

NEWSLETTER FOR STRENGTHENING AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR ABOLITION WITH OCTOBER 2013 ARTICLES

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In-Depth Reports



Challenges Remain But Good News For Nuclear Disarmament

There is a lot of good news on the nuclear disarmament front but there are miles to go before the campaigners for banning the bomb can 'lie down and sleep in peace'. Almost seventy years after the first use of nuclear weapons in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, about 17,000 continue to threaten the very survival of humankind. The few countries that keep these weapons of mass destruction are planning to spend more than USD 1,000,000,000,000 over the

next decade to maintain, and modernize them. More than one trillion dollars over ten years, or USD 100,000,000,000 per year. ➤ Pages 2-3



Disarmament The Key To Sustaining Future Generations

Striving to promote the interest of future generations through policy making, The World Future Council gathers each year to review strategies that are progressive and change the way our global community functions. The process begins with a serious question: what are the most important topics of our time and which countries are addressing them with such vigour, others take notice? The process begins with a serious question: what are the most important topics of our time and which countries are addressing them with such vigour, others take

notice? ➤ Pages 4-5



Russia May Do Better Than its Nuclear Rhetoric

Despite a seemingly entrenched resistance to change on its nuclear disarmament policy, the Kremlin's recent initiative to get Syria to destroy its chemical weapons provides hope that Russia could play a more positive role in reducing the world's global nuclear stockpiles, experts say. The recent high-level meeting of the U.N. general assembly on nuclear disarmament – the first of its kind – ended with Russia confirming its stance of no new nuclear arms reduction initiatives. It said it wants issues it sees as pressing, such as U.S. strategic defence

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Challenges Remain But Good News For Nuclear Disarmament

By RAMESH JAURA

BERLIN (IDN) - There is a lot of good news on the nuclear disarmament front but there are miles to go before the campaigners for banning the bomb can 'lie down and sleep in peace'. Almost seventy years after the first use of nuclear weapons in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, about 17,000 continue to threaten the very survival of humankind.

The few countries that keep these weapons of mass destruction are planning to spend more than USD 1,000,000,000,000 over the next decade to maintain, and modernize them. More than one trillion dollars over ten years, or USD 100,000,000,000,000 per year.

While the majority of that comes

from taxpayers in the nuclear armed countries, a new report, shows that the private sector is investing over USD 314,349,920,000 in the private companies that produce, maintain, and modernise the nuclear arsenals in France, India, the UK and the US."

The good news is that 124 countries around the world, including reluctant nuclear umbrella states such as Japan, have endorsed a landmark statement stressing that it is "in the interest of the very survival of humanity that nuclear weapons are never used again, under any circumstances".

In fact, as <u>ICAN</u>, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, points out, in 2013 alone the number of states and international organizations compelled by the undeniable evidence of the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons to express deep concern about the limited progress of nuclear disarmament has grown exponentially.

In March 2013, the conference on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons, convened in Oslo by the Government of Norway, concluded that no international reaction plan could effectively be put in place to respond to a nuclear detonation.

In September the <u>first high-level meeting on nuclear disarmament</u>, summoned by the UN General Assembly (UNGA), despite resistance from nuclear-armed states, put focus on the humanitarian approach and numerous calls to ban nuclear weapons. Building on this momentum, the Government of Mexico has announced a conference to continue the discussion around the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons, to be held on February 13-14, 2014 in Nayarit on the country's Pacific Coast.

The significance of the joint statement issued by New Zealand on October 21, 2013 at the First Committee of the



United Nations General Assembly is underlined by the Dutch peace organisation <u>IKV Pax Christi</u>'s study <u>Don't Bank on the Bomb</u> together with <u>ICAN</u>, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons.

Against this backdrop, Soka Gakkai International (<u>SGI</u>), an organization that has been involved in the quest

for a nuclear weapon-free world for more than half a century, has welcomed and expressed support "for the ongoing effort to clarify the inhumane nature of nuclear weapons and to establish a clear international norm against their use under any circumstances".

The catastrophic consequences that would result from any use of atomic weapons, SGI Executive Director of Peace Affairs Hirotsugu Terasaki told IDN, call for the next step that obliges governments "to unequivocally state that any such use would be a violation of international humanitarian law".

At the same time, Terasaki who is also Vice President of Soka Gakkai, pointed to "practical limitations of the humanitarian argument for banning nuclear weapons – most critically the continued non-cooperation of the nuclear weapons states".

He called for concerted efforts to reach opinion leaders and policymakers in the nuclear weapons states: "Many of them have already acknowledged the essential bankruptcy of deterrence doctrine in a world where non-state actors are seeking access to nuclear weapons technology and stated that a nuclear weapon-free world will be a safer world."

Challenge to Civil Society

In this regard, the civil society is confronted with an important challenge, said Terasaki: "to develop a common language so that both nuclear-weapon-states and non-nuclear-weapon states can engage in productive dialogue".

And this because, Terasaki added, "there is both a practical and moral imperative to rid the world of those apocalyptic weapons. In that sense, the work of eliminating those weapons is essentially a global enterprise, one in which all parties have a constructive role to play."

Original <> http://www.indepthnews.info/index.php/armaments/1861-challenges-remain-but-good-news-for-nu-clear-disarmament



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This applies to diplomats in particular. ICAN Co-Chair Rebecca Johnson said: "Diplomatic action to ban and eliminate nuclear weapons will be the best way to prevent a nuclear catastrophe in the future."

"The 124 governments that have co-sponsored this important (joint) statement on the humanitarian impacts of nuclear weapons are putting the security of their people above the militarist justifications for some states to have nuclear weapons," she added.

Beatrice Fihn, member of ICAN's International Steering Group, commented: "The humanitarian focus on nuclear weapons has again proven to be successful. A growing number of states are showing concern about the unacceptable harm that these weapons of mass destruction threaten to unleash. This debate strengthens our confidence and resolve that there is a credible way forward towards the prohibition of nuclear weapons."

ICAN, a campaign coalition with more than 300 members in 80 countries, is working closely with the Mexican government to ensure effective and significant participation of civil society at the February 2014 conference. It will help to facilitate this process for civil society, and will make sure that it is open and inclusive. ICAN will also have a sponsorship programme for campaigners from developing countries, the campaigners said.

Miles to Go

Why there are miles to go to usher in a nuclear weapons free world is illustrated by the IKV Pax Christi and ICAN report, *Don't Bank on the Bomb*. It is the only report to feature how 298 private and public financial institutions from around the world invest almost USD 314 billion in 27 companies involved in the production, maintenance and modernization of nuclear weapons.

