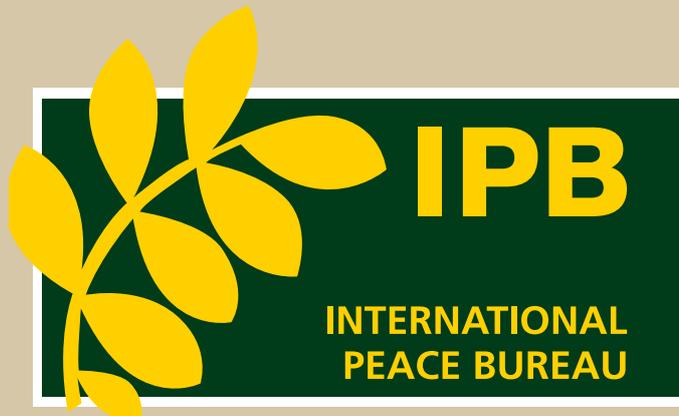




Foto: Bilal El Soussi

ACTIVITY REPORT 2016



Cover photo: Highlight of the Berlin Congress: a '3-D artwork' is unveiled in front of the Reichstag, showing a missile on the point of being launched but restrained by the chains of protesters. (World Future Council project)

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INTRODUCTION

In 2016 the word ‘populism’ was on everyone’s lips. The UK’s Brexit vote and the US’s choice of Donald Trump as its next President loomed so large that other developments often failed to register. This was a year in which mass terrorist attacks continued, notably in Belgium, France, Turkey, Pakistan, Iraq and Afghanistan. North Korea conducted its fifth nuclear test. Refugees continued to drown in the Mediterranean in large numbers, despite the EU’s deal with Turkey which reduced the flow more generally. In early April clashes between Armenian and Azerbaijani military in Nagorno-Karabakh killed at least 193 people. Massacres continued in South Sudan civil war and in the Central African Republic. The chaotic legacy of NATO’s reckless operations in Iraq, Afghanistan and Libya, and their members’ support for Saudi war-making in Yemen, underlined both the brutality and the futility of relying on the blunt instrument of military force. Meanwhile global CO2 levels exceeded 400 ppm at the time of year normally associated with the minimum level, a rate believed to be higher than any in human history. Extreme and unpredictable weather events in all continents served as stark reminders -- for those prepared to listen to the message.

And yet...a peace accord in Colombia marked the end of a more than 40 year conflict between the government, the FARC rebels and the paramilitaries. The International Atomic Energy Agency announced that Iran had adequately dismantled its nuclear weapons program, allowing the UN to lift sanctions immediately. On October 27, the UN adopted a landmark resolution to launch negotiations in 2017 on a treaty outlawing nuclear weapons. The Permanent Court of Arbitration gave its verdict regarding the legality of China’s “Nine-Dash Line” claim over the South China Sea under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. A 150-nation meeting at the UNEP summit in Rwanda agreed to phase out hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), as an amendment to the Montreal Protocol. The International Criminal Court found former Congolese Vice President Jean-Pierre Bemba guilty of war crimes and crimes against humanity, the first time the ICC convicted someone of sexual violence. A vaccine against the Ebola virus was found to be 70-100% effective, making it the first proven vaccine against the disease; and in November, the World Health Organization declared that the Zika virus was no longer a global emergency. Furthermore, the UN General Assembly approved the right to peace through the first general resolution on peace since it adopted in 1999 the resolution on the culture of peace.

These largely positive events only partly served to counterbalance the anxiety generated by the rise of (largely right-wing) political figures in many countries. This is linked to the tragic inability of existing socio-democratic systems to meet the needs of the population, and to mend the rapidly growing gap between the haves and the have-nots. The resulting rejection of mainstream ‘elite’ politics and politicians is truly alarming, given that among the top priorities of those who trumpet their determination to ‘make their country great’ is to strengthen the military and to downgrade the importance of patient diplomacy and the United Nations. More disturbing still is the prospect of tensions between major, nuclear-armed, powers giving rise to actual hostilities. Furthermore, these tensions are no longer bilateral as they were during the Cold War. There are now 4 main military players (US and its partners, Russia, China and at a different level, the various militant jihadist groupings and their backers, such as Saudi Arabia) and a complex web of conflicts, and some cooperative relationships, between them. Such a world urgently needs change: political stability, drastic disarmament measures, a reorientation of economic priorities away from war, reform of the UN, and a ramped-up programme of common action to tackle climate change and other emergencies. Current trends suggest we are unlikely to see such developments any time soon. But IPB and the wider peace movement cannot avoid our responsibility to work to bring them about.

