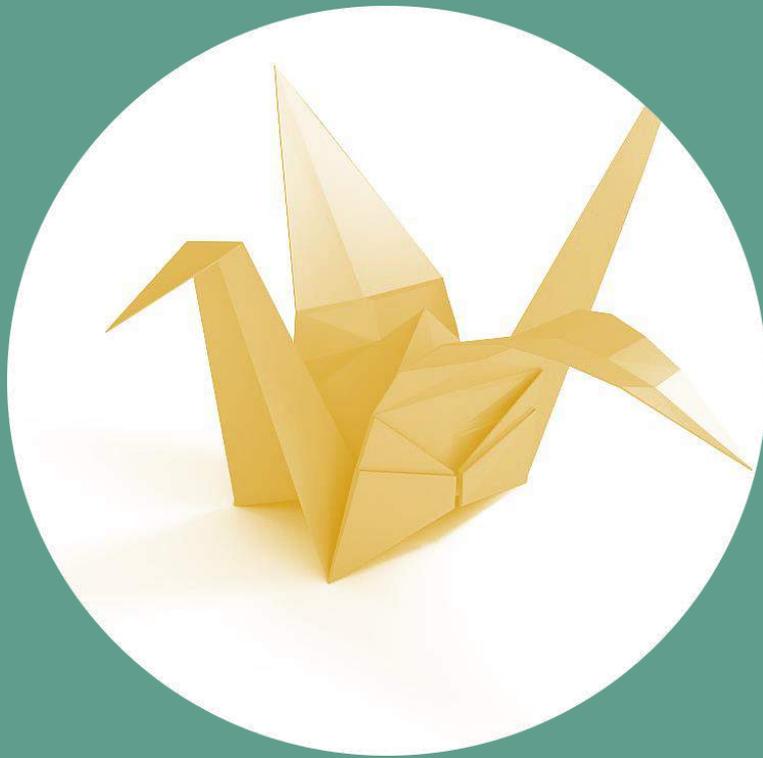




Newsletter



May 2019

Dear friends and colleagues,

this newsletter is full of reviews and reports of activities that required a lot of preparation and commitment by everyone involved. During the last four weeks we have seen 80-100 actions taken in about 20 countries by our member organisations and like-minded associations, all united by the joined call of “[Demilitarize: Invest in People’s Needs!](#)” of the Global Days of Actions on Military Spending (GDAMS). GCOMS has also published their new newsletter, which can be read [here](#). At the end of this newsletter you will be able to read IPB’s latest statements, including a statement that calls for “No War Against Iran”, IPB’s Statement on the SIPRI Report on Military Spending, GCOMS’ Final Statement 2019 and the “Post-Conference Statement – Growing Nuclear Risks in a Changing World: New Thinking and Movement Building”.

You will also be able to read a report of IPB’s Side Events during the 2019 Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference. Moreover, “Don’t Bank the Bomb” has published a report “Producing mass destruction: Private companies and the nuclear weapons industry”, which illustrates the relationship between the commercial sector and nuclear weapons. There are also a couple of upcoming events in the next few months that we want share with you. One of these events is the IPB Youth Network Conference “[Transform! Towards a Culture of Peace](#)” on the 20th-22nd of September in Berlin. The other event is an international meeting on “[Nuclear Security in Europe After the Collapse of the INF Treaty](#)”, also in September in Brussels.

ANNOUCEMENT

The International Peace Bureau’s Triennial Meeting is scheduled for Saturday the 19th of October 2019 in London.

The Triennial Meeting, also called the Assembly, is the highest policy-making body of the IPB. It is also a forum for the exchange of ideas, information and resources among civil society movements, scholars and activists. It is open to Council members, plus individuals belonging to IPB member organisations, individual IPB members and observers. It meets at least once every three years.

More information on the schedule and how to participate will be shared with the eligible participants in a timely manner. All information about our constitution and structure can be found via this link: <https://www.ipb.org/ipb-constitution/>



Editorial: Theresa Kresse (Coordinator)

EVENTS

Report of IPB's Side Events during the NPT PrepCom 2019

The 2019 Chair's reflection on the Prepcom has set the challenge for 2020: "The 50th Anniversary of the entry into force, and the 25th Anniversary of the indefinite extension of the Treaty in 2020, require a demonstrable commitment to the Treaty by States parties. Looking beyond 2020 also requires reaffirming and implementing past commitments, and this is needed to maintain the integrity of the Treaty following the commemorations." He urged States to keep an open mind in order to avoid the deadlock, but the persistent refusal of nuclear weapons states to discuss their right to detain the bombs indefinitely against their own commitment to negotiate disarmament, was once again demonstrated during the Prepcom.