The report's executive summary lists all financial institutions which are found to have financing relationships with nuclear weapon producers. 175 are based in North America, 65 in Europe, 47 in Asia-Pacific, ten in the Middle East, and one in Africa. None are based in Latin America or the Caribbean. Among the banks and other financial institutions most heavily involved are: Bank of America, BlackRock and JP Morgan Chase in the United States; Royal Bank of Scotland in the UK; BNP Paribas in France; Deutsche Bank in Germany; and Mitsubishi UFJ Financial in Japan.

Several states and financial institutions have spoken out against the risks and effects of these weapons of mass destruction, but as the study's worldwide research shows, in the last three years financial institutions provided: loans for a total of at least USD 63 billion; investment banking services worth at least USD 43 billion; and owned or managed shares and bonds for at least USD207 billion.

Nevertheless, avers the study, many financial institutions do not want to wait for what seems to be a slow political process to outlaw nuclear weapons. "Instead of waiting for a multilateral treaty process to begin, some financial institutions have enacted policies prohibiting or limiting their investment in nuclear weapons producers. These financial institutions have acted on their ethical responsibility to prevent gross humanitarian harm," observes the report.

It adds: "Next to the growing emphasis on the ethical responsibilities of financiers there is a growing emphasis on the on individual responsibilities of citizens to send a clear signal to their financial institutions as well as to their governments that the continued possession or development of these weapons is unacceptable."

In fact, unlike biological or chemical weapons, nuclear weapons are the only weapons of mass destruction not yet banned by international law, despite global recognition that they kill indiscriminately and that they could fall into the wrong hands. On June 19, 2013, in Berlin, US President Obama said "so long as nuclear weapons exist, we are not truly safe".

"Our collective efforts to move away from the nuclear abyss have remained too modest in ambition and brought only limited success," warned Heinz Fischer, President of Austria at the UN General Assembly High Level Meeting on nuclear disarmament. "Nuclear weapons should be stigmatized, banned and eliminated before they abolish us," he said.

To date, all 190 states party to the NPT – Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons – have recognized the "catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons", the next step is, as said by the International Committee of the Red Cross, to "outlaw and eliminate them". Precisely this lends weight to the old adage: Hope springs eternal in the human breast. [IDN-InDepthNews – October 28, 2013] □

TRANSLATIONS

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GERMAN: http://www.nuclearabolition.info/index.php/european/german/38-kernwaffen-gegner-finden-immermehr-mitstreiter

JAPANESE: http://www.nuclearabolition.info/documents/Japanese/Japanese_Challenges_Remain_But_Good_News_For_Nuclear_Disarmament.pdf



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Disarmament The Key To Sustaining Future Generations

By JOAN ERAKIT

NEW YORK (IDN) - Striving to promote the interest of future generations through policy making, <u>The World Future Council</u> gathers each year to review strategies that are progressive and change the way our global community functions.

The process begins with a serious question: what are the most important topics of our time and which countries are addressing them with such vigour, others take notice?

This is the task given to the World Future Council in partnership with the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) –

a trifecta with the goal of affecting positive change.

On October 23, 2013, United Nations officials, civil society and international delegates gathered at the UN Headquarters in New York for the 2013 Future Policy Awards. With performances by the UN Symphony Orchestra and a special song by Colombian musician Cesar Lopez who transformed an AK-47 into a guitar, the award ceremony made sure to point out the importance of policy making as a means to peace and security.

This year's theme focused on the best disarmament policies, and with three distinguished categories, awards were given out to various countries whose work to demolish the existence of weapons – both small arms and nuclear – proved exemplary and sustainable.

Affirming the importance of disbanding weapons of all forms, Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon has called disarmament "a global public good of the highest order" and pledged his continued support to the efforts of the UNODA.

According to the World Future Council, global military spending was well over 1.7 trillion in 2012 – a shocking number when poised against the funds spent to combat poverty and disease and on environmental issues.

It can be said that the very existence of weapons poses a threat to society. And the trafficking of weapons continues to be an issue for many governments and also undermines the process of peace while fuelling armed violence and killing innocent civilians. Disarmament then becomes an essential piece to the puzzle of sustainable development and the protection of people, an idea that could not be more pronounced at this year's awards ceremony.



And The Winner Goes To

After inviting various nominations, a policy award jury of eight deliberated in early July of 2013 and decided on the winners who were honoured in New York. Over 25 policies were reviewed from 15 different countries, in six regions.

The diversity of policies presented is what really ignited the theme – let

alone matched the diversity of countries nominated. Some of the policies focused on the elimination of specific weapons, whereas others zoned in on the complete destruction and disarmament of nuclear weapons.

Alexandra Wandel, Director of the World Future Council and host for the awards ceremony explained to IDN the significance of the policy awards in regards to the current global atmosphere:

"Many people around the world are desperate. Everyday we have negative news about armed conflict and guns being spread; therefore the future policy award is supposed to inspire people and governments that positive examples exist all over the world, and that it's possible to disarm and improve the living conditions for today and for future generations."

With four honorable mentions, the Future Policy Award celebrated the work of Belgium and their amendment to the Belgium Law on Arms and Ammunition of 1995, which banned anti-personal mines, and also their law regulating economic and individual activities with weapons of 2006, which worked to ban cluster munitions.

Costa Rica was also given an honorable mention for its Article 12 of the Constitution of Costa Rica of 1949, which abolished the national army after a five-week civil war in 1948.

Mozambique and South Africa also picked up honorable mentions for their 1995 initiative of cooperation and mutual assistance in the field of crime combating, while Mongolia was acknowledged for its law on a nuclear-weapon free status, created in 2000.

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Photo: World Future Council awardees | Credit: Lusha Chen

Original

http://www.indepthnews.info/index.php/global-issues/1858-disarmament-key-to-sustaining-future-generations



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The winners of the Silver Award were New Zealand and Argentina. Argentina was recognized for its 2006 programme for the Voluntary Surrender of Firearms, a monumental stride to prevent unnecessary gun violence.

Following suit, New Zealand picked up the award for its Nuclear Free Zone, Disarmament and Arms Control Act of 1987, setting a strong legacy for the perseverance of health and the environment during the nuclear testing of the South Pacific.

