Abolition 2000
Summary of activities 2019
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Abolition 2000 is an international global network established in 1995 to achieve the global prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons. Over 2000 organizations have supported the Abolition 2000 founding statement and set of goals.
1. Introduction

On January 24, 2019, the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists set the Doomsday Clock to 2 Minutes to Midnight, reflecting the ominous threat to humanity from the two most serious threats to humanity – nuclear weapons and climate change.

Since 1995, Abolition 2000 has been providing an open forum for organisations and individuals around the world to share initiatives, discuss strategies and build momentum and cooperation on campaigns for the abolition of nuclear weapons. In addition, Abolition 2000 has working groups on key issue areas to facilitate campaign coordination between member organisations on these issues.

This work continues to be vital in a world where leaders of nuclear-armed States show no signs of giving up the nuclear weapons option, and a nuclear arms race is being further fueled by the vested financial interests of the nuclear weapons industry. Below is an outline of the key network events in 2019, plus key campaign activities organized by the Abolition 2000 working groups and affiliated networks.

2. Activities in 2019

- **KEY NETWORK EVENTS**

  o **Annual General Meeting – New York**

  Abolition 2000 held its annual meeting in New York on May 5 at Goddard Community Centre in Manhattan, New York. The meeting included an update from the secretariat, reports from the working groups and affiliated networks and a special presentation by Michael Spies (UN Office of Disarmament Affairs) on Securing our Common Future, the disarmament agenda released by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres in May 2018.

  The meeting also appointed the new Co-ordinating committee and Global Council, and adopted two proposals:

  a) **That Abolition 2000 establishes a new working group to promote the links between climate, peace, disarmament and sustainable development, and promote a Global Week of action from September 21-27.** The week would include UN International Day for Peace (Sep 21), UN Climate Summit (Sep 23), UN Summit on Sustainable Development (Sep 24-25) and the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons (Sep 26);

  b) **That Abolition 2000 co-sponsors a World Conference recognizing the 75th Anniversary of the American A-bomb attacks on Japan.** The conference is planned to take place in New York in April 2020 just before the 2020 Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference.

  Two additional proposals were discussed, and found considerable support, but were not adopted. These included a proposal for an Abolition 2000 statement supporting the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and a proposal for Abolition 2000 to endorse an initiative to hold international peace conferences every two years in conjunction with the summer and winter Olympic Games in order to promote the Olympic Truce ideal for the cessation of war.
Webinar series

In 2019, Abolition 2000 launched a series of international webinars on key topics and campaigns. The webinars provided a way to inform and engage members from around the world without the costs, travel-time and carbon footprint of physical meetings. The webinars have been extremely successful with expert speakers, a sizeable number and range of participants, and a good mix of background information, analysis and action information/ideas. Webinar topics included:

- **January 17: Preserving the INF Treaty**
  This webinar was held following the announcement by the US Administration that they intended to withdraw from the INF Treaty. Expert speakers outlined ways to oppose and prevent a new arms race should the INF Treaty collapse. Speakers included: Andrew Lichterman (USA), Western States Legal Foundation; Regina Hagen (Germany), Abolition 2000 Germany Section; Dave Webb (UK), Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament and Pavel Podvig (Russia), United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research.

- **April 10: Global nuclear disarmament events and campaigns**
  This webinar provided an overview of the key nuclear disarmament processes and events of 2019, and the main campaigns and actions by parliamentarians, mayors and civil society. It provided an introduction to Abolition 2000 working groups, campaigns and affiliated networks. And it provided opportunities for activists to support/join campaigns, events and or working groups. This webinar was held in two sessions – one at a time suitable for participants from Europe, Africa and the Americas, and the other at a time suitable for participants from Asia and the Pacific.

- **July 30: Move the Nuclear Weapons Money. Divesting from Destruction. Investing in peace and sustainability.**
  The webinar provided updates and information about actions to cut nuclear weapons budgets, divest from the fossil fuel and nuclear weapons industries, and re-allocate these budgets and investments to support peace, the climate and sustainable development. Speakers included: Laurie Smolenski (Institute for Economics and Peace, USA), Maevyn Davis-Rackerby (PNND, USA), Rob van Riet (World Future Council, Chile/Netherlands), Thies Kätow (World future Council, Germany) and Alyn Ware (Basel Peace Office, New Zealand/Switzerland).

