



# BEYOND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

People's Decade for Nuclear Abolition  
Act to make "No more nukes" a reality



Number 07 | 2010

A Monthly Newsletter for Strengthening Awareness of Nuclear Abolition.

This page includes independent news coverage which is part of a project supported by Soka Gakkai International

This newsletter brings you independent news by IPS correspondents, in-depth reports and analyses by partners as well as columns by experts, news from international NGOs and a review of the global media for a glimpse of what is happening on the ground. Join us in helping strengthen awareness about the abolition of nuclear weapons – and encourage your friends and colleagues to subscribe to this free monthly newsletter.

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### **UK Scientists Plead for Axing Nuke Research**

British scientists are calling for axe to fall on nuclear weapons research. In a letter to Prime Minister David Cameron, 36 science professors plead for protecting core scientific research on compelling issues such as climate change and resource shortages by cutting investment in developing new atomic arsenal.

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### **UN Hosts Nuke Abolition Exhibition in Vienna**

By Ramesh Jaura IDN-InDepth NewsReport VIENNA (IDN) - "Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed." These words from the preamble of UNESCO's Constitution, inscribed on an exhibition panel, have caught the attention of Ana María Cetto as she walks around the exposition.

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## Compilation of Articles April 2009-March 2010

This document is part of a project aimed to strengthen public awareness of the urgent need for nuclear abolition. The Tokyo-based Soka Gakkai International (SGI), a Buddhist association, and the Inter Press Service global news agency initiated a media project in April 2009, which aimed to help shed light on the issue of nuclear abolition from the perspectives of civil society through the global media network of IPS and its partners such as the Global Perspectives.

The journalistic articles, reproduced here, were published on the Internet and are available online at: [www.ipsnews.net/new\\_focus/nuclear/index.asp](http://www.ipsnews.net/new_focus/nuclear/index.asp) and [www.nuclearabolition.net](http://www.nuclearabolition.net)

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# Nuclear Non-Proliferation



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### **UK Scientists Plead for Axing Nuke Research**

**By Jamshed Baruah**

LONDON (IDN) - British scientists are calling for axe to fall on nuclear weapons research. In a letter to Prime Minister David Cameron, 36 science professors plead for protecting core scientific research on compelling issues such as climate change and resource shortages by cutting investment in developing new atomic arsenal.

The Scientists for Global Responsibility, as they are called, include ex-Royal Society head, Sir Michael Atiyah and Nobel Prize winner, Sir Harold Kroto. They highlight how £2 billion a year, over 25% of the government's total scientific research and development budget, is currently spent by the Ministry of Defence as evidenced by the UK Defence Statistics 2010.



Their objections focus on government funding of a multi-billion pound research programme at the Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE) at Aldermaston, aimed at developing new nuclear warheads. This year this science programme received an additional £1 billion of government funding, and this level of 'additional investment' is set to continue until 2013, says the letter dated October 13, 2010.

These funds have enabled Aldermaston to buy two new supercomputers known as 'Willow' in May 2010. In August 2010 AWE bought 'Blackthorn', reputedly the UK's most powerful computer. These purchases have been done at undisclosed cost to the taxpayer, the scientists say.

AWE is also set to fund a controversial new hydrodynamics facility that will conduct experiments on materials used to build nuclear warheads -- again at undisclosed cost. These developments are going ahead despite serious questions existing about the future of the UK's nuclear weapons programme and a recent pledge by President Barrack Obama that the U.S. will not develop new nuclear warheads.

Dr Stuart Parkinson, Executive Director of Scientists for Global Responsibility who co-ordinated the letter said: "It's completely irrational to cut scientific research into medical and environmental problems whilst pouring billions of pounds of research money into facilities for designing new nuclear warheads."

#### **'COLD WAR IS OVER'**

He continued: "The Cold War is over. The major security threats we will face in the coming years have their roots in problems like climate change and resource shortages. These are the areas where more of our research should be focussed, and yet the UK currently devotes 20 times more research funding to military projects than to renewable energy. If cuts have to come, it's clear to us that Aldermaston is where the axe should fall."

The call by the Scientists for Global Responsibility comes at a point in time when the fight for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) -- a network of regional organisations, local groups and individual members, covering the whole of Britain -- has intensified its fight against the Trident, UK's nuclear weapons system.

