



Our Mission

The Boundary Peace Initiative represents a growing number of area residents of diverse backgrounds brought together over the 2002 Iraqi crisis. We support multilateral action for non-violent conflict resolution, human rights, ecological integrity for the planet and international law, through education and dialogue locally and globally. We encourage everyone's participation as we strive for peace and justice to build a better world for future generations.

BPI web site:

www.boundarypeace.20m.com

Boundary Peace Initiative meetings suspended until at least 3 commit to attend regularly. For info call 250 442 0434.

To Do

Hiroshima Day August 6th at 6 pm, Mir Center for Peace **Castlegar:** info @ 250-442-8252.

Nagasaki Day August 9th @ 6:30 pm; Grand Forks **City Park.** Info at 250-442-0434 or **L4peace@telus.net**

Donations to support the Woman's' Boat to Gaza extended until Aug. 9th. To donate call Laura at 250 4420434 or email L4peace@telus.net or come see us at CannaFest Aug. 5th & 6th or at Nagasaki Day.

Peace Café Aug. 18 @ 7 pm Victoria Street Selkirk College Campus, 606 Victoria St, Nelson; admission by donation

NATO: Increasing the role of nuclear weapon

By: Susi Snyder, PAX (ICAN newsletter-July 2016)

The Heads of State and Government that participated in the NATO summit in Warsaw Poland on 8-9 July 2016 issued a series of documents and statements, including a Summit Communiqué and the Warsaw Declaration on Transatlantic Security. Whereas the majority of countries worldwide are ready to end the danger posed by nuclear weapons and to start negotiations for a treaty banning nuclear weapons, both NATO documents reaffirmed the NATO commitment to nuclear weapons, and the Communiqué included a return to cold war style language on nuclear sharing.

Setting a bad example: NATO weakens commitment to nuclear disarmament

The summit documents weaken previously agreed language on seeking a world without nuclear weapons by tacking on additional conditions. Instead of simply saying that NATO is seeking to create the conditions for a world without nuclear weapons, now NATO is seeking to create the conditions "in full accordance with the NPT, including Article VI, in a step-by-step and verifiable way that promotes international stability, and is based on the principle of undiminished security for all." Not only that, but instead of creating conditions for further reductions, now the alliance only remains "committed to *contribute* to creating the conditions for further reductions in the future on the basis of reciprocity" (emphasis added).

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Peace Cafe: On the Ground in Honduras

Thursday, August 18, 2016 at 7 pm

The recent assassination of renowned Honduran environmentalist, indigenous and human right activist, Berta Caceres has shed light on the dire situation in Honduras today. The 2009 Canadian and American backed coup has greatly increased the level of repression and violence currently seen in Honduras that specifically targets Indigenous land defenders and social justice activists. Many people in Canada are unaware of Canada's corporate role in exploitation and human rights violations in Honduras, most notably in mining, sweatshops, tourism and agriculture.

Join Scott Martens and Margaret-Anne Murphy, two young graduates from Selkirk College's Peace & Justice Studies program, who spent time in Honduras this June with Canadian and American NGO, Rights Action, meeting Honduran activists on the ground. During this Peace Cafe, they will give a brief overview of the 2009 coup, its impacts, and current Canadian foreign policy in Honduras. They will also share stories and pictures from their recent delegation, as well as a discussion about how to stand in solidarity with Honduran grassroots communities.

Thursday, August 18, 2016 at 7 pm
Victoria Street Campus (KSA), 606
Victoria St, Nelson
Admission By Donation

The grim fact is that we prepare for war like precocious giants and for peace like retarded pygmies.

Lester B. Pearson Canadian Prime Minister

(From page 1) NATO

NATO member states need to address the inherent proliferation push that results from their own refusal to end their reliance on nuclear weapons. With three nuclear armed member states, five states hosting US nuclear weapons, at least 15 states actively involved in NATO exercises practicing nuclear attacks, and a consensus document reemphasizing the intention to keep the ability to threaten others with nuclear weapons as long as nuclear weapons exist – NATO continues to set a bad example.