But at the end of the day there could only be one winner, and with an initiative that has lasted over half a century and affected many countries, the Gold Award went to Latin America and the Caribbean for the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean, also know as the <u>Treaty of Tlatelolco</u>.

Established in 1967, this special treaty set the precedence for creating cooperative regional security using nuclear disarmament. Inspired by the Cuban Missile Crisis, two years later in 1969, the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) was built to secure the main principles of the Treaty of Tlatelolco and ensure that peace and security continued in the region.

With standout characteristics such as the prohibition of manufacture, use, testing, installation, storage, acquisition and possession of any nuclear weapons, the Treaty of Tlatelolco proved its commitment to addressing the immediate threat of nuclear weapons in the region from external powers.

However, it also looked at the future as many Latin countries were starting to develop nuclear energy industries with potential of future development of nuclear weapons. Years later in 2013, the policy is still relevant today as it was in the 1960s.

The Future of Disarmament

"What's so special about the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean is that they managed to have a nuclear free zone and they inspired others.

The southern hemisphere is without nuclear weapons which should be an inspiration to other regions and other nuclear weapon power states, because it's a threat to our peace that we still have nuclear power." Wandell said. And

as the respective winners take their awards back to their home countries and continue to do the work to protect our global community, one has to ask what the future of disarmament will mean for the next generation.

In a telling piece written for the second issue of the <u>Nuclear Abolition Forum</u>, Rob van Riet refers to the largely unaware population who will have to soon grapple with the possibility of living in a world where nuclear weapons are common place. Recalling a speech that U.S. President Barack Obama gave in April of 2009 in Prague, van Riet revisited a crippling aspect of ambivalence towards nuclear deterrence:

"The commentary proved concurrently sobering however, in that it reminded a young generation, largely unaware of the extent of nuclear danger, that the fall of the Berlin wall did not lead to the fall of the wall of nuclear weapons, still poised and ready to obliterate the world."

A sad truth made even more real by the fact that most young people – those of Generation Y (the generation born between the late 1970s and the mid-1990s) who will most certainly have to sustain the effects of a nuclear world, are less likely to be aware of policies surrounding disarmament.

An action of the past has become a condition of the future, and the policies brought forth by the Future Policy Award ceremony highlight this phenomenon with great clarity.

Many of the policies date 30 or even 40 years back. Civil wars, global unrest and misuse of power weighed heavily during those times – as they do now. In retaliation, there were a few individuals who were inspired enough to come together and create policies that governments could implement as to not allow history to repeat itself.

When world leaders gather to discuss the future of nuclear weapons, one can only hope that those plans include the generations to come. Or at least call upon Generation Y to ponder the relationship between peace and disarmament. Through a re-evaluation of ideas towards weapons, education on policies that protect communities and involvement in local and national government, insightful steps to sustaining the future are possible.

Disarmament strengthens international peace and security, and as witnessed through the eyes of the Future Policy Awards − creates a domino effect of change. [IDN-InDepthNews − October 27, 2013] □

TRANSLATIONS

CHINESE: http://www.nuclearabolition.info/index.php/japanese-chinese-korean/130-disarmament-the-key-to-sustaining-future-generations-chinese

JAPANESE: http://www.nuclearabolition.info/index.php/japanese-chinese-korean/122-disarmament-the-key-to-sustaining-future-generations-japanese



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Russia May Do Better Than its Nuclear Rhetoric

By PAVOL SRRACANSKY

MOSCOW (IPS) - Despite a seemingly entrenched resistance to change on its nuclear disarmament policy, the Kremlin's recent initiative to get Syria to destroy its chemical weapons provides hope that Russia could play a more positive role in reducing the world's global nuclear stockpiles, experts say.

The recent high-level meeting of the U.N. general assembly on nuclear disarmament – the first of its kind – ended with Russia confirming its stance of no new nuclear arms reduction initiatives.

It said it wants issues it sees as pressing, such as U.S. strategic defence systems, effective implementation of existing weapons reduction treaties, and concerns over

other states' weapons programmes, addressed first.

But the meeting in New York at the end of last month saw almost as much discussion about chemical weapons in the wake of Syria's agreement to destroy its chemical weapons stockpiles as about nuclear arms.

Experts believe that the deal with Syria, originally proposed by Moscow, shows that if one state can be persuaded to rethink its WMD programmes, others can too, including nuclear weapons.

Petr Topychkanov, an expert on non-proliferation at the <u>Carnegie Moscow Centre</u>, told IPS: "There was no reason to really expect anything new from Russia on nuclear disarmament at the U.N. conference, but there is some hope of change following the Syrian chemical weapons deal.

"What that did is that it set a good example of cooperation between Russia and other countries on getting rid of weapons of mass destruction. It sends a signal that Russia can stimulate discussion with other countries on disarmament, even though in this case it was not nuclear weapons.

"Syria was not one of the countries signed up to the Chemical Weapons Convention, whose signatories agree to destroy their chemical weapons, but was persuaded to do so and get rid of their weapons. So, if that can be done with Syria, why can it not be done with other countries on other WMDs, such as nuclear weapons?"

While Russia and the U.S. hold 90 percent of the world's nuclear weapons, the Kremlin has been vocal on what it sees as the need for nuclear disarmament to be addressed not just by it and Washington, but by all nuclear states.



President Vladimir Putin has openly questioned calls for countries to cut their nuclear arsenals when neighbouring and nearneighbouring states are seen to be expanding their own nuclear capabilities.

And at the U.N. conference Russia stressed that it saw no real future in nuclear disarmament until all countries with nuclear weapons, and

other forms of WMDs, take steps towards disarmament.

Topychkanov said: "Russia does not see nuclear disarmament just through the prism of U.S.-Russia disarmament alone. Moscow wants to engage other countries in disarmament agreements.

"These are not necessarily about multilateral agreements, such as between the P5 permanent U.N. Security Council nations, to all disarm, as that would be impossible. But they are looking to promote many bilateral agreements."

Indeed, Russia-U.S. nuclear disarmament efforts have stalled in recent years. Since the end of the Cold War there have been various agreements on reducing the number of warheads on both sides.

Calls earlier this year by U.S. President Barack Obama for both Washington and Moscow to reduce their arsenals by a third have been de facto rebuffed by the Kremlin. It has been reluctant to agree to drastic cuts due to the differences in weapons delivery capabilities between the two countries, fearing that it would be left at a military disadvantage by dramatic blanket cuts.

It has also been wary of U.S. missile defence plans, and without assurances that they would not be used against Russia, the Kremlin will not agree to concessions on nuclear weapons.

