A group of approximately 20 people of various ages and ethnicities are gathered on a paved area, holding a large blue and white banner. In the background, a large, multi-story stone castle with several windows and a prominent circular tower sits atop a steep, grassy hillside. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day.

# Abolition 2000 2013 Annual General Meeting Report

ABOLITION 2000  
GLOBAL NETWORK  
TO ELIMINATE  
NUCLEAR WEAPONS

NO NUKES! NO WARS!

[WWW.ABOLITION2000.ORG](http://WWW.ABOLITION2000.ORG)

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This report was produced by the Coordinating Committee of the Abolition 2000 Network. It is based on notes taken during the Annual General Meeting by Kathleen Walsh, Wilbert van der Zeijden, Ray Acheson, Susi Snyder, Andy Lichterman and Jackie Cabasso. Susi Snyder and Jackie Cabasso facilitated the meeting.

Cover photo taken by Tim Wright.

Special thanks to Bill Kidd and the Scottish Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND), especially Veronika Tudehope and Flavia Tudoreanu, for their generous hospitality and invaluable organizing and logistical support in Edinburgh. Read Scottish CND's account of the Abolition 2000 Annual General Meeting, and see their photo gallery at: <http://tinyurl.com/lbxln9>



## Why we went to Scotland

There are over 200 nuclear weapons in Scotland, deployed on Trident submarines which operate from Faslane, or stored nearby at Coulport on Loch Long. More than 80% of those polled in Scotland oppose the basing of the UK nuclear weapons system on the Clyde.

In 2012, Scottish National Parliamentarian Bill Kidd asked the Abolition 2000 network to consider holding its Annual General Meeting in Scotland- to bring international attention to the efforts to make Scotland nuclear free. He noted that “The two year countdown to the Independence Referendum in the autumn of 2014 will see a number of highlight events and none will be of greater importance than this visit of international activists and experts on nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament coming to Scotland and our Parliament.”

Abolition 2000 decided to hold its 2013 Annual General Meeting in Edinburgh to learn more about these efforts, and to show our support for the work of the Scotland’s disarmament movement. Those attending joined in a declaration, From a Nuclear Free Scotland to a Nuclear Weapon Free World, released at Faslane on April 19, 2013. Its opening paragraphs read:

The participants of the Abolition 2000 Annual Assembly, held in Edinburgh on April 17-18 2013:

1. Affirm that nuclear weapons are unworthy of civilization, an unacceptable threat to current and future generations, unlawful to use, subvert the cooperation required to address genuine security issues of the 21st century and squander the resources required for a sustainable future;
2. Support the efforts of Scottish citizens and legislators to establish Scotland as a nuclear-weapon-free zone, to reject the nuclear weapons based in its territory, and to codify this in legislation or constitution;
3. Commend the non-violent direct actions undertaken at Faslane to expose the catastrophic threats to humanity and the environment, and oppose the UK nuclear weapons based there;
4. Believe that the growing movement in Scotland to remove the United Kingdom’s nuclear weapons from their home-port in Faslane, the public support in the UK for a nuclear weapons convention, and the absurd costs of maintaining nuclear weapons, make this an opportune time for the UK to abandon plans for Trident renewal, abandon nuclear weapons, and join negotiations for global nuclear abolition.

## Where we are, where we're going:

### Global opportunities for nuclear abolition

Tim Wright (ICAN) and Ray Acheson (Reaching Critical Will) kicked off a discussion as to where things currently stand with efforts for nuclear abolition today. Momentum has been increasing with a stronger push by non nuclear armed countries. This was seen by the participation of 127 states in the March Oslo conference on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons, and the decision by the UN General Assembly to establish both an open-ended working group on nuclear disarmament and to hold a high level meeting on nuclear disarmament in September 2013. At the same time, North Korea is increasing its nuclear weapons capabilities, and there continue to be questions around both Syria and Iran's compliance with their nuclear non-proliferation treaty obligations. The failure to implement the 2010 agreement to hold a conference on the possibility of establishing a zone free of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East also casts a shadow on otherwise hopeful advancements.

#### Oslo Conference

127 governments participated in a March 2013 conference organised by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This was the first time that governments came together to discuss nuclear weapons from a strictly humanitarian approach. During the closing session of the conference, Mexico announced that it would hold a follow-up discussion.

While many are painfully aware of the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons, there are others who examined this for the first time. As there has been a global taboo on the use of nuclear weapons- and there have been nuclear weapons reductions since the height of the Cold War, this conference built on the sense of urgency that nuclear weapons must be abolished. Immediately preceding the government meeting, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear weapons (ICAN) organised a civil society forum. More that 500 people attended this weekend event in Oslo, including many who are new to the issue.

#### Nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Preparatory Committee

The second NPT PrepCom meeting of this review cycle is planned to take place in the following two weeks in Geneva. This is the vaguest of the preparatory meetings, with no agenda to set, no recommendations to agree, and no clear or specific contribution expected to the review cycle as a whole. One of the big issues expected is the failure of the depository states (US, UK and Russian Federation) and the UN to hold a conference in 2012 on the establishment of a Middle East Nuclear Weapons and Weapons of Mass Destruction Free Zone. As every year, Abolition 2000 will host a daily morning NGO caucus during the PrepCom, and Reaching Critical Will will continue to provide daily reporting and analysis.