It consists of four nuclear-armed submarines, one of which is on patrol, under the seas, at all times. Each Trident submarine carries up to 48 nuclear warheads, each of which can be fired at a different target. Each warhead has an explosive power of up to 100 kilotons, the equivalent of 100,000 tons of conventional high explosive. This is 8 times the power of the atomic bomb that was dropped on Hiroshima in 1945, killing an estimated 140,000 people.

There are three parts to the system: the warheads -- which are the explosive 'bombs', the missiles which carry them, and the submarines which carry the missiles. The submarines are made in Britain at Barrow-in-Furness, refitted at Devonport, and maintained at Faslane, Scotland. The missiles are leased from the US. The warheads are made at the AWE Aldermaston and stored at Faslane. ↻



## **Related Articles**

Britain has been nuclear-armed since 1952, buying into the U.S. nuclear weapons system Polaris from 1968 to 1996 and Trident from 1994.

"By continuing to possess nuclear weapons, Britain is failing to comply with its obligations under the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) which it signed in 1968. Under the NPT Britain has committed itself to disarm, with Article VI stating that signatories will pursue," says the CND.

### **TRIDENT REPLACEMENT**

The current Trident submarines will begin to reach the end of their service life in 2024. In December 2006, the British government argued in a White Paper, *The Future of the United Kingdom's Nuclear Deterrent*, that a replacement should be agreed immediately.

CND believes that if the government goes ahead and replaces Trident, it ties us to a security policy based on weapons of mass destruction and the possibility of killing millions of people. It will contribute to global tension and increases the risk of a new nuclear arms race. CND opposes this position, and its arguments are set out in an *Alternative White Paper*. (IDN-InDepthNews/15.10.2010)

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## **UN Hosts Nuke Abolition Exhibition in Vienna**

**By Ramesh Jaura**

VIENNA (IDN) - "Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed." These words from the preamble of UNESCO's Constitution, inscribed on an exhibition panel, have caught the attention of Ana María Cetto as she walks around the exposition.

This is "one of the most evocative . . . phrases of any UN constitution," declares Cetto, opening the exhibition at the UN headquarters in Vienna. Cetto is the deputy director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), set up as the 'Atoms for Peace' organization in 1957.

Referring to the exposition titled 'From a Culture of Violence to a Culture of Peace: Transforming the Human Spirit', Cetto says: "Exhibitions in the cause of peace, like this one, are devoted to a single aim: to construct those defences in the minds of each person that comes into contact with them."

Pointing to another telling phrase on a different panel, "the silent violence of apathy", she says, it underlines "a state of human willingness to live comfortably while ignoring the suffering of others".

"Apathy is a great threat to the defence of peace," Cetto cautions. "It's the parent of the insidious whisper that tells us that an individual can't do very much, or that the problems of people far away are inevitable, impossible to prevent, not that bad really, or maybe even their own fault."

What lends a particular significance to the exhibition, says the IAEA deputy chief, is: "It examines what is meant by human security, and how the sense of human security lies at the heart of a culture of peace. It brings before us the issues that apathy turns into problems, problems that have a much wider reach than the purely local."

Cetto adds: "In the IAEA, we are convinced that ensuring human security is key to ensuring global peace. We say that no lasting security is achievable without development, and that no sustainable human development is possible without security."

The exhibition, the IAEA's deputy chief opened on October 4, comprises of 36 panels and will continue till October 15. Its venue, the Vienna International Centre, also hosts the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO) Preparatory Commission and several other UN agencies and offices. ☺



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The CTBTO Preparatory Commission, set up in 1996, is an interim organization tasked with building up the verification regime of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) in preparation for the Treaty's entry into force as well as promoting the Treaty's universality.

CTBTO Preparatory Commission's external relations director Genxin Li is pleased that: "There is fortunately no longer large scale nuclear testing as was the case in previous decades. We have the CTBT and we have a fully functioning and capable verification regime to monitor compliance of the prohibition of nuclear testing."

"However, despite moratoria on nuclear testing, the legal door is not yet firmly closed. Although 182 countries have signed and 153 have ratified the CTBT, the Treaty is not yet in force," adds Genxin Li in his opening remarks. Though, that would be an important step towards nuclear disarmament and against nuclear proliferation.

"To achieve that step and to move forward on disarmament and non-proliferation, we require the utmost unity of purpose of the international community. It is therefore important to mobilize interest and to inform the public that this is an issue that directly concerns them," says CTBTO Preparatory Commission's external relations director.

He adds: "The 'People's Decade of Action for Nuclear Abolition' is the type of grassroots activity that can help achieve this goal."