But the pressure is building up against the 9 nuclear possessors and their allies. During the Prepcom, although the debates in the official conference were predictable, many side events organized by civil society organisations,



experts and diplomats demonstrated possibilities to move away from entrenched positions towards disarmament.

IPB organized several events with partners, among which, on May 4, the International Conference "Growing Nuclear Risks in a changing World- New Thinking and Movement Building" with 200 participants and experts from all continents. They stressed the importance of mobilizing of civil society to enhance nuclear disarmament as a vital challenge together with climate change. Speakers came from Russia, Japan, US, France, Germany, South Korea, Israel, Iran and the International Trade Union Confederation that reminded the invaluable contribution of the worker's movement to nuclear disarmament and called for its renewal. Daniel Ellsberg, the famous US analyst and whistleblower, that published the secret Pentagon Papers during the Viet Nam war, gave a very strong speech. Speakers demonstrated both the high level of danger in this period but also the possibilities for people to influence governments with the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons-TPNW as a driver towards nuclear abolition.

IPB ran also several side events in the UN, among which one on "Nuclear weapons in Europe" with speakers from Pugwash, CND, ICAN-France and PAX, chaired by Reiner Braun, IPB co-President. The renewal of the nuclear weapons based in Europe both in France and UK and in the "hosting states" came as a central theme with the necessity to broader pressure on the nuclear allies in strengthening the supportive movement towards the entry onto force of the TPNW.

On the second week of the Prepcom, IPB organized a side-event focusing on "Modernisations and New Nuclear Technologies". US experts from Western States Legal Foundation and the Campaign for Peace,

Disarmament and Common Security and French expert from ICAN France described the trends of the new nuclear arms race fuelled by new budgets directly removed from social needs.

To focus on Europe, despite a majority of the populations objecting to this stationing, the currently deployed 180 B61 nuclear gravity bombs in US airbases in five European countries (Belgium, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, and Turkey) are under way to be replaced by a new version, the B61-12. The Federation of American Scientists reports, however, that there are 2-5 year delays on the B61-12 project as a whole, while new bomb plans (B61-13) are meant to start in 2038. These are the weapons the United States deploys outside their territory, it is yet unclear when the new bombs will be delivered to their European locations.

IPB also brought support to hold a side event on “Nuclear weapons free zone in the Middle East” with Israeli Disarmament Movement, that usefully brought back to the participants minds the demand from Arab States and the international community to negotiate a nuclear-free zone in this region where the tensions are building up.



Nuclear Security in Europe After the Collapse of the INF Treaty



INTERNATIONAL MEETING – SAVE THE DATE - September 14th, 2019 Brussels, 11am to 5pm

Tensions are growing among states possessing nuclear weapons and the collapse of the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty brings Europe closer to the brink of another dangerous Cold War. Meanwhile, the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) gains traction and opens new avenues for urgently needed common campaigns and actions. Signed in 1987 by the United States and the Soviet Union, the INF Treaty bans a complete class of nuclear weapons – land-based cruise and ballistic missiles with ranges of 500 to 5,500km. The Treaty signalled a victory on the part of millions of Europeans who, during the 1980s, demonstrated against the “Euromissiles”. As the United States and Russia again spend enormous sums on modernizing their nuclear arsenals, tensions between both countries are widely recognized as being at their worst since the end of the Cold War.

How do we stop this nuclear arms race? How best to promote and implement the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons? What alternatives are there for peace and common/human security in Europe? How can we achieve European Nuclear Disarmament? All are welcome to discuss this challenging situation and the way forward to a nuclear-weapons-free Europe.

A detailed agenda will be published in July. Please save the date and if you are interested in attending, please send a note to info@ipb-office.berlin. Feel free to share this invitation!

IPB Youth Network Conference

Transform! Towards a Culture of Peace – September 20th-22nd, 2019 Berlin



In the 21st century, we experience multiple wars, destruction and injustice. Challenges and problems are becoming more visible at both small and large scales, ranging from threats with the potential to end human life itself to diverse destruction of the environment and other foundations of life. Militarism and injustice drive these potentials on multiple levels. Aspects of societies – i.e. lack of democracy, distribution of wealth, gender inequalities or the belief in infinite profit maximization – are at the base of many challenges and problems.