#### Open Ended Working Group on Disarmament

The UN General Assembly First Committee in 2012 established an Open Ended Working Group on nuclear disarmament. Open Ended Working Groups have in the past, on occasion, led to multilateral negotiating conferences on key issues, such as the Arms Trade Treaty. It is a method that allows all United Nations member countries to participate in discussions and put forward proposals on an equal footing. The groups can decide their own rules of procedure, including consensus, simple majority voting, or super majority voting. The meetings of this new OEWG will take place in Geneva for up to 15 working days in 2013.

The mandate for the OEWG is simple; the resolution states that the working group will "develop proposals to take forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations for the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons". It goes on to note that the group will include civil society and international organisations. It is expected that this working group will allow for more civil society involvement than in traditional forums talking about nuclear weapons (such as the NPT or the Conference on Disarmament).

For Abolition 2000, two things were considered. Firstly, that the network should look to develop proposals on content- what the group can take back to the 2013 UNGA. Secondly, the network should look to how we encourage understanding and acceptance of content proposals through NGO collaboration and with friendly governments.

It was suggested during the discussion that network members may recommend governments use this opportunity to address key issues in the establishment of a nuclear weapons free world, such as humanitarian consequences, extended deterrence (nuclear umbrella), and continued reliance on nuclear deterrence in military strategies. Other ideas emerged throughout the meeting for recommendations towards the OEWG. These included the OEWG examining the possibility of negotiating a framework of agreements to achieve and maintain a nuclear weapons free world- something not unlike the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. The OEWG could also suggest that it continue during the 2013 UNGA.

### **Nuclear Abolition Week & Nuclear Free Future month**

The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) has asked campaigners to organise activities during Nuclear Abolition Week-the first week of July. In addition, many U.S. organisations are holding activities in the month of August, to commemorate Nuclear Free Future Month.

### **High Level Meeting of the UN General Assembly**

On 26 September 2013, the UN General Assembly will hold a High Level Meeting on nuclear disarmament. Past high level meetings have been held on nuclear energy and nuclear terrorism, but this is the first to deal specifically with nuclear disarmament.

Some Abolition 2000 organisations are encouraging summit-like participation, and asking for support to pressure countries to have their Presidents or Prime Ministers speak at this meeting. This could be especially effective amongst Latin American states, especially if they decided to attend the HLM as a unified Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) bloc.

### **UN General Assembly (UNGA) First Committee**

Three new bodies were established during last years UNGA, as well as a statement on behalf of 35 states on the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons. The three bodies established were the Open Ended Working Group on nuclear disarmament, the High Level Meeting, and a Group of Governmental Experts on a possible fissile materials treaty. There are always side events, NGO statements, and an opportunity to share experiences and build norms.

### **Economic Opportunities**

In discussing new opportunities, austerity measures and budget debates were proposed as an opportunity to raise nuclear disarmament questions and encourage a shift in spending from nuclear weapons to human needs.

### **Conference on establishing a Middle East Zone free of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction**

During the discussion several people highlighted the missed opportunity to further the global nuclear abolition agenda by the cancellation of the Helsinki conference on this issue, which had been set for December 2012. If it were possible to establish such a zone, it could shift the US-Israel alliance on nuclear weapons, would force Israel to get rid of weapons, Iran would be unable to build nuclear weapons. There was a suggestion that network members should try to take advantage of the postponement of the Helsinki conference to establish ways and means to make the conference happen, including through lobbying at the NPT PrepCom.

### **Inter Parliamentary Union**

Nearly 1000 parliamentarians from approximately 150 parliaments, meeting at the Inter Parliamentary

Union (IPU) in Ecuador in March, chose the topic “Towards a Nuclear-Weapons-Free World: The Contribution of Parliaments” as a focus this year under their Peace and International Security work. IPU, which includes most of the nuclear weapons states in its 160 parliaments, enables parliamentarians to engage on core issues for humanity. That they chose the issue of nuclear weapons ahead of seven other proposals indicates the rising interest and consciousness for nuclear abolition around the world.

### **Discussion- The role of the nuclear abolition movement.**

This was perhaps the biggest discussion that took place during the AGM. During discussions, the key questions were asked- what role would a treaty outlawing nuclear weapons and leading their elimination play if the majority of nuclear armed countries are not engaged in its negotiation from the outset? What is the difference in approach from previous efforts calling for a nuclear weapons convention (including the introduction of a model to the UN system) and current advocacy for a new multilateral instrument?

One piece of the discussion related to how campaigns can work to create the conditions for nuclear abolition. One of the items raised included a need to shift public understanding away from the perception that nuclear weapons have political and military utility. There is also a need to challenge the rhetoric used to continue justifying nuclear weapons- including nuclear deterrence.

The founding statement of Abolition 2000, which in its first point calls for all states and particularly the nuclear weapons states to: “Initiate immediately and conclude negotiations on a nuclear weapons abolition convention that requires the phased elimination of all nuclear weapons within a timebound framework, with provisions for effective verification and enforcement.” was referred to several times during the discussion as the core document that brings the network together.