  "Speakers for the Move the Nuclear Weapons Money webinar: Rob van Riet, Maevyn Davis-Rackerby, Thies Kätow, Laurie Smolenski and Alyn Ware."

- **October 2: The breakdown of the Iran deal. Global Perspectives.**
  A discussion of the Joint Cooperative Plan of Action (Iran nuclear non-proliferation deal) and tensions between Iran and the USA following the USA withdrawal from the deal. Speakers included: Tarja Cronberg, Distinguished Associate Fellow with the SIPRI European Security Programme; Emad Kiyaei, Policy Advisor to American Iranian Council and founder member of the Middle East Treaty Organization (METO) Project; Jamal Abdi, President, National Iranian American Council; and Sharon Dolev, Executive Director, METO Project, and Abolition 2000 Coordination Committee.
CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES

- Economic Dimensions of Nuclearism – Move the Nuclear Weapons Money

Abolition 2000 has a working group on Economic Dimensions of Nuclearism through which we promote initiatives of member organisations such as Move the Nuclear Weapons Money, Divest from the War Machine and the Global Campaign on Military Spending.

Abolition 2000 member organisations were active in successful initiatives to move a number of cities in Germany and the USA to adopt nuclear weapons divestment policies. The Global Campaign on Military Spending organized global days of action in April. There were 77 actions in 24 countries.

Move the Nuclear Weapons Money organized a major international conference in Basel on divestment from fossil fuels and nuclear weapons, which provided updates on a range of divestment actions and policies in Europe and around the world. Move the Nuclear Weapons Money also organized the very successful Count the Nuclear Weapons Money action over the seven days of UN Disarmament Week in October. In New York, over 500 million mock notes of $1 million each were symbolically taken from nuclear weapons, counted, and reallocated to the 17 SDGs. Smaller money countings also took place in London, New Mexico, New Zealand and Philadelphia.

There were also a number of actions in federal legislatures in 2019 relating to cutting nuclear weapons budgets, led by members of Parliamentarians for Nuclear non-proliferation and Disarmament (PNND) an Abolition 2000 affiliate. In the USA, PNND Co-President Senator Markey and Rep Blumenauer used the occasion of the Count the Nuclear Weapons Money action to reintroduce the SANE (Smarter Approach to Nuclear Expenditure) Act which calls for a slashing of the US nuclear Weapons budget and re-investment in health, education and renewable energy. PNND member Eleanor Holmes Norton introduced a complementary bill in the House of Representatives – the Nuclear Weapons Abolition and Economic and Energy Conversion Act of 2019.

Nuclear weapons money counted in New York at the ‘Hub’ (a gallery) in Chelsea, in front of the UN with School Strike for Climate, in front of Jacobs Engineering a nuclear weapons contractor, in Washington Square Park, in front of City Hall, at Strawberry Fields (tribute to John Lennon), in London in front of Defence Department and in Las Alamos in front of the nuclear weapons laboratory.
Korea peace and denuclearization process

The Korean peninsula provides both a flashpoint for a possible nuclear war, and an opportunity to finally end the Korean War (which currently is stopped only by a flimsy armistice) and create a lasting peace.

Abolition 2000 members were very active in 2019 on promoting a diplomatic, effective and sustainable peace and denuclearization process in North East Asia, with a primary focus on the Korean peninsula.

Key events in 2019 in which Abolition 2000 members took leadership roles included the PyeongChang Global Peace Forum (advancing the Olympic Peace Initiative), Seoul Peace Conference (advancing the role of cities in the Korean peace process), Atlantic Council-East Asia Foundation Strategic Dialogue (focusing on the US/South Korea and US/North Korea aspects of the peace process), the Global Peace Forum on Korea (bringing North Korean and South Korean representatives together with USA religious and civil society leaders) and the Korean Diplomatic Academy conference Toward Nuclear-Free Korea and Northeast Asia: Issues and Agenda for Action. These events involved leading legislators, mayors, diplomats (including the South Korean Prime Minister and Foreign Minister in some of the events) and civil society representatives from South Korea, USA and North Korea.

In addition, the Korea Peace Network, coordinated by Peace Action, a founding member of Abolition 2000, provided a forum for United States peace organisations and campaigners to build campaigns and strategies to lobby the US Congress and Administration on key proposals and demands to support the peace process and counter the strong anti-peace lobby. The network succeeded in getting key issues introduced by legislators as letters/appeals to the Administration, draft bills or as amendments to the US National Defence Authorization Act.
Nuclear risk reduction

Abolition 2000 has a Nuclear Risk-Reduction Working Group which promotes measures to reduce the risks of nuclear weapons being used and to lower the role of nuclear weapons in security doctrines. These include de-alerting, eliminating launch on warning, lowering threat postures and adopting policies of no-first-use and/or sole purpose.