The exhibition in the Austrian capital has been jointly organised by the NGO Committee on Peace Vienna and the Soka Gakkai International (SGI), a Tokyo-based Buddhist organization, which launched it first in 2007 as part of the campaign entitled People's Decade of Action for Nuclear Abolition, with a view to building international public opinion against nuclear weapons and calling for a Nuclear Weapons Convention (NWC).

Vienna NGO Committee on Peace chairman Klaus Renoldner makes an impassioned plea for a Nuclear Weapons Convention: "We know about the destructive effects of nuclear weapons, and as a physician I can certify that there is no treatment against this disease. A megaton bomb can destroy a large city and kill a million or more of innocent people at once. There is only prevention, and prevention in this case means abolition of these weapons."

The significance of the exhibition lies in the fact that it communicates the links between the nuclear weapons issue and human security, making clear that nuclear abolition is at the heart of the work of building human security. It demonstrates that, in order to solve nuclear weapons issues, changes in values and perspective -- from arms-based security to human security and from a culture of war to a culture of peace -- are indispensable.

Since its launch, the exhibition has been shown in more than 200 cities in 24 countries. Notable showings include those at the Palais des Nations in Geneva during the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Preparatory Committee session in April-May 2008, the Mexican Senate Building during the 62nd Annual UN Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organizations Conference in September 2009, the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre during the Parliament of the World's Religions in December 2009 and the Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum in February 2010.

"This long itinerary in itself is a testament to the universality of the message it carries," states Cetto. "In Vienna, however, it has a special resonance, as it is in this very building that the international community mobilizes its efforts to create a world free from the threats of nuclear proliferation and nuclear test explosions and thus bring us closer to the ultimate goal of a world free of nuclear weapons."

"We are very happy to be able to hold this exhibition in Vienna, host city to the CTBTO Preparatory Commission and the IAEA, both key UN agencies in the fields of disarmament and non-proliferation, and to do so in collaboration with important civil society partners," SGI vice president and executive director for peace affairs, Hirotsugu Terasaki, tells IDN.

The latest showing comes within four months of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference in May 2010 in New York. The conference expressed its "deep concern at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons" and reaffirmed the need for all states at all times to "comply with applicable international law, including international humanitarian law". ↻





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"In contrast to much intergovernmental debate on the nuclear issue, which has often been framed in political or military logic, this language in the Final Document gave clear precedence to humane values and human dignity," says Hiromasa Ikeda, SGI vice president in his opening remarks.

For the first time ever, the conference's Final Document made reference to proposals to outlaw nuclear weapons through a Nuclear Weapons Convention. This outcome was achieved through the determined efforts of global civil society and governments working together toward a shared vision and goal.

"We must make this experience the basis for further collaborative endeavors as we advance, step by step, toward the establishment of an NWC," adds the SGI vice president conveying the message from his father Daisaku Ikeda who presides over the organization.

Complete versions of the exhibition are available in English, Spanish, Chinese, Japanese, Thai and Nepali with partial translations in Serbian. A German-language version will soon be completed, and this exhibition will be seen in schools and other educational institutions in Austria.

"There is nothing more important than empowering young people with the confidence that they can bring a world without nuclear weapons into being," says Terasaki. (IDN-InDepthNews/05.10.2010)



## **Civil Society's Perspective**

### **Security Strategy Confirms Trident Doesn't Address Any Of The Top Threats Faced By UK**

Monday, 18 October 2010

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament responded to the National Security Strategy by questioning how the vast spending on Trident can be justified when the threats it is designed to combat have been officially classified as falling outside the top rank of security concerns faced by the UK.

Kate Hudson, General Secretary of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, said "It is utterly absurd for the Government to go ahead with spending upwards of £76bn on replacing Trident when the threats it is meant to address don't even feature amongst the top risks faced by the UK. The only nuclear threat to feature as a Tier One risk is that from terrorists, yet Trident can do nothing to deter such groups who would surely welcome it were Britain to respond with a nuclear strike. The scenario in which Trident is designed to be used – to combat attacks by other states – is now defined as a Tier Two risk, alongside developments like an upsurge in organised crime.

"The Security Strategy has identified such a large number of significant risks, from climate change and cyber-attacks to pandemics and terrorism, that giving the go-ahead for Trident replacement seems like an exceptionally expensive after-thought, lacking in any genuine rationale. Given that the Government accepts that 'no state currently has the combination of capability and intent needed to pose a conventional military threat to the territorial integrity of the UK' (point 3.32), it is obvious that the continuous patrols of the Trident submarines should end. This would reduce tensions, boost disarmament talks and diminish the chance of accidents – not to mention saving millions of pounds a year.