"The Russian position [on nuclear disarmament] is set quite hard. They do not see a compelling reason to change it," Nikolai Sokov, a fellow at the <u>Vienna Centre for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation</u>, told IPS. •

Image: New low-yield nuke warheads for cruise missiles on Russian submarines? Credit: FAS Log

Original http://www.ipsnews.net/2013/10/russia-may-do-better-than-its-nuclear-rhetoric/



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"Domestically, the public is not particularly friendly to nuclear disarmament and internationally, they would like to see at least some movement from others. The argument that I hear quite often that we, usually the U.S., cannot change our position because of domestic politics, is met with the argument that 'why should we bear the burden? Everybody needs to pitch in'."

Russian officials are happy to also point out that while it has slashed its nuclear weapons arsenal to meet requirements of the new START treaty signed with Washington in 2010, the U.S. is dragging its heels on the same commitments

The latest official data, released earlier this year, shows that while both countries have until 2018 to reach missile targets under the treaty, the U.S. remains well above the limit for deployed strategic warheads and launchers while Russia is already below them.

It also defends increased spending on its nuclear arsenal – only this month it was reported in Russian media that government spending on its nuclear arsenal would increase 50 percent per year for the next three years – by the need to maintain and update weapons and technology which, for the most part, were created under the Soviet regime. Russia has a commitment to disarm but the country's

nuclear arsenal is old and expensive to maintain and needs to be modernised. Moscow is committed to the START treaty and its limits, but within those limits it is also committed to updating and developing its nuclear weapons," explained Topychkanov.

However, despite any agenda the Kremlin may have of promoting bilateral agreements with other countries on nuclear disarmament or on engaging other countries in negotiations on giving up weapons of WMD, a go-slow on further nuclear weapons cuts in both Russia and the U.S. is far from unwelcome in Moscow.

Sokov told IPS: "Leaders in Moscow actually quite like the stalemate. It gives them an opportunity to continue modernisation programmes without hindrance. Whatever the U.S. is doing – in missile defence, for example – is years away and even more years when a completed research and development programme is translated into production at a scale that might affect Russian security.

"All parties are using the slowdown in arms control to continue programmes they feel they need. In the absence of a threat of major conflict, they can afford to do so, and the only thing that can interfere with their plans is pressure from the international community. But that is not strong enough." [IPS | October 16, 2013] \square



http://www.nuclearabolition.net/documents/Japanese/Japanese Russia May Do Better Than its Nuclear Rhetoric.pdf



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What Others Say

Experts Debate Benefits of Nuclear Disarmament

By Kayla Mullen

More than 60 years after they were used in World War II, nuclear weapons still play a crucial role in foreign policy and the issue of nuclear disarmament is increasingly becoming a topic of contention. Last night in the Andrews Auditorium of Geddes Hall professors David Cortwright and Sebastian Rosato faced off in a debate titled, "A Nuclear Exchange: Does the World Need the Bomb?"

Professor Cortwright, director of policy studies at Notre Dame's Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies and former executive director of the Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy, argued in favor of nuclear disarmament and Professor Rosato, associate professor of political science and director of Notre Dame's International Security Program, argued against nuclear disarmament.

In the debate, each professor had 10 minutes to defend their position, followed by a three-minute rebuttal from the other professor. After this debate the floor was opened to the audience for questions.

Cortwright began his argument by stating that disarmament would eliminate the threat of nuclear war. He also said disarming increases a country's international standing

"Disarmament is good for security. Those who give up nuclear weapons increase their standing in the world," Cortwright said.

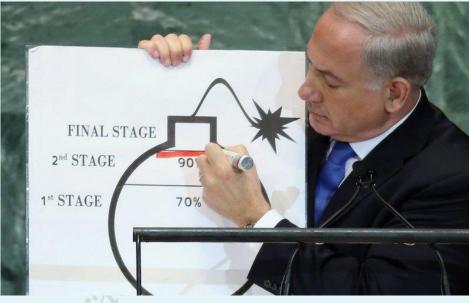
Disarmament lessens political tensions, facilitates policy cooperation and diminishes the risk of nuclear war, Cortwright said. He said the concept of mutually assured destruction as a deterrence to war is invalid.

"Nuclear deterrence did not prevent war nor will it in the future," Cortwright said.

The only completely guaranteed option the world has to maintain peace is to disarm all nuclear weapons, Cortwright said.

"Disarmament is the most sustainable form of peace," Cortwright said.

This disarmament process would be long, but could be achieved by international cooperation, arms agreements and strict inspections, Cortwright said. A crucial step will be the U.S. agreeing to disarm.



"However, the United States cannot support disarmament while holding nuclear weapons; it is like preaching Prohibition from a bar stool," Cortwright said.

Rosato began his defense by declaring that nuclear weapons are instruments of peace. He said nuclear weapons provide security to the nations that possess them.

"The core logic of nuclear weapons is security," Rosato said.

The possession of nuclear weapons by all creates peace through deterrence, Rosato said. A country will not attack another country if they are aware of the consequences that will result from that attack. Thus, no one will attack a country with nuclear arms since the consequence would be mass destruction, Rosato said.

"You introduce nukes, you end wars," Rosato said.

Other topics touched on in the debate included the possibility of accidental nuclear use, consequences of terroristic organizations obtaining nuclear weapons and the realistic chances of disarmament occurring in the world. [The Observer | October 30, 2013] \square

Image: cdn.thedailybeast.com/

Original <> http://www.ndsmcobserver.com/news/experts-debate-benefits-of-nuclear-disarmament-1.3102762



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What Others Say

Toward a WMD-Free Zone in the Middle East*

By Hillel Schenker | The Daily Beast | October 28, 2013]

A little over a month ago, the average Israeli was suffering from tremendous anxiety. The headlines screamed: tomorrow, in a few hours, the Americans will attack the Syrian chemical weapons program and the Syrians could retaliate against Israel. There were long lines at the gas mask distribution stations.

Just a few months ago, Israeli-Palestinian relations were frozen, with no signs of progress on the horizon. And in June, Mohammed Morsi was still President of Egypt, and Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, who denied the Holocaust and threatened Israel in public, was President of Iran.

