



Basel Appeal on Disarmament and Sustainable Security

An Open Letter on the INF & START treaties, nuclear risk-reduction and disarmament measures to preserve peace and achieve sustainable security

Adopted in Basel, Switzerland on January 15, 2019.

To: **Donald Trump**, *President of the United States*
Vladimir Putin, *President of the Russian Federation*
Jens Stoltenberg, *Secretary-General of NATO*
Miroslav Lajčák, *Chair of the OSCE*
Federica Mogherini, *EU High Representative for Security and Foreign Affairs*
Eliot Engel, *Chair of the US House Foreign Affairs Committee*
Adam Smith, *Chair of the House Armed Services Committee*
James Inhofe, *Chair of the US Senate Armed Services Committee*
James Risch, *Chair of the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee*
Leonid Slutsky, *Chair of the Russian Duma Committee on Foreign Affairs*
Vladimir Shamanov, *Chair of the Russian Duma Committee on Defence*
Konstantin Kosachev, *Chair of the Russian Federation Council Committee on Foreign Affairs*
Viktor Bondarev, *Chair of the Russian Federation Council Committee on Defence and Security*

CC: **Xi Jinping**, *President of China*
Theresa May, *Prime Minister of the United Kingdom*
Emmanuel Macron, *President of France*

Dear President Trump, President Putin, Secretary-General Stoltenberg, Chair Lajčák, High Representative Mogherini, Mr Engel, Mr Smith, Senator Inhofe, Senator Risch, Mr Slutsky, Mr Shamanov, Mr Kosachev and Mr Bondarev,

Last year, the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists moved the hands of the Doomsday Clock to 2 Minutes to Midnight citing “the failure of world leaders to deal with looming threats of nuclear war and climate change”, and highlighting the increasingly high risks of a nuclear exchange by accident, miscalculation, conflict escalation or intent.

We applaud the Korean peace and denuclearization process which commenced since then, and we give our full support for continuing diplomacy to ensure success. And we welcome adoption by the United Nations of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

However, we are extremely concerned about the deteriorating security environment in Europe and internationally during 2018 arising from the erosion of the Intermediate Nuclear Forces Treaty; United States withdrawal from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (Iran nuclear non-proliferation agreement); unresolved conflicts between Russia and the West including over Crimea and Syria and between nuclear armed states in other regions including South Asia and the South China Sea; further development and modernization of nuclear weapons and related military systems; and provocative war games and nuclear threat postures.

1) INF Treaty

We are particularly concerned about the unravelling of the Intermediate Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, an historic agreement reached in 1987 between the United States and the Soviet Union to eliminate all of their nuclear and conventional ground-launched ballistic and cruise missiles with ranges of 500 to 5,500 kilometres, and to utilize extensive on-site inspections for verification of its implementation.

We call on the United States and Russia to refrain from developing and deploying weapons systems that could violate the Treaty, and to resolve compliance issues through dialogue and through enhanced work of the Special Verification Commission established by the Treaty.

We call on the Russian Duma and U.S. Congress to refuse to authorise, or allocate funding for, the development or deployment of weapons systems which might violate the Treaty, such as the Russian 9M729 missile, or which could provide similar capability as weapons prohibited under the INF Treaty, such as air or sea launched nuclear-armed cruise missiles.

And we call on European member States of NATO to re-affirm their opposition to any deployment of nuclear missiles in Europe.

2) New START Treaty

We are also concerned that the current conflicts may undermine the new START Treaty which provides common-sense limits and verification on the numbers of U.S. and Russian deployed strategic weapons and delivery vehicles, and which is set to expire in February 2021. We call on the US and Russia to extend the New START Treaty until 2026 and to undertake additional cuts to their nuclear stockpiles, either unilaterally or through negotiations.

3) Nuclear risk-reduction including No-First-Use

In order to reduce the risk of nuclear weapons use by accident, miscalculation or escalation, we call on Russia, the U.S. and NATO to re-affirm that a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be launched, and to implement such a declaration by adopting policies to never initiate the use of nuclear weapons ('no-first-use' policies). And we call on Russia and the U.S. to rescind their 'launch-on-warning' policies and to end their high operational readiness to use nuclear weapons.