"Every pound squandered on Trident is a pound unavailable to deal with genuine threats to British security - which go far beyond potential military threats to include survival issues like climate change. With the running costs of the current Trident system - let alone building a replacement - equal to the whole running costs of MI5, MI6 and GCHQ combined, it is no surprise that the majority of the public, along with a growing number of military leaders see nuclear weapons as a costly distraction." ■

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### **Delay To Trident Decision Gives Space For Nuclear Policy Change Yet Vast Spending Will Continue**

Tuesday, 19 October 2010

Ahead of the Strategic Defence and Security Review being released later today, the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament welcomed the delay to the 'main gate' decision on Trident replacement, saying it will give time for politicians to catch up with majority public opinion in rejecting the need for new nuclear weapons. CND cautioned that despite a reported 'saving' of £750m much larger sums are due to be spent every year on maintaining the current system and upgrading the warhead factory at Aldermaston.

Kate Hudson, General Secretary of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, said "Pushing this decision back to after the next election will hopefully allow politicians to catch up with what the majority of the public and a growing number of military voices acknowledge – that nuclear weapons are a costly irrelevance to the threats Britain faces. Yesterday's National Security Strategy went some way towards acknowledging this when it excluded the threat Trident is meant to protect against – attack by a nuclear-armed state – from the top tier of the Government's own assessment of risks to Britain's security.

"Despite this delay, vast spending on Trident and its replacement looks set to continue, dwarfing the £750m being described as a 'saving'. It is not yet clear whether this is any reduction in costs at all, or merely pushing some costs back into the years beyond the next government spending round. If this is the case, an accounting fix must not be presented as a reduction in the sums being squandered on the new weapons. Billions will still be spent every year on maintaining the current system and on upgrading the Atomic Weapons Establishment. Just one part of the system that supports Trident - the Aldermaston bomb factory - will cost the country £950m this year alone. The supposed 'savings' are a drop in the ocean compared to the £40bn or more that will be spent on nuclear weapons ahead of any new submarine even being launched." ■



## **Civil Society's Perspective**

### **CND welcomes Trident reductions in the Strategic Defence and Security Review**

Tuesday, 19 October 2010

Kate Hudson, General Secretary of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, said "We welcome the reduction in the UK's operational stockpile of nuclear warheads. This 25% reduction is a good first step towards the eventual elimination of all our nuclear weapons – a legally-binding commitment Britain made when it signed the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty in 1968. We hope the Government will build on this to create positive momentum amongst other middle-ranking nuclear states like France and China to pursue similar reductions alongside those already being pursued by the US and Russia.

"The savings announced today are welcome, but a drop in the ocean when compared to the overall project costs. A £1.2bn saving amounts to less than 1.6% of the lifetime cost of the system. If David Cameron was really serious about saving money he should have cut the remaining 98% of the cash as well. With nuclear threats from states not even regarded as being amongst the top rank of challenges facing the country, we'd not be any less secure without these weapons and could really take the lead in pushing towards Obama's vision of a world free of nuclear weapons.

"Pushing the main decision on new submarines back until after the next election will hopefully allow politicians to catch up with what the majority of the public and a growing number of military voices acknowledge – that nuclear weapons are a costly irrelevance to the threats Britain faces."

"The reduction in the overall size of the warhead stockpile from 225 to 180 is welcome, meaning the destruction of 45 warheads. Whilst this is not due to be completed until the mid 2020s the UK could build confidence in its progress by annual declarations of how many warheads have been irreversibly disabled. The fact that no decision will be taken on building replacement warheads during this parliament is also very positive. Had the UK gone ahead with such a programme it would have had seriously damaging international implications, undermining the UK's ability to oppose other states' pursuit of nuclear weapons. ■

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### **Submarine grounding shows dangers of continuous Trident patrols**

Friday, 22 October 2010

Responding to the incident involving HMS Astute this morning, Kate Hudson, General Secretary of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, said "This latest incident highlights the dangers of the large number of nuclear submarine movements around Britain's shores. The Government this week confirmed they will continue with an unbroken cycle of patrolling by the Trident submarines, with more submarines moving in and out of their base than are required either for defence or training purposes. Both to reduce global tensions and diminish the chances of one of these incidents turning into a major disaster, these unnecessary patrols should cease."

