PNND REPORT 2019

PNND Co-Presidents 2017-2019

From top left: Mani Shankar Aiyar MP (India), Natalia Diaz Quintaz MP (Costa Rica), Baroness Sue Miller (UK), Senator Edward Markey (USA), Senator Laura Angélica Rojas Hernández (Mexico), Paul Dewar MP (Canada – passed away Feb 2019), Christine Muttonen MP (Austria), Se-Kyun Chung MP (South Korea), Saber Chowdhury MP (Bangladesh), Senator Salwa Damen-Masri (Jordan), Bill Kidd MSP (Scotland), Marit Nybakk MP (Norway).

Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament (PNND) is a non-partisan forum for legislators nationally, regionally and internationally to share resources and information, develop cooperative strategies and engage in initiatives to reduce nuclear risks, prevent proliferation and achieve the peace and security of a nuclear-weapon-free world.
## PNND 2019 Report

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*PNND thanks the Basel-Stadt Kanton (City), Quaker Peace and Service Aotearoa-New Zealand, Peace Foundation (New Zealand), Friedrich Ebert Foundation (Czech Republic), Czech-German Future Fund, Grassroots Foundation (Germany), World Future Council, Bertha von Suttner Foundation and some private donors for their financial support.*
1. Introduction

PNND had a very busy program of activities over 2019, led by our 12 Co-Presidents and implemented by the PNND Global Council of over 40 leading legislators, membership of over 600 legislators and staff, volunteers and partner organizations.

We organized a number of international actions, campaigns and parliamentary appeals, as well as events at the Inter-Parliamentary Union Assembly in Belgrade, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in Luxembourg, UN in Geneva, UN in New York and in Basel (our European headquarters) and a number of capitals and parliaments including Canberra, Dhaka, Dublin, Edinburgh, London, Prague, Seoul, Vienna, Washington DC and Wellington (New Zealand).

2. Context: Nuclear weapons and the political environment

The political situation regarding nuclear weapons continues to erode. In 2019 the USA and Russia abandoned the Intermediate Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, USA pulled out of the JCPOA (Iran nuclear non-proliferation agreement), India and Pakistan traded nuclear threats over increasing tensions in Kashmir, the Korean peace and denuclearization process stalled and tensions between China and USA increased over territorial disputes in the South China Sea and a trade war.

The declared nuclear armed States are all increasing their nuclear weapons budgets and modernizing their nuclear forces. The high risk of a nuclear catastrophe and the continuing reliance on nuclear deterrence in security doctrines, moved the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists in January 2019 to re-set the Doomsday Clock to 2 Minutes to Midnight.

In 2017, non-nuclear States, in frustration with the lack of progress on nuclear disarmament by nuclear armed States on nuclear disarmament, negotiated a Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. However, the nuclear armed and allied States have all opposed the treaty, calling it counter-productive to the Non-Proliferation Treaty and non-responsive to the security threats that give rise to reliance on nuclear deterrence.

In this context, the work of PNND is vitally important. We make important contributions in bridging the divide between nuclear and non-nuclear States by engaging parliamentarians on a non-partisan basis from all relevant countries. PNND leaders, members, staff and host/partner organizations are active on a range of initiatives and measures to reduce the risk of nuclear weapons use and to phase out nuclear deterrence while maintaining security, in order to make progress toward a nuclear-weapon-free world.

PNND is also making links between the disarmament, peace, climate and sustainable development communities. We build cooperation between legislators and other key stakeholders including diplomats, mayors, religious leaders, youth and civil society organizations. And we identify and promote strategies to move those with investments and vested financial interests in the nuclear arms race (and fossil fuel industry), to shift these investments away from nuclear weapons and instead toward diplomatic, social, economic and environmental need.

A Parliamentary Action Plan for a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World was developed by PNND in 2017 in consultation and cooperation with the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCEPA).

The Plan, which is based on nuclear disarmament resolutions adopted by the IPU and OSEC PA, highlights key multilateral disarmament processes and provides examples of parliamentary actions to reduce nuclear-risks, prevent nuclear proliferation and achieve a nuclear-weapon-free world.