4) Achieving a nuclear-weapon-free world

We highlight the universal obligation to achieve a nuclear-weapon-free world, and we welcome the commitment made by NATO and the United States to 'create the conditions' to realise this goal. We call on them to implement this commitment through:

- a) enhanced dialogue and engagement with other nuclear-armed States;
- b) developing an action plan for the comprehensive phase-out of nuclear deterrence and its replacement by common security;
- c) undertaking initial steps by reducing nuclear stockpiles, cancelling nuclear weapons modernisation programs, cutting nuclear weapons budgets and reallocating these funds to support sustainable development; and
- d) joining with other nuclear-armed and reliant States to negotiate a global nuclear weapons convention (to eliminate all nuclear weapons) as already supported by China, India, Pakistan, North Korea and most non-nuclear countries.

We reaffirm that disarmament helps create security, and we commit to acting resolutely for a nuclear-weapons-free and less militarised world. We call on cities, parliaments, governments and civil society around the world to join us in this endeavour.

Endorsers:

The Basel Appeal for Disarmament and Sustainable Security

is endorsed by the following legislators at local, state, national and regional levels (mayors and parliamentarians) and representatives of think tanks and civil society organisations working with legislators
(list in formation):

1. Mayors and city councillors/officials

Jon Askeland (Norway)

Mayor of Radøy

Jackie Biskupski (USA)

Mayor of Salt Lake City, Utah

Cllr David Blackburn (United Kingdom)

Chair of UK and Ireland Nuclear Free Local Authorities

Mathias De Clercq (Belgium)

Mayor of Ghent, Member Mayors for Peace

Kirk Caldwell (USA)

Mayor of Honolulu, Hawaii

T.M. Franklin Cownie (USA)

*Mayor of Des Moines, Iowa
Vice-President Mayors for Peace*

Bálint Csontos (Switzerland)

President Grüne Baselland, Municipal Council Ramlinsburg.

Cllr. Audrey Doig (Scotland)

*Member of the Renfrewshire City Council
Vice Convener of NFLA Scotland*

Thor Edquist (Norway)

Mayor of Halden

Stepanie Esswein (Germany)

Mayor of Mutlangen

Cllr John Feely (Ireland)

Vice Chair of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council

Cllr. Ernie Galsworthy (United Kingdom)

*Member, Merthyr Tydfil Local Council
Chair, Nuclear Free Local Authorities Welsh Forum*

Philippe HIVERT (France)

*Mayor of Grgny
Chef de projet chargé de la promotion de la Culture de Paix, de l'Histoire et des Relations Internationales*

Thorvald Hillestad (Norway)

Mayor of Re

Cllr. June Hitchen (United Kingdom)

*Lord Mayor of Manchester
Vice-President of Mayors for Peace*

Ivan Knez (Croatia)

*Mayor of Biograd na Moru
Vice-President of Mayors for Peace*

Alain Mathieu (France)

Mayor of Lancy

Josep Mayoral (Spain)

*Mayor of Granollers
Vice-President of Mayors for Peace*

Cllr. Eddy Newman (United Kingdom)

Manchester City Council representative

Lukas Ott (Switzerland)

*Head of Cantonal and City Development Unit, President's Department,
Canton Basel-Stadt, Switzerland*

William Peduto (USA)

Mayor of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Paul Quilès (France)

*Mayor of Cordes sur Ciel
Président d'IDN (Initiatives pour le Désarmement Nucléaire)
Former Defence Minister of France*

Daniel Rossellat (Switzerland)

Mayor of Nyon

Stefan Schostok (Germany)

*Lord Mayor and CEO of Hannover
Vice-President of Mayors for Peace*

Asle Schrøder (Norway)

Mayor of Steigen

Odd Haktor Slåke (Norway)

Mayor of Frogn

Antonio Trebeschi (Italy)

Sindaco di Collebeato (Mayor of Collebeato)

Thore Vestby (Norway)

Vice-President of Mayors for Peace

2. Parliamentarians (current and former)

Stephan Ackermann MP (Switzerland)

Member, Baselland Landrat Canton parliament

Senator Byrganym Aitimova (Kazakhstan)