This is the fifth incident of British submarines hitting static obstacles in recent years. In May 2008, HMS Superb hit an underwater pinnacle in the Red Sea and after returning to the UK on the surface was decommissioned prematurely due to the prohibitive cost of repairs. HMS Trafalgar also ran aground off Skye November in 2002 after helmsmen placed tracing paper over the navigational chart so as not to mark it, running into well-charted rocks. HMS Triumph and HMS Victorious were involved in incidents within ten days of one another in November 2000.

The Trident nuclear weapons submarine HMS Vanguard also collided with the French nuclear weapon submarine in February 2009 in an incident that caused extensive damage. ■





## Civil Society's Perspective

### **Anglo-French Nuclear Deal Reduces Salience Of Nuclear Weapons, Say CND**

Responding to the announcement that Britain and France will co-operate on nuclear warhead testing, CND has described the step as 'previously unthinkable', but in line with the recent recognition that nuclear weapons do not address Britain's 'top security risks'.

A new nuclear treaty between the two countries focuses on hydrodynamic testing facilities, which allow the performance and safety of nuclear warheads to be tested without a nuclear explosion taking place. It appears that nuclear weapons testing technology will be now developed in Britain, and the testing will be carried out in France. A planning application to build 'Project Hydrus' hydrodynamic testing facility at Aldermaston was recently agreed, but presumably this facility will now be cancelled to make the financial savings that the government has announced.

**Kate Hudson, CND General Secretary, said:** 'Such cooperation on Britain's supposed 'independent' nuclear weapons system would previously have been unthinkable. But this comes at a time when the recently released National Security Strategy has clearly shown that the salience of nuclear weapons in addressing our top security risks is questioned at the highest levels of government. Such cooperation further breaks down the previously 'unchangeable' status quo on nuclear weapons: the decision on the replacement of Trident has been delayed; the previous 'minimum deterrent' number of nuclear warheads has been reduced; the supposed 'minimum' number of subs is being questioned; 'continuous-at-sea deterrence' is being questioned. Now the facade of 'independence' is further undermined.'

'None of this is surprising as it is now widely recognised that nuclear weapons are irrelevant to our security needs and, at a time of economic crisis and cuts, the majority of the UK population thinks that Trident should be scrapped.'

**But Kate Hudson also cautioned the government** on its compliance with the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty: 'Article 1 of the NPT expressly forbids transfers in relation to nuclear explosive devices. It is vital that this treaty is scrutinised in the light of Article 1. But the fundamental point that both Britain and France have to recognise and act upon is that the NPT - to which they are signatories - requires both of them to disarm their nuclear weapons. Rearranging the deckchairs on the nuclear sub is not sufficient.' ■

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### **Global reach for NATO?**

Kate Hudson, General Secretary of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament  
30 October 2010

NATO leaders will soon be gathering for a Summit in Lisbon. No doubt top of the agenda will be how to get out of the disastrous mess they have made in Afghanistan with minimum loss of face. But one of the main outcomes will also be a new Strategic Concept. You may remember the last one was launched in 1999 while NATO was waging its illegal war on Yugoslavia. On that occasion the remit was changed from the supposedly defensive posture of the cold war to one of offensive operations, engaging in "out of area activities" across the entire Eurasian landmass. The war on Afghanistan is the result of that strategic concept. What will the new one bring?

Yesterday we received a hint from Ivo Daalder, the US Ambassador to NATO. Speaking to the New America Foundation, he said: "We're launching NATO 3.0". Well that sounds like bad news and it is. As he went on to say: "It is no longer just about Europe - It's not a global alliance but it is a global actor." The fear of many of us over the past few years has been that NATO will try to extend its reach globally. Now it seems as though that will come to pass. And what will be the purpose of this extended reach?

Daalder went on to say: "We need to look for opportunities to work with countries we haven't worked with before, like India, China, and Brazil". Two points strike me about this statement. What exactly does it mean for NATO to 'work' with a country? Is NATO 'working' with Afghanistan? ☹



## **Civil Society's Perspective**

Or is the remit of NATO to extend into non-military areas? Is it now to be a military/economic/political bloc with global reach? Because it is notable that Daalder has actually identified three of the four most rapidly growing economies in the world - Russia being the fourth, and Russia has already been invited to the NATO summit. These are important issues to analyse and address, especially as Daalder seemed pretty smug, as he said: "The question of whether NATO will be operating globally is solved. It's done. We're there."

