



Newsletter



April 2018

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

The last week has been a very busy one. The first week of the second preparatory committee of the NPT Review Conference finished.

Just before the PrepComm started, on April 21 and 22 we co-organized with ICAN the campaigners meeting. It was successful and very inspiring. Soon we will report more on this event.

We hold our first side event at the UN on nuclear weapons in Europe and our member organization gave a statement at the Conference. You will find more information in this newsletter.

On the world news part, there has been very positive news, giving all of us hope - Panmunjeom Declaration and the Arrival of the Era of Peace on the Korean Peninsula. We are very pleased with this direction and fully support the path of diplomacy and negotiations.

In this issue you will also find information on our events in New York.

If you have not been part of a GDAMS action this year – there is still time until May 3rd. We invite you join these actions and set a sign against military spending.

We hope you enjoy reading!

With our warmest regards from Geneva,

Amela Skiljan

Nuclear Arms Racing is Antithetical to the NPT



International Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms
25 April 2018
Civil Society Presentation to NPT PrepCom, Geneva



The International Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms delivered their statement to the NPT PrepCom in Geneva

The statement was delivered by **Amela Skiljan**, Board member of the German IALANA.

Dear colleagues:

On 22 August 2017, a true hero of the nuclear age, Tony de Brum, passed away. He did many important things in his life. One of them was that as Foreign Minister, he spearheaded the Marshall Islands' nuclear disarmament cases in the International Court of Justice. When the cases were filed, in April 2014, he said: "Our people have suffered the catastrophic and irreparable damage of nuclear weapons and we vow to fight so that no one else on Earth will ever again experience these atrocities." Regrettably, by the narrowest of margins the Court refused to adjudicate the cases on their merits. But de Brum's call to action should serve as an inspiration on

other fronts, not least this NPT review process.

We are now faced with a contradictory environment. A majority of the world's states last year adopted the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. Going entirely in the other direction, the two largest nuclear powers, the United States and Russia, appear poised to resume nuclear arms racing reminiscent of the darkest days of the Cold War.

The US Nuclear Posture Review released on February 2 proposes two new capabilities, both aimed at Russia, a low-yield warhead deployed on submarine-launched missiles, and a sea-based, nuclear-armed cruise missile. It also endorses replacement of an air-launched cruise missile with a stealthier, more capable version. And the review emphasizes the role of nuclear weapons in responding to

"non-nuclear strategic attacks," notably cyberattacks.

In a March 1 address, President Vladimir Putin described an array of new nuclear weapons delivery systems, including a nuclear-powered cruise missile, an underwater drone carrying "massive nuclear ordinance", and a multiple warhead ballistic missile with virtually unlimited range capable of flying over the South as well as the North Pole.

All of this stands in blatant disregard of the NPT. The NPT preamble declares the "intention to *achieve at the earliest possible date* the cessation of the nuclear arms race". And of course, Article VI requires the pursuit of negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date.

The concept animating Article VI was that quantitative build-

up and qualitative improvement of nuclear arsenals was to be ended prior to negotiations on their elimination. By the mid-1990s, the agenda had been partly achieved. Nuclear arsenals were reducing in size, and nuclear explosive testing was halted. Indeed, in a 1995 declaration, France, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States welcomed “the fact that the nuclear arms race has ceased.”¹

But the gains of the 1990s are now being reversed. Hence the need to go back to the basics. Qualitative – and possibly quantitative – nuclear arms racing should now be out of the question. The “early date” has long since passed! Yet there are no negotiations on the subject taking place or in

sight, clearly a breach of Article VI, which requires such negotiations to be pursued and concluded. And the weapons development described by Putin and the Nuclear Posture Review is a breach of the legal requirement of good faith in relation to the objectives of Article VI.

As we approach its fiftieth anniversary, the NPT risks losing its appeal as a tool for disarmament, and its viability as a bulwark against proliferation is even in question. The implementation of well-known steps is vital. They include a pledge not to initiate nuclear warfare; hold-out states’ ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty to bring it into legal force; and ending nuclear

sharing, the NPT-violative arrangement for five states to host and potentially use US nuclear bombs.

Above all, nuclear-armed states must abandon the myth that ‘nuclear deterrence’ keeps us safe. Now more than ever, it is imperative to comply with the unanimous conclusion of the International Court of Justice: “There exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control.”



¹ NPT/Conf.1995/20, 19 April 1995, Annex.

Nuclear Weapons in Europe

an IPB Side Event for the 2018 NPT
PrepCom



As part of the 2018 NPT PrepComm IPB hosted a side event at the United Nations in Geneva examining the status of nuclear weapons in Europe.

The panel was composed of Jean-Marie Collin (ICAN, IDN), Susi Snyder (ICAN), Arielle Denis (IPB) as chairperson, Reiner Braun (co-president IPB) and Michel Dolot (Movement de la Paix) – from left to right on the photo. While each of the panellists presented an overview of their countries position towards nuclear armament, the session gave the chance to

discover infamous realities of nuclear sharing in Europe.