The main conclusion was that there are many approaches taken by the different members of the network, and while the network agreed at its 2009, 2010, and 2011 annual meetings to encourage its members to join the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear weapons, questions remain as to how the ICAN strategy could work for those engaged directly with the nuclear armed countries. It was reaffirmed that the overarching goal- a nuclear weapons free world- is one shared by all of the various approaches and campaigns- and the network as a whole.

## **Working Group meetings**

During the Annual meeting a number of working groups took the opportunity to get together, informing participants about their recent and current activities, and brainstorming about future efforts. This report reflects the summaries of the discussion.

### **International Humanitarian Law (IHL)**

During the small group discussion, the IHL working group reflected on a number of key questions: the history of IHL as it relates to nuclear weapons; who exactly IHL applies to, and; how to uphold IHL when not all states recognize the International Criminal Court. The chapter on international law published in the recent Reaching Critical Will book “Unspeakable Suffering”, was noted as a good resource for some of the basic questions.

The legality of NATO’s annual exercises to prepare to drop nuclear weapons was also discussed at length. Due to the lack of clarity on NATO’s intent (to use nuclear weapons in conflict or solely as a credible deterrent) this was unresolved.

The group recommended that network members engage with national Red Cross societies, especially in promoting IHL in the forthcoming Open Ended Working Group and the Mexico conference. It was also noted that the International Committee of the Red Cross/Red Crescent continues to hold workshops for national societies that include implementing their 2011 Council of Delegates resolution.

## Mayors & Parliamentarians

Abolition 2000 has two working groups- each to encourage participation and activity from local elected representatives- namely, mayors and parliamentarians. These two met together, and will investigate the possibility of combining into one legislator's working group.

## Engaging Parliamentarians

- Materials for recruitment of parliamentarians to PNND are on the Abolition 2000 website, including a "Dear Colleague" letter
- Encourage parliamentarians to sign the appeal for a WMD-free Middle East and North-East Asian nuclear-weapon-free zone
- Sending an invitation to join PNND out signed by parliamentarians from multiple parties can be very effective
- Subscribe to the PNND Facebook page for updates; the PNND website is being updated now; you can view recent newsletters online
- PNND does not have policies; however, there are various statements that PNND members can sign on to
- The European Parliament is a potentially useful forum for debating nuclear issues; it recently adopted a resolution on nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament
- Link regional parliamentary assemblies with national parliaments to ensure direct implementation of resolutions
- Contact Inter-Parliamentary Union delegations in your country
- Link local politicians with national politicians; greater collaboration between parliamentarians and mayors is also needed
- Parliamentarians should be informed of the Oslo conference e.g. circulate the presentations and chair's summary; briefings for parliamentarians which include mayors
- Encourage parliamentarians to support the upcoming Mexico conference on the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons and raise this in the Open-Ended Working Group
- ICAN's Paper Crane Project is another opportunity for engaging parliamentarians and connecting them with young people
- Parliamentarians can promote divestment of public funds from nuclear weapons companies



Photo by Jill Gough

## Mayors for Peace

- The focus of Mayors for Peace is no longer on recruitment; the focus is on real political campaigning with these cities
- However, in some countries the membership of Mayors for Peace is small, so recruitment is still important
- Mayors for Peace is too big now to be a project of the City of Hiroshima; it needs to branch out beyond that
- One focus of Mayors for Peace is on creating “Peace Cities”; we need to develop this idea further; cities should dedicate one day a year to promoting peace
- Connecting cities that have experienced war is another approach
- We should leverage sister city relationships more i.e. members of Mayors for Peace contact their sister city mayors for join the network
- All of us should encourage our mayors to join Mayors for Peace and our parliamentarians to join PNND
- Cities should be encouraged to divest public funds from nuclear weapons companies

## Nuclear Weapons Convention

The Nuclear Weapon Convention Working Group discussed the background of the model nuclear weapons convention, options and questions around different types of treaties (negotiated inside and outside of the UN), and the idea of a treaty banning nuclear weapons.

### Background

In 1997, a working group of Abolition 2000 drafted a model nuclear weapons convention. It explored the elements of what would be required in a treaty verifiably eliminating nuclear weapons. The first point of the Abolition 2000 founding statement calls for such a convention, and was the first point of unity among network members. The model was introduced to the United Nations General Assembly by Costa Rica and Malaysia. It was updated in 2007, and was referenced in the UN Secretary General’s Five Point plan for disarmament, as delivered in a speech to the East-West Institute in 2008. The working group is designed to keep network members informed and up to date on the work towards a comprehensive nuclear abolition treaty.

### What type of treaty?

The discussion compared the elements of a ban treaty put forward by the Article 36 Publication - “Banning Nuclear Weapons” as an idea of what a ban treaty could look like compared to the Chemical Weapons Convention. The Article 36 proposal is based on experiences with the Cluster Munition Ban where like-minded countries work outside UN procedures. This process relies more on communication and trust, less on setting up institutions, and could incorporate useful obligations such as not cooperating with nuclear armed countries and not supplying equipment or resources that could be used for nuclear weapons, among others. Contrast this to Chemical Weapons Convention which requires elaborate commitments from states parties and establishes an implementing agency which carries out verifications. It was noted that the model nuclear weapons convention is based on the Chemical Weapons Convention.