Now of course he is massively overstating the case - at the moment that is still wishful thinking. But that is what the US wants and it has to be stopped. There is no conceivable positive role for NATO in any way, shape or form. Campaigns exist against NATO activities in a number of areas: to get the troops out of Afghanistan, to get US/NATO nukes out of Europe, to end its nuclear first-use policy, to prevent destabilising expansionism, to halt its missile defence plans. If we want to stop these destructive policies expanding on an ever-wider canvass, we need to understand what is going on with NATO, what its intentions are, and get organised. The counter-summit in Lisbon, from 19th-21st November, at the time of the NATO summit, is part of this process. But these issues need proper exposure here in Britain too. Apart from anything else, NATO costs us a lot of money and involves us in disastrous wars. Imagine that on a global scale... ■

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### **Citizens Oppose Japan-India Nuclear Pact**

Monday, October 25, 2010

Japanese citizens expressed their opposition to nuclear cooperation between Japan and India in a letter addressed to Prime Minister Singh, which was sent today to the Indian Embassy in Tokyo. The letter was endorsed by over fifty people, including Hibakusha and other people from Hiroshima and Nagasaki and leaders of major nuclear abolition groups.

Prime Minister Singh, who is currently visiting Japan, is expected to discuss a proposed bilateral nuclear cooperation agreement when he meets Japanese Government ministers. The Japanese Government reversed a decades-old policy of not engaging in nuclear cooperation with non-NPT (Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty) member states when it began negotiations with India on a bilateral agreement at the end of June this year.

The letter explains the feelings of the Hibakusha (survivors of the atomic bombings) and why there is so much opposition in Japan, in particular from Hiroshima and Nagasaki, to nuclear cooperation between Japan and India. It states, "Based on the experiences of the Hibakusha we can unequivocally affirm that nuclear weapons and human beings cannot coexist."

Finally, the letter calls on India to follow the lead of Prime Ministers Jawaharlal Nehru and Rajiv Gandhi and stand in the forefront of moves for nuclear abolition.

Since the possibility of nuclear cooperation between Japan and India was first raised in April this year, there has been strong opposition from Japanese civil society and sections of the Japanese media. ■



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Act to make "No more nuclear weapons"



## What Others Say

### Japan Faces Dilemma over Civilian Nuke Pact with India



< Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh

TOKYO (Kyodo | The Mainichi Daily News) October 25, 2010 - Torn between economic gains and a national credo of abolishing nuclear weapons, as the only country to have suffered atomic bombings, Japan faces a dilemma in its negotiation of a civilian nuclear cooperation pact with India.

The current Japan visit by Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh once again highlights ambivalent feeling in Japan toward the nuclear pact, which would enable Japanese firms to export nuclear power generation technology and related equipment to India.

Tokyo has been negotiating a legal framework for peaceful use and transfer of nuclear-power technologies with other energy-hungry emerging nations, but India's case is unique because of its development of nuclear weapons and refusal to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

The launch in June of bilateral talks on a nuclear cooperation accord immediately triggered an outcry from survivors of the 1945 U.S. atomic bomb attacks on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

But at the same time, Japan has been trying to pull itself out of its longstanding economic doldrums by boosting growth through exports of infrastructure, including nuclear power plants, amid intensifying international competition for large-scale projects.

Furthermore, Tokyo has a diplomatically strategic reason to strengthen its ties with India, as the fast-growing Asian democracy could serve as a counterbalance to China, which has recently adopted an increasingly confrontational stance toward Japan over a territorial issue.

Kumao Kaneko, a former diplomat who served as the first chief of the Japanese Foreign Ministry's nuclear energy division, said Japan should lend a helping hand to India, as the South Asian country craves nuclear energy to meet growing domestic power demands. India plans to build 20 new nuclear power plants by 2020.

"Without Japan's technology, new nuclear power generation projects in India would not start," Kaneko said. "Refusing to offer support to India when it really needs it could ruin Japan's credibility as a friend of India. As the saying goes, a friend in need is a friend indeed."

India, which has developed its own nuclear power reactors with technologies transferred from the United States and Canada, concluded civil nuclear cooperation pacts with countries such as the United States and France after a consensus was reached in September 2008 by the Nuclear Suppliers Group.

The NSG consensus allows New Delhi to start trading nuclear technologies for civilian nuclear programs with 46 member states. It was reached as India committed to strengthening the nonproliferation regime and maintaining a unilateral moratorium on nuclear testing voluntarily.

However, General Electric Co. of the United States and Areva SA of France cannot proceed with their projects to build nuclear reactors in India because they need reactor vessels made by Japan Steel Works Ltd., which accounts for nearly 80 percent of global supplies of forged nuclear reactor parts.

