

The Japan Council against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs

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Report on our activities:

New signature campaigns to urge the Japanese Government to join the TPNW:

Now that the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons entered into force, we are now working on the signature campaigns to urge the Japanese government to sign and ratify the TPNW. As the movements in the nuclear weapons states and their allies are crucial in achieving the abolition of nuclear weapons, we try to mobilize people's opinion through the signature campaign to change the course of Japan -- to achieve a government befitting the A-bombed country to seek independent diplomatic policies based on the UN Charter and the peace constitution by breaking away from the nuclear deterrence policy – a government which will truly contribute to creating a nuclear weapon-free world. This is especially important in the face of the dangerous situation caused by the current US-China confrontation in the world.

This signature campaign was launched in October 2020 with the endorsement of many prominent personalities, including former foreign/defense ministers, musicians and academics. Based on the strong support among the population (over 70%) to Japan's accession to the TPNW, the campaign is carried out by grass-roots groups across Japan trying to build the support from below. So far, 32% of municipal assemblies have adopted resolutions to urge the government to join the TPNW. In the forthcoming General Elections in autumn, we are aiming to get all constitutional opposition parties to join forces to create a government that will join the TPNW.

Hibakusha Appeal International Signature Campaign:

The Hibakusha Appeal International Signature Campaign for the elimination of nuclear weapons concluded successfully in January 2021, after submitting to the U.N. a total of 13,702,345 signatures collected in Japan and worldwide. The campaign helped mobilize global public opinion which resulted in the adoption and entry into force of the TPNW, and won the 2020 IPB Sean MacBride Peace Award.

Our Proposal:

We believe that changing the Japanese government into joining the TPNW will be our biggest contribution to creating a nuclear weapon-free world. While making efforts in Japan to that end, we call on the peace and nuclear abolition movements across the world to urge your respective governments to support, sign and ratify the TPNW. As part of the efforts, we invite you to join the 2021 World Conference against A and H Bombs and the “Peace Wave 2021” from August 2 to 9, 2021.

2021 World Conference against A and H Bombs

The 2021 World Conference against A and H Bombs will be held online from August 2 to 9 with the theme: “With the Hibakusha, Let Us Achieve a Nuclear Weapon-Free, Peaceful and Just World – for the Future of the Humankind and Our Planet”. The main program includes the International Meeting (August 2), Hiroshima Day Rally (August 6) and Nagasaki Day Rally (August 9), and a number of forums on a variety of themes during the period. The Organizing Committee will invite speakers and delegates of peace movements, nuclear victims, the United Nations and non-nuclear governments to join these events from across the world online (using Zoom) to engage in and listen to the discussions on the current nuclear situation, people’s struggles/initiatives and joint actions to be taken, especially in the light of the postponed NPT Review Conference and the first conference of the States Parties to the TPNW in the near term. Please stay connected for further information on the programs and registration for the 2021 World Conference to be updated on our website.

“Peace Wave 2021”

During the same period of the 2021 World Conference and the Hiroshima and Nagasaki anniversary week, we propose to hold the “Peace Wave 2021”. Grass-roots peace groups and organizations/individuals across the world are invited to join the Peace Wave by carrying out activities for the elimination of nuclear weapons, with the special focus of urging respective governments to support, sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

The Peace Wave 2021 will be launched on August 2 in the International Meeting of the World Conference and the wave of anti-nuclear peace actions will circle around the globe westward with the rotation of the planet during the week and conclude on August 9 in the Nagasaki Day Rally.

As one form of common activities, we propose a simultaneous action of showing the photos of the A-bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki at the moments of the atomic bombing on August 6 and August 9, at public places outdoors or on the streets, or through online methods using SNS, all around the world. Gensuikyo is ready to send you these photos for your use as gifts from the Japanese peace movement.

Please send us information on your actions during the period planned in your communities, which we will share and publicize globally through the “Peace Wave News” online and SNS. We welcome the photos, fliers, movies and other forms of reports on your actions when completed.