Proponents of a ban treaty argued that a ban is something that those without nuclear weapons can do. ICAN has not drafted a model ban treaty, to best keep the process fluid and not limit it. A treaty that deligitimises the weapons, puts additional pressure on the nuclear armed states, and can be recognised by the public, banks, governments and others who could be bound by the potential obligations contained therein. It is unclear whether one mega-treaty would achieve the elimination of all nuclear weapons. While there are challenges, and there will continue to be challenges, especially among the nuclear umbrella states (those who rely on the nuclear weapons of others in their national security strategies), a ban type treaty, with accompanying public pressure, could be a game changer that will make it difficult for countries not to join.

A question about how to engage the nuclear armed states was posed, and how to build international pressure on the nuclear armed states to disarm. It was suggested that a ban can act like a magnet, and

draw countries to the idea. The humanitarian approach is a no-brainer entry point and a weak point for the nuclear armed states. A ban is the best thing the non-nuclear majority can do. The example of the Arms Trade Treaty was raised. At the beginning, African states focused on national interests but in the last two years came at it with a unified stance and made a difference. A ban makes real politics possible because it has a unifying effect. A simple argument is best to garner public support. Name another approach that we can all find something to work on – the ban is accessible.

How can one find allies outside of the existing nuclear umbrellas? A ban can work here as it sounds more powerful than a nuclear weapons free zone, and would create a lot of pressure, especially if European nations joined. A ban can be achieved more swiftly than a convention, which involves big nuclear armed states. A ban could have a clear start, with clear language. Some nations see the convention as such a compromise that they are unwilling to join in and create momentum, and a ban could be an alternative.

Some were uncomfortable with the idea of calling for those without nuclear weapons to start negotiations, and instead prefer to focus on the message: abolish nuclear weapons by starting negotiations! There was also concern raised that there have been advancements in international law and international humanitarian law since the 1996 ICJ advisory opinion, and care must be taken not to lose these.

The discussion moved to process- and whether countries would be willing to initiate negotiations outside of the established UN disarmament machinery. Concerns were raised that encouraging the start of negotiations outside of existing mechanisms could distract from processes that have been going on for a long time, however, it was reflected that these ongoing processes have not produced results- that the only nuclear disarmament negotiated has been negotiated outside of the existing forums (e.g. the Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, SALT and START agreements).

A number of ideas were generated about the Open Ended Working Group. Could this body look at the elements of a framework agreement, like the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, for nuclear weapons?

## **Economic Dimensions**

Last year, the first global report on nuclear weapons investments- Don't Bank on the Bomb- was released by ICAN. This report was not exhaustive, nor did it claim to be. It highlighted investment in 20 nuclear weapons producing companies. A new report is planned for September/ October 2013, which will include a financial institution hall of fame and a hall of shame, which will highlight successful divestment efforts, and positive national policies.

There have been a number of reports after the Don't Bank on the Bomb, including one on Australian University investments (Disarm Your Degree), a Finnish report, a Dutch report, and more. There is also an email list dedicated to divestment- [ican-divest@groups.yahoo.com](mailto:ican-divest@groups.yahoo.com).

Divestment around nuclear weapons provides an opportunity for action by anyone interested- from changing financial institutions to simply asking them to clarify investment policies. There are many levels of activity possible, and almost everyone has a bank account.

One of the challenges in divestment work is that nuclear weapons often do not come back as controversial in investment "screens" which banks use to decide whether to invest or not. The problem is that the weapons are not formally outlawed, which is what the banks often use as criteria. This is less of a problem with ethical investment banks, but with major international financial institutions it has been a problem.

## **Other divestment activities**

Pension funds and universities. There has been a lot of success in changing policies of pension funds in particular, as they tend to be more conscious of image and investor relations.

## Modernisation

Programmes to modernise nuclear weapons are underway in all of the nuclear weapon states. The B61 Life Extension Programme in particular deserves our attention. It is hard to see how European countries would still be willing to support the B61 in the future. Still, the U.S. is investing \$11 billion in plans to modernise the B61, giving it enhanced military capabilities. By now, reproducing the B61 in pure gold would be cheaper than the current modernisation plans.

## How to connect the cost of nuclear weapons to everyday life?

How much extra do people pay in taxes because of nuclear weapons? In the U.S. there's a website that answer that question with basically one click (<http://nationalpriorities.org>). What are the underlying factors? In the U.S. and increasingly around the world, there is a structural problem with the concentration of economic-political power influencing the rules of the economy. As long as we don't manage to get a grip on that, how do we connect to the real issues people on the ground are faced with? CND has an app that allows you to convert the expenditures - for example: 150.000 extra teachers for 30 years instead of current nuclear weapons expenditures. Austerity measures across the globe are a way to connect with people as well- demonstrating that choices are being made to maintain, fund, and modernise nuclear weapons (and delivery systems) while cuts are being made to social programmes.