Therefore, Washington and Paris have urged Tokyo to sign the civilian nuclear pact with New Delhi so they can use Japanese technology.

In a move believed to be intended to assuage critics of the pact, Japanese negotiators demand the bilateral accord include a clause qualifying that Tokyo will halt nuclear energy cooperation if New Delhi conducts a nuclear test. But India has so far refused such a proposal. ➡



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## What Others Say

Kaneko pointed out that India did not agree with the United States to include such a clause in their bilateral civil nuclear pact, leaving Washington to stipulate measures on halting cooperation in the event of India's nuclear test in a U.S. domestic law.

"India thinks incorporating such a clause in the nuclear pact would violate its sovereignty and Japan will not likely achieve what the United States failed to do," he said. Instead, Kaneko proposed the envisioned accord present a message to heed the antinuclear sentiment of A-bomb survivors. He also expected that it will take more than a year before Japan and India conclude their negotiations on the pact due to expected rough going.

An Economy, Trade and Industry Ministry official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said that in the event of India's nuclear test, Japan could also stop its cooperation in line with domestic law. But it would be unrealistic for Japan to withdraw materials and technologies offered to India once the building of reactors is completed, the METI official said. Some critics say halting cooperation after a nuclear test is insufficient.

Even though Japan refuses to provide nuclear cooperation to India, there will be alternative suppliers in the future, he said. "In that case, there will be global supply chains without Japanese makers and our nuclear power industry will be put in a disadvantageous position," the official said.

A Foreign Ministry official, who declined to be named, also said Japan will be able to seek tighter regulation of India's nuclear program through a bilateral nuclear pact. Bilateral arrangements could be stricter than obligations for nonnuclear states under the NPT, he said. However, Akira Kawasaki of Peace Boat, a group campaigning for nuclear abolition with A-bomb survivors, said Japan's nuclear cooperation with India could not be justified for economic or diplomatic reasons, arguing the perception of such benefits is "nearsighted."

"Over the long term, cooperation with India would intensify the nuclear arms race in the region," as such a move would threaten countries such as China and Pakistan, he said. Economically speaking, Japanese industry would only secure one-off gains, with Indian workers expected to acquire Japanese technologies soon and operate nuclear power plants by themselves, Kawasaki said. ■

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## Germany Hopeful India Will Sign CTBT

Express news service Posted online: Tue Oct 19 2010, 00:38 hrs

**New Delhi :** Germany, a member of the Nuclear Suppliers Group, on Monday said it was encouraged by signs that India could be willing to sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) and sought closer cooperation with India in combating terrorism.

Non-proliferation and disarmament were among global issues that were discussed between External Affairs Minister S M Krishna and his German counterpart Guido Westerwelle. The visiting German minister said he also discussed with Krishna the UN Security Council reforms, counter-terror cooperation, the Iranian nuclear issue and intensification of economic ties.

Lauding India's contribution to "non-proliferation", Westerwelle said, "We are encouraged by signs that India could be willing to sign the CTBT. We would like India to move even closer to the global nuclear non-proliferation order."

Germany had supported global exemption for India in the NSG in September 2008. India adheres to a voluntary moratorium on nuclear testing, but has refused to sign the CTBT on the grounds that it is discriminatory and tends to divide the world into the nuclear haves and have-nots.

Westerwelle, who arrived days after Germany and India won the elections for the UNSC non-permanent seats, said the two countries would be "consulting (each other) closely" on the issue of UN permanent membership, and the G-4 countries would be meeting in the next few months for developing a strategy.

The German Foreign Minister also met Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Commerce Minister Anand Sharma.

The two sides discussed issues of climate change, Afghanistan and enhancing relations between India and the European Union. ■





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## What Others Say

**The New York Times | October 29, 2010**

### **Drop the Weapons**

By **JACOB HEILBRUNN\***

#### **A SKEPTIC'S CASE FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT**

By Michael E. O'Hanlon

174 pp. Brookings Institution Press. \$26.95

Since the detonation of [nuclear weapons](#) over Japan, American presidents haven't learned to love the bomb, but rather have worried about it. In 1946, the Truman administration presented the [United Nations](#) with the Baruch Plan for international control of nuclear weapons, which Stalin, working on his own bomb, rejected. Four decades later, [Ronald Reagan](#) almost signed a deal with [Mikhail Gorbachev](#) to eliminate nuclear weapons, but this time missile defense proved an insuperable stumbling block. Now that [President Obama](#) and senior statesmen like [George Shultz](#) and [Henry Kissinger](#) have endorsed the abolition of nuclear weapons, the issue has assumed a fresh prominence.

