On the occasion of International Women’s Day for Peace and Disarmament (May 24, 2020) we express our deep concern about the humanitarian and economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the aggravating impact of conflict and armed violence, and the existential threats to humanity and the environment from climate change and nuclear weapons.

As women legislators, religious leaders and civil society representatives from around the world we call on governments and policy makers to transcend national borders, differing political persuasions and diverse religious beliefs in order to advance humanity’s common interest for peace, public health, disarmament, sustainable development and ecological responsibility.

We affirm the vital role of women in peacemaking, policy development and governance. The COVID-19 pandemic demonstrates the importance of women as heads of state, parliamentarians, policy-makers, physicians, scientists, health care workers, and caregivers for children and aged persons. UN Security Council Resolution 1325 highlights the value women can also contribute as active participants of peace and disarmament processes.

The Coronavirus pandemic has undeniably demonstrated that key issues of human security cannot be resolved through military means or independently by nations, but require global cooperation and non-violent conflict resolution. We highlight the importance of the United Nations, and its agencies like the World Health Organisation and United Nations Environment Program, for building such cooperation, managing global issues and advancing human security.

The global military budget of $1,900 billion ($100 billion alone on nuclear weapons) should be substantially cut in order to better fund the UN (current budget of $6 billion) and support climate protection, public health, resilient economies and the Sustainable Development Goals. The UN and WHO should consider establishing an improved process for transparency and information sharing, and for facilitating international cooperation and national management of future pandemics. This process should be developed in consultation with governments, experts and civil society.
We welcome **Securing our Common Future**, the Disarmament Agenda launched by United Nations Secretary-General (UNSG) Antonio Guterres on International Women's Day for Peace and Disarmament in 2018, which outlines the importance of disarmament for the achievement of sustainable development, and of engaging all constituencies in disarmament action, especially women and youth.

And we call for warring parties around the world to agree to the UNSG's appeal of March 2020 for a global ceasefire to help combat the Coronavirus pandemic. Such a ceasefire should continue even as we emerge from the current pandemic, and should be accompanied with significant cuts in the production and trade of conventional weapons and small arms, with the goal of achieving sustainable world peace and reducing violence.

Whether we are from Russia or USA, India or Pakistan, North Korea or South Korea, Iran or Israel, East or West, North or South, we share one planet and a common future. It is vital that we use diplomacy, conflict resolution, cooperation, common security and law to address security issues, rather than the threat or use of armed force or punitive sanctions.

The United Nations was established with an array of mechanisms through which nations can resolve conflicts, negotiate disarmament and address humanitarian issues and achieve security through diplomacy not war. We urge all governments to make better use of these mechanisms, including to accept the compulsory jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice for international conflicts (74 countries have already done so), and to replace nuclear deterrence and provocative arms races with reliance on common security.

The very first resolution of the United Nations called for the elimination of "nuclear weapons and all other weapons adaptable to mass destruction." Yet, 75 years later, over 14,000 nuclear weapons remain in the world's arsenals, threatening current and future generations and costing $100 billion annually to modernize and maintain. These weapons must be abolished and the funds for their development and deployment transferred to meet the needs of genuine human security.

We act as leaders in our local communities and countries to address these human security needs. But, as women, we also recognize our shared humanity globally, and the need to collaborate on building a peaceful, secure, sustainable, more respectful and just world.

The world became more united to combat the Coronavirus pandemic. Let us build on that unity, and be torchbearers for a better world embracing human security for our common future.