In Europe there are five countries participating in so called nuclear sharing, providing for the delivery of nuclear weapons in the event of their use. As part of NATO's nuclear deterrence strategy Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands, Italy and Turkey are hosting U.S. nuclear weapons on six bases. In addition, France and the United Kingdom are possessors of nuclear weapons in Europe.

The event also rose awareness of the possible construction of a European nuclear bomb funded in particular by France and Germany.

Regarding the tense situation in the world, the panellists introduced rallies and events that will be held in the upcoming months.

Remember to check out your region and take action against nuclear armament!





INVITATION

MacBride Peace Prize Ceremony 2017

to award

Noam Chomsky

On May 12, Professor **Noam Chomsky** will be awarded the MacBride Peace Prize in New York, Judson Memorial Church, 55 Washington Square South.

For his tireless commitment to peace, his many contributions, courageous insistence and modeling of the responsibility and integrity of intellectuals, his strong critiques to U.S. foreign policy, and his anti-imperialism. Professor Chomsky has been properly described as “a genuine people’s hero, an inspiration for struggles all over the world for that basic decency known as freedom”, as “one of the greatest and most radical public thinkers of our time”, “one of the most significant challengers of unjust power and delusions”, and as a

‘guru’ for the world’s anti-capitalist and anti-imperialist movement. In recent years, in addition to his continuing contributions to the fields of linguistics, philosophy and cognitive science, his critiques have focused on the U.S. post-9-11 “War on Terror” which has provided cover for a continuation of U.S. imperial policies, and the imperative of addressing the dangers posed by nuclear weapons and climate change.

The 2017 Recipients:

- All Okinawa Coalition to Prevent Construction of a New Base in Henoko
- Jeremy Corbyn
- Noam Chomsky

The award ceremonies have been scheduled separately in Barcelona, Geneva and New York



The ceremony **programme** is as followed:

5.00 pm Opening

Lisa Clark and Reiner Braun

5.10 Presentation of Award
to Noam Chomsky
by Joseph Gerson

5.20 Laudation to
Noam Chomsky
by Irene Gendzier

5.35 Speech by
Noam Chomsky

5.55 Closing Remarks
Reiner Braun

6.00 pm Reception

Please register at:
info@ipb-office.berlin

For more information please
visit our website
www.ipb.org or call
00 16176616130





IPBYN
International
Peace Bureau
YOUTH NETWORK

**Latin American
Youth Congress for Peace**

In Latin America, the IPB Youth Network organised three pre-Conferences as a lead up to the World Congress to be held in Berlin in 2019.

Angelo Cardona, María Teresa Barrios and Guyci Denisse as youth representatives from Colombia, Argentina and Mexico respectively are pleased to inform you about the Latin American Youth Congress for Peace Organized by IPBYN, UNOY Peacebuilders, Fundación Escuelas de Paz (Schools of peace Foundation) Instituto Latinoamericano para la Paz y la Ciudadanía - ILAPIC (Latin American Institute for Peace and Citizenship) La Paz Querida (Wanted Peace) National Democratic Institute Colombia - NDI and Foro Permanente de Ciencia y Educación para el Desarrollo y la Paz (Permanent Forum for Sciences and Education for Development and Peace) many of the IPB Member organizations in Latin America. In Addition, it was supported by Movimiento de Educadores por La paz (Peace Educators Movement - Uruguay) and Consejo Latinoamericano de Investigación para la Paz - CLAIP (Latin American Council of Peace Researchers).

This congress took place at University Of Antioquia, within

the II International Congress of Sciences and Education for Development and Peace where we launched the Latin American Youth Network for Peace which



aim to build a culture of peace, foster international cooperation and participation of young people in decision-making processes.

This Congress assumed the role of pre-conference towards the World Congress "TRANSFORM" of the International Peace Bureau Youth Network , to be held in Berlin, September, 2019.

As well as this, in Latin America, we are going to have two more pre-Conferences: One in Buenos Aires that will take place at the Senate of the Nation on the 3rd, 4th and 5th of July 2018 and at the University Instituto Tecnológico de Monterrey, City of Mexico September, 2018 where we will expand as a network.

IPBYN representatives led along with National Democratic Institute the Human Rights commission within the Congress

where we tackled some of the violations of Human Rights in our region as well as possible actions to take in order to counter them.

In the same way, we highlighted the importance of Peace Education and Communication, the United Nations resolution 2250 and public policy.

Moreover, in the II International Congress of Sciences and Education for Development and Peace, we had the chance to hear some prominent speakers such as Dr. Alicia Cabezudo and Amada Benavides as Peace Educators and Dr. Alberto Portugheis, Founder of Humanity United for Universal Demilitarisation - HUFUD Organization that promotes World Peace through Universal Demilitarisation.

<http://www.hufud.org/>

Yours Sincerely,
Angelo Cardona and María Teresa Barrios





Two Minutes to Midnight: How Do We Move from Geopolitical Conflict to Nuclear Abolition?

