Call to take action in the
Global week for peace, climate protection, SDGs
and nuclear abolition: Sep 21-27

Global week of action
The week of Sep 21-27 includes the following key events:

- **Sep 21**: UN International Day for Peace;
- **Sep 23**: UN Climate Summit;
- **Sep 24-25**: Summit on SDGs;
- **Sep 26**: International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons.

Together these dates comprise a **Global week of action on peace, climate, SDGs and nuclear abolition**.

Governments, parliaments and civil society are encouraged to take action on any of these days, and to highlight the connections between these key global issues in their action.

Connections between peace, climate protection, SDGs and disarmament

UN Charter (Article 26) recognises the connection between disarmament and sustainable development. Article 26 requires the UN to facilitate disarmament ‘in order to promote the establishment and maintenance of international peace and security with the least diversion for armaments of the world’s human and economic resources.’

More recently the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/) recognizes that there can be no sustainable development without peace, and no peace without sustainable development. In addition, [Securing our Common Future: An Agenda for Disarmament](https://www.un.org/disarmament/disarmament.shtml), the disarmament agenda released in 2018 by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, outlines the links between disarmament and many of the SDGs.

Sep 21: International Day for Peace

The UN General Assembly has declared September 21 to be the **International Day for Peace** (Peace Day) devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, both within and among all nations and peoples. For 2019 the theme for the day is “Climate Action for Peace”. **Governments, parliaments and civil society around the world are encouraged to commemorate the day with actions and events.**

- **100 Day countdown**
  On June 13, the UN Secretary-General launches the **100 day countdown to the International Day for Peace**. The idea is to give public, media and political attention every day until September 21 on the theme ‘Climate Action for Peace’.

- **Peace One Day and Billion Acts for Peace**
  **Peace One Day** is a global platform to share, find out about or join actions for Peace Day. **Billion Acts for Peace** is a similar platform for peace actions and events on any day of the year. In addition, **Peace One Day** will hold a major **Peace Day event** with civil society leaders and celebrities that will be live-streamed globally.

- **Youth observance**
  On Sept 20, there will be a Youth Observance for Peace Day at the UN in New York, which will provide a platform for young people to showcase the projects that they have undertaken to fight climate change and promote peace. The student observance will be held following a Peace Bell Ceremony, which begins at 9 a.m. with the Secretary-General. The event will be webcast live at [webtv.un.org](https://webtv.un.org).
Sep 23: UN Climate Summit

Global emissions are reaching record levels and show no sign of peaking. The last four years were the four hottest on record, and winter temperatures in the Arctic have risen by 3°C since 1990. Sea levels are rising, coral reefs are dying, and we are starting to see the life-threatening impact of climate change on health, through air pollution, heatwaves and risks to food security.

UN Secretary-General António Guterres has called on world leaders to come to New York for the UN Climate Summit on 23 September with concrete, realistic plans to enhance their nationally determined contributions by 2020, in line with reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 45 per cent over the next decade, and to net zero emissions by 2050.

Call on your government to commit in New York to deeper reductions in carbon emissions, a faster transition from fossil fuels to renewable energies, and reductions in military budgets in order to fund climate protection.

Sep 24-25: Summit on Sustainable Development

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were agreed by all UN member governments as the comprehensive global agenda to improve people’s lives and ensure prosperity, health and a sustainable society for current and future generations. The SDGs focus on ending poverty, drastically reducing inequalities and tackling climate change and other environmental risks.

The President of the UN General Assembly will host a Summit on the SDGs on September 24-25, which will review progress on the 17 SDGs, with the aim to fully implement them by 2030.

Call on your government to highlight at the SDG Summit the importance of peace and demilitarisation in achieving the SDGs, and support the proposal of Kazakhstan that all countries redirect 1% of their military budget to the SDGs.

Sep 26: International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons

In 2013, the UN General Assembly (UNGA) declared September 26 to be the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons. The aims of the day are to enhance public awareness about the threat posed to humanity by nuclear weapons and the necessity for their total elimination.

The UNGA resolution establishing the day also calls for progress on a nuclear weapons convention – a global treaty involving the nuclear armed states in the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons under strict and effective international control.

September 26 is also the anniversary of the incident in 1983 when a nuclear war was almost launched due to malfunctions in the Soviet nuclear weapons early warning system, which erroneously detected a US ballistic missile attack against Moscow. The incident is graphically portrayed in the award winning docudrama ‘The Man who Saved the World.’

UNFOLD ZERO provides a global platform for listing and promoting civil society actions for the day.

Organise a screening of ‘The Man who saved the World’ or other action for Nuclear Abolition Day. Encourage your Prime Minister/President to call at the Sep 26 UN High-Level Meeting on Nuclear Disarmament for nuclear-armed states to commit to never launch a nuclear war, and to begin negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention.

For more information contact Abolition 2000 Working Group on Peace, Climate, SDGs and Nuclear Abolition. www.abolition2000.org. Co-Chairs: Anselmo LEE, Alyn Ware and Monica Willard. Contact info@baselpeaceoffice.org