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See following pages for the list of endorsers of this appeal.
# Human security for public health, peace and sustainable development

A global women’s appeal to commemorate International Women’s Day for Peace and Disarmament (May 24, 2020) and the 75th anniversary year of the United Nations

## Endorsers

### Parliamentary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senator Byrganym Alimova</td>
<td>Kazakhstan</td>
<td>Member, Foreign Affairs Committee. Former Kazakhstani Ambassador to the United Nations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rep Carol Ammons</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Member, Illinois State Assembly. Member, Women Legislators’ Lobby</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steinunn Póra Árnadóttir MP</td>
<td>Iceland</td>
<td>Member of the Icelandic Delegation to the Nordic Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ibissame Azaoui MP</td>
<td>Morocco</td>
<td>Member, Foreign Affairs Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senator Gabriela Cuevas Barron</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>President, Inter-Parliamentary Union</td>
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<tr>
<td>Petra Bayr</td>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>Vice-President, European Parliamentary Forum for Sexual &amp; Reproductive Rights. Executive Member of Parliamentarians for Global Action</td>
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<tr>
<td>Claudia Beamish MSP</td>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>Shadow Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change, Environment and Law Reform</td>
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<tr>
<td>Terri Butler MP</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>Shadow Minister for the Environment and Water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deidre Brock MP</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>SNP Spokesperson on Environment, Food and Rural Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amy Callaghan MP</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>SNP Spokesperson for Pensions and Inter-generational Fairness</td>
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<tr>
<td>Isabelle Chevalley MP</td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>Founder of the Swiss Liberal Ecology Movement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edith DesMarais</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Member, New Hampshire State Legislature. Recipient, President’s Volunteer Service Award</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mindy Domb</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Member, Massachusetts House of Representatives. Former Executive Director, Amherst Survival Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Ann Dunwell</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Montana State Representative. Member Human Services Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asa Eriksson MP</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>Deputy, Foreign Affairs Committee. Former Junior World Curling Champion &amp; Sweden Handball Player of the Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ute Finckh-Krämer</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Former Member, Bundestag. PNND Council Member</td>
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<td>Susan C. Fisher</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Member, North Carolina House of Representatives</td>
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<td>Hedy Fry MP</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>Special Representative on Gender Issues for the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly</td>
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<td>Senator Audrey Gibson</td>
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<td>State Senator Florida. Senate Minority Leader</td>
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<td>Gabriela Heinrich MdB</td>
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<td>Amineh Kakabaveh MP</td>
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<td>Helen Konzett MP</td>
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<td>Member of OSCE Parliamentary Assembly. Author of Lichtenstein nuclear weapons divestment legislation</td>
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<td>Kaye Kory</td>
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<td>Merja Kyllönen MP</td>
<td>Finland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marta Mora</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rachel Reese</td>
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<td>Association des Religieuses pour les Droits des Femmes (Association of Religions for the Rights of Women)</td>
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Human security
for public health, peace and sustainable development

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Civil society and international organization leaders

Susan H Smith
USA
Director of Operations, Fellowship of Reconciliation

Louise Royer
Canada
Social Action - Roman Catholic Church, Montreal

Sister Teresa Wamiyu Wachira
Kenya
Co-president, Pax Christi International

Reinhold Traitler
(Switzerland)
Hon. President European Project for inter-religious Learning

Greet Vanaeerschot
Belgium
Secretary General, Pax Christi International

Kajsa Wejryd
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Former president of Women in the Church of Sweden

Gisèle Turcot SBC
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General Superior, Notre-Dame du Bon-Conseil Institute of Montreal

Stefanie Wahl
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Mary T. Yelenick
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UN Representative, Pax Christi International

Adele Buckley
Canada
Former Chair, Canadian Pugwash

Gisèle Turcot SBC
Canada
General Superior, Notre-Dame du Bon-Conseil Institute of Montreal

Tina Agrell
Canada
Chair, Advancement of Women Halton

Maude Barlow
Canada
Chairperson, The Council of Canadians; Former Senior UN Advisor on water issues. Right Livelihood Laureate 2005.