Young people are agents of change and need to discuss and exchange on these matters much more. We want to organize to amplify our voices and to engage much more in peace processes and struggles for societal progress.

The world youth congress is a youth-led congress, contributing to the vision of a world in peace and without war and to the vision of a more peaceful, just and sustainable future. This will be achieved by informal learning to develop a sense of personal responsibility, by

developing plans for concrete actions in day-to-day life as well as in societal processes. The Youth Congress will engage youth from various different backgrounds and with varying perspectives and approaches to peace, justice and sustainability as well as diverse experts and lays from different fields related to the Congress' issues.

The overall objective of the world youth congress is to build bridges and foster discussions among youth with different perspectives on and approaches to peace, justice and sustainability alongside non-youth stakeholders active in the peace movement and in the various fields. Voices of youth against war and for peace should be increasingly and strongly heard.

Please register for the conference at info@ipb-office.berlin. Feel free to visit our website for further information:

<http://www.ipb.org/events/ipb-youth-network-conference/>

The Dissent of a 90-Year-Old

*Address by Hon. Douglas Roche, O.C.
Presentation of Sean MacBride Peace Prize
Toronto, April 25, 2019*

“A 90-year-old man appears before you, sighing not for the past but crying for the future. It is not my lost youth that I pine for but a lost future for my grandchildren and their children. Nuclear weapons and climate change threaten their very existence. I dissent from public policies today that will lead to their world being blown up or burned up.

Much of my public career, which started nearly a half-century ago, has been marked by dissent, and I'm not stopping my protest now. I



dissent from the anti-humanitarian policies of war for peace. I dissent from the perpetuation of poverty through the greed of the rich. I dissent from the despoliation of the planet by short-sighted industrialism. Most of all, I dissent from the fabric of lies spun by the proponents of nuclear weapons who would have us believe that these heinous instruments of mass murder make us safer [...].”

Please visit our website to read the full speech:
<http://www.ipb.org/yesterday-news/douglas-roche-the-dissent-of-a-90-year-old/>

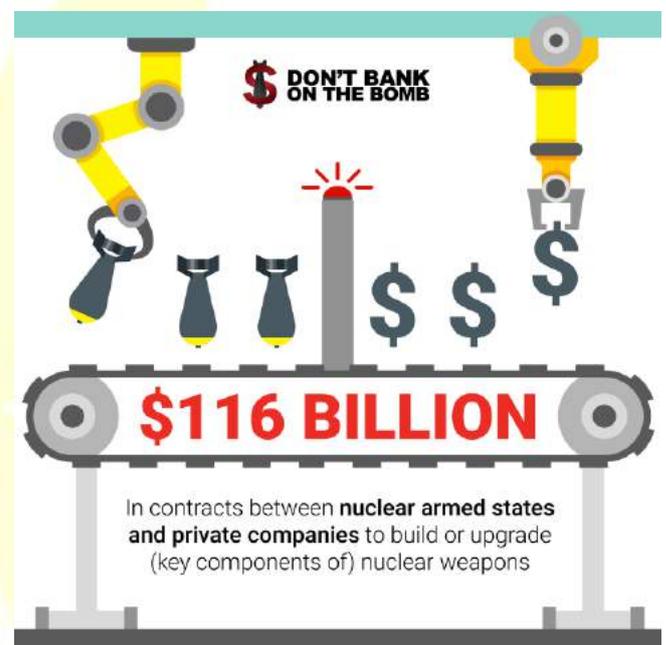
Producing Mass Destruction: Private Companies and the Nuclear Weapons Industry

Don't Bank the Bomb has published a report on “Producing mass destruction: Private companies and the nuclear weapons industry”, which illustrates the relationship between the commercial sector and nuclear weapons.

The report finds that nuclear armed governments have at least \$116 billion in contracts with private companies to build nuclear weapons. Companies including Huntington Ingalls Industries, Lockheed Martin, Honeywell International, General Dynamics and, Jacobs Engineering are directly involved in the nuclear weapon industry,

seeking profit from the production of weapons of mass destruction.