What is IPB?

IPB is a global network of peace groups, with 300 member organisations in 70 countries. The organisation has a democratic structure, with an elected Council and Board. IPB was founded in 1891 to coordinate the work of the world’s national peace associations. It is a Nobel Peace laureate (1910), and in addition, thirteen of our officers and staff have won the Nobel Peace Prize over the years.

IPB’s long-term goal is a world without war. We see our work as a contribution to the development of a peace-building community, cultivating in all societies the seeds of a culture of peace. While the causes of armed conflict are complex, and the attempts to tackle them very varied, IPB has chosen to focus its efforts in a limited number of areas, of which the main one is Disarmament for Sustainable Development. This report offers a summary of the highlights of the year’s activities.

BERLIN CONGRESS

Every year IPB organises an international conference for peace activists. From time to time we are able to organise a special, larger gathering to highlight a particular anniversary or campaign. This was the case with the Hague Appeal for Peace, held in 1999; with the Barcelona Forum 2004; and in 2016 with the Berlin Congress. The title of the Congress was *“Disarm! For a Climate of Peace – Creating an Action Agenda.”* Around 1000 people participated, including a large group of youth. It was held at the Technical University of Berlin, an excellent large venue offering a large number of meeting rooms and facilities.

Aim:

The main aim of the IPB World Congress 2016 was to bring the issue of military spending, often seen as technical question, into the broad public debate and to strengthen our global community of activism regarding disarmament and demilitarization. Solutions to the enormous global challenges of hunger, jobs, and climate change can be significantly enhanced by real disarmament steps – steps that need to be clearly formulated and put into political reality.

The objectives of the World Congress concerned the

connection between, on the one hand, the current global militarization and wars, and on the other, the need for a transformation of the whole politico-economic system. It becomes increasingly evident that without overcoming militarism and the dependence on militarized global and national security systems, a socio-ecological transformation with the goal of a just and equitable international social order cannot be achieved.

Partners

Early in the planning process, the organisers called on IPB members and other friendly organisations to join the Planning Committee, to become Congress partners, and to organise events, both before and at the Congress. In addition, contact was made with a number of important media partners who helped publicise the event, the personalities attending, and the issues being raised.

Funding

Such an ambitious event requires significant investment and we were fortunate in securing important grants from several (mainly German) funders. (see p.13)



IPB World Congress
30 Sept - 03 Oct 2016



Technical University
Berlin Germany



Programme:

The programme was divided into various parts:

Large Plenary meetings, organised and paid for by IPB.

Medium sized Forum meetings organized by IPB and its member organizations, by supporting organizations or persons organizing a forum in the name of the Program Committee.

Smaller Workshop meetings, arranged by any organization or individual.

Side events of all sizes and type (discussion, campaign activity, film show, performances etc).

Youth programme: “The Youth programme is both separate and integrated. Separate, because we believe it is useful for young people (age limit self-defined) to have some space (and time) to meet among themselves. Integrated, since we believe it is helpful for everyone if young people can participate fully in the rest of the conference.” The Youth group met before, during and

after the main conference, and drafted their own Youth Statement, which was read out at the final Plenary.

In addition there were two **‘Conferences-within-the-Congress’**: one on nuclear disarmament and the other on peace education.

Cultural presentations included music from diverse cultures, a yoga and meditation session, films, literature stalls, a night-time gathering where participants formed a huge peace symbol using lights from mobile phones, and an extraordinary 3-D art piece (unveiled in front of the Reichstag), showing a missile on the point of being launched but restrained by the chains of protesters. (World Future Council project).

