



PEACE DEPOT

(Peace Resources Cooperative)

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Peace Depot's Report to the Abolition 2000 Annual Meeting of 2024

1. Introduction

Peace Depot is a Japanese think tank for disarmament and peace, established and operated by the hands of citizens. It was founded on November 23, 1997, and began its operations on January 1, 1998. Our activities are to provide useful information and analysis for the civil peace movement relying on primary sources and surveys. Among such activities, Peace Depot has been particularly focusing on nuclear disarmament issues in Northeast Asia, calling for a Northeast Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (NEA-NWFZ) for the past quarter-century.

2. Activities for the establishment of an NEA-NWFZ

The NEA-NWFZ is a proposed treaty between Japan, South Korea, and North Korea to create an NWFZ, while surrounding nuclear-weapon states, namely, the United States, China, and Russia, provide negative security assurances to Japan, South Korea, and North Korea. Since the mid-1990s, Peace Depot has continued to work for the establishment of an NEA-NWFZ and has been involved in the following activities in 2023.

- Participation in the second meeting of P3+3 (May 12, 2023)



P3+3 is an international group of parliamentarians that promotes a Northeast Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (NEA-NWFZ) Treaty. The group was launched in August 2022. The second meeting of the P3+3 was held at a conference room in the premises of the South Korean parliament. The group was formed with the aim of encouraging the Japanese and South Korean governments to promote the idea of a Northeast Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone. Peace Depot's Special Advisor Hiro Umebayashi and Vice President Takao Takahara participated in this meeting.

- Citizen's Watch for a Fair Implementation of Korean Peninsula Denuclearization Agreements (Watch Project)

This project is to publish "Watch Reports" to promote a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula (including the establishment of an NEA-NWFZ) by monitoring whether or not the denuclearization agreements between the United States and North Korea (Singapore Agreement) as well as South and North Korea (Panmunjom Declaration etc.) are fairly implemented. Watch Project started in 2018 and has continued to the present though the first stage of the project ended at the end of 2021.



- Chronicle of the Situation on the Korean Peninsula
This project took over part of the Watch Project in 2022. It is to publish a chronicle on the political and military situation on the Korean Peninsula in order to keep track of what is happening there. It is a preparatory work for how denuclearization can be pursued in Northeast Asia.



3. Support of the activities of the Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament (PNND)

- Visit to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with Alyn Ware, the Global Coordinator for the PNND and others (May 17, 2023)
- Visit to the PNND Japan Secretary General Keisuke Suzuki and Vice-Chairman Shoichi Kondo with Alyn Ware and others (May 17, 2023)

4. Exchange of views with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as a member of the Japan NGO Network for Nuclear Weapons Abolition

- Visit to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to exchange views on the nuclear weapons policies ahead of the NPT review conference preparatory committee to be held from July 31 (July 18, 2023)
- Visit to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to urge the Japanese government to participate in the Second Meeting of the States Parties to the TPNW as an observer (November 16, 2023)

5. Participation in the first session of the preparatory committee for the 2026 NPT review conference

6. Collection of signatures

- Online signature collection (Change.org) for the NoFirstUse Global: Nuclear Taboo: From norm to law -A Declaration of Public Conscience (August 2023-)
- Signature collection for the Korea Peace Appeal: End the Korean War and establish a peace agreement (September-October 2023)

7. Publication

- Publication of a bi-monthly journal, *Disarmament and Peace Report*
- Publication of *Peace Almanac 2023*. Peace Almanac is a yearbook for citizens working for nuclear abolition, disarmament, and peace. It documents the major developments of the previous year and contains source material useful for citation. *Peace Almanac 2023* was published on May 31, 2023.



8. Public lectures

- Organization of monthly online public lectures, Disarmament and Peace Basic Seminar 2023.

The aim of this seminar is to create a wide range of connections with people interested in disarmament and peace.