By investing in these companies, financial institutions and others are in effect facilitating the build-up of nuclear forces. This undermines efforts to achieve a nuclear-weapon-free world and heightens the risk that one day these weapons of mass destruction will be used again.”



To be viewed via
<https://www.dontbankonthebomb.com/producing-mass-destruction-private-companies-and-the-nuclear-weapons-industry/>

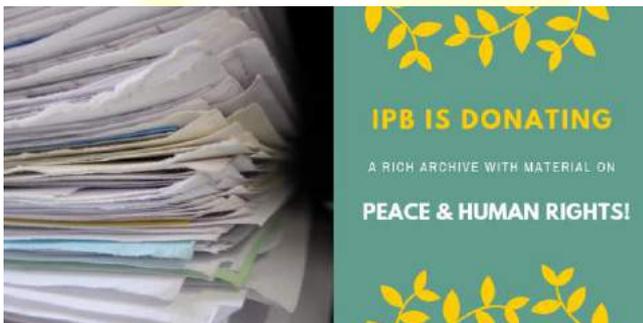
IPB Archives now available as online catalogues

The modern archives of the IPB (1951-2017) were donated to the Special Collections service of the Geneva Graduate Institute for Higher and Development Studies. We are pleased to report that they are now listed on their website:

<https://www.graduateinstitute.ch/library/find-resources>

<https://archives.graduateinstitute.ch/fonds-international-peace-bureau-ipb>

Apart from internal documents from meetings and conferences over many years, there is a mass of fascinating documentation on topics on which IPB has concentrated, such as: the World Court Project on nuclear weapons, Global Campaign for Peace Education, Hague Appeal for Peace 1999, Women's International Day for Peace and Disarmament, Global Campaign on Military Spending, Disarmament for Development, Peace history and Peace prizes, the NGO Committee for Disarmament, and much more.



Archives from the first stage of the IPB's life (1891 - 1951) are stored next door at the League of Nations (UN) library:

<https://biblio-archive.unog.ch/detail.aspx?ID=311>

In both cases the catalogue system requires some study, and practice in using. However there is huge volume of valuable material available for researchers, historians and activists.

We hope that the IPB materials will fall within the scope of the League of Nations archive digitization project. Some (for ex, the Bertha von Suttner material) can already be accessed in digital form.

IPB's book library has been donated to the Swiss town of Tramelan (birthplace of IPB Secretary-General and Nobel peace laureate Albert Gobat), where plans are under way to create an Albert Gobat Peace Centre.

IPB STATEMENTS

IPB Statement on the SIPRI Report on Military Spending

On April 29th, the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) released its report on global military spending in 2018. According to the report, the global military budget rose in 2018 by 2.6%, and is now estimated at \$1.822.000.000.000 (\$1,822 trillion.)

This is a tremendous setback for IPB and its partners. More importantly, it is a direct assault against people who are in urgent need of humanitarian aid and development assistance. IPB, which focuses its resources on lobbying and campaigning for the reduction of military spending in order to benefit social development, is greatly alarmed by this increase of 2.6 per cent military spending increase. To put this in perspective, it should be remembered that humanitarian aid and development assistance amounted to \$ 26.4 billion in 2017, according to the Development Initiatives' Report on the Global Humanitarian Assistance. Each dollar invested in war is causing multiplying physical and emotional damage, far more than \$ 26.4 billion in humanitarian assistance can ever repair or compensate.

We, as active members of global civil society, need to combine our voices and efforts with others to name, protest and change this injustice and win reductions of the world's military budget through legal means and with high moral standards. Only in this way can we free up the financial and human resources essential to not only treating the symptoms of the global epidemic called "poverty," but to address issues such as hunger, homelessness, migration, racial and gender inequality and environmental deterioration.

Lisa Clark & Reiner Braun, Co Presidents of the International Peace Bureau, Florence and Berlin, 29th of April 2019

GCOMS Final Statement 2019

The Coordinating Team of GCOMS has published its final statement for the Global Days of Action on Military Spending 2019.

The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) has published its new report on global military spending on Monday the 29th of April 2019 and once again we feel obliged to state our concern and outrage and call on every individual and group to take action and publicly denounce this nonsense.

The world's military expenditure for 2018 was \$ 1822 billion, 83 billion more than in 2017, passing from a 1.1% to a 2.6% increase in real terms. Militarization is therefore accelerating at an alarming rate at a time when it should be drastically reduced in order to tackle the grave challenges humanity is facing.