In 2019, working group members were active in presentations and events at the UN during the NPT Prep Com and the UN General Assembly, and also in promoting nuclear risk-reduction measures at the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCEPA) in cooperation with PNND. As a result the Luxembourg Declaration adopted by the OSCEPA (57 legislatures including those of France, Russia, UK and USA) Included the text the commitment of OSCE member parliaments ‘to advance nuclear threat reduction and disarmament as priorities in nuclear posture reviews and national policies.’

Working group members also drafted a number of sign-on letters on nuclear-risk reduction including one to the leaders of India and Pakistan, one to the leaders and key congress members of Russia and the USA, and one to the leaders of North Korea, South Korea and the USA.

In the USA, the Back from the Brink campaign launched by Abolition 2000 member organisations Nuclear Age Peace Foundation and Physicians for Social Responsibility, in cooperation with the Union of Concerned Scientists, is moving city and state legislatures to adopt resolutions promoting nuclear risk reduction measures including no-first-use and de-alerting.

Nuclear weapons and the Law – Right to Life

Abolition 2000 has a working group on Nuclear weapons and the law which helps grass-roots organisations to use the law in the campaign and advocacy work. In 2019, the working group promoted, in particular, General comment No. 36 (2018) on article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), on the right to life, adopted on October 24, 2018, which affirms that the threat or use of nuclear weapons is incompatible with the Right to Life and may amount to a crime under international law, and that States Parties to the Covenant have an obligation to end the production of WMD, destroy existing stockpiles and provide adequate reparation to victims of their testing or use.

Working group members published blogs and articles about this new development, and prepared a briefing paper that was circulated to campaigners entitled Nuclear weapons violate the Right to Life: Using UN Human Rights Committee General Comment 36 in grassroots actions and campaigns.
○ Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (Ban Treaty)

A number of Abolition 2000 members participated in the campaign, led by ICAN, to increase the number of countries signing and ratifying the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) which was negotiated and adopted by non-nuclear countries in 2017. The treaty was signed by an additional 8 countries in 2019 bringing the total of signatories to 80. It was ratified by an additional 15 countries in 2019 bringing the total to 34. The treaty will enter into force 3 months after 50 countries have ratified. In nuclear armed-states, which have all opposed the treaty, campaigners are building support at city level through the adoption of resolutions which highlight the treaty and call on their governments to undertake concrete nuclear-risk-reduction and disarmament measures.

○ Humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons

Abolition 2000 member organisations are involved in education about the humanitarian and environmental impacts of the production, testing and use of nuclear. This includes a range of activities including sharing stories, showing documentaries, organizing educational events and commemorating key days including Mar 1 (Nuclear Victims Remembrance Day), August 6 (Hiroshima Day), August 9 (Nagasaki Day) and August 29 (International Day Against Nuclear Tests).

One of the recent documentaries which the Abolition 2000 Youth Network and other Abolition 2000 members have been screening is Where the Wind Blew, which highlights the impacts of the US nuclear tests in Nevada and the Soviet tests in Kazakhstan, and how civil society movements of these communities came together to close down the Soviet test site and bring an end to US and Russian nuclear testing.

One of the related initiatives organized by PNND and the ATOM Project (an Abolition 2000 member organization) was a tour and series of exhibitions in the UK by Karipbek Kuyukov and his art. Karipbek, who is a second generation victim of the Soviet nuclear tests, spoke in the UK Parliament, Scottish parliament and Manchester Town Hall, among other places.
○ Nuclear weapons out of Europe

Abolition 2000 has a working group Nuclear weapons out of Europe which focuses on ending the deployment of US nuclear weapons in Europe and promoting a European Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone. In 2019 members of the working group organized a number of national and regional events, including a conference in Brussels in September on Nuclear Security in Europe after the collapse of the INF Treaty.

○ Peace, climate, disarmament & the SDGs – making the links

At its Annual Meeting in May, Abolition 2000 established a working group on Peace, climate, sustainable development and disarmament. The objectives of the working group are to highlight the connections between peace, climate protection, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and disarmament (especially nuclear disarmament) and promote a Global week for Peace, climate protection, sustainable development and nuclear abolition. The week brings together Sep 21: UN International Day for Peace; Sep 23: UN Climate Summit; Sep 24-25: Summit on SDGs and Sep 26: International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons.