Speakers

The Congress featured a great wealth of speaking talent, drawn from a range of political movements and perspectives in many countries. Among those who addressed the plenaries were:



Fotos: Bilal El Soussi

Ingeborg Breines (IPB Co-President)

Michael Moller (*Director-General, UN Office at Geneva*)

Archbishop Eterovic (*representing the Holy See*)

Saber Chowdhury (*President, Inter-Parliamentary Union*)

Tawakkol Karman (*Nobel Peace laureate 2011, Yemen*)

Sharan Burrow (*General Secretary, International Trade Union Confederation*)

Samir Amin (*Director, Third World Forum*)

Jean Ziegler (*former UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food*)

Frank Bsirske, *President of ver.di (Multi-service trade union), Germany*

Corazon Fabros, *IPB & Stop the War Coalition, Philippines*

Erlan Idrisov, *Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan*

Jayantha Dhanapala, *President of the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs*

Aude Fleurant, *Director of the Arms and Military Expenditure Program of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)*

Federico Mayor Zaragoza, *Former Director-General of UNESCO (1987 – 1999)*

James Galbraith , *Chair of Economists for Peace and Security, USA*

Noam Chomsky, *Emeritus Professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology*

Reiner Hoffmann, *President of the German Trade Union Confederation (DGB)*

Madeleine Rees, *General Secretary of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)*

Phyllis Bennis, *Institute for Policy Studies, USA*

Jakob von Uexküll, *Founder of the World Future Council and the Right Livelihood Award*

Ernst Ulrich von Weizsäcker, *Co-President of the Club of Rome*

Philip Jennings, *General Secretary of UNI Global Union*

Betty Reardon, *International Institute on Peace Education (IIPE) & MacBride Prize Laureate (2009)*

Many other distinguished figures made presentations in Forums, workshops and side events. (see full programme and reports at the Congress website).

Presidents' Panel

One especially significant 'side event' was the **IPB Presidents Panel**, held on the final evening, and just preceding the IPB Assembly and Council. No less than seven IPB Presidents or Co-Presidents were present for an enjoyable and stimulating evening's discussion, together with around 100 of the conference participants. A unique occasion!



(Photo: Alain Rouy). (l. to r.):

- Lisa Clark (2016 -)
- Reiner Braun (2013 -)
- Ingeborg Breines (2010 – 2016)
- Tomas Magnusson (2006 – 2013)
- Cora Weiss (2000 – 2006)
- Maj Britt Theorin (1994 – 2000)
- Bruce Kent (1985-1994)

PrepComms

In order to widen the outreach and include perspectives from many continents, the IPB World Congress 2016 was prepared by arranging several national/regional meetings dealing with specific topics within the whole complex of issues. We encouraged those organizing events within the framework of the [Global Day of Action on Military Spending \(GDAMS 6\)](#), taking place in mid-April 2016, to structure them so as to contribute to the World Congress. Apart from GDAMS, preparatory activities were held in major centres including Brussels, Geneva, Leeds, Barcelona, Nairobi, New Delhi, Buenos Aires, Rosario (Argentina), Encarnación (Paraguay), Montevideo, Bogotá, Tokyo, Montreal, and Washington DC. We offer our deep gratitude and congratulations to the organisers of all these events, without whom the impact of the whole Berlin process would have been much weaker.

Outcomes

The Congress did not adopt a Final Statement, but the IPB itself published its own *Action Agenda October 2016*, which was read out at the final Plenary and is available on the website. It offers a broad framework to guide the IPB community in the years ahead. The Agenda begins with the IPB's vision, and goes on to

outline some of the main challenges in the peace field. It then describes IPB's broad approach to campaigning. The final section focuses on IPB's central area of work (military spending) and lists a number of disarmament measures on which IPB intends to work

The separate *Youth Statement* was drafted by the participants through an on-line preparation and discussion process. This statement committed its participants to organising a further international Youth