Today, thanks to the persistence of Secretary of State John Kerry, we have Israeli-Palestinian negotiations scheduled to last nine months. General Abdel Fattah el-Sisi is leading Egypt, and Hassan Rouhani is President of Iran. Instead of an American attack on Syria, we have a Russian-American agreement, backed by a U.N. Security Council Resolution, to remove chemical weapons from Syria. And we have an Iranian president and an American president talking to each other on the phone for the first time since 1979—a first step toward serious negotiations about the Iranian nuclear program.

Instead of impasse, threats or armed conflict (except for the tragic civil war in Syria), we have diplomacy on the march. This is good for everyone, from Israelis and Palestinians to Egyptians and Iranians.

This also creates a problem for Prime Minister Netanyahu. He has built his career on seeing dangers rather than opportunities at every crossroads. Netanyahu believes history has taught Jews and Israelis that the world is a dangerous place and that we have to be strong and uncompromising in order to survive.

The new situation creates both challenges and opportunities for those of us who want to promote the idea of a Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)-Free Zone in the Middle East and a regime of security and cooperation in the region.

With diplomacy on the march, the Israeli government cannot be seen as rejectionist, nor as swimming against the stream. Even Finance Minister Yair Lapid, of the centrist Yesh Atid (There Is A Future) Party, criticized Prime Minister Netanyahu for ordering the Israeli delegation to walk out on President Rouhani's speech at the U.N. The Israeli government will come to feel that it must also make positive contributions to the current climate. President Peres has already suggested that Israel will seriously consider ratifying the Chemical Weapons Convention. The current situation also creates opportunities for the convening of the Helsinki international conference and moving toward

a nuclear-weapon-free zone as mandated by the 2010 NPT (Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty) Review Conference.

For any progress to be made, it is absolutely essential that Israel sit down at the negotiating table. Two things that won't help are the following:

- a) To ask Israel to sign the NPT at the beginning of the process
- b) To suggest that Israel should unilaterally give up its nuclear weapons program as a confidence-building measure towards the creation of a WMD-free zone and comprehensive Israeli-Arab peace

There are some very good ideas in the draft paper on "Fissile Material Controls in the Middle East: Steps toward a Middle East Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and all other Weapons of Mass Destruction," prepared by Prof. Frank von Hippel, Iranian Ambassador Mousavian and their colleagues at Princeton. From an Israeli perspective, perhaps the most important phrase in the paper is the following:

Any effort to make progress towards a Middle East WMD-free zone must reckon with Israel's long standing security concerns about its neighbors, the history of covert proliferation efforts in the Middle East and the ongoing dispute over Iran's nuclear program.

One of the most important outcomes of the NPT Review Conference's 2010 resolution to convene an international conference on a WMDFZ in the Middle East has been the proliferation of regional civil society initiatives, such as the Conference on Security & Cooperation in the Middle East, the Academic Peace Orchestra, the Horizon 2012 Japanese Peace Boat, and the Athens Dialogue.

At the <u>Palestine-Israel Journal</u> we prepared a special issue devoted to 'A Middle East Without Weapons of Mass Destruction' that contains valuable contributions from many of the people involved in these initiatives. It includes the transcript of an unprecedented discussion held in the Knesset's Science and Technology Committee room, featuring a presentation by IPPNW (International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War) Co-President Dr. Ira Helfand on "The Danger of Nuclear Weapons Today and the Implications of a Limited Nuclear War." The discussion was held under the auspices of two Mem-bers of Knesset, Tamar Zandberg and Dov Henin. \square

* This column is based on a presentation given in October at a U.N. panel in New York with Egyptian, Iranian and American panelists.



Newsletter for Strengthening Awareness of Nuclear Abolition with October 2013 articles

What Others Say

Empty Promises: Can Obama deliver on Israel and Iran -- Or is He Overreaching?

By Aaron David Miller | October 24, 2013

When it comes to the Middle East and perhaps foreign policy in general, Barack Obama is a curious president, a leader deeply ambivalent and seemingly at war with himself.

Last week, I <u>argued</u> that Obama may well be the first president to preside over a shrinking U.S. role in the Middle East. His actions on almost every issue -- getting out of old wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, avoiding new ones (Syria), avoiding interventions in lands visited by the Arab Spring, and resetting his relationship with Israel -- reflect a general attitude of risk aversion in the region.

And yet, the president himself doesn't seem to realize it, or at least he's not tuned in to the implications of his own words. Last month at the U.N. General Assembly (UNGA), in front of much of the world and all of its relevant diplomatic players, without the slightest hesitation, Obama committed himself to near-impossible overreach on two of the most intractable issues in the region: resolving the Israeli-Palestinian issue and Iran's pursuit of nuclear weapons. As Mitchel Hochberg, my research assistant, quipped the other day, you don't set high expectations in a region that eats them for lunch.

What's really going on here? Does the president actually mean that he's planning to resolve the two most challenging diplomatic puzzles in the Middle East? Or were these throwaway lines, rhetorical preludes to real American diplomatic initiatives, or just a "caught up in the moment" wish list?

For a guy who's remarkably disciplined when it comes to acting in the Middle East, the president is remarkably undisciplined when it comes to talking about it. You may remember the 2009 settlements freeze, the Cairo speech of the same year, the 2011 "Assad must go" comment, and the 2012-2013 chemical weapons red lines in Syria.

Sure, every president engages in rhetorical excess from time to time. But it's no small matter for American credibility -- already in short supply -- when the president's own words leave a huge disconnect between his intentions and his capacity to deliver.

Let's look at some of the disconnects between intent and capacity on these particular issues -- in other words, the reasons Obama's ambitions in the Middle East are not likely to come to fruition.

(1) The negotiations would be a nightmare.

Just carrying out a negotiation with Iran on the nuclear issue or mediating another between Israelis and Palestinians would be hard enough. But balancing two sets of negotiations that could come to decision points at roughly the

same time? It's a negotiator's nightmare however you look at it. First, U.S. domestic politics are at play in both. Even in Obama's second term, freed from reelection constraints, that will impose serious limits on American margin for maneuver. Second, the substantive challenges are formidable enough that even months of negotiations will not conclusively resolve them. These are evolutionary, not revolutionary, agreements -- no one is going to transform the Israeli-Palestinian conflict or the Iranian nuclear issue in a single accord. Finally, the president is dealing with a tough and suspicious ally in Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, and a tough and suspicious adversary in Iranian Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei. There will be little sentimentality, benefit of the doubt, or magnanimity in either process.

(2) You won't get a Palestinian deal without an Iranian one.