*Chair, Committee on Socio-Cultural Development and Science
Council Member, Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and
Disarmament (PNND)
Former Kazakhstan Ambassador to the United Nations in New York*

Mani Shankar Aiyar (India)

*PNND Co-president
Chair, Rajiv Gandhi Action Group for a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World*

Aytuğ Atıcı MP (Turkey)

PNND Council Member

Lisa Badum MdB (Germany)

*Spokesperson for Climate Policy
Fraktion Bündnis 90/Die Grünen (German Green Party)*

Petra Bayr MP (Austria)

*Chairwoman of the Development Policy Subcommittee.
Executive Member of Parliamentarians for Global Action.*

Claudia Beamish MSP (Scotland)

Shadow Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change, Environment and Land

Iro Belluzzi MP (San Marino)

Member, San Marino delegation to the Inter-Parliamentary Union

Dr Isabelle Chevalley MP (Switzerland)

Member, Swiss Parliament Commission on Education and Culture

Saber Chowdhury MP (Bangladesh)

*Honorary President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union
PNND Co-President*

Tamati Coffey MP (New Zealand)

*Member, Committee on Economic Development, Science & Innovation
Former TV Host, New Zealand's Got Talent*

Seán Crowe TD (Ireland)

*Sinn Féin Spokesperson on Foreign Affairs & Trade with special
responsibility for International Affairs & Outreach*

Don Davies, MP (Canada)

*Vice-Chair, House of Commons Standing Committee on Health
Vice-Chair, Canada-China Legislative Association*

Diether Dehm MdB (Germany)

Chairperson, Subcommittee on Foreign Culture and Education Affairs

Paul Dewar (Canada)

*PNND Co-president
Former Foreign Affairs Critic for the New Democratic Party*

Linda Duncan MP (Canada)

NDP International Development Critic

Pascal Durand, MEP (France)

Member, European Parliament Committee on Constitutional Affairs

Jill Evans MEP (United Kingdom)

Former Vice-President of the Greens/European Free Alliance

Edine von Herold (Costa Rica)

*PNND Alumni Council Member
Former Member of the Costa Rica Parliament*

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*PNND Council Member
Former Deputy Chair of the German Parliament Subcommittee on
Disarmament, Arms Control and Non-Proliferation*

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Member, San Marino delegation to the Inter-Parliamentary Union

Raphael Fuhrer (Switzerland)

Member of parliament of the Canton of Basel-Stadt

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*Member of the European Parliament Committee on Foreign Affairs
and the Subcommittee on Security and Defense.*

Barbara Gysi MP (Switzerland)

Vice-President of the Social Democratic Party

Jens Holm MP (Sweden)

Member, Permanent Committee on European Union Affairs

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Spokesperson of Bündnis 90/Die Grünen on Civil Conflict Prevention

Sadet Karabulut MP (Netherlands)

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Spokesperson of Bündnis 90/Die Grünen on Disarmament Affairs

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*PNND Co-president
Convenor, All-Party Group on Nuclear Disarmament*

Hélène Laverdière MP (Canada)

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Member, San Marino delegation to the Inter-Parliamentary Union

Senator Sue Lines (Australia)

Deputy President of the Senate

Jan Logie MP (New Zealand)

*Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Justice (Sexual and Domestic
Violence Issues).*

Mogens Lykkesøft MP (Denmark)

*Former Foreign Minister
President of the 70th Session of the United Nations General Assembly*

Jacques-André Maire MP (Switzerland)

John Mason MSP (Scotland)

Member of the Scottish Parliament for Glasgow Shettleston

Lisa Mazzone MP (Switzerland)

Member, Swiss Parliament Commission on Legal Affairs and Security

Baroness Sue Miller (United Kingdom)

Member of the UK House of Lords
PNND Co-president

Fabian Molina MP (Switzerland)

Member of the Foreign Affairs Committee

Marica Montemaggi (San Marino)

Member, San Marino delegation to the Inter-Parliamentary Union

Christine Muttonen (Austria)

PNND Co-president
Former President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

Margareta Kiener Nellen MP (Switzerland)