Key topics and examples of parliamentary action include: nuclear posture reviews, NPT Review Process, Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, nuclear testing, nuclear stockpile reductions, nuclear risk reduction including de-alerting and no-first-use, establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones, phasing out nuclear deterrence from security doctrines, a nuclear weapons convention, conventional arms control, nuclear weapons spending and the role of the United Nations.

During 2019, PNND members used the Action Plan to inspire and help guide actions in their national assemblies. The action plan was also the basis for a number of inter-parliamentary events including at the United Nations during the NPT Preparatory Committee Meeting in May and an Inter-Parliamentary Union session in Belgrade in October.

PNND Coordinator Alyn Ware chairs the IPU session on the Role of Parliamentarians to achieve a nuclear weapons-free world. The Indian delegation to the IPU was one of the 40 delegations that spoke during the session.

4. Nuclear risk reduction, conflict resolution and détente

a. Europe/USA/Russia

PNND members in Europe and USA were very active during 2019 on events and actions relating to nuclear risk reduction, conflict resolution and détente.

In January, PNND organized a conference in Basel, which drafted the Basel Appeal for Disarmament and Sustainable Security. The Appeal, which was endorsed by mayors, parliamentarians and disarmament experts from Europe and USA, was sent to Presidents Putin and Trump and to the leaders of the Russian and US legislatures, calling on them to preserve the Intermediate Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, prevent a new nuclear arms race in Europe and undertake measures to reduce the risk of a nuclear conflict and support global nuclear disarmament.

PNND distributed a backgrounder for delegates at the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in Luxembourg entitled Dialogue, détente and disarmament: The role of parliaments and the OSCE. The backgrounder highlighted key developments of relevance to parliaments including the Stepping Stones initiative of Sweden and 15 other countries on nuclear risk-reduction and disarmament measures in support of the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

PNND members including Hedy Fry (Canada), Margaret Kiener Nellen (Switzerland) and Katja Keul (Germany) introduced proposals on nuclear risk reduction and disarmament to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, which were adopted into the Luxembourg Declaration.
Nuclear risk-reduction (continued):

**Europe/USA**
PNND members in Europe and North America were also very active in their national legislatures. PNND Co-President Senator Markey (USA), for example, introduced (or co-authored) a number of pieces of legislation in the U.S. Senate to:

- Prohibit production of low-yield nukes,
- Preserve and extend the New START Treaty, and prohibit increases in U.S. nuclear armed forces
- Limit the authority of the President to launch a nuclear first strike;
- Prevent a new nuclear arms race following collapse of the INF Treaty;
- Prevent Turkey acquiring nuclear weapons.

**Iran/Middle East**
PNND members in Europe and USA were active in promoting nuclear non-proliferation in Iran and the Middle East, including to support the Joint Cooperative Plan of Action (Iran nuclear non-proliferation agreement), control the supply of proliferation-risky nuclear technology to Saudi Arabia, and participate in the UN Conference on Establishing a Middle East Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and other WMD.

PNND USA Co-President Senator Markey, for example, introduced legislation to block Saudi Arabia’s nuclear weapons ambitions and made a number of statements on the Iran situation following the withdrawal by the Trump administration from the JCPOA.

**North East Asia**
PNND members and staff were active in 2019 in supporting an effective and sustainable peace and denuclearization process for the Korean peninsula. This included speaking and organizing roles in panels and conferences on the issue in Seoul, PyeongChang, New York and Washington DC and playing an active role in the Korea Peace Network in the USA.

In addition, PNND members in the USA and South Korea played an active role encouraging their governments to pursue diplomacy and to implement the Panmunjom and Singapore Declarations (which were adopted by the Summits of North and South Korea and USA and North Korea).

In the USA, for example, PNND members in the House of Representatives were active in successful amendments to the U.S. Defense Authorization Act to add a call for an official end to the Korean War and to support a diplomatic solution to the US/DPRK conflict.