## Sustainable Energy

The list serve continues to operate. Alice Slater is the working group convenor, and invites all to join the ongoing discussions. It was suggested that this working group could look at the military impact on climate change.

## De-Alerting

There is a call for financial support to help the film "The Man Who Saved the World". There is growing support for the annual de-alerting resolution in the UN General Assembly, and there are ongoing efforts by the group of states calling for U.S. and Russia to reduce readiness levels of their nuclear weapons.

## Emerging Proposals

### Global Ban on Uranium Mining

Recognising that there are new proposals to open uranium mines around the world, representatives from the Mama Bears Brigade (U.S.) asked that the Abolition 2000 Network issue a call for a global ban on uranium mining. Given its long term impacts, including contamination of ground water and surrounding communities, the statement is intended to give moral support to organisations around the world that are working to prevent the very start of the nuclear chain.

A discussion took place on a draft statement, clarifying questions around medical isotopes, existing stockpiles and enrichment.. A Call for a global ban on uranium mining was adopted by the meeting.

### European Referendum

There was a request made to the network to support the idea of a national referendum in France on nuclear weapons. As there is no agreement among French organisations on this approach, the proposal was withdrawn after discussion. However, the idea of a European wide referendum was brought up. A small group (Dominique Lalanne, Dave Webb, Aaron Tovish, Tony Robinson, Jana Jedlicková, Frank Jackson and Susi Snyder) was put together to explore the idea of an EU referendum on the nuclear weapons question. The group will discuss this idea and assess whether to move forward with the concept.

### Open Ended Working Group (OEWG)

Costa Rica will chair 15 days of meetings before the end of August (see above), and will include NGO participation. The Annual Meeting agreed to set up a task-force on the OEWG. Jana Jedlicková agreed

to convene this group, including Aaron Tovish, Susi Snyder, Alyn Ware, Jackie Cabasso, Ray Acheson, Brian Larkin, John Burroughs, Wilbert van der Zeijden, Wolfgang Schlupp-Hauck and Alice Slater.

## Reports

### Coordinating Committee

The role of the Coordinating Committee (CC) is primarily administrative. The Coordinating Committee has the following members (organisations listed are for identification purposes only): Alice Slater (Nuclear Age Peace Foundation); Alyn Ware and Mayra Gomez (Parliamentarians for Non Proliferation and Nuclear Disarmament); Jackie Cabasso (Western States Legal Foundation); Tim Wright (ICAN); Magnus Lovøld (ICAN); Akira Kawasaki (Peaceboat); Dominique Lalanne (Armes nucléaires STOP); Sophie Morel (Sortir du Réseau Nucleaire); Steve Staples/ Kathleen Walsh (Rideau Institute); Susi Snyder (IKV Pax Christi); and Martin Hinrichs (BANG Europe).

The CC continues to hold monthly conference calls, with notes generally circulated to the Global Council. All Abolition 2000 members are welcome to have copies of these notes.

The responsibilities of the CC are to:

- coordinate Annual General Meetings
- ensure secretariat functionality
- engage with working groups of the network and facilitate communications to the network as a whole
- any mailings (electronic or printed) designed to reach the network and,
- maintenance of general communications mechanisms for the network (list-serve, website, etc).

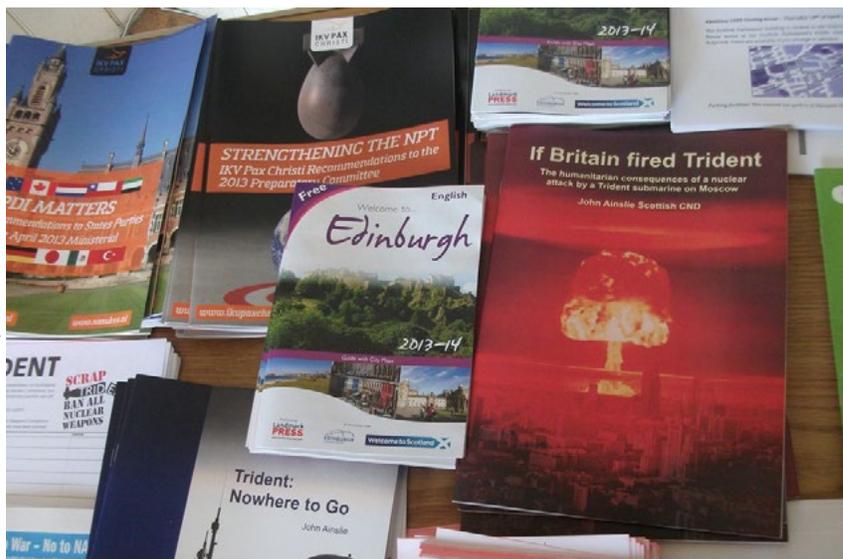
Any member of the network is welcome to join the coordinating committee subject to affirmation by the Annual General Meeting.

### Secretariat

The responsibilities of the secretariat are mostly administrative- to keep the website functioning, maintain the contact list of the network and the e-updates, and ensure that the Coordinating Committee meets on a regular basis.