Peace gathering in two years' time. (Extracts) "*Youth are a military target in schools, universities, religious spheres and other social environments.... We, the participants of the IPB Youth Gathering, actively strive for peace and a just future.... Today we create a Youth Network under the umbrella of the IPB, calling for a world conference on youth, demilitarisation, and transformation in 2018.*" Congress reports, speeches, photos and videos can be found at <https://www.ipb2016.berlin>

DISARMAMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

IPB continues to build up its major programme, launched in 2005, entitled Disarmament for Sustainable Development. (D for D). This is designed to reflect widespread public concern at the continuing high (and rising) levels of global military spending; and the evidence that all weapons — both the devastating weapons of mass destruction and those used on a frequent basis (large and small conventional arms, cluster bombs, landmines...) -- seriously impede sustainable development. Many years and several wars on from 9-11, the failure of military solutions should be obvious to all. IPB advocates reductions in defence budgets and the adoption of a 'human security' approach.

Our **Disarmament for Sustainable Development** programme has three thematic areas: (1) military spending, (2) impacts of weapons on development, (3) justifications for investments in militarism. Since 2011 the central focus of the work is military (and social) spending. The various concepts are discussed in detail in our book *Warfare or Welfare? A follow-up volume, Whose Priorities?* provides examples of creative campaigning by NGOs and other civil society organisations who have taken up these issues. More recent IPB publications focus on the links between military spending and the UN's Development Agenda, with its 17 Sustainable Development Goals, and how militarism relates to the challenge of climate change.

GLOBAL CAMPAIGN ON MILITARY SPENDING

In 2016 the **Global Campaign on Military Spending (GCOMS)**, launched in 2014, consolidated the progress made during the 6 annual Global Days of Action (GDAMS) since 2011. New partnerships were formed and new issues addressed. This year's activities made reference to the need to finance the 2015 Climate Change agreement (COP 21) and the

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), adopted by the UN General Assembly. IPB and its GCOMS partners consistently made the case that much of the money locked into the military sector should – and given political will – could be made available for such purposes. By early 2016 it was becoming clear that a third area would also be requiring major investments: the humanitarian crisis. This was addressed by the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) held in May 2016 in Istanbul. We can add to this the crucial importance of redirecting money to the peace and disarmament sectors; and funding needs apparent in public services such as health and education. IPB calls these the 'five directions' in which military resources could, and should, be channelled.

Every year IPB works with the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) to make known their annual military spending data. The figures for 2015 (released in April 2016) show that, although the drop in the oil price has meant for certain states a reduction in available income, the general trend is once again upwards: an increase of 1% over the 2014 figures, to \$1676 billion, equivalent to 2.3 per cent of global gross domestic product (GDP). The United States remained by far the world's biggest spender in 2015, despite its expenditure falling by 2.4 per cent to \$596 billion. The five biggest spenders were the USA, China, Saudi Arabia, Russia and the UK.





GLOBAL DAY OF ACTION ON MILITARY SPENDING 2016

The highlight of our campaigning year was once again GDAMS; now re-named the Global Days of Action on Military Spending, in order to allow a wider range of activities on dates chosen by the partners. In 2016 the Global Days ran from April 5, the day of publication of the SIPRI data, to April 18. In all, 128 physical actions were organised in 21 countries, in addition to extensive social media campaigns. Details of the activities undertaken in each country can be found at the GDAMS website: <http://demilitarize.org/gdams-2016-final-report-actions-military-spending/>

This was the 6th edition of GDAMS. The GDAMS U.S. events were mostly organised on 18 April, U.S. Tax Day, to highlight people's opinions on where they prefer their tax money to be spent. IPB served as the International Coordinator and Joseph Gerson of the American Friends Service Committee took over as the U.S. Coordinator.