The working group drafted a promotional flyer for the Global Week of action and outreached to a number of UN agencies and civil society networks engaged in climate, peace, sustainable development and disarmament in order to build cooperation.

○ Engaging mayors and parliamentarians

Abolition 2000 has working groups on engaging with mayors and parliamentarians/legislators. The working groups operate primarily through affiliation with Mayors for Peace and Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament. Mayors for Peace and PNND activities are summarized in the next two pages.
Mayors for Peace

Through the cooperative efforts of a wide range of civil society actors, organizations and networks, other mayoral associations and sympathetic governments, Mayors for Peace membership has grown by more than 14-fold, from 554 cities in 107 countries and regions in October 2003, to 7,833 cities in 163 countries and regions in October 2019.

In January 2019 Mayors for Peace announced the winners of its first children’s art competition. In total, 469 works were submitted by children from 29 member cities in 14 countries. The grand prize winner was 9-year old Anastasia Skobeltsyna from Krasnodar, Russia. Her colorful artwork was printed on plastic folders used by Mayors for Peace to promote its work.

In April – May a Mayors for Peace delegation led by the mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki participated in the third Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) meeting for the 2020 NPT Review Conference (RevCon) in New York. Mayors Matsui and Taue made statements during the NGO session, voicing their grave concerns about stagnant nuclear disarmament efforts. With the NPT’s 2020 RevCon coming up, they appealed to representatives of national governments and the UN to take to heart the calls of the hibakusha and civil society, urging good faith negotiations in accordance with Article VI of the NPT and stressing the importance of supporting the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW).

Mayors for Peace also hosted an A-bomb poster exhibition in the UN and a Youth Forum with young presenters from Hiroshima, Nagasaki and three NGOs. The young people from Hiroshima presented the UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs with a certificate representing 120,000 signatures collected during the past year on a petition encouraging all states to join the TPNW.

At the close of the PrepCom, Mayors for Peace released a Joint Appeal for Common Ground on the NPT, expressing strong support for the success of the NPT RevCon in 2020—the treaty’s fiftieth anniversary—and urging its parties to put aside their differences and focus their deliberations on expanding their common ground on the fundamental objects and purposes of the Treaty.

While in New York, Mayors Matsui and Taue and U.S. Vice-President Mayor Frank Cownie of Des Moines, Iowa, received a Tribeca Disruptive Innovation Award on behalf of Mayors for Peace. These awards recognize individuals and organizations who have challenged social norms. Mayors for Peace received the Hersey Prize in recognition of its contributions in the field of nuclear disarmament and world peace. When President Matsui accepted the trophy, a hammer with a red head, he pretended to bring it down declaring: “Let’s smash the doctrine of nuclear deterrence!”

Mayors for Peace works closely with national and international municipal associations. At the conclusion of its annual meeting in July, the United States Conference of Mayors, the non-partisan association of cities with populations over 30,000, unanimously adopted a resolution sponsored by Mayors for Peace members, “Calling on All Presidential Candidates to Make Known Their Positions on Nuclear Weapons and to Pledge U.S. Global Leadership in Preventing Nuclear War, Returning to Diplomacy, and Negotiating the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons.”

The contribution of Mayors for Peace in building inclusive and effective institutions and violence-free environments at the local level was recognized in a report issued by United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), “Towards the localization of the SDGs,” during the July UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

The 11th Mayors for Peace Executive Conference held in Hannover, Germany in November, decided to make it a priority to continue expanding membership in order to support the agreed goals of Mayors for Peace, including the entry-into-force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, with the goal of reaching 10,000 member cities by the end of 2020. The Conference also approved a proposal by the City of Granollers and other European Executive Cities to formally launch a transnational European Chapter of Mayors for Peace in January of 2020.
Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament - PNND

PNND is a global cross-party network of 700 parliamentarians from 90 countries plus a team of dedicated coordinators (disarmament experts and campaigners) working on legislative actions to reduce the risks of nuclear weapons being used, prevent nuclear proliferation and achieve a nuclear-weapons-free world.