There are 466 members on the Abolition-caucus email list serve, which was founded on 4 November 1999 and more than 35,000 messages have been circulated on this list since its inception. This is an open list, and anyone is welcome to join. On average, there are approximately 140 messages per month.

Due to personnel constraints, the secretariat has suspended production of the electronic newsletter in 2013. Occasional messages are sent to the list, encouraging participation in network related activities (such as this annual meeting). There are over 3000 active subscribers. The list is maintained in accordance with Dutch regulations on spam.



## Financial

Western States Legal Foundation (USA) maintains the Abolition 2000 bank account.

### 2013 - 2014 Abolition 2000 Financial Report

Date	From	Received	Adjusted Amount
1/1/13	Balance Forward		\$ 4,304.02
3/21/13:	Lawyers Committee on Nuclear Policy		+ \$ 35.00
4/12/13:	FedEx Office – 2 A2000 banners		- \$ 275.85
4/12/13:	FedEx Office – tube for banners		- \$ 4.89
	Balance		+ \$4,048.28

Abolition 2000 Annual General Meeting, Edinburgh, Scotland\*

Photo by Jill Gough

#### Expenses - out

4/15/13:	gifts for hosts	-	\$ 11.00
4/17 – 18/13:	food and supplies	-	\$ 341.12
4/17/13:	Beehive restaurant	-	\$ 431.58
4/18/13:	Scottish Parliament event – catering	-	\$1,434.72
4/18/13:	St. Columba hall rental	-	\$ 173.19
4/19/13:	donation to Faslane Peace Camp	-	\$ 164.95
	Total	-	\$2,556.56

#### Donations – in

4/17/13:	Arms Nucleaires Stop (France)	+	\$ 131.97
4/17/13:	Rideau Institute (Canada)	+	\$ 164.96
4/17/13:	World Without Wars (international)	+	\$ 82.48
	Individuals: (note: may include other organizations)	+	\$ 912.76
	Total	+	\$1,292.17

4/18/13:	electronic transfer from Abolition 2000 to WSLF account for partial reimbursement of AGM expenses	-	\$1000.00
4/21/13:	Peace Depot (Japan)	+	\$ 100.00
5/30/13:	Jenny Walker - graphic design services A2000 AGM 2013 flier	-	\$ 65.81
5/31/13: 6/1/13: 5/29/13:	Negajoule (France)	+	10 Euros**
12/31/13:	craigslist Charitable Fund	+	\$10,000.00
1/30/14:	Jacqueline Cabasso – reimburse A2000 2013 AGM expenses	-	\$ 354.12
1/30/14:	Western States Legal Foundation – reimburse A2000 2013 AGM expenses	-	\$ 166.35
2/1/14:	Balance (est.) not including foreign currency on hand	+	\$12,719.68

\*Note: all amounts are shown here in US dollars. A worksheet showing detailed transactions, expenses and donations in British pounds and US dollars is available upon request. Contact [wslf@earthlink.net](mailto:wslf@earthlink.net).

**Foreign currency on hand (includes cash donations from 2013 AGM)	£65.81 10 Euros
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## Affirmation of the Global Council & Coordinating Committee

### Global Council

Currently, there are 79 members of the global council, serving in their individual capacity (not organisational). Brian Larkin, and Wolfgang Schlupp-Hauck were nominated to serve on the Council, approved unanimously.

Responsibilities of Global Council (GC) members (adopted at the 2011 Abolition 2000 AGM):

The GC is made up of individuals, not representatives of organizations

- GC members are expected to be active with Abolition 2000
- GC members are encouraged to serve as advisors and ambassadors for Abolition 2000, and work with Abolition 2000 groups in their regions and thematic areas
- We need to hear from GC members at least annually. GC members are expected to check in with or respond to the CC at least once a year (respond to a draft statement, contribute to the e-newsletter, or some other way)
- GC members are expected to abide by the Abolition 2000 Operating Principles

### Coordinating Committee

There is a slight change in the Coordinating Committee, as Magnus Lovøld has stepped down. Otherwise, the Committee was reaffirmed unanimously.

### Parliament event

The closing event for the Abolition 2000 Annual General Meeting was held in Scotland's spectacular new Parliament building. The evening began with live Scottish music as we arrived and settled in, followed by a welcome and introductory remarks by Scottish Parliament members Bill Kidd and Patrick Harvie. In addition to thanking us for our presence and support for efforts to remove the UK's nuclear-armed Trident submarines from Scotland, they provided us with some context of the relationship of those efforts to broader struggles for Scotland's autonomy. Humza Yousaf MSP, Scottish Government Minister for International Development, spoke next, providing a perspective on Scotland's developing role in Europe and the international community.

Abolition 2000 founding members Jackie Cabasso and Alyn Ware extended thanks to our hosts on behalf of all attending, and introduced a round of statements in solidarity with Scotland's disarmament groups and Parliamentarians who are working to remove Trident from Scotland and for the abolition of nuclear weapons world wide (see list of organizations and speakers below). Coordinating Committee member Susi Snyder offered closing remarks.