This trend of preparing for war is led by the USA, a country which has increased its military spending to \$649 billion, 4,6% more than in the previous year, remaining thus by far the largest spender in the world and accounting for 36% of global military budget in 2018. The US and its NATO allies account, once again, for more than half of all military spending in the world, having reached \$ 963 billion, seemingly following suit of Trump's demands to expand the budget for the military and defence.

In relation to this, the European Union is the second largest military spender accounting for 15% of the global military spending, even more than China, which has increased its expenditure by 5% to \$250 billion. China is followed in SIPRI's ranking by Saudi Arabia, India, France, Russia, the UK, Japan and South Korea.

Aggressive, old-fashioned international relations, based on distrust, deterrence and competition, fuelled and sustained by toxic masculinity, seems to spur military spending on both sides, deepening the polarization between global powers and their influence areas.

Despite Russia's decreasing military expenditure, the threat perceptions towards Moscow appear to be a justification of the increases in many European countries. At the same time, NATO increases in militarization could explain growth in military capabilities of Russia, China and other emerging powers. Rising expenditures in Asia and Oceania mean three decades of continuous growth, fuelled by



tensions due to the choice of military power in order to gain influence in a key region in terms of geopolitics, trade and economics.

The global military spending accounts for 2,1 % of global GDP, an amount which should instead be used to alleviate human suffering and realise comprehensive programmes such as the UN Sustainable Development Goals. At the same time, we cannot overstate that militarization is profoundly rooted in a predatory economic system, which is destroying life-support systems and generating increasingly obscene levels of inequality both locally and globally. It is therefore essential to incorporate an intersectional and all-encompassing analysis, which could connect the dots among different trends and emergencies, offering alternatives that are more peaceful, sustainable and just. Our coordinated actions are aimed to impact and influence the public opinion to create a powerful discourse, which is meant to result in a shift from the present homeland security approaches to a human security paradigm that prioritizes human and environmental needs.

We, as active members of global civil society, need to combine our voices and efforts with others in order to name, protest and change this injustice and win reductions of the world's military budget through legal means and with high moral standards. Only in this way can we free up the financial and human resources essential to not only treating the symptoms of the global epidemic called "poverty", but to address issues such as hunger, homelessness, migration, racial and gender inequality and environmental deterioration.

The Global Campaign on Military Spending (GCOMS) is an international campaign founded in December 2014 and promoted by the International Peace Bureau after the five Global Days of Action (GDAMS), which has been an annual occurrence since 2011. The

main aim is to reduce the global military spending thanks to the cooperative works made by the organisations of civil society.

The GCOMS is run by a steering group of activists from all over world, and is coordinated by Centre Delàs of Peace Studies in Barcelona as a decentralized office of IPB. It works through its members to change government policy and practice on military spending.



IPB Statement – No War Against Iran

No War against Iran. Defending the Iran nuclear deal. Preventing another US warfare.

The International Peace Bureau calls for worldwide protests against the planned war.

Governments worldwide, particularly the EU and the UN, must explicitly and unambiguously call on the US to end the collision course with Iran. They must clarify that they will not support any military action by Trump against Iran.

Despite the 18-year-long war experience in Afghanistan, despite the destruction and the impoverishment of an entire region through wars in Syria, Libya, Mali, Yemen, and the war in Iraq since 2003, the US government is threatening to prepare the next war against Iran. The U.S. military build-up in the Middle East must be stopped immediately.

Currently, a rationale for intervention is being developed- similar to the lies and deceit that preceded the invasion of Iraq. The dispatch of US warships and bomber squadrons in the Middle East as well as acts of sabotage against shipping in the Gulf region have been taken seriously and must be perceived as a wake-up call. The International Peace Bureau stresses the need for all NATO Member States to declare that US bases in Europe cannot be utilized for attacks against Iran, and that the US air force will not be granted any over flight rights in the EU.

It is of utmost importance to keep defending the nuclear deal with Iran, Russia, and China against the unilateral termination by the US. It is indispensable to respond to arbitrary US-sanctions with effective counter-measures in order to protect and maintain trade with Iran.

The International Peace Bureau encourages the world's peace movements to fight for peace, disarmament, and international cooperation in the Middle East.