Tightening the nuclear noose on the host states

The last several summits, since about 2010, had effectively removed language that explicitly linked the concept of ‘burden sharing’ with nuclear weapons, and had no direct reference to the forward deployed US nuclear weapons in Belgium, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Turkey. This document however adds new language and says:

NATO’s nuclear deterrence posture also relies, in part, on United States’ nuclear weapons forward-deployed in Europe and on capabilities and infrastructure provided by Allies concerned. These Allies will ensure that all components of NATO’s nuclear deterrent remain safe, secure, and effective. That requires sustained leadership focus and institutional excellence for the nuclear deterrence mission and planning guidance aligned with 21st century requirements.

This puts pressure on NATO members not only to make sure that they’re meeting the agreed target of spending 2% of GDP on defence, but also to make sure that they remain actively ready to participate in decisions to use nuclear weapons. By agreeing to this language, NATO heads of state and government have acknowledged that they are not acting in good faith towards a nuclear weapons free world, but instead will invest significantly in this weapon of mass destruction. It also means that despite efforts by several host countries, there is less scope for an alliance wide decision to remove the US nuclear weapons from Europe. This is not surprising though, the removal of forward deployed nuclear weapons has happened in the past, with host countries asking forgiveness for changing the posture, instead of permission to do so beforehand. The fact that this escalatory language was agreed at the highest level by NATO members shows that there is significantly less interest in taking any disarmament or non-proliferation responsibility at this time, reaffirmed by the Communiqué itself which says “We regret that the conditions for achieving disarmament are not favorable today”.

Leaving it up to Russia to make the next nuclear move

Through the repeated emphasis throughout the documents on reciprocity, NATO almost looks as if it is handing over decision making power over its nuclear weapons future to the Russian Federation, instead of leading the way towards de-escalation. For an alliance responsible for 60% of global defense spending, this relinquishing of control is plain peculiar. The document suggests that any future reductions are dependent on reciprocal action by the Russian Federation. Even the issue of transparency, a priority issue for a number of host countries (particularly the Netherlands & Germany,) is now contingent on reciprocal action by the Russian Federation.

And then there’s Turkey

The recent coup attempt in Turkey brings additional, and clearly unanticipated, concerns to the continued nuclear sharing practices in the alliance. Turkey has a slightly different situation than the other host countries. Turkey hosts the most American bombs (about 50) of the approximately 180 in Europe, but Turkish planes are not currently certified to drop the bombs in the same way the others are. Instead, use of nuclear weapons from Incirlik (Continued page 3)



The Freedom Flotilla Coalition (FFC) will sail until the Israeli blockade of Gaza is permanently and fully lifted

From: Freedom Flotilla Coalition & Canadian Boat to Gaza (*website: <http://canadaboatgaza.org>*)

In September, Cigdem Topcuoglu, whose husband was killed by Israel aboard the Mavi Marmara in 2010, will be sailing with women from all over the world on the Freedom Flotilla Coalition's latest mission, the Women's Boat to Gaza (WBG). Ms. Topcuoglu's action symbolizes FFC's position regarding the Israeli blockade of Gaza. It must be fully and unconditionally lifted.

The Gaza Strip is the largest open air prison in the world. More than 1.8M persons have been living under an inhuman an illegal Israeli blockade since 2007. The blockade is killing Gaza. Five UN special rapporteurs found that the blockade of Gaza is illegal collective punishment.

MK Haneen Zoabi, who participated in the 2010 on board the Mavi Marmara, said that the reconciliation agreement between the two countries is a clear "admission of murder" by Israel. Ms. Zoabi called for more flotillas in order to remove "the criminal siege on Gaza".

Laura Arau, an organizer with the FFC and herself a Mavi Marmara passenger said, "Keep in mind that the FFC is not affiliated with any government or political party," and made a call to civil society: "Nothing can justify the suffering of the families of the activists who were murdered on board the Mavi Marmara in 2010 nor the daily violations of the human rights in Palestine. We, people of the world, must take action when our governments remain silent and are complicit in war crimes."

