

Common Security and Nuclear Weapons: A Parliamentary
Appeal for Peace, Conflict Resolution, and the Rule of Law
Presentation by Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation
and Disarmament (PNND)
to the Third Session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2026
NPT Review Conference
Statement
30 April 2025
United Nations – New York

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

My name is Rabia Aburas. I am a member of the Libyan National Assembly and a member of the Libyan delegation to the Inter-Parliamentary Union. Today, I speak on behalf of Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (PNND).

We gather here from all corners of the world at a time marked by escalating armed conflicts, the erosion of multilateralism and the rule of law, and a renewed race toward nuclear armament. We also face increasing threats of nuclear weapons use, intensifying natural disasters due to climate change, and an existential crisis threatening humanity due to rising greenhouse gas emissions.

Parliamentarians across the globe are working within their national legislatures and through organizations such as the IPU and PNND to address these pressing challenges. We urge you, as representatives of governments, to follow their lead.

Together, we must strengthen diplomacy, dialogue, cooperative leadership, common security, and the rule of law to prevent nuclear war, resolve international conflicts peacefully, protect the climate for current and future generations, and advance tangible steps toward a world free of nuclear weapons.

I come from a country that once had a nuclear weapons program but voluntarily relinquished it to build better relations with its neighbors in North Africa, the Middle East, Europe, and the wider international community. Instead of being welcomed and supported for this initiative, Libya was punished, defamed, and subjected to illegal attacks. It was devastated without mercy or regard.

The same is true for Ukraine, which voluntarily gave up the hundreds of nuclear weapons it inherited following the dissolution of the Soviet Union in exchange for binding guarantees protecting its territorial integrity. Yet Ukraine was later invaded by Russia, and large parts of its territory were unlawfully annexed.

If we are serious about preventing nuclear war and achieving a world free of nuclear weapons, we must support countries that give up their nuclear arsenals—whether unilaterally or through the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones. We must also strengthen existing zones to ensure that guarantees offered are credible and binding. The roles of the UN General Assembly, the International Court of Justice, and the International Criminal Court must be reinforced to prevent acts of aggression and hold perpetrators accountable.

We also need to reprioritize global security toward the principles of common security—focused on conflict resolution and future protection through diplomacy, dialogue, cooperation, and the rule of law. Enhancing the use of common security mechanisms, such as the United Nations and the ICJ, to bolster national and regional security can enable states to gradually phase out reliance on nuclear deterrence and military defense and redirect resources toward climate protection and sustainable development.

In 2024, 70 parliamentarians from 34 legislatures endorsed the appeal “Move the Doomsday Clock Back”, which was submitted to the NPT PrepCom in Geneva. We wish to reiterate its nine recommendations here:

1. An immediate halt to the modernization and production of nuclear weapons;
2. A joint affirmation that any threat or use of nuclear weapons is unacceptable—as stated by G20 leaders in Bali—and generally unlawful, as affirmed by the ICJ;
3. A commitment by nuclear-armed states and their allies to begin phasing out the role of nuclear weapons in their security doctrines, starting with no-first-use policies;
4. A global commitment to achieve the complete elimination of nuclear weapons by 2045, the 75th anniversary of the NPT;
5. Launching a collective process for global nuclear disarmament—through negotiating a comprehensive nuclear weapons convention, adopting a nuclear disarmament framework agreement, or agreeing on protocols to the TPNW that allow accession by nuclear-armed states and their allies;
6. Affirming the vital role of the ICJ in the peaceful resolution of international disputes and the application of the

rule of law, and encouraging all states to accept the Court's compulsory jurisdiction (currently accepted by 74 states);

Supporting existing nuclear-weapon-free zones and 7. promoting the establishment of new ones, including a Middle East zone free of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction, and a Northeast Asia NWFZ;

Reducing nuclear weapons budgets and public 8. investments in the nuclear weapons industry, and redirecting these resources toward public health, peacebuilding, climate stabilization, and sustainable development;

Responding positively to the upcoming ICJ advisory 9. opinion on climate change, including initiating negotiations for a fossil fuel non-proliferation treaty modeled after the NPT, to end fossil fuel extraction and emissions and accelerate the transition to a global green economy.

We also express our support for the statement submitted to this conference by Youth Fusion. We owe it to the youth and future generations to eliminate the threat of nuclear weapons and build a world governed by peace and the rule of law—not by the law of force.