Florence and Berlin, 16th of May 2019

Post-Conference Statement - Growing Nuclear Risks in a Changing World: New Thinking and Movement Building



Statement of Reiner Braun (IPB) and Joseph Gerson (IPB, AFSC, Campaign for Peace, Disarmament and Common Security) on the Conference “Growing Nuclear Risks in a Changing World: New Thinking and Movement Building, co-organised by the Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung, New York Office.

The Conference “Growing Nuclear Risks in a Changing World: New Thinking and Movement Building” brought together 200 leading peace, disarmament and justice figures from Europe, Asia and across the United States. The conference’s panels and breakout sessions focused on deepening our understandings the challenges of the post post-Cold War era, especially the dangers of escalating great power and South Asian nuclear arms races, the environmental crisis, and above all how our movements can best respond and collaborate to achieve nuclear disarmament, peace and justice.

The international conference took place parallel to the NPT PrepCom, while governments met at the United Nations for the last round of preparatory meetings prior to the 2020 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference. In the current climate of

increasing military confrontations, and the resistance of the P-5 nuclear weapons states to fulfilling their Article VI obligation to engage in good faith negotiations for the complete elimination of their nuclear arsenals, the PrepCom provided little hope for nuclear disarmament in the near term.

The U.S. and Russian withdrawals from the INF-Treaty and the disintegration of the arms control architecture of the 1980s and '90s poses increasing dangers for world peace. All the nuclear-armed countries are upgrading their nuclear forces, with the United States and Russia apparently determined to embark once again on a dangerous and increasingly unrestrained arms race.

The wide range of speakers and perspectives, along with their difference perspectives, unity =of purpose, and commitments to work together were exceptional. They included leading peace and disarmament figures from Japan, South Korea, India, Iran, Russia, Germany, France and Britain, as well as from across the United States, as well as speakers from international and U.S. labor movements and the Movement for Black Lives.*

Speakers, led by Daniel Ellsberg, who once drafted the United States operational plans for general nuclear war that would have brought on nuclear winter, were unanimous in stressing the urgency of the moment and the imperative to act for nuclear disarmament. Nuclear weapons, speakers and conference participants agreed, pose an imminent, existential threat to human existence, one that we must respond to with all the power and urgency we can assemble. The Ban Treaty, developed by civil society and many

governments, and the increasing collaborations between disarmament, environmental, social and economic justice movements were seen by many as signs of hope.

There was general agreement among those who have long h campaigned for nuclear disarmament and peace, that we will not succeed as a siloed movement. A strong thread running through the speeches and breakout sessions was recognition of the common roots of the existential crises that threaten human existence. The challenges to peace, democracy (including the rise of authoritarian governments) economic and social justice, and the ecological prerequisites for human survival have never been as inextricably intertwined as they are today. The environmental and economic challenges we face are both a cause and effect of the deteriorating political conditions that drive international conflict.

In response, the conference underlined the need to build intersectional international social movements, bringing above all together the movements against the two existential threats to human survival –nuclear weapons and climate change, but which also require us to authentically engage struggles for social and economic justice including anti-racist, gender equality and immigrants' rights. New coalitions and broader actions with new forms of action with growing participation of and leadership by young people are essential.

Among the takeaways from the conference is the recognition that we are living in a state of emergency in the uncertain interregnum marked by the decline of U.S. hegemony and

the growing competition – military, economic, technological and otherwise – as well as from growing repression and violence from above. The nationalist rhetoric of fear and hate that are employed to and to divide us from one another is the same that is and will be used to march our young people off to war, including the danger of nuclear cataclysm. People left the conference committed to simultaneously defending those who are most vulnerable, resisting the growing and increasingly dangerous confrontation among nuclear-armed states, and rededicated themselves to the task of building a fair and sustainable world. In collaboration with other movements and across borders, the international peace movement – weak now in many countries – will play determinative roles across this range of issues.

Among the commitments made during the conference were planning for a World Conference for disarmament, peace, the environment and justice on the eve of the 2020 NPT Review Conference, to be rooted in the 75th anniversary of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki A-Bombings; campaigning for the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and for peace and disarmament on the Korean Peninsula; development of a draft treaty for a Middle East Nuclear Weapons Free Zone, solidarity with South Asian peace and disarmament movements, and in defense of those most vulnerable among us.

Videos and transcripts from the conference will be posted online, as resources with which we can build our committed and interconnected movements.

Join With Us!“