Maureen Brouwer
Canada
Co-Founder of Youth Nuclear Peace Summit; Canada Board Member, International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War

Lilly Adams
USA
Project Coordinator, Nuclear Voices

Ayo Ayoola-Amale
Ghana
President, Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, Ghana

Adele Buckley
Canada
Former Chair, Canadian Pugwash

Hanan Awwad
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President, Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, Palestine

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Ashna Ali
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Nobel Women’s Initiative

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Founding President, Physicians for Social Responsibility

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Jackie Cabasso
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Jean Anderson
United Kingdom
Secretary, Scottish Nationalist Party section of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament

Mavic Cabrera-Balleza
Philippines
Founder and CEO, Global Network of Women Peacebuilders

Cynda Collins Arsenault
USA
Founder, Secure World Foundation and Our Secure Future Women Make the Difference

Kehkashan Basu
UAE/Canada
World Future Council Youth Ambassador. Named as one of Canada’s 25 most influential women

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President of WLPF España - Liga Internacional de Mujeres por la Paz y la Libertad

Asha Asokan
India
Rotary Peace Fellow

Marion Boeker
Germany
Founder, director Consultancy For Human Rights & Gender Issues

Ana Maria Ceto
Mexico
Executive Committee of Pugwash Conferences (Nobel Peace Prize 1995), Mexico’s Woman of the Year in 2003

Julia Auf dem Brinke
Germany
Advocacy Manager at SCRAP Weapons

Leah Bolger
USA
President, World Beyond War

Young-mi CHO
South Korea
Executive Director, Korean Women’s Movement for Peace
Human security
for public health, peace and sustainable development

ENDORSERS

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President, The Rideau Institute. Former Canadian Ambassador for Disarmament to the UN.

Nur Aisyah Maulidiah
Indonesia
General Secretary, Glori Ambassadors for Peace.

Jan McAlpine
USA
President and CEO of McAlpine International Consultants. Former Director, UN Forum on Forests.

Bridget Moix
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US Executive Director, Peace Direct.

Jessie Linn Medvan
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Past-President, Women’s Action for New Directions.

Nicole Ann Ponce
Philippines
Lead Organizer, I am Climate Justice Movement.

Nelli Porseva
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Cristina Sagarruzzu
Aotearoa-New Zealand
Co-Chair, Tauranga Moana Women for Peace.

Chaimae Sebbani
Morocco
PNND coordinator Morocco. Project leader of Youth Voices for Climate, Peace and Nuclear Disarmament.

Dolores Pérez-Lazcarro
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Director de Pontavoces de Paz.

Manuela Mesa Peinado
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Director, El Centro de Educación e Investigación para la Paz.

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Marie-Andrée Roy
Canada
Co-fondatrice de L’Association de femmes chrétiennes et féministes.

Natasha Shokri
Iran
UNESCO Youth Peace Ambassador.
Human security
for public health, peace and sustainable development

Late endorsements

Yasmeen Silva
USA
Partnerships Manager, Beyond the Bomb.

Erika Simpson
Canada
Professor of Political Science, Western University. President Canadian Peace Research Association.

Giuse Squillaci
Italy
Project Manager, Associazione Diplomatici.

Joanne Steele
USA
Board President, Nuclear Watch South.

Yasco Suehiro
Japan
Director, Mayors for Peace Secretariat.

Pauline Tangioka
Aotearoa-New Zealand

Late endorsements

Senator Catryna Bilyk
Australia
Secretary and Tasmanian Convenor of the National Labor Women's Network.

Abigail Boyd MLC
Australia
Member of the NSW State Legislature. National Secretary of the Australian Greens: 2017-18.

Senator Mehreen Faruqi
Australia
Australian Greens Spokesperson on Environment, and Status of Women.

Abigail Boyd MLC
Australia
Member of the NSW State Legislature. National Secretary of the Australian Greens: 2017-18.

Margaret Ferrier MP
United Kingdom
Shadow SNP Spokesperson on Manufacturing.

About the statement

"Human security for public health, peace and sustainable development", a global women's appeal to commemorate the International Women's Day for Peace and Disarmament (May 24, 2020) and the 75th anniversary year of the United Nations, was initiated by Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament, World Future Council and the Women Legislators’ Lobby, a program of Women’s Action for New Directions (WAND).

Please visit www.pnnd.org for the text of the appeal and follow-up on its key action points. For questions or further information contact info@pnnd.org.

www.pnnd.org
www.wand.org/will
www.worldfuturecouncil.org