In the Senate, PNND Co-President Ed Markey made a number of calls on the U.S. administration to pursue diplomacy with DPRK while continuing to oppose the DPRK’s nuclear weapons and missile programs.
5. Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

In July 2017, a group of non-nuclear countries meeting at the United Nations negotiated and adopted a Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). Since then, PNND members in non-nuclear countries have encouraged their governments to sign the treaty, and have been active in parliamentary ratification process.

In 2019, PNND members sponsored and/or supported TPNW ratification legislation in Bangladesh (adopted) and Ireland (not yet adopted). PNND members also promoted the TPNW at the IPU Assembly in Belgrade and at the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in Luxembourg resulting in supportive language being adopted in the Luxembourg Declaration.

Ambassador White Gomez (Costa Rica) presents to IPU Assembly on the TPNW. PNND Coordinator Alyn Ware chairs the session. PNND member Katja Kuel MdB promoting the TPNW at the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in Luxembourg.

6. Move the nuclear weapons money campaign

In 2016, PNND joined with International Peace Bureau, Basel Peace Office and the World Future Council at the IPU Assembly in Geneva to launch Move the Nuclear Weapons Money.

The campaign brought together work being done separately by these organizations over the past decade to reduce nuclear weapons budgets and end investments in the nuclear weapons industry. The campaign added an additional element of moving these budgets and investments to instead support climate protection, poverty alleviation, peace and sustainable development.

In 2019, PNND members around the world joined a social media campaign to promote the initiative by memes (see examples below).

a. Nuclear weapons budgets

PNND members were active in 2019 in national legislatures of nuclear armed countries to cut nuclear weapons budgets. In the USA, for example, PNND Member Eleanor Holmes Norton introduced the Nuclear Weapons Abolition and Economic and Energy Conversion Act, while PNND Co-President Senator Markey used the occasion of the Count the Nuclear Weapons Money action (see below) to re-introduce the Smarter Approach to Nuclear Expenditure (SANE) Act into the US Congress. See U.S. Senator Markey introduces Act to slash nuclear weapons spending.

In the UK, PNND Member Fabian Hamilton promoted an initiative he helped launch in 2018 on Defence Diversification, which outlined how jobs in the defence sector could be secured through transformation should a new government in 2020 decide not to proceed with building new nuclear armed submarines.

Samples of Move the Nuclear Weapons Money memes by PNND members

“The U.K. cannot afford the outdated thinking of renewing the Trident nuclear system. As well as making us more of a target and less safe we desperately need the billions of pounds Trident will cost to invest in our health service, education and other public services.”

- Baroness Sue Miller, Member of the UK House of Lords

"It does not make any sense to spend millions and millions of dollars on nuclear weapons. By adopting the Agenda 2030, the international community agreed to leave no one behind. Let’s spend these millions to achieve the 17 SDGs and make the world a better place for all, providing a good life for all.”

- Petra Boye MP
Chairwoman of the Development Policy Subcommittee, Executive Member of Parliamentarians for Global Action
Move the Nuclear Weapons Money (continued)

b. Divestment

Most of the US$100 billion annual nuclear weapons budget goes to private companies which are awarded contracts to manufacture, maintain and modernize nuclear weapons and their delivery vehicles. These companies actively lobby their parliaments and governments to continue allocating higher budgets to nuclear weapons so as to increase their profit. And they support think tanks and other public initiatives to promote the ‘need’ for nuclear weapons maintenance, modernization or expansion.

Nuclear weapons divestment aims to reduce the incentive to manufacture nuclear weapons by stigmatizing and reducing investments in the nuclear weapons industry.

PNND members have been active in the achievement of nuclear weapons divestment policies adopted by Norway, New Zealand, Lichtenstein and Switzerland. In 2019, PNND undertook a number of actions to implement and expand such policies. This included an international conference in Basel entitled Move the Nuclear Weapons Money: divestment from nuclear weapons and fossil fuel industries and re-investment in sustainable development. Basel, April 12-13 plus nuclear weapons divestment events in Dhaka, Dublin, New York and Vienna.