PNND’s key activities and achievements in 2019 included:

- **Luxembourg Declaration**: PNND members succeeded in moving the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (56 parliaments including of France, Russia, UK and USA and all other European and former Soviet countries) to call for nuclear-risk reduction and disarmament to be national priorities and to support the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons;

- **Legislators’ Appeal on the INF Treaty**: PNND organised a legislator’s appeal, endorsed by mayors and parliamentarians from 40 countries, calling on preservation of the INF Treaty, promotion of détente and prevention of a new nuclear arms race;

- **Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Assembly, Belgrade**: PNND chaired a session of the IPU (178 member parliaments) on nuclear disarmament and the Parliamentary Action Plan for a Nuclear Weapon Free world.

- **Securing our Survival: The UN Secretary-General’s Disarmament Agenda**: PNND established a joint project with the UN Office of Disarmament Affairs, IPU and other inter-parliamentary organisations to develop a handbook for parliamentarians on implementing the UN disarmament agenda.

- **Move the Nuclear Weapons Money**: PNND members around the world took action to cut nuclear weapons budgets, end investments in nuclear weapons and reinvest in peace, climate and sustainable development. This included organising an international conference on nuclear weapons and fossil fuel divestment, re-introduction of the SANE Act in the USA and circulation of parliamentarians memes on social media.

Examples of memes by parliamentarians supporting the Move the Nuclear Weapons Money campaign
Nuclear Weapon Free Zones – UN Conference on the Middle East

Abolition 2000 has a working group to promote the full implementation of existing nuclear-weapon-free zones (NWFZs) and to promote the establishment of additional NWFZs including in the Middle East, North-East Asia, Europe and the Arctic. Abolition 2000 member organisations have drafted model NWFZ treaties for NE Asia and the Middle East, and have been active in promotional events for zones in all four regions.

In November 2019, the United Nations hosted the first session of the Conference on the Establishment of a Middle East Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction, a considerable step forward in advancing the proposal for such a zone. Additional sessions of the conference are planned annually until a legally binding treaty establishing such a zone is concluded.

Abolition 2000 members participated in the conference as observers and followed up with blogs. Abolition 2000 will co-sponsor an international webinar on this issue in March 2020.

Youth Network: Youth Voices on climate, peace and nuclear abolition

The Abolition 2000 Youth Network is one of the most active of the Abolition 2000 working groups. It includes around 150 members from 38 countries – including from all the nuclear armed States except DPRK.

In 2019, the network organized a number of national, regional and international youth events including at the PyeongChang Peace Forum and NPT Review Conference. The network also played an active role in the Move the Nuclear Weapons Money campaign, gathering endorsing quotes from around the world and turning them into memes for social media promotion.

In November 2019, the network launched the video project Youth voices on climate, peace and nuclear abolition. The first compilation video of youth statements was released at the Basel Peace Forum, where practitioners in peacemaking, human rights, diplomacy and disarmament were invited to respond to the youth voices with their own statements on video. All of this was posted on social media as a way of building inter-generational dialogue on these issues.

Antika Veseli from Kosovo participating in the Youth voices on climate, peace and nuclear abolition video project
• **NUCLEAR ABOLITION COMMEMORATION DATES**
  (See [http://www.abolition2000.org/events/](http://www.abolition2000.org/events/) for a calendar of commemoration dates and key events.)

  - **January 24: Anniversary of first UN Resolution**
    In early January, UNFOLD ZERO, a campaign affiliated with Abolition 2000, publicized the 73rd Anniversary of the UN General Assembly’s first resolution – Res 1(1) – along with ideas for the peace movement on actions to take to commemorate the day.

    A number of Abolition 2000 member organisations took action, including the French Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (AMFPGN), French Association of Local Governments for Peace (AFCDRP), Research and Information Group on Peace and Security (GRIP), Initiatives for Nuclear Disarmament (IDN), Mouvement de la Paix, Pax Christi France and Pugwash France. These groups organized a joint statement calling on the leaders of France and other nuclear armed States to ‘put an end to this absurd and suicidal nuclear arms race by finally committing to the path of general, progressive and controlled nuclear disarmament.’

    The Bulletin of Atomic Scientists used the anniversary day to announce the setting of the hands of their Doomsday Clock at 2 Minutes to Midnight – indicating the high risk to humanity from the dual risks of nuclear weapons and climate change.

