



# ABOLITION 2000

GLOBAL NETWORK TO ELIMINATE NUCLEAR WEAPONS  
NO NUKES, NO WAR

## Opening remarks on behalf of the Abolition 2000 Coordinating Committee

10<sup>th</sup> April 2019

Tony Robinson, Abolition 2000 Committee Member

Good morning or good evening, depending on where you are. My name is Tony Robinson. I am a co-director of Pressenza, International Press Agency and a member of the organization World without Wars and Violence, and I am currently in London, where the time is 4pm. I am also a Coordinating Committee member of the Abolition 2000 Global Network to Eliminate Nuclear Weapons, which was founded nearly 25 years ago, during the 1995 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review and Extension Conference, to call for the immediate commencement of negotiations on a verifiable treaty to eliminate nuclear weapons within a time-bound framework.

This is the third in our series of webinars planned for this year. I'm very pleased to report that more than 150 people have registered from all over the world.

A growing resurgence all around the world of ultra-right-wing nationalism, xenophobia and intolerance, at the expense of humanist values of solidarity, nonviolent conflict resolution and cooperation, the principles on which the UN was founded 74 years ago, are creating a psycho-social atmosphere in which individuals are increasingly terrified for their future and the future of their loved ones. And all of this is an attempt to distract us from the biggest threats to our survival: namely climate change and nuclear weapons.

However, whereas we see a growing upsurge in climate-change activism, nuclear weapons and energy are still not issues strongly in the public consciousness.

At Abolition 2000, we have not given up the fight to eliminate nuclear weapons and nuclear energy. And one of the ways we are working to promote our goals is by networking with everyone working on efforts that contribute to the implementation of our [11 point founding statement](#), and other organisations and networks who share our aspirations. This webinar is one of the ways we can deepen this networking.

Before starting, I would just like to inform everyone that Abolition 2000 keeps going only through the voluntary work of those involved in our coordinating committee and our working groups and through the voluntary donations of our supporters. If you consider the work we do to be useful, we would be very grateful if you could go to our website [www.abolition2000.org](http://www.abolition2000.org), click on the donation box and give what you can.