Another Abolition 2000 co-founder, Alice Slater, introduced Tadatoshi Akiba, the former mayor of Hiroshima and past President of Mayor's for Peace, who gave the keynote address. Dr. Akiba reflected on the long history of work for abolition of nuclear weapons and noted the intrinsic link between work to eliminate nuclear weapons and broader efforts to stem international conflict and end war. In this regard he quoted a lyric from a punk rock band popular in Japan: "National borders are the wounds of history; a patchwork waiting for a cure." His remarks closed an evening that manifested the fact that disarmament work is at the same time global and local, and that we need to continue to deepen our understanding of the relationship between the two.



## International Statements of Solidarity

(in alphabetical order)

### International Organizations:

International Association of Peace Messenger Cities – Dusan Stojanovic

Mayors for Peace – Aaron Tovish

WILPF – Ray Acheson

World Council of Churches – Jonathan Freirich

World Without Wars – Tony Robinson

### NGO Country representatives:

Britain – Frank Jackson

Canada – Steve Staples

Czech Republic – Jana Jedličková

France – Dominique LaLanne

Germany – Wolfgang Schlupp-Hauck

Netherlands – Krista Van Velzen

New Zealand – Matt Robson

United States – John Burroughs

Wales - Jill Gough

## Faslane trip

The day after the meeting, a contingent of Abolition 2000 members, together with activists from Scottish CND and the Faslane Peace Camp, travelled by bus to the Peace Camp and to Clyde Naval Base, home port to the UK's nuclear missile carrying Trident submarines. The group delivered the Faslane declaration, accepted quite graciously by the deputy duty officer, who came out to meet with us. We held an impromptu demonstration on the side of the highway next to the main gate. The base authorities added to the effect by closing the gate, allowing us to spread out across the entrance, displaying our signs and banners calling for the abolition of nuclear weapons and the redirection of military spending to human needs.

Every nuclear weapons facility or base has its own, distinctive impact, even for those who have seen many. Perhaps what is most striking about Faslane is the profound contrast between its arsenal of world-destroying weapons and its spectacular natural setting, on a long finger of the sea reaching deep into mountains that stretch unspoiled away inland. Its presence there reminds us both of what we must save, and of how much work we still have to do.

The Faslane Peace camp has its own impact, a living manifestation of steadfastness and staying power in over three decades of struggle against the Bomb. Every step reveals a record of the strands of movements past and present, from anarchist slogans on kitchen walls to a cherry tree, now spreading overhead that was planted by Hiroshima survivors on August 6, 1985. As we left, a UK attack submarine passed silently up the sound, reminding us that the arms race goes on, and so too must our work.



## Faslane Declaration

From a Nuclear Free Scotland to a Nuclear Weapon Free World

The participants of the Abolition 2000 Annual Assembly, held in Edinburgh on April 17-18 2013:

1. Affirm that nuclear weapons are unworthy of civilization, an unacceptable threat to current and future generations, unlawful to use, subvert the cooperation required to address genuine security issues of the 21st century and squander the resources required for a sustainable future;
2. Support the efforts of Scottish citizens and legislators to establish Scotland as a nuclear-weapon-free zone, to reject the nuclear weapons based in its territory, and to codify this in legislation or constitution;
3. Commend the non-violent direct actions undertaken at Faslane to expose the catastrophic threats to humanity and the environment, and oppose the UK nuclear weapons based there;
4. Believe that the growing movement in Scotland to remove the United Kingdom's nuclear weapons from their home-port in Faslane, the public support in the UK for a nuclear weapons convention, and the absurd costs of maintaining nuclear weapons, make this an opportune time for the UK to abandon plans for Trident renewal, abandon nuclear weapons, and join negotiations for global nuclear abolition;
5. Reaffirm our commitment to achieving the global abolition of nuclear weapons through negotiations for a nuclear weapons convention;
6. Support the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in homes, workplaces, cities, nations and regions as measures to delegitimize nuclear weapons, build security without nuclear weapons and pave the way for the whole world to be a nuclear-weapon-free zone;
7. Welcome the regional NWFZs established in Antarctica, Latin America and the Caribbean, South Pacific, South East Asia, Africa and Central Asia. Photo by Jill Gough
8. Support actions to establish additional regional NWFZs in the Arctic, Middle East, North East Asia and Europe, and in particular the convening at the earliest possible date of the UN Conference on Establishing a Middle East Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and other Weapons of Mass Destruction;
9. Affirm that the establishment of NWFZs, particularly in regions of conflict such as the Middle East and North East Asia, provide non-discriminatory approaches to nuclear nonproliferation and disarmament, and help to resolve conflicts and build sustainable cooperative security;
10. Commend countries that formerly possessed, hosted or welcomed nuclear weapons in their territories, but have now rejected them – including Belarus, Greece, Kazakhstan, New Zealand, South Africa and Ukraine;
11. Call upon NATO nuclear-sharing states to end the deployment of nuclear weapons in their countries;
12. Express outrage at the US\$100 billion per year squandered globally on nuclear weapons while policies of austerity are imposed on populations and basic human needs and environmental protection measures are unmet;
13. Call on parliaments and governments to divest public funds from corporations involved in the nuclear weapons industry (as has been done in Norway and New Zealand), and for citizens to close any accounts they have in banks that invest in nuclear weapons corporations;
14. Call on all States to implement the agreement of the 2010 NPT Review Conference to establish the necessary framework to achieve and maintain a world without nuclear weapons;
15. Call on all countries to participate in good faith in the new diplomatic opportunities for the achievement of a nuclear-weapons-free world provided by the Open Ended Working Group established by UN General Assembly Resolution 67/56, the High Level Meeting of the UN General Assembly on Nuclear Disarmament scheduled for September 2013 and the series of conferences on the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons which began in Oslo in March 2013 and will continue in Mexico;
16. Welcome the recent decision of the Inter Parliamentary Union to engage their membership of over 160 parliaments, including those of most of the nuclear weapon States and their allies, in the topic "Towards a Nuclear-Weapons-Free World: The Contribution of Parliaments";
17. Affirm the important roles of civic leaders, mayors, parliamentarians and civil society, within the diplomatic meetings and public initiatives, to contribute to the negotiations for nuclear abolition.

