

Abolition 2000 AGM 2021

## UNFOLD ZERO/#WeThe Peoples2020/PyeongChang Peace Forum report

In association with the A2000 working group on [Peace, disarmament and SDGs: Global week of action Sep 21 – 27](#)

May 2020 – June 2021

### **Introduction**

[UNFOLD ZERO](#), a network affiliated with Abolition 2000, was established in 2014 to advance United Nations initiatives and processes to achieve a nuclear-weapon-free world. At its AGM in 2019, Abolition 2000 established the working group on [Peace, nuclear disarmament and SDGs: Global week of action Sep 21 – 27](#) to build cooperation between the nuclear disarmament movement and the related peace and climate movements, as well as to engage these communities in the UN High Level Week from Sep 21-27, and to cooperate with the PyeongChang Peace Forum which established the global week of cooperation Sep 21-27. For 2020, a joint platform #WeThePeoples2020 was established to implement these objectives.

### **2020**

#### **The UN and the pandemic**

A strong UNFOLD ZERO focus for 2020-2021 has been the UN and the pandemic. This has included building support for the World Health Organization (WHO) and the broader UN structure for global management of the pandemic, promoting the UN Secretary-General's ceasefire initiative, promoting cuts in nuclear weapons and other military budgets to support public health and economic recovery from the pandemic, and advancing the importance of common/human security and the UN rather than military security to meet 21<sup>st</sup> century security issues. See UNFOLD ZERO News.

#### **UN75**

UNFOLD ZERO contributed to the civil society and government processes for commemorating the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the UN, including the [UN75 government declaration](#) and the [UN75 peoples declaration and plan of action](#). UNFOLD ZERO had responsibility in the civil society process to facilitate the incorporation of language on peace, security and disarmament.

#### **#wethepeoples2020**

**#wethepeoples2020** was launched in September 2020 with a platform of actions and events for civil society engagement in the period of UN High Level meetings from the International Day of Peace (Sep 21) until International Day for Non-violence (Oct 2). The platform is coordinated by Youth Fusion, Basel Peace Office, Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament, UNFOLD ZERO and the World Future Council. The coalition is supported by other organizations and networks as partners.

The initiative included a calendar of events for the 2-week period, a [nuclear abolition appeal sent to all governments](#), a special global screening of The Man who Saved the World followed by discussion with

the movie director, organizing a global event for September 26, and co-sponsoring other events including one on October 2. On September 26, **#wethepeoples2020** organized a global civil society event to commemorate the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons. The event was held in two parts over 10 hours: Part 1 was timed for people in Asia and the Pacific. Part 2 was timed for people in the Americas, Europe and Africa.

Ms. Izumi Nakamitsu, UN Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, gave the [opening comments](#) by video message. Click [here](#) for the full program.

The official **#wethepeoples2020** website is [here](#).

### **Target 2045: A new rallying call for nuclear weapons elimination**

UNFOLD ZERO joined Basel Peace Office, In-Depth News and Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament in coordinating a webinar exploring the political value of setting 2045 as the target date by which the global elimination of nuclear weapons should be achieved, if not before.

Click [here](#) for more information. See also [2045: A New Rallying Call for Nuclear Abolition](#), an article published in In-Depth News, Oct 22, 2020.

### **PyeongChang Peace Forum**

The [PyeongChang Peace Forum](#) is an annual event to follow-up the Olympic peace initiative in 2018, and to build political, business, social, sporting and other support for the Korean peninsula peace and nuclear disarmament process. It is organized by a mix of government, sports and civil society agencies. UNFOLD ZERO works in cooperation with the Forum on the international program, to engage legislators and civil society representatives from around the world. Susie Cho, a member of the unified North/South Korea women's ice hockey team in the 2018 Olympics and one of the PyeongChang Forum speakers, was interviewed for the Abolition 2000 AGM video series. The Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) is a leader and partner in the [Peace, nuclear disarmament and SDGs: Global week of action Sep 21 – 27](#), along with Pax Christi Korea.

## **2021**

### **The UN and Nuclear Disarmament: Commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of UN Res. 1(1)**

An online webinar organized jointly by UNFOLD ZERO, Basel Peace Office, Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, The Right Livelihood Foundation, World Future Council, Abolition 2000 Youth Network and Youth Fusion.

The event featured the presentations of five speakers (including high-level UN disarmament experts along with civil society leaders active in the peace, disarmament and sustainable development fields) and was concluded with a rich Q&A session with an active audience participation.

Event report is available [here](#).

## **ONGOING ACTIVITIES**

### **Protect People and the Planet: Appeal for a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World**

Is a global Appeal to end the nuclear threat, abolish nuclear weapons and shift the weapons budgets and investments to support public health, COVID-19 recovery, the climate and sustainable

development. Launched by the **#wethepeoples2020** coalition in October 2020, the appeal has been endorsed by over 1000 people.

To read the statement, quotes from endorsers and to sign, follow [this link](#).