INTRODUCTION – ABOUT PNND

Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament (PNND) is a global, cross-party network of legislators working to reduce nuclear risks, prevent nuclear proliferation and achieve a nuclear weapon free world. It is open for membership by any legislator at state, national or regional levels. PNND works in cooperation with Mayors for Peace which engages legislators at city level.

PNND participates in the Inter-Parliamentary Union (178 member parliaments) as a permanent observer, and in the OSCE Parliamentary assembly through PNND members who are on their parliamentary delegations and have leadership roles in the Assembly.

PNND is led by its Co-Presidents and Council, which is made up of leading legislators from around the world, supported by PNND staff and interns working from various offices in Europe, North America and Asia. PNND Co-Presidents include Senator Ed Markey (USA) Chair of the Senate Sub-Committee on East Asia, Saber Chowdhury (Bangladesh) Honorary President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, Christine Muttonen (Austria), Former President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, Baroness Sue Miller (UK), Vice-Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Global Security and Non-Proliferation, Bill Kidd MSP (Scotland), Chair of the Cross-Party Group on Nuclear Disarmament, Se-kyun Chung (South Korea), Prime Minister of South Korea, and Mani Shankar Aiyar (India), Member of Global Zero and Chair of the Rajiv Gandhi Plan for a Nuclear Weapon Free and Nonviolent World Order.

Abolition 2000 members work in cooperation with PNND by inviting their legislators to join PNND and by participating in PNND events and joint actions.

PNND ACTIVITIES FOR 2020

Assuring our Common Future: Parliamentary Handbook

PNND led the development, publication and launch of Assuring our Common Future, a parliamentary handbook on disarmament for security and sustainable development. The handbook, available online in English and French, provides background information and examples of parliamentary action and effective policy addressing the full range of disarmament issues.

Chapters include Disarmament to save humanity (weapons of mass destruction and weaponization of space), Disarmament that saves lives (inhumane weapons and conventional weapons), Disarmament for future generations (autonomous weapons and disarmament in cyberspace), Disarmament for the climate and sustainable development, Pandemics and disarmament and Strengthening partnerships.

PNND organized a global launch event, plus a follow-up global event focusing on Peace and Disarmament in Cyberspace, and also national events to launch the handbook in the UK and Swedish parliaments. There will also be a regional event for the Australian, New Zealand and the Pacific Island parliaments to take place later in June.
Gender, Peace and Security

PNND launched a new Gender, Peace and Security program in 2020, building on work we have done in this area since we were established in 2003, with the first five PNND Co-Presidents all being women. The program highlights the important roles of women in the peace, disarmament and security fields, and the importance of including gender approaches to these issues in order to build more effective and sustainable security for all.

Program activities have included an international conference on the legacy of Bertha von Suttner (the first woman to receive the Nobel Peace Prize), a women’s peace and disarmament appeal for human security released on International Women’s Day for Peace and Disarmament (May 24); a special section on women’s participation in disarmament in the Parliamentary Handbook on Disarmament for Security and Sustainable Development, and a webinar on Inter-generational dialogue on gender, peace and nuclear disarmament on Women’s Day (March 8).

Nuclear disarmament and the pandemic

PNND has highlighted the contribution nuclear disarmament can make to addressing the pandemic, including shifting of nuclear weapons budgets (see below) and enhancing global management of the pandemic. This includes a special section in the Parliamentary Handbook on Disarmament in a post COVID-19 pandemic world and a section on effective policies on Pandemics and disarmament, public health and economic sustainability. One example of legislative action is the Invest in Cures Before Missiles (ICBM) Act introduced in the US Senate by PNND Co-President Senator Markar.

Nuclear weapons budgets and divestment

PNND is a co-founder and partner in the global Move the Nuclear Weapons Money campaign, which focuses on cutting nuclear weapons budgets, ending investments in the nuclear weapons industry and reallocating these budgets and investments to instead support climate stabilization, public health, economic recovery from the pandemic and sustainable development.

PNND members advance these issues in their respective legislatures. This has included adoption of a number of nuclear weapons divestment policies at federal and state level. PNND members in the UK have also led on economic conversion initiatives in order to protect jobs while undertaking nuclear disarmament. For details see the Parliamentary Handbook section on Disarmament for the climate and sustainable development.

Nuclear risk reduction including No-First-Use

PNND members have been promoting nuclear risk reduction measures including diplomacy (to address conflicts between nuclear armed countries and nuclear related conflicts), de-alerting, confidence building measures and no-first-use.

Actions include resolutions/legislation adopted in legislatures and by regional bodies such as the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, a section on nuclear risk reduction in the Parliamentary Handbook, appeals in conjunction with former military leaders (e.g. the UK appeal to end continuous at-sea deterrence) and events including webinars on 100 Seconds to Midnight. What does this mean? What can we do? and on Nuclear risk-reduction and disarmament: Is it time for no-first-use policies in the USA and globally?

For more information please visit www.pnnd.org and www.facebook.com/pnndglobal