PNND also supported initiatives for nuclear weapons divestment by cities and universities.

c. Count the Nuclear Weapons Money

Count the nuclear weapons money was a major action of the Move the Nuclear Weapons Money campaign in 2019.

Over seven days and nights during UN Disarmament Week (October 24-30) a team of volunteers in New York City, led by PNND Co-President Bill Kidd and PNND Coordinator Alyn Ware, physically counted out $542 billion – the approximate global nuclear weapons budget for the next five years – and symbolically reallocated this to climate protection, poverty alleviation and the Sustainable Development Goals.

The money was counted in 542,000 mock notes each of value $1 million. The aim was to demonstrate the incomprehensible magnitude of nuclear weapons spending, and what this money could instead support.

The main counting was done in at ‘The Hub’, a gallery in the Chelsea neighbourhood, where the counted money was placed in 17 large baskets representing the 17 SDGs.

There were also countings of the money outside the UN in conjunction with School Strike 4 Climate, outside the office of nuclear weapons contractor Jacobs Engineering, in front of NY City Hall to support the campaign to move the city council to divest from nuclear weapons, at Strawberry Fields (tribute location for John Lennon) and in Union Square next to the Gandhi statue. And there were companion countings in London in front of the Ministry of Defence, New Mexico at nuclear weapons facilities and at other places around the world. (See Move the Nuclear Weapons Money blog for articles about these counting events).
7. Climate/Nuclear Nexus

The Climate/Nuclear Nexus is a joint program of PNND, Basel Peace Office and World Future Council to demonstrate the links between the climate crisis and nuclear threats, and to build cooperation between climate action and nuclear disarmament movements.

One of the activities in the program was the Global Week of Action on peace, climate, sustainable development and nuclear abolition which took place from Sep 21-27 bringing together the UN International Day for Peace; UN Climate Summit; Summit on SDGs and International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons.

The connection was also highlighted in a number of PNND events during 2019 which brought together experts and campaigners from the climate and nuclear disarmament movements in order to build cooperation. These included the PyeongChang Peace Forum, Basel conference on nuclear weapons and fossil fuel divestment and count the nuclear weapons money action.

PNND members also spoke about the connections at key climate change and parliamentary forums including the IPU Assembly session on climate and security in Belgrade.

8. UNFOLD ZERO – United Nations initiatives

UNFOLD ZERO is a platform established by PNND and partner NGOs to highlight United Nations initiatives on nuclear disarmament and UN processes for resolving international conflicts and achieving security without recourse to the threat or use of nuclear weapons.

a. UN Resolution 1 (1) on nuclear abolition

In January 2019, PNND and UNFOLD ZERO promoted the anniversary of the very first resolution of the UN General Assembly. The resolution aims to eliminate nuclear weapons and all other WMD.

French partners of PNND responded by releasing a joint statement on the anniversary of the UNGA resolution calling on the leaders of France and other nuclear armed States to 'put an end to this absurd and suicidal nuclear arms race by finally committing to the path of general, progressive and controlled nuclear disarmament.'
UNFOLD ZERO (continued)

b. Securing our Common Future: The UN Disarmament Agenda

In 2018, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres released ‘Securing our Common Future: An Agenda for Disarmament.’

The agenda explores political considerations for control of conventional weapons and elimination of WMD, and highlights connections between disarmament and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. PNND promoted the initiative in 2018 through a global appeal of women legislators.