The events organised varied in shape and size depending on the local political context and the capacity of the partners. As in previous years, the range of activities included street protests/demonstrations, seminars, press conferences, media releases, videos, petitions, peace vigils and penny polls. Some took the form of 'PrepComms' for the IPB's upcoming Berlin Congress. The IPB Secretariat wrote: *'Once again, many creative actions have been organised, and we have reached both the general public and more specialist audiences with our 'Move the Money' message. Seminars were organised in Belgium, Geneva, Nairobi, Oslo....Street actions in London, Sydney, outside the UNHCR headquarters, in Indian villages, and all over the USA. Surveys, petitions and street polls were conducted in Catalonia and UK. Press communiques and statements were published by the*

United Nations, in Italy, in Brussels and by the IPB itself. And there is more...'

On social media, the Thunderclaps, the selfies, and online surveys brought to the fore local issues while linking them to global ones.

GENEVA: The IPB Secretariat once again organised two activities in Geneva: this time a seminar related to the UN's humanitarian work, and a street-level photo-opportunity, outside the UNHCR, in order to make the link with the Istanbul Humanitarian Summit.

At the end of the GDAMS season we published once again the following message: *'To our colleagues in the faith-based, labour, peace and disarmament, academia, women, economic justice, decent housing, environment and climate change, human rights, conscientious objectors, artists and students communities: A million thanks to you for taking action and supporting the events on the ground and on social media. Thank you for organising so many actions. All of these add up to the GDAMS global movement's efforts to persuade governments to reallocate the global military spending and move the money to urgent human needs'*

OTHER EVENTS

Public presentations about the Campaign made during the rest of the year (by Secretary-General Colin Archer, unless stated otherwise) included:

January 27-28: Seminar *'The Complexity of Militarism'* at Leeds Beckett University, UK.

January 31. PRIME international symposium *'World Military Expenditure and Japan's Choice'* at International Peace Research Institute (PRIME), Meiji Gakuin University, Tokyo.

June 20-22. 16th Jan Tinbergen European Peace Science



Conference, the annual meeting of NEPS, Network of European Peace Scientists. Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, Milan.

July 4-6 [Asia-Europe People's Forum \(AEPF\)](#), Ulan Bataar, Mongolia (Lisa Clark)

7 July: -- Summer university lecture on Costs of Conflict at: [Universitat internacional de la pau](#), Sant Cugat de Vallès, Barcelona.

8-9 July [NATO Counter-Summit](#) Warsaw. (Reiner Braun)

9-14 August [World Social Forum, Montreal](#) (Reiner Braun)

14-16 October: G. Lambrakis memorial event, Greece (Reiner Braun & Lisa Clark)

25 October: Side meeting at [Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union](#), Geneva.

11 November: Round Table [Moving the Military Money: to climate, development, humanitarian action... and peacemaking](#) at Ecumenical Centre, Geneva. (Geneva Peace Week). (Other speakers included Dave Webb and Arielle Denis)

December: IPB member the Coalition for Constitution Implementation Kenya (CCI) hosted a regional Peace and Security Convening during the Zinduka Festival in Kamapala, the main topic of which was the campaign on military spending.

NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

IPB has a long history of work to promote the elimination of nuclear weapons, notably in the late 1980s and 1990s when we focused on the struggle to bring the issue to the International Court of Justice (World Court Project); and since 1995 in support of networks such as Abolition 2000, Mayors for Peace, International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, and the Middle Powers Initiative. Several of the awards we have made of the Sean MacBride Peace Prize, and of our annual Nobel Peace Prize nominations, have highlighted anti-nuclear figures. In 2016 we continued on this path by participating in a number of key events and projects:

NEW JOINT PUBLICATION ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS FINANCING

Move the Nuclear Weapons Money: A handbook for civil society and legislators was launched on October 25 at the 135th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU). IPB intends to develop further work on this theme during the negotiations on the Nuclear Ban Treaty which commenced in New York in March 2017. "Over the next 10 years, governments will spend a staggering \$1 trillion on nuclear weapons globally. That's \$100

billion annually. Against the backdrop of increasing austerity and cuts in social spending, such allocations appear not only exorbitant, but also counter to the economic and social needs of the nuclear-armed States. Anti-nuclear activists and other civil society leaders need to join forces with progressive legislators and anti-nuclear governments to reduce the lobbying power of the nuclear weapons corporations, and to 'move the nuclear money' to social and environmental programs. The handbook, published by IPB, World Future Council and Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, was launched as part of the IPU's deliberations on the issue of military spending versus the Sustainable Development Goals"





ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOMBINGS OF HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI

The 71st anniversary of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki was commemorated in traditional style in the two cities, and several IPB members, plus Vice-President Jordi Calvo, represented the organisation at the 6-day World Conference Against A & H bombs, organised by Gensuikyo and others.