This declaration was released by Abolition 2000 at Clyde Naval Base at Faslane, Scotland on April 19, 2013.

## Call for a global ban on uranium mining

Recalling the Moorea Declaration, adopted by the Abolition 2000 Conference held in Moorea, Te Ao Maohi, (French Occupied Polynesia) in 1997, which recognised that “colonised and indigenous peoples have, in the large part borne the brunt of ... nuclear devastation – from the mining of uranium and the testing of nuclear weapons on indigenous peoples land, to the dumping, storage and transport of plutonium and nuclear wastes, and the theft of land for nuclear infrastructure,” we call upon all governments, local and national, to permanently ban uranium mining within their territories and to ban both the import and export of uranium.

Without uranium, nuclear reactors cannot operate; without uranium, plutonium cannot be produced; without uranium or plutonium, nuclear weapons production is not possible. Cutting off the supply of uranium will reveal the contradictions inherent in the entire nuclear chain. It will eventually reduce the availability of fissile materials which can be fashioned into weapons of mass destruction. All existing stocks should be safely rendered unusable and securely stored.

All stages of the nuclear chain, from mining to power production to testing and storage of waste, expose surrounding populations to extremely long-lived mutagenic radionuclides that can lead to birth defects, cancers and other devastating diseases.

We reject the permanent contamination of our water, land and air so that a few multi-billion dollar corporations can make short-term, highly subsidised profits.

– Adopted by the participants of the Abolition 2000 Annual General Meeting held in Edinburgh, Scotland, April 17- 18, 2013

## Brief History of the Network

In May 1995, during the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review and Extension Conference at the United Nations in New York, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) from around the world recognized that the declared nuclear weapons states were unwilling to discuss complete nuclear disarmament as stipulated in the treaty. A large number of these NGOs came together and drafted the 11-point Abolition 2000 Statement, which calls for “the definite and unconditional abolition of nuclear weapons.”

The Abolition 2000 Statement, as its number one demand, calls for the immediate initiation of negotiations on a verifiable Nuclear Weapons Convention (treaty), requiring the elimination of nuclear weapons within a timebound framework. The Abolition 2000 Statement recognizes “the inextricable link between the ‘peaceful’ and warlike uses of nuclear technologies,” and calls for the establishment of an international energy agency to promote and support the development of sustainable and environmentally safe energy sources.

The Abolition 2000 Statement became the basis for the Abolition 2000 Global Network to Eliminate Nuclear Weapons, which was launched in November 1995 in The Hague, Netherlands, during the historic hearings before the International Court of Justice on the illegality of nuclear weapons. At its January 1997 Annual General Meeting in Moorea, Te Ao Maohi (French Occupied Polynesia), hosted by Hiti Tau, an umbrella organization of indigenous peoples’ groups, on the one year anniversary of the last French nuclear test, the Moorea Declaration was adopted as a supplement to the Abolition 2000 Statement. The Moorea Declaration recognizes the particular suffering of indigenous and colonized people as a result of the nuclear cycle.

The 1995 Abolition 2000 Statement called for the conclusion of negotiations on a Nuclear Weapons Convention “by the year 2000.” Recognizing that the nuclear weapons states would likely fail in their obligations to conclude such negotiations, this phrase was removed at the end of 2000. At the same time,



the network successfully campaigned to recruit more than 2000 member groups (in over 90 countries) in order to keep our name relevant.

As an outgrowth of the Abolition 2000 Network, a working group of international lawyers, scientists and activists drafted a Model Nuclear Weapons Convention which was, submitted to the United Nations by Costa Rica, and circulated as United Nations document A/C.1/52/7 in 1997. It was updated and resubmitted in 2007 by Costa Rica and Malaysia, and was referenced in the UN Secretary General's Five Point plan for disarmament in 2008. The draft treaty provides for the verifiable phased elimination of nuclear weapons. It is analogous to the Chemical Weapons Convention and the Biological Weapons Convention.

Abolition 2000 regional networks have been established in many places, including Europe, UK, and New Zealand. In addition, informal Abolition 2000 working groups have established themselves to focus on a variety of specific issues.

Abolition 2000 circulated an international petition that was signed by more than 13.4 million individuals worldwide. During the 2000 