In "A Skeptic's Case for Nuclear Disarmament," Michael E. O'Hanlon, a defense analyst at the liberal [Brookings Institution](#) who has attracted much controversy on the left for supporting the Iraq war, joins the debate. O'Hanlon expertly unravels the myriad threads of the often abstruse disputes about nuclear weapons and disarmament. He seeks to chart a middle ground between the nuclear abolitionists and the proponents of retaining the bomb in perpetuity. His solution is to advocate full dismantlement — but only if the United States and other major powers can reconstitute nuclear weapons rapidly if, say, menaced by a foreign foe who had secretly kept them. Like many attempts to cope with the problem of nuclear proliferation, however, O'Hanlon's proposal is unpersuasive. His book is better at outlining the problems surrounding disarmament than at solving them.

According to O'Hanlon, pushing for disarmament without retaining the right to reconstruct nuclear weapons is sheer utopianism. He also notes that no major power is about to defer to the [United Nations Security Council](#) for authorization to rebuild these weapons. So he suggests the creation of a "contact group for each country that wishes to preserve the right to build or rebuild a nuclear arsenal under extreme conditions." But this defies credibility. What commander in chief would ever put America's national security in the hands of a "contact group"?

Still, as O'Hanlon sees it, one advantage of pushing for disarmament is simply that it might promote more general enthusiasm for arms reduction. "Tired of incrementalism," he states, "the American public has long since lost its real interest in arms control." But did it ever have any such interest in the first place? O'Hanlon himself doesn't seem to have all that much interest in full disarmament.

His suggestion is that the United States should pursue a rather Machiavellian policy: On the one hand, it should "endorse a nuclear-free world with conviction." On the other, "it should not work to create a treaty now and should not sign any treaty that others might create for the foreseeable future." Only when Iran, North Korea, the status of Taiwan and Kashmir, and a host of other issues are settled will the great powers be able to cooperate on moving toward a world truly free of nuclear weapons. Of course, setting world peace as a precondition for nuclear disarmament is tantamount to saying it will never occur.

Even the act of disarming, O'Hanlon notes, could throw America's relations with its allies into turmoil. Japan continues to rely on American nuclear assurances. So does Europe. In short, the American nuclear umbrella extends far and wide — indeed, Secretary of State [Hillary Clinton](#) suggested last year that a "defense umbrella" now extends to shield Middle East states like Saudi Arabia from a potential Iranian strike.

Rather than seeking the utopian dream of ridding the world of nuclear weapons, keeping a small arsenal on hand as a deterrent is far more likely to preserve the peace than abandoning them completely. The fundamental problem is that nuclear weapons are not the source of international tensions but an expression of them.

\* **Jacob Heilbrunn is a senior editor at The National Interest.**



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## What Others Say

### Austria to Establish Disarmament Center

Thursday, Oct. 28, 2010

Austria yesterday unveiled plans to establish a new arms control advocacy entity in cooperation with the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies (see [GSN](#), April 19, 2007).

Slated to open early next year, the Vienna Center for Disarmament and Nonproliferation would seek to foster dialogue on arms control issues by nongovernmental organizations, governments and multilateral bodies, the U.S. organization said in a press release. "With the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies in charge, the Vienna Center for Disarmament and Nonproliferation possesses the ideal preconditions to give civil society a strong voice in the field of disarmament," Austrian Foreign Minister Michael Spindelegger said in a statement.

"With its proximity to the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Organization, [the center] will give CNS a unique opportunity to contribute to strengthening international nuclear verification systems," added James Martin Center Deputy Director Leonard Spector. "Vienna is also an ideal location for convening working groups on U.S.-Russian, European, and Middle Eastern nuclear affairs" (James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies [release](#), Oct. 27).

"We are delighted to cooperate with the Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs in establishing the Center for Disarmament and Nonproliferation in Austria's capital. I am convinced that this center will soon be seen as a key venue for the most advanced research and training initiatives in the nuclear field," James Martin Center head William Potter said in a separate press release (Austrian Foreign Ministry [release](#), Oct. 27). ■



Publisher: IPS-Inter Press Service Deutschland gGmbH, Berlin  
SGI-IPS Project Director: Katsuhiko Asagiri, President IPS Japan, Tokyo  
SGI-IPS Project Coordinator & Editor-in-Charge: Ramesh Jaura  
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