But the worst thing about these two negotiating challenges is that they're tied together, sequenced in the mind of the one regional player with a primary stake in both -- Netanyahu. Netanyahu's laws of political gravity don't allow him to make historic decisions on the Palestinian issue without a stronger sense for where Iran is headed. For the Israeli prime minister, the Palestinians are a long-term ideological problem. Iran is short term and very much in his threatoriented comfort zone. For Netanyahu, liberating Israel from the shadow of the Iranian bomb squares much more with his own self-image than dividing Jerusalem. So the only chance for Obama to succeed in both negotiations would be to pursue Iran first and then move to the Palestinian deal.

Unfortunately, addressing Iran first carries major risks for Obama. If he fails, either producing no agreement with Iran or worse, producing a bad agreement, U.S. leverage over Israel is reduced to near zero and Israel has no incentive to move on the Palestinian issue. Not to mention the obvious: Without an agreement that substantially reduces the Iranian nuclear threat, Israel might actually strike Iran -- making an Israeli-Palestinian agreement in the near term all but impossible. It would be very hard to negotiate a Palestinian state with thousands of Hezbollah and Hamas rockets flying about and Israel responding. A successful agreement with Iran on the nuclear issue, meanwhile, wouldn't guarantee an Israeli-Palestinian accord. But it would at least increase Obama's capacity to press for one and reduce Bibi's capacity to resist. \square

Read more http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2013/10/24/empty promises obama israel iran?page=full



Newsletter for Strengthening Awareness of Nuclear Abolition with October 2013 articles

What Others Say

Making The World Nuclear Weapon Free

By Shahana Bilkis

Some nations are pursuing development of nuclear weapons in defiance of the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), and the nuclear nations are investing billions in the modernisation of their arsenals.

Nuclear explosions produce both immediate and delayed destructive effects. Blast, thermal radiation, and prompt ionising radiation cause significant destruction within seconds or minutes of a nuclear detonation. The delayed effects, such as radioactive fallout and other environmental effects, inflict damage over an extended period ranging from hours to years.

Recent research by climate scientists shows that the use of even a small number of nuclear weapons would lead to devastating agricul-



tural collapse across the globe (in addition to inflicting millions of immediate deaths).

The Red Cross and Red Crescent societies from around the globe has adopted a historic resolution appealing to all states to "pursue in good faith and conclude with urgency and determination negotiations to prohibit the use of and completely eliminate nuclear weapons through a legally binding international agreement". It noted the impossibility of providing adequate relief in the event of a nuclear confrontation.

Disarmament, peaceful resolution of conflicts, international peace, stability and development constitute core values being pursued by Bangladesh in terms of foreign policy. Bangladesh strives for the renunciation of the use of force in international relations.

Again, Bangladesh gives importance on economic advancement. It believes that nuclear weapons can't guarantee the ultimate security, peace and economic advancement. Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) and a

protocol on the Convention of Chemical Weapons to control trade and use of weapons of mass destruction and has become the first South and South-East Asian country to ink such a pact. Bangladesh's initiative to make South Asia a nuclear weapon free zone and creating a nuclear weapon free world have been appreciated by all.

Nuclear disarmament is must for the existence of the earth. Bangladesh has reason to be concerned as a neighbour of three nuclear-power nations. Bangladesh's contribution to the process will certainly add to the country's image as a peace-loving nation. But unless the world radically changes its trajectory now and moves towards total ban on nuclear weapons, the use one day of these ultimate instruments of terror cannot be ruled out. Conference on Disarmament, non-functional for past decades, should develop a legal framework to tackle the use and threat of using nuclear weapons. [Financial Express | October 24, 2013]

Nuclear Arms Wake-Up Call

By Ramesh Thakur*

HO, CHI MINH CITY - Nuclear weapons pose an existential threat to humanity that is unmatched by any other contemporary threat in magnitude, gravity and urgency.

Consider the indicators of the high policy salience of the nuclear weapons challenge: the new START Treaty between Russia and the United States, President Barack Obama's speech in Berlin in June 2013, North Korea's third nuclear test in February 2013, tightening sanctions on Iran to compel it to abandon a suspected nuclear weaponization path, unresolved tensions between India and Pakistan, growing nuclear arsenals of China, India and Pakistan, and the fear of an act of nuclear terrorism that lies behind the series of past and forthcoming nuclear security

The Asia-Pacific Leadership Network on Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (APLN: apln.anu.edu.au) is a group of about 40 people from 14 countries in Asia and the Pacific dedicated to halting then reversing the nuclear weapons drift. While most are former heads of government, Cabinet ministers, heads of departments and military forces, others are key opinion shapers and movers from the media, universities and civil society.

The group met most recently in Ho Chi Minh City and issued a declaration on Oct. 13 calling on present world leaders to act now to resolve the problem of nuclear weapons because "the risks associated with the possession of nuclear weapons in today's world far outweigh any deterrent utility they may have had in the past or continue to have."



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What Others Say

The Ho Chi Minh City Declaration noted that Asia and the Pacific is the only region in the world where the number of nuclear weapons is growing with expanding arsenals in China, India and Pakistan and the growing sophistication of their weapons, delivery systems and platforms and doctrines of use.

Nuclear policymaking in Asia, as elsewhere, is still trapped in the Cold War habits of mind, in which too much reliance is placed upon dubious arguments about the utility of nuclear deterrence and not enough on the risks of nuclear weapons.

In the short and medium term, the APLN called for freezing and reducing existing nuclear weapon stockpiles, minimizing their deployment and amending nuclear doctrine to dramatically reduce reliance on them. In the longer term, they called for overcoming the technical, geopolitical and psychological barriers to the complete elimination of nuclear weapons. They urged the United States to speed up the ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty while also pressing China, India and Pakistan not to wait upon U.S. Senate ratification before joining the CTBT.

Moscow and Washington are encouraged to negotiate a follow-on agreement to New START that will move beyond reduction in the number of deployed strategic weapons, to major reductions in the number of all nuclear weapons in their respective stockpiles; to reduce significantly the number of nuclear weapons deployed with launch-onwarning alert status; and to commit to the principle of "No First Use" in their respective nuclear doctrines.

Washington was urged also to address the concerns of Russia and China about the potentially destabilizing impact of its Ballistic Missile Defense program, and the further development of conventional capability, particularly Conventional Prompt Global Strike.

China, India and Pakistan are being asked not to increase their nuclear weapons numbers from their present relatively low levels and to enter into both bilateral (China-India, Pakistan-India) and trilateral strategic dialogues.