  - **March 1: Nuclear Victims Remembrance Day**
    March 1 is the anniversary of the Bravo nuclear test in the Marshall Islands, one of the most destructive of nuclear tests conducted by the United States. The test irradiated numerous islands in the country, as well as crew of a Japanese fishing boat in the region. The day is also known as Bikini Day after the atoll in which the bomb was detonated. It is a national holiday and day of mourning in the Marshall Islands. Many Abolition 2000 members in the Marshall Islands, wider Pacific region, Japan and the USA marked the day with commemoration events.

  - **May 25: International Women’s Day for Disarmament**
    On International Women’s for Peace and Disarmament May 25, 2018, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres released *Securing our Common Future: A Disarmament Agenda*. On the same day, PNND released a joint appeal of women legislators from around the world supporting the UNSG’s initiative and promoting *Common security for a sustainable and nuclear-weapon-free world*. On May 25, 2019, UNSG Guterres released a video message highlighting the importance of nuclear disarmament. Abolition 2000 members circulated and promoted the video globally.

  - **August 6 and 9: Hiroshima and Nagasaki anniversaries**
    On August 6 and 9, Abolition 2000 members around the world commemorated the anniversaries of the nuclear bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Abolition 2000 produced a Nuclear Remembrance and Action Week Guide with information and action ideas. Abolition 2000 also posted photos and reports of actions on social media.

  - **August 29: International Day Against Nuclear Tests**
    Abolition 2000 organisations were also active in commemorating the International Day Against Nuclear Tests, which occurs on August 29th, the anniversary of the closure in 1991 of the Soviet nuclear test site in Kazakhstan. We promoted the ATOM Project initiative of a minutes silence at 11:05 in local time in commemoration of the day.
Abolition 2000 members also organized commemorative events in a number of places including in Astana (Kazakhstan), London, Edinburgh, the United Nations in New York and the United Nations in Geneva. The Geneva event featured a round-table discussion with diplomats from nearly 50 countries (including nuclear-armed States) on a) the value of nuclear-weapon-free zones for building regional security without nuclear deterrence, and b) prospects for additional zones in the Middle East, NE Asia, and Europe.

- **September 26: UN International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons**

  In 2013, the United Nations General Assembly established September 26 as the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, and decided to hold an annual High Level Meeting on Nuclear Disarmament to commemorate the day and to evaluate progress towards the achievement of a nuclear weapons convention. The day is also the anniversary of the 1983 incident where a nuclear war was almost triggered accidentally by Soviet early warning satellites incorrectly indicating a ballistic missile attack heading toward Moscow. Abolition 2000 in cooperation with UNFOLD ZERO, promoted the day along with suggested actions for members.

- **October 24-30: UN Disarmament Week**

  Abolition 2000 members participated in the First Committee of the 2019 UN General Assembly which deliberates on disarmament resolutions in early October and then votes on them during UN Disarmament Week. Most of the resolutions adopted were repeats from previous years. However one significant new resolution adopted was on *Youth, disarmament and non-proliferation*. The Abolition 2000 Youth Network has organized events and a key global action in follow-up to this resolution (see Youth Network above).

  The most significant civil society action for UN Disarmament Week in 2019 was Count the Nuclear Weapons Money Action (see Move the Nuclear Weapons Money above).

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**About Abolition 2000**

Abolition 2000 is a global network of organisations and individuals working for the elimination of nuclear weapons. The network was established in 1995 at the Non-Proliferation Treaty Review and Extension Conference with a primary goal of moving governments to negotiate a nuclear weapons convention that would prohibit nuclear weapons and provide a timebound framework for their verified elimination.

The network also promotes incremental measures to reduce nuclear risks, end nuclear tests, establish nuclear-weapon-free zones, stop the modernization of nuclear weapons, affirm the illegality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons under existing international law, promote renewable energy in order to phase out nuclear energy, and ensure NGO participation in nuclear disarmament forums and processes.

Over 2000 organisations have joined Abolition 2000 since its founding in 1995, although some of these organisations are no longer operating.

Abolition 2000 provides a forum, open to everyone, to share initiatives, discuss strategies and build momentum and cooperation on campaigns. We do this through events, email discussion groups, working groups on specific
issues, joint appeals/declarations, our website and social media. Abolition 2000 is managed by a Coordinating Committee with representatives from around the world which meets by conference call approximately monthly.

Abolition 2000 also includes affiliated networks and campaigns such as the Global Network Against Nuclear Weapons and Power in Space, Mayors for Peace, Parliamentarians for Nuclear Nonproliferation and Disarmament, Peace and Planet and World Beyond War. Many Abolition 2000 members also work with ICAN - an international campaign to abolish nuclear weapons, and Global Zero - an international movement for the elimination of nuclear weapons.