In 2019, PNND launched a joint initiative with the Inter-Parliamentary Union, Parliamentarians for Global Action, the Parliamentary Forum on Small Arms and Light Weapons and the UN Office of Disarmament Affairs to produce a parliamentary handbook to implement the UN disarmament agenda entitled Securing our Common Future: A Guide to Parliamentary Action in support of Disarmament for Sustainable Development. The first consultation session on the draft of this handbook will take place in February 2019.

c. International Day Against Nuclear Tests – promoting NWFZs

PNND organized a roundtable diplomatic event in Geneva on September 2 in conjunction with the Permanent Mission of Kazakhstan to the UN to commemorate the International Day Against Nuclear Tests and to promote the role of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones in developing regional security without reliance on nuclear weapons, and with security guarantees proscribing the use of nuclear weapons against the zones. The event was attended by representatives of more than 40 governments, including a number of nuclear-armed States, and involved a full session of discussion by panelists and participants. A number of PNND members around the world also observed a moment’s silence at 11:05 their local time on August 29, in response to an initiative of the ATOM Project to observe the International Day.

d. International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons

In 2014, PNND members succeeded in moving the IPU Assembly to endorse a call on parliaments and parliamentarians to commemorate September 26, the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons.

In 2019, PNND joined UNFOLD ZERO, Abolition 2000, CIVICUS and others in integrating the day into the Global Week of Action on Climate, Peace, SDGs and Nuclear Disarmament (see Climate/Nuclear Nexus above). PNND and UNFOLD ZERO promoted a number of actions to commemorate the day, including to join the Move the Nuclear Weapons Money social media action, organize movie screenings of ‘The Man who Saved the World’ and call on their governments to support nuclear disarmament initiatives at the UN High Level Meeting on Nuclear Disarmament on Sep 26.
9. Humanitarian impact and the law

a. UN Human Rights Committee, nuclear weapons and the Right to Life

In October 2018, the UN Human Rights Committee adopted General Comment 36 on the Right to Life, in which it (amongst other things) affirmed that the threat or use of nuclear weapons is ‘incompatible with respect for the right to life (enshrined in Article VI of the UN Convention on Civil and Political Rights) and may amount to a crime under international law.’ In addition, the Committee highlighted an obligation of states to achieve nuclear disarmament and to compensate those whose health has been impacted by nuclear weapons testing or use.

PNND worked with representatives of the International Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms in 2019 to prepare a briefing paper on the UN Human Rights Committee General Comment and circulated this to PNND members for their information and use. We also organized an panel with legal experts in Geneva during the NPT Prep Com to discuss this development.

b. PNND and ATOM Project tour of the UK

In September, PNND and the ATOM Project organized a tour of the UK in September by Karipbek Kuyukov, second generation victim of Soviet nuclear tests, artist and Honorary ATOM Project Ambassador. The tour included events in the UK House of Commons, Scottish Parliament and Manchester City Council. It also included the launch of two new anti-nuclear paintings by Mr Kuyukov, who was born without arms but paints using his toes and mouth.

This was Mr Kuyukov’s first trip to the UK. He had been invited by PNND and Abolition 2000 to speak in the Scottish Parliament in 2013, but his visa at that time was denied on the grounds that he did not provide ‘sufficient bio-metric data’, i.e. fingerprints. See Armless artist Karipbek Kuyukov denied entry to UK, BBC News. He had no such problems getting the visa this time.

10. Other actions and events

a. Peace Bike Ride

PNND cosponsored and participated in the Peace Bike Ride which was launched from Westminster by PNND member Fabian Hamilton and travelled through a number of countries in 2019 promoting nuclear abolition, climate action, ocean protection, full inclusion of the disabled in society, and cutting military spending to fund the sustainable development goals.

The cyclists undertook peace rides in France, India, China, Australia, New Zealand and USA before returning to Norway on April 5, in time for the International Day of Sport for Peace and Development on April 6. The ride was led by Tore Naerland, a disabled (blind) cyclist, graduate of history and political science and long-time peace activist. Tore has been promoting peace by organizing biking and cultural tours in various countries since 1978.

b. Mayors and parliamentarians joint European meeting

PNND and the Basel Peace Office organized a joint meeting of mayors, parliamentarians and disarmament experts in Basel January 14, 2019. The meeting was part of an ongoing program of cooperation between PNND and Mayors for Peace. It’s aims were to: a) Discuss current initiatives for nuclear non-proliferation, risk-reduction and
disarmament being advanced by Mayors for Peace and PNND; b) Build cooperation between legislators at city, regional and federal levels to advance nuclear non-proliferation, risk-reduction and disarmament; and c) Discuss new developments and experience in nuclear weapons divestment and in re-focusing such investments in order to support peace and the sustainable development goals.