Huseyin Oruc of IHH Humanitarian Relief Foundation and also an organizer with the FFC said "All the participants, all the families, all the members of Mavi Marmara are saying we are not looking for apologies, we are not looking for compensation. Our main purpose for going to Gaza was to end the blockade. If the agreement does not have this, it is unacceptable."

In mid September the Women's Boat to Gaza will sail with the same goal which is to break the illegal and inhumane blockade of Gaza. The Freedom Flotilla will continue until the port of Gaza is open, and Palestinians of Gaza have the ability to fish, to import and export freely, and to lead a normal life without daily fear and suffering. Norwegian participant Gerd von der Lippe asserts that "the Freedom Flotilla will continue to sail until the illegal and inhumane blockade of Gaza is permanently lifted."

(From page 1) NATO

(the Turkish base where they are stored) would be done by US pilots. Currently, US (and German) pilots are stationed there, as Incirlik is used to fly (non nuclear) bombing missions over Syria. The chances that the nuclear weapons on the base could be stolen or used is slim, but it is not zero.

Opportunities for disarmament in times of tensions: the humanitarian initiative

In the last three years, nearly all NATO members (the exception being France) have participated in at least one of the conferences on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons. These conferences have reaffirmed that nuclear weapons are unique, and that there is no way to adequately prepare for or mitigate the consequences of their use. While the majority of state have seen this as an impetus to stigmatize, prohibit and eliminate the weapons, the small group of NATO states have instead chosen to ramp up the rhetoric on nuclear weapons instead, saying:

If the fundamental security of any of its members were to be threatened however, NATO has the capabilities and resolve to impose costs on an adversary that would be unacceptable and far outweigh the benefits that an adversary could hope to achieve.

NATO continues to say that its deterrence is based on a mix of nuclear and conventional forces, but this language boldly returns to cold war style rhetoric, and increases the ongoing escalation that is leading to a new nuclear arms race. While the majority of the world recognizes that nuclear weapons should never be used again, under any circumstances the minority – those within NATO and Russia- are increasing the possibility of use. It is important to remember that all significant nuclear weapons treaties that are currently in force were negotiated during the Cold War. The increased perception of threat inspired creative action by those not engaged in the conflict, resulting in multilateral agreements with positive global ramifications. Multilateral negotiations on nuclear weapons have not progressed during decades of reduced great power tension leaving one to wonder if the rising threats now are the incentive needed to galvanize the international community to finally negotiate the prohibition of nuclear weapons.

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Without clear milestones, timelines, and consequences there is no incentive for progress on nuclear disarmament or penalty for failure to disarm. This shows how the step-by-step approach advocated by NATO members has effectively become a delaying tactic. A nuclear ban treaty would eliminate the distinction between recognized nuclear weapon states and nuclear armed states, and put the focus on the illegality of the weapons, regardless of who possesses them. This would facilitate the delegitimizing of the weapon, and provide the

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Book Recommendations



The Haunted Land: Facing Europe's Ghosts After Communism

By: [Tina Rosenberg](#) © March 19 1996

Publisher: Vintage; Reprint edition

The Pulitzer Prize-winning look at the collapse of Communism in Eastern Europe In three newly democratic countries in Eastern Europe (East Germany, the Czech Republic, and Poland), communism's former victims and jailers are struggling to make sense of their history - and sometimes rewrite it. In this groundbreaking, stylishly reported book, a journalist travels across the battlefields of memory and asks: Who is guilty? How shall they be punished? And who is qualified to judge them in states where almost every citizen was an accomplice? Seeking the hard answers to these questions, Tina Rosenberg tells of conscience and complicity, courage and optimism. Winner of the National Book Award for Non-fiction and Pulitzer Prize.

Ed Note: If you read a book or see a film you feel is of value and interest to others, please let me know at L4peace@telus.net .

At the foot of the pyramid lie small arms. At the top are nuclear weapons. The profits of the arms industry are built on the suffering of ordinary people.

Ban Ki-Moon 2013

A reminder to nuclear armed states: that states are at best fictional constructs, albeit with guns....not created in the image of God and that the greatest empire has less standing in the court of heaven than a single child.