NGO COMMITTEE FOR DISARMAMENT, GENEVA

Work continued within the NGO Committee for Disarmament, Geneva, of which IPB is the Secretary. The Committee acts as a liaison body for a range of international organisations working for disarmament. Its activities in 2016 included participating in the Open-Ended Working Group and preparing activities related to the upcoming NPT PrepComms and the Ban Treaty negotiations. Special efforts were made to communicate with our sister Committees in New York and Vienna, and to plan joint work. A new website has been launched.

NOBEL PEACE PRIZE NOMINATION

This year IPB made the decision to nominate for the Nobel Prize the former Foreign Minister **Tony de Brum and the legal team appointed by the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) to handle its nuclear weapons cases.** De Brum was awarded IPB's own Prize (MacBride Peace Award) in 2015.

“On April 24, 2014, the RMI filed landmark lawsuits against the nine nuclear-armed nations for failing to comply with their obligations under international law to pursue negotiations for the worldwide elimination of nuclear weapons... The RMI has made a courageous step

in challenging nine of the world's most powerful states at the International Court of Justice. The tiny Pacific nation has launched a parallel court case against the USA at the Federal District Court. RMI argues that the nuclear weapons-possessing countries have breached their obligations under Article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) and customary international law by continuing to modernize their arsenals and by failing to pursue negotiations in good faith on nuclear disarmament.

The Marshall Islands were used by the USA as testing ground for nearly 70 nuclear tests from 1946 to 1958. These tests gave rise to lasting health and environmental problems for the Marshall Islanders. Their first-hand experience of nuclear devastation and personal suffering gives legitimacy to their action and makes it especially difficult to dismiss.” (extract from IPB's nomination letter to the Norwegian Nobel Committee, January 2015).

IPB's Board members are also entitled to submit official nominations. In 2016, Co-President Ingeborg Breines nominated the former UNESCO Director-General **Federico Mayor**, the leading promoter of the UNESCO's Culture of Peace programme.

CHAIN REACTION

In 2016 IPB gave support to a collective effort linking several anniversaries connected to peace and nuclear disarmament over the period July 8 (20th anniversary of the International Court of Justice historic case on nuclear weapons) to October 2 (International Day for Non-violence). Chain Reaction was facilitated by the [Unfold Zero](#) organisation and the [Basel Peace Office](#). Many member organisations organised public events to press the case for nuclear abolition and to connect the issue with wider concerns. IPB's contributions included our participation in the World Conference against A & H Bombs in Japan, the Berlin Congress and the Making Peace exhibition.

HIBAKUSHA DELEGATION IN GREECE

On September 16, Colin Archer visited Athens, on the invitation of IPB member organisation PADOP (Observatory of International Organisations and Globalisation, Greece). He spoke at the ceremonies organised to welcome the visit of Peace Boat to Piraeus and Athens. The Japanese group on board included a delegation of Hibakusha/Second generation and Youth Communicators. The programme comprised: a meeting with the Deputy Foreign Minister Dimitris Mardas; an informal gathering with the Mayor of Tripolis; and a formal session in the Senate Chamber of the Greek Parliament, chaired by the Deputy Speaker, and attended by MPs from several political parties.



OTHER PROJECTS

MAKING PEACE

Making Peace is a major photo-exhibition that pays tribute to the people who — all over the planet — have devoted their time, energy and resources to the

cause of peace. It was created by IPB and first shown in Geneva in 2010, the centenary of the Nobel Peace Prize awarded to the IPB. It aims to teach the public, especially young people, the key elements necessary to create a ‘sustainable peace’; providing a stimulus



Students from the Canadian School in Tunis, during a workshop and guided tour of Making Peace.