The meeting was held in conjunction with the Basel Peace Forum, an annual event organized by the City of Basel and Swisspeace. PNND and Basel Peace organized a side-event at the Basel Peace Forum focusing on the European arms trade.

c. World Beyond War and the Bertha von Suttner conference

PNND, PragueVision Institute for Sustainable Security and the World Future Council co-sponsored a regional conference in Prague (Czech Republic) on Oct 7-8 on the topic Bertha von Suttner: 130 years of ideas that don’t get old.

The conference focused on the relevance today of the ideas and advocacy of Bertha von Suttner, the Czech peace campaigner who was the first woman to receive the Nobel Peace Prize. Suttner received the award in recognition of her leading role in promoting alternatives to war, establishment of the Permanent Court of Arbitration and the holding of the 1899 and 1905 Hague Peace Conferences.

The first day of the Prague conference was hosted by Prague city and was held in the historic Old Town Hall. The second day was hosted by the Czech Foreign Ministry and was held in Czernin Palace, the seat of the Foreign Ministry. The conference included sessions on the European Union and Peace, the relevance of the Nobel Peace Prize, European peace movements, and youth engagement in peace.

Gunnar Stalsett (Bishop of Oslo and former member of the Nobel Peace Committee) and Christine Muttonen (PNND Co-President) on a panel on the Nobel Peace Prize and the Legacy of Bertha von Suttner, Prague conference October 2019.
Some more **Move the Nuclear Weapons Money Memes**

by PNND Members

"The massive amounts of money spent on grotesque nuclear weapons that should never be used can be put to good use across the world in so many ways. Let’s make it happen."

- Peter Garrett, lead singer for Midnight Oil, environmentalist, activist and former politician

"Globally, annual expenditure on nuclear weapons is estimated at US$100 billion – or 412 million an hour. As a Parliamentarian we have a key role to play in setting budgets, developing policy, and providing oversight on government investments. We should be advocating a commitment to the principles and actions of the UN and investments in peace and sustainability rather than in maintaining the threat of nuclear war."

- Louise Wall, MP for Manawatu, Deputy Chair of PNND New Zealand, former Silver Fern (NZ Rugby Team) and Black Fern (NZ Rugby Team World Cup winner 1998)

"Nuclear armament is the opposite of security. Security means investing in education, in the fight against poverty and climate change. Billions of dollars are spent to produce nuclear weapons. Let’s make the world safer without them. We only have this one world."

- Christine Muttonen, PNND Co-President, former President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE

"The production of nuclear weapons poses a burden and a threat for the young. No country has the right to ruin the world for future generations."

- Abul Kalam Azad, MD PNND Bangladesh Joint Convener, Former Bangladesh Minister of Information

"There is no reason why we should expect a future without the use of nuclear weapons unless we strive relentlessly to bring about their abolition. To those who might claim such an outcome is unrealistic or fanciful, I say that without the courage to imagine and pursue a world free of nuclear weapons, we are enabling the delusion of those who believe that violence and war achieves anything; and we are bidding our time until the next atomic disaster."

- Josh Wilson, MP Federal Member of Fremantle, Shadow Assistant Minister for the Environment

"6.8 million refugees all over the world because of war, while humanitarian organizations are begging for money to feed, shelter, educate those who have lost everything. We all cry for ending the arms race, especially the nuclear arms race and give that money to the needy."

- Urs Ziegler, Former Chair of the German Parliament Sub-committee on Disarmament and Arms Control

"States’ resources must be allocated to what really matters, not wasted in lethal arms races that can wipe our humankind.

Now more than ever is the time for governments to respect the NPT, dismantle nuclear arsenals and ensure global denuclearisation."

- Ana Maria Gomes, MEP, Subcommittee on Security and Defence, European Parliament