The Abolition 2000 International Secretariat is hosted in Berlin by the International Peace Bureau. Abolition 2000’s Fiscal Sponsor is Western States Legal Foundation in the United States. Abolition 2000 is managed by an international Coordinating Committee under the guidance of the Annual General Meeting and supported by a Global Council.

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Working groups and conveners

See www.abolition2000.org/en/working-groups for more information on the mandates and key activities of the working groups

**Economic Dimensions of Nuclearism Working Group**
Working to highlight the negative economic impact of nuclearism, cut nuclear weapons budgets, end investments in nuclear weapons corporations and shift budgets and investments to support peace and sustainable development. **Convener**: Vanda Proskova and Alyn Ware

**Interfaith**
The Interfaith working group brings different religious and spiritual communities together to highlight the immorality of nuclear weapons and the responsibility of faith-based communities to work for peace, cooperative security and a nuclear-weapon-free world. **Convener**: Caroline Gilbert and Alyn Ware

**International Law**
The group works to raise the profile of International Humanitarian Law (IHL), laws of peace and security, environmental law, human rights law, rights of future generations and other sources of law applicable to nuclear weapons. **Convener**: Daniel Rietiker and Alyn Ware

**Mayors for Peace**
Enrolling mayors around the world in Mayors for Peace and encouraging them to participate in campaign actions for a nuclear-weapons-free world. **Convener**: Jackie Cabasso

**Moving Beyond Missile Defense and Space Weapons**
Reporting on developments in missile technology and deployment, and the implications for security and nuclear disarmament. This includes evaluating, and promoting draft agreements on missile control. **Convener**: Dave Webb
Nuclear risk reduction
The world is at high risk with more than 1500 nuclear bombs in high alert status, ready to be launched by the US and Russia in less than 20 minutes. This working group (formerly called the De-Alerting Working Group) promotes measures to reduce the risks of nuclear weapons being used and to lower the role of nuclear weapons in security doctrines. These include de-alerting, eliminating launch on warning, lowering threat postures and adopting policies of no-first-use and/or sole purpose.
Convener: John Hallam

Nuclear Weapon Free Zones
The Nuclear Weapon Free Zones (NWFZ) Working Group supports existing regional NWFZs and promotes the establishment of additional NWFZs including in the Arctic, Europe, Middle East and North East Asia.
Convener: Marc Finaud, Rob van Riet and Alyn Ware

Nukes Out of Europe
Nukes Out of Europe is a working group of Abolition 2000 comprised of NGOs working in NATO countries advocating the removal of the US nuclear weapons from Europe.
Convener: Reiner Braun

Parliamentary Outreach
The Parliamentary Outreach working group works with Abolition 2000 members to enrol their legislators/parliamentarians in Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament and to join PNND initiatives and actions.
Convener: Marzhan Nurzhan and Alyn Ware

Peace, disarmament and SDGs: Global week of action Sep 21 – 27
This working group highlights the connections between peace, climate protection, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and disarmament (especially nuclear disarmament). The working group calls for a Global week for Peace, climate protection, sustainable development and nuclear abolition bringing together Sep 21: UN International Day for Peace; Sep 23: UN Climate Summit; Sep 24-25: Summit on SDGs and Sep 26: International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons.
Convener: Anselmo Lee, Monica Willard and Alyn Ware

United Nations disarmament agenda and a Nuclear Weapons Convention
This working group promotes the UN disarmament agenda and in particular the abolition of nuclear weapons under a nuclear weapons convention – a multilateral treaty which includes the nuclear-weapons possessors and provides a comprehensive and legally binding prohibition against nuclear weapons and a phased, verified and enforceable program for their elimination. The working group combines a previous working group focused on the nuclear weapons convention with the key program work of UNFOLD ZERO, an affiliated initiative.
Convener: Jackie Cabasso, Aaron Tovish and Alyn Ware

Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space
Education, direct action and campaigns to prevent space weaponization and the use of nuclear power in space, and to keep space for peaceful purposes. The Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space serves as the Abolition 2000 working group on this issue.

Youth Network
Working to engage and educate youth about nuclear disarmament.
Convener: Marzhan Nurzhan.

Jim Anderson and Oleg Bodrov at the AGM