In addition, India and Pakistan are both asked to refrain from developing new nuclear weapon systems, including battlefield nuclear weapons, new missile delivery systems and ballistic missile defense.

Individually China is encouraged to maintain a "No First Use" nuclear posture and to take all possible steps to persuade North Korea to dismantle its nuclear weapons facilities and capability.

India is asked to adopt a "No First Use" posture without qualification (it presently reserves the right to use nuclear weapons if attacked by biological or chemical weapons). Pakistan is urged to cooperate in the commencement of serious formal negotiations on a Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty, designed to halt further production of fissile material for weapons purposes, and to embrace the "No First Use" principle.

North Korea is urged to immediately freeze the production and testing of fissile material, nuclear weapons and delivery systems; to enter into serious negotiations, and complete them expeditiously, to dismantle its nuclear weapons capability, in the context of achieving the permanent denuclearization of, and sustainable peace on, the Korean Peninsula; and to rejoin the NPT as a nonnuclear weapon state.

U.S. allies like Australia, Japan and South Korea are asked to accept a significantly reduced role for nuclear weapons in their security protection, in particular by accepting and encouraging moves by the U.S. toward embracing the principle of "No First Use" in its nuclear doctrine.

In addition, in the first instance, they should support a U.S. declaration that the sole purpose of its nuclear weapons is, so long as nuclear weapons exist, to deter their use by others.

The APLN emphasized that movement toward disarmament should not be held hostage to improvement in the overall geopolitical situation, globally or within our region. The two are complementary and mutually reinforcing, and should properly be pursued in parallel.

Finally APLN members agreed that an Asia-Pacific Nuclear Energy Community could strengthen nuclear energy governance in the region, across all three crucial areas of safeguards, safety and security. However, many complex and sensitive issues would need further study by governments, industry and civil society before the idea can bear fruit.

Accordingly individual and state champions are needed to place the proposal on the agenda of regional governments through an existing regional dialogue forum. ASEAN seems likely to be the forum in which there is the greatest commonality of interest in the matters that might be dealt with by a nuclear energy community.

Member states should encourage ASEAN to initiate a study on the pros and cons of the community concept, including the possibility of such a community extending in due course beyond ASEAN to its various dialogue partners. [J Japan Times | October 21, 2013]

*Professor Ramesh Thakur is director of the Centre for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, Australian National University. CNND functions as the secretariat for the APLN.



NEWSLETTER FOR STRENGTHENING AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR ABOLITION WITH OCTOBER 2013 ARTICLES

Civil Society Perspective

Are Nuclear Weapons Really the U.S.'s Instruments of Peace?

By David Krieger*

There are serious problems with communications in a society when mainstream media sources, such as the Washington Post, will publish articles touting nuclear weapons as instruments of peace and ignore serious rebuttals. The Post recently published an op-ed, "Nuclear weapons are the U.S.'s instruments of peace," by Robert Spalding, a Military Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations. The title really speaks for itself. The article can be read here.

I sent a response to the Washington Post in the form of a letter to the editor, but it was not published by them. My letter, which is under their 200-word limit, sought to point out some of the fallacies in Mr. Spalding's op-ed. Here it is:

"Robert Spalding's enchantment with nuclear weapons would keep the US prepared to refight the Cold War for decades. But nuclear weapons do not make the U.S. more secure. Rather, they make us targets, and they spur nuclear proliferation. A major nuclear war would destroy civilization and possibly all complex life on the planet. A regional nuclear exchange between India and Pakistan using 50 Hiroshima-size nuclear weapons each on the other side's cities would put enough soot into the stratosphere to block warming sunlight, shorten growing seasons, cause crop failures and result in a billion deaths worldwide.

"Nuclear deterrence is not foolproof because we humans, despite our best efforts, are fallible, as convincingly demonstrated at Fukushima. Spalding is dead wrong. It is not only through strength that peace can be obtained; it is also through diplomacy, cooperation,

international law and a generosity of spirit in our foreign policy. Nuclear weapons are illegal, immoral and ultimately uncontrollable. They are a path not to peace, but to catastrophe. In our own interests, the US should lead in negotiating their elimination from the planet."

Nuclear weapons place at risk everyone we love and everything we treasure. They have no place in a civilized society, and US leaders should be doing all they can to fulfill our obligation under the Non-Proliferation Treaty to pursue negotiations for their total elimination from the planet. But this will not happen if the mainstream media provides a one-sided view that "nuclear weapons are the U.S.'s instruments of peace." They are hardly that, and our continued reliance upon them will encourage nuclear proliferation and eventually result in nuclear war by accident or design. [October 21, 2013] \square

Global Survival 101

By David Krieger

A missing element in the standard university curriculum is a course that provides awareness of the global nature and dangers of the world's most serious problems and the attendant global solutions that are needed to solve these problems.

The most serious dangers confronting humanity are those that endanger species survival. Falling into this category are nuclear weapons with their potential for triggering an intentional or inadvertent nuclear war, and climate change resulting in global warming. These dangers are directly affecting the survival potential of the human species and other forms of complex life on the planet.

Other global dangers include population growth; pollution of the oceans and atmosphere; scarcity of safe drinking water; food shortages and famines; continued reliance on fossil fuels; creation of nuclear wastes; spread of communicable diseases; disparity in resource distribution; the ill-effects of poverty; international terrorism and war. In today's world, all borders are permeable to people, pollu-

tion, ideas and disease. No country, no matter how powerful militarily, can protect its citizens from the global threats confronting humanity.

Without cooperation among nations, the problems will not be resolved and people everywhere and the planet will suffer. Destruction of civilization and extinction of the human species are within the range of possibility. University students need grounding in the global dangers that confront humans as a species, as well as a sense of the interconnectedness of these dangers and the ways forward to solutions that can alleviate and reverse the dangers.

I propose the creation of a multi-disciplinary course entitled "Global Survival 101." The course would be a foundation for global concerns in the 21st century. I envision this as a mandatory course for all college students regardless of discipline that would be aimed at creating an awareness of global dangers, an understanding of their interconnected nature, and what courses of action would increase or decrease global well-being and improve the odds of human survival. \square

Read more http://www.wagingpeace.org/articles/db article.php?article id=529

*David Krieger is, among other things, president of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation and Chair of the International Network of Engineers and Scientists for Global Responsibility. He has lectured on peace, security, international law, and the abolition of nuclear weapons throughout the US, Europe and Asia.