...and here it is in the metro in Rio de Janeiro.

for people of all ages to get involved in bringing about positive change. It consists of 100 panels with images by major photographers, plus text in English and local languages. It is curated and organised by Ashley Woods of REAL Exhibition Development. Related activities include a teachers' guide and interactive on-site workshops and presentations. In 2016 it was shown in 3 venues: in the cities of Tunis, Sfax (Tunisia), and Rio de Janeiro during the Olympic Games. Updates can be found on the Making Peace website and social media pages.

NOBEL PEACE LAUREATES SUMMIT

Every year Nobel Peace Laureates meet to discuss the state of the world and to work together to present a collective peace message. The [World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates](#), was not held in 2016 – instead it was postponed to February 2017 in Bogota.

SEAN MACBRIDE PEACE PRIZE

Each year IPB awards its own Peace Prize, in memory of our former President Sean MacBride. The IPB awarded the 2016 MacBride Peace Prize to its own Secretary-General Colin Archer, who since 1990 has served the organization with outstanding commitment and competence. Colin Archer, who retires in 2017 and will return home to the UK, has spared no efforts over the last 26 years in the service of peace and of the IPB community in particular. The Prize was awarded on Friday, 11 November 2016, at a ceremony in the Ecumenical Centre in Geneva. More information about the MacBride Peace Prize see: [MacBride Prize 2016.pdf](#) and [ipb MacBride Prize](#)

FROM THE OFFICE DIARY

In order to provide a sense of the breadth of IPB's concerns and partnerships, here is a selection of highlights taken from the wide range of outreach activities undertaken (by Secretary-General Colin Archer, unless otherwise stated):

For details of these and many other activities please consult the *Archive* section of the IPB website.

January 18: Talk to Masters' level students visiting from Science-Po Bordeaux.

January 24: Interview with Radio Australia's Pacific Beat programme re the IPB's nomination for the Nobel Peace Prize of Tony de Brum of the Marshall Islands.

January 30 – Feb 2: Visits to Japanese member groups and colleagues, following the Tokyo seminar which served as a PrepComm for the Berlin Congress: Gensuikyo, Gensuikin, Risho Kosei-Kai, JALISA, Peace Boat, also Lucky Dragon museum.

March 4 – 6: Syracuse, Sicily - planning meeting for the World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates (attended by Ingeborg Breines and Lisa Clark).

April: Photo-exhibition by Demir Sönmez at the Place des Nations, Geneva, featured a selection of protest actions held at the Place des Nations itself in recent years. These included a large panel featuring our GDAMS action in 2014.

April 15: Several IPB officials attended the annual conference of the International Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms (IPB member) in Lausanne.

April 18: Speech and interviews at the Brussels conference on Military Spending in Europe (Prepcomm for the Berlin Congress) (Reiner Braun)



April 28-30: Participation in the Selection Committee of the Ieper/Ypres Peace Prize, preceded by visits to the Quaker Council on European Affairs and Agir Ici in Brussels.

May 6: Meeting in Geneva with 6 representatives of the Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Makhtoum Award for World Peace (Dubai), to discuss possible areas of cooperation including peace education and research.

May 25: Long interview with Eurasia Diary, and on-line media publication run by IPB member organisation the International Eurasia Press Fund, IEPF

June 24: Letter published in the Guardian Weekly questioning the 'consensus opinion' that the atomic bombings 'hastened the end of the war'.

6-9 July: CRID Summer school of French development cooperation movement (Ben Cramer)

July 7: Speech on the impacts of armed conflict at the summer course organized by the Universitat Internacional de la Pau, in San Cugat, Barcelona.

November 10: Interview with Islamic radio station on the issue of arms trade, notably in the Middle East, and the effectiveness or otherwise of the Arms Trade Treaty.

November 17: Attendance at the ceremony in Geneva of the Pax Christi International Peace Award, given this year to the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan and the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace of Pakistan.