Reverend Tyler Wigg-Stevenson of the World Evangelical Alliance on May 20, 2014 at the UN NPT Review speaking at the Nuclear Weapons and the Moral Compass Conference.

(From page 3) **NATO**

legal underpinning to complete all of the ‘steps’ necessary to achieve and maintain a nuclear weapons free world.

In the past we’ve seen that rising tensions can force countries to reconsider the role of nuclear weapons. Most of the major disarmament and nonproliferation treaties were negotiated in times of heightened tensions: The Partial Test Ban Treaty (1963), the NPT (1970), the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (1987) and bilateral treaties such as the SALT and first START agreement. It is in those moments that governments seem to most aware of the insane dangers posed by the continued possession and threat of use of nuclear weapons by some states. The idea of the NPT, the cornerstone of multilateral nuclear weapons disarmament was introduced by Ireland, a small non-aligned country that changed the world for the better. NATO has never been a leader when it comes to international law or international humanitarian law, but it always manages to adapt to whatever the rest of the world decides. Although these nuclear weapons addicted NATO states are not likely to join negotiations on a new treaty in a positive and cooperative manner, as the global context is changed through new multilateral negotiations to comprehensively prohibit nuclear weapons, all NATO heads of state (and the democratic countries they represent) will take notice and find ways to embrace the change, as they always do.

It's been one year since we celebrated the Iran Deal

From Global Zero July 14, 2016

Today marks one year since the Iran deal were announced. And one year later, the deal remains a huge success.

Here’s what you need to know:

The deal is working. Iran has complied with all commitments under the agreement – they have removed more than two-thirds of its centrifuges, shipped out 98% of its uranium stockpile, and removed the core of its plutonium reactor. Iran has also proceeded with verification and monitoring.

We avoided war with Iran. By successfully stopping progress on any potential nuclear weapons program in Iran, the international community has avoided another war in the Middle East. We saved lives. We saved money. And the world can breathe a sigh of relief.

Opponents are still trying to sabotage the deal. Over the last year, many politicians have tried to set back the progress achieved through the deal. Those who have tried have no alternate plan to keep Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons that doesn’t involve the use of military force.

(Continued next column)

The Boundary Peace Initiative (BPI) welcomes articles. All articles are the responsibility of the author and may not be common consensus. To submit an article, contact **Laura** at **250-442-0434** or **L4peace@telus.net**. The BPI is a member of: BC Southern Interior Peace Coalition, Abolition 2000, Lawyers Against the War, affiliate of the Fellowship of Reconciliation; we work with local and global peace, social justice and environmental groups.

(From last column) **Iran Deal**

The Iran deal gives us a path forward. The Iran deal proved that diplomacy works when trying to stop the spread of nuclear weapons – and it can also work in the fight to eliminate them.

This monumental victory would not have been possible without the dedicated and hard-nosed advocacy from Global Zero members around the world.

You called your elected officials, wrote letters to editors, delivered petitions, took photos, and showed up on the steps of the U.S. Congress. Thanks to you, the world is a safer place.

If you’d like Global Zero to continue this work, then please consider **making a \$3 contribution** so we can keep fighting until the very last nuclear weapon is eliminated.

Thanks for all that you did in making this victory possible.

Fight on,
Lillyanne Daigle
Network Campaigner
Global Zero

Global Zero is the international movement for the elimination of all nuclear weapons. [Support the movement with a contribution here](#). Receiving emails is one of the best ways to stay up to date on our campaigns and actions. You can also like Global Zero on Facebook [here](#) and follow us on Twitter [here](#). To stop receiving fundraising emails but stay on the Global Zero list, click [here](#). If you really need to cut back, you can unsubscribe [here](#). We're sad to see you go!

Sent by GLOBAL ZERO | 1436 U Street NW, Suite 401 | Washington, DC 20009 USA

Nuclear deterrence is not a solution to international peace and stability. It is an obstacle.

Ban Ki-Moon 2013

Voice your opinion to the Prime Minister and all MPs. Free postage: {Name of MP}, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6
Go to the Government of Canada website for emails of all MPs, Ministers at <http://www.canada.gc.ca>