Head, Swiss parliament delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly
Chair, OSCEPA Committee for democracy, human rights and humanitarian questions

Senator David Norris (Ireland)

Former Leader of the Seanad Independent Group

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PNND Co-President.
President, Norwegian Association for Women's Rights
Former Vice-President of the Norwegian Parliament
Former President of the Nordic Council

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Labour Party Spokesperson on Foreign Affairs
Founder, She Decides
Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation (2012-2017)

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Member, Foreign Affairs Committee

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Former member of the European Parliament.
Founder member of the Greens Party.
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Member, Committee on the Environment, Public Health & Food Safety
Former Chair of Greenpeace France

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NZ affiliate of the International Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms
Former New Zealand Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control

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PNND Founding Chairperson
Former Member of the Senate and House of Commons
Former Canada Disarmament Ambassador

Claudia Roth MP (Germany)

Vice-President of the Bundestag
Head of German delegation to the Inter-Parliamentary Union

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Board Chair, Green Alternatives and Peace Movement
Founder, Nilo-Saharan Institute

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Jan Tinetti MP (New Zealand)

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Mirko Tomassoni MP (San Marino)

Captain Regent (Head of State)
Head of Delegation to the Inter-Parliamentary Union

Erkki Tuomioja MP (Finland)

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Member, EP Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

Kathleen Van Brempt MEP (Belgium)

Member, EP Intergroup on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights
Former Minister for Mobility, Social Economy and Equal Opportunities in the Flemish Government

Louisa Wall MP (New Zealand)

Member Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee
Member, NZ Women's Rugby World Cup Champions 1998

Baroness Walmsley (United Kingdom)

Co-Deputy Leader of the Liberal Democrat Peers

Julie Ward MEP (United Kingdom)

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Member, Economic Development, Science and Innovation Committee
Assistant Speaker of Parliament

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Former Member of the Bundestag (German Parliament)
Former Chair, Bundestag Committee on Disarmament & Arms Control
Inaugural Co-President of PNND

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3. Representatives of think-tanks and civil society organisations

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*Human Rights Campaigner
Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2002*

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*Former Netherlands Ambassador
Former President, Religions for Peace*

Amplify (International)

Board members of Amplify

John Scales Avery (Denmark)

Chairman, Danish National Group of Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs

Wolfgang Bierman (Germany)

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*Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2006
Olof Palme Award 2018*

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Former Foreign Minister of Australia; President Emeritus of International Crisis Group; Co-chair of Australia-Japan International Commission on Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament

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Right Livelihood Award (1982)

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Senior Programme Advisor, Geneva Centre for Security Policy

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*Former director, European Proliferation Information Centre, London.
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*President, the Rideau Institute
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Kevin Miletic (United Kingdom)

Project Manager, Strategic Concept for the Removal of Arms and Proliferation

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Secretary, UK Nuclear Free Local Authorities

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Executive Secretary, Africa Mayors for Peace and Development

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IHM Sisters Justice, Peace and Sustainability Office

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Chairman, Norwegian Pugwash committee

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Lorin Peters (USA)

Pax Christi Northern California

Major Todd Pierce (USA)

*Dept of Defence Judge Advocate (retired)
[Note: Endorsed in a personal capacity and does not reflect the official policy or position of the Department of the Army, Department of Defense, or the U.S. government].*

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Achin Vanaik, Sukla Sen, N.D. Jayprakash, Lalita

Ramdas and Anil Chaudhary (India)
Coalition for Nuclear Disarmament and Peace

Václav Vítovec (Czech Republic)

*President of the Iron Curtain Foundation
Founder of the ATOM Museum (former Soviet nuclear weapons depot)*

Alexandra Wandel (Germany)

Executive Director, World Future Council -Voice of Future Generations

Alyn Ware (Czech Republic)

*PNND Global Coordinator
Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2009*

Elizabeth Waterston (United Kingdom)

Coordinator, Medact Nuclear Weapons Group

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Director, Beyond the Bomb

Jean Pascal Zanders (Belgium)

Director, The Trench

Paul Zeitz (USA)

Founder, Build A Movement

Angie Zelter (United Kingdom)

*Reforest the Earth, UK
Right Livelihood Award Laureate 2001*