NEWSLETTER FOR STRENGTHENING AWARENESS OF NUCLEAR ABOLITION WITH OCTOBER 2013 ARTICLES

Civil Society Perspective

Nobel Committee Awards OPCW and Underlines Need To Do Away With Nukes

By ICAN [www.icanw.org]

GENEVA - The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) welcomes the award of the Nobel Peace Prize to the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW).

Since its creation in 1997, through persistent efforts in highlighting the horror of these weapons of mass destruction and its commitment to humanitarian principles, OPCW has managed to secure 189 state parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention and the destruction of almost 80% of the world's stockpile of chemical weapons.

OPCW has succeeded in establishing a strong international norm against these horrific weapons and has contributed to protecting humanitarian principles in warfare.

The recent reactions to the use of chemical weapons in Syria demonstrate the force and indisputable nature of this norm. The success of the OPCW proves that when there is political will to protect and preserve humanitarian principles, the international community can create real progress in the push for a world without weapons of mass destruction.

As stated in the announcement of the prize, the Norwegian Nobel Committee has through numerous prizes underlined the need to do away with nuclear weapons. As with chemical weapons, the process of delegitimizing nuclear weapons as an instrument of power is crucial to their elimination and a legal instrument which outlaws their possession and use is a necessary element to take this process forward.

An international treaty to ban nuclear weapons would seal the current legal deficit, increase the stigma associated with these weapons and provide a long-term solution to the nuclear weapons problem.

A ban on nuclear weapons is long overdue but a growing number of states is recognizing the need to outlaw the last weapon of mass destruction and create a strong and universally binding regime. This instrument would finally fill that gap, make the possession and use of nuclear weapons illegal, settle a debacle that lasted for more than seven decades and demystify nuclear weapons for what they really are, not instruments of power and prestige, but menaces of war that must be banned.

"OPCW has contributed to establishing a strong international norm against these horrific weapons. The choice by the Norwegian Nobel Committee is a stark reminder that we must not linger in ridding the world of weapons of mass destruction. Nuclear weapons must not be given a pass in this reality. As the Chemical Weapons Convention and the OPCW have indicated, ban treaties are needed to facilitate elimination of weapons of mass destruction. This is also the way forward for nuclear weapons," Says Beatrice Fihn, member of ICAN International Steering Group. [October 11, 2013] \square

CND Criticises UK Nuclear Subsidy Deal

CND has criticised the government's announcement of a deal to subsidise the building of a new nuclear power station at the Hinkley site in Somerset. The government will guarantee a 'strike price' of £92.50 for every megawatt hour of energy produced from new nuclear plants. If the market price falls below this amount then a surcharge will be added to customers' bills. This would be the first new nuclear power station to be built in the UK since 1995.

CND General Secretary Kate Hudson commented:

"The 2010 Coalition Agreement explicitly states that there will be 'no public subsidy' for new nuclear power and yet the deal announced today commits taxpayers' money to bailing out an industry which has proven time and time again that it does not offer value for money. The plant operators face no economic risk, as nuclear power is given a special advantage over other forms of electricity, most notably renewables. The agreement today also risks breaching EU law on state aid, with the European Commission set to investigate the deal.

"Instead of subsidising nuclear energy production, the government should be investing more in safe, clean and affordable renewable energy." [October 21, 2013] □



http://www.cnduk.org/



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Nagasaki Meet Recommends Concrete Steps For Nuke Abolition

Nuclear Abolition News | IDN

By RAMESH JAURA*

BERLIN I NAGASAKI (IDN) - More than 50,000 nuclear weapons have been eliminated since the historic Revkiavík Summit between the then U.S. President Ronald Reagan and his counterpart from the erstwhile Soviet Union Mikhail Gorbachev, which culminated into a groundbreaking Intermediate-Range Nuclear

Forces Treaty (INF) in December 1987. But 17,300 nukes remain, threatening many times over the very survival of human civilization and most life on earth, as the 2013 Nagasaki Appeal points out. [P] ARABIC | GERMAN | JAPANESE TEXT VERSION PDF

Israel's Nuclear Ambiguity Prodded



Nuclear Abolition News | IPS By PIERRE KLOCHENDLER

OCCUPIED EAST JERUSALEM (IPS) - As Palestinian-Israeli peace talks and nuclear talks on Iran's disputed nuclear programme continue, a unique international conference, "A Middle East without Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs)", was

held in Jerusalem. [P] JAPANESE TEXT VERSION PDF

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Annual Reports

Challenges Remain But Good News For Nuclear Disarmament

Nuclear Abolition News | IDN

JAPANESE TEXT VERSION PDF

By RAMESH JAURA*

BERLIN (IDN) - There is a lot of good news on the nuclear disarmament front but there are miles to go before the campaigners for banning the bomb can 'lie down and sleep in

peace'. Almost seventy years after the first use of nuclear weapons in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, about 17,000 continue to threaten the very survival of humankind. [P] ARABIC TEXT VERSION PDF | GERMAN |

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Disarmament The Key To Sustaining Future Generations



Nuclear Abolition News | IDN By JOAN ERAKIT* NEW YORK (IDN) - Striving to promote the interest of future generations through policy making, The World Future Council gathers each year to review strategies that are progressive and change the way our

global community functions.

The process begins with a serious question: what are the most important topics of our time and which countries are addressing them with such vigour, others take notice? [P] CHINESE TEXT VERSION PDF | JAPANESE TEXT VERSION PDF

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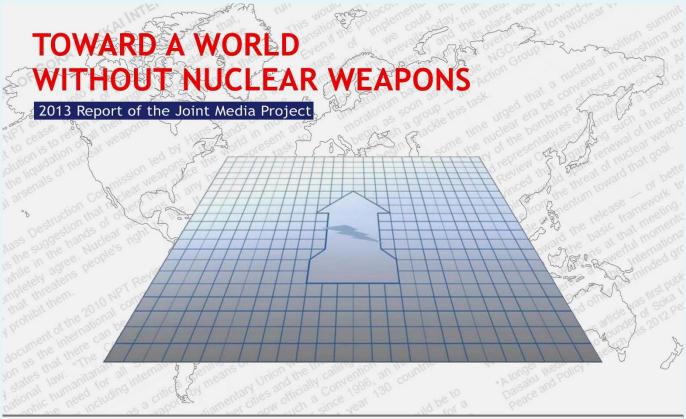
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 $http://www.nuclear abolition.net/documents/Toward_a_World_without_Nuclear_Weapons_2013.pdf$



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