December: IPB signed the German-based Appeal '*Stop the Spiral of Violence –for a New Policy of Peace and Détente now!*' reminding the world that "a way out of the deadlock of confrontation is only possible through cooperation, understanding and reconciliation with supposed enemies".

December 10: Oslo -- Attendance at the award ceremony of the Nobel Peace Prize 2016 (Ingeborg Breines)

August 22-25: El Bosque University, Bogota , Prep.Com on Disarmament and Peace in Colombia. Speeches and meetings with partners. (Ingeborg Breines and Alicia Cabezudo)

September 1: High Level Forum on the Culture of Peace, UN General Assembly -- presentation of IPB suggestion of 10% reduction in military costs to benefit development. (Ingeborg Breines)

REGULAR ACTIVITIES:

The IPB BOARD met several times by skype, and held physical meetings in Geneva and Berlin.

The annual **COUNCIL** meeting was held in Berlin on Oct 3, immediately following the **Triennial Assembly**, at which the results of the elections were announced. (**see below**)

NEWSLETTER: Our main networking tool: *IPB News* (monthly) carries vital information and opinion on all aspects of Disarmament for Sustainable Development work, plus nuclear and other topics. Persons wishing to subscribe should contact the Secretariat.

WEBSITES: Maintaining our 3 Websites (plus a 4th added in 2016 to present the [Berlin Congress 2016](#)) as well as their corresponding Facebook and Twitter pages is time-consuming but vitally-important work. Readers are encouraged to consult them on a regular basis:

www.ipb.org

www.demilitarize.org

www.makingpeace.org

www.ipb2016.berlin

FUNDING ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

IPB is most grateful for programme support received this year – notably for the Berlin congress - from several foundations and trade unions:

Hans Böckler Stiftung

Heinrich Böll Stiftung

Friedrich Ebert Stiftung

Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung

UNI Global Union

International Trade Union Confederation

In addition we thank the Sri Ramanuja Mission Trust (India) for the financing of participants' travels to Berlin. We are also acknowledge a number of smaller grants and donations (see website). IPB thanks all those members and supporters who have helped support IPB's work either via fee payments or gifts. In today's difficult funding climate, their efforts make all the difference.

IN MEMORIAM

During the year we lost a number of important friends, including **Aline Boccardo**, the co-founder of Women for Peace Switzerland; **John Ainslie**, Coordinator of Scottish Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament; **Fr. Daniel Berrigan S.J.** an outstanding and prophetic anti-war voice who inspired many in the US movement against the Vietnam War, and far beyond; **Egon Bahr**, the creator of the *Ostpolitik* promoted by West German Chancellor Willy Brandt; **Tom Hayden**, veteran US activist from the 1960s movements and later a politician and author.

IPB ELECTIONS 2016 -- RESULTS

Alphabetical by surname in each category

Note: The nominating organisation is not necessarily the same as the organisation the person represents

	NOMINATING ORGANISATION	COUNTRY
Co-Presidents		
Reiner Braun	International Assoc of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms (IALANA)	Germany
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Total Board (= Officers + St.Ct): 19		
REGIONAL REPS		
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David Otieno	Coalition for Constitution Implementation	Kenya

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Alba Centeno	Escuelas por la Paz	Colombia
Patricia Perez	More Peace Less AIDS	Argentina

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Iain Atack	Afri	Ireland
Jenny Clegg	Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND)	UK
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Deo Ruhumuliza	Alternatives for Reconciliation, Progress and Peace - Citizens Movement	Switzerland
Miguel Silva	Centre Del�s	Portugal

INTERNATIONAL

Celine Nahory	Peace Boat	International
Lucas Wirl	Intl. Network of Engineers and Scientists for Global Responsibility	International

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UN Representatives: Cora Weiss, Sally Jones, Kate Alexander (New York).

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- Colin Archer – Secretary-General
- Khang Huynh Dac – Finance and accounting

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- Nina Decoular -Delafontaine
- Sofie Gelinder
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- Anna Labadze
- Marine Laborde
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- Lea Perekrests
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