Don't forget to register for the Conference with **Noam Chomsky, Sergio Duarte, Daniel Ellsberg, and Tarja Cronberg** on Saturday, May 12 10am-4pm at Judson Memorial Church New York City.

The United Nations High Level Conference on Nuclear Disarmament might have been postponed but we will still host our conference addressing the topics "The Dangers of a Great Power War". "Prospects for Nuclear Disarmament".

Because seating is limited, please register [here](#).

Learn more about the programme and the speakers presentations [here](#).

For further information visit:

www.ipb.org

www.rosalux-nyc.org

Location:

Assembly
Hall, Judson
Memorial
Church
229
Thompson St.
(South of
Washington
Square Park)
New York
City

Statement of People's Solidarity for Participatory Democracy



We Welcome the Panmunjeom Declaration and the Arrival of the Era of Peace on the Korean Peninsula with It

The Declaration embodies both Koreas' commitment to bringing the era of division and confrontation to an end and establishing a peace regime on their own accord.

The vision of thawing military tension, achieving disarmament through mutual trust-building, and freeing the Korean Peninsula from nuclear threats is highly praised.

On April 27, 2018, South and North Korea declared the arrival of the Era of Peace, thus opening up a new chapter in history. With the entire world watching, the leaders of the two Korea delivered hopes and achievements that seemed unimaginable even just several months ago. At the Summit, held for the first time in 11 years, the two leaders announced the Panmunjeom Declaration for Peace, Prosperity, and Unification of the Korean Peninsula, thus affirming their commitment to bringing the age of division and confrontation to an end and establishing peace on the Korean Peninsula in an active manner of their own accord. The

People's Solidarity for Participatory Democracy (PSPD) could not be more delighted by the news of today's Summit as well as its Panmunjeom Declaration.

Through the Declaration, the leaders of both Korea agreed to implement sweeping and groundbreaking improvements and progresses in inter-Korean relations, to make concerted efforts to thaw military tension and eliminate risks of war, and to cooperate with each other actively toward establishing a permanent and solid peace regime on the Korean Peninsula. At the PSPD, we are especially heartened the fact that the two leaders decided to play leading roles in the process of establishing the peace regime, by declaring the end of the Korean War this year, replacing the ceasefire agreement with a peace treaty, and pursuing trilateral talks with the United States and/or quadrilateral talks with the United States and China. Moreover, we are also delighted the fact that the two leaders confirmed their agreement on realizing a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula through complete

denuclearization and their commitment to making the required efforts together. We believe that the Declaration would form an important first step toward the progress of discussions on Korean peace and denuclearization that will be discussed again in the South Korea-U.S., North Korea-U.S., and North Korea-China summits. A nuclear-free Korean Peninsula must be achieved under the vision of establishing a Nuclear-Weapon-Free-Zone in Northeast Asia, and lead to efforts to free the entire world from nuclear weapons.

The two leaders of both Korea also affirmed the principle of self-determination, and agreed to implement the inter-Korean agreements that have been reached so far, implement sweeping and groundbreaking improvements and progresses in inter-Korean relations, and take immediate and significant actions toward alleviating tension on the Korean Peninsula. We especially appreciate the fact that the two leaders agreed to cease all hostile acts at once, turn the areas around the Northern Limitation Line

(NLL) into a maritime peace zone, and hold frequent meetings between military authorities. These actions should have been put into effect according to the existing inter-Korean agreement, and must be carried out today to eliminate unnecessary armed clashes between the two Koreas. The two leaders also inspired the whole world by actively embracing the position in favor of reducing military tension and achieving disarmament in phases through mutual trust-building.

Through the Panmunjeom Declaration, the two leaders also addressed pressing issues and tasks with respect to improving inter-Korean relations. They agreed to hold dialogue and negotiations, including at high levels, and to establish a joint liaison office with the resident representatives of both sides in Gaeseong to ensure and facilitate exchange and cooperation at both governmental and non-governmental levels. The two leaders also agreed to organize the reunion of separated families on the National Liberation Day of August 15 this year, implement the projects agreed in the October 4 2007 Declaration, including the connection the railways and roads along Donghaeseon and Gyeongju. As President Moon will visit Pyongyang this fall to expedite further negotiations across diverse areas of exchange and cooperation, we believe that exchange and cooperation between the two Koreas across various areas and at different levels should dramatically increase in the future.

Declaring the arrival of a new era of peace on the Korean Peninsula, the Panmunjeom Declaration should never be treated the same

as past declarations and agreements. Both Koreas must remain dedicated to implementing its terms and finding specific ways to realize peace. Officials and civilians of both countries should meet more often and engage each other in greater dialogue. Through this process, we must achieve progress in inter-Korean relations, establish a robust peace regime on the peninsula, and free it from all nuclear threats. That is what the candlelight-holding citizens who gathered to protect peace and justice wanted to achieve. We have no doubt that the kindling of peace on the Korean Peninsula will lead to the peace of East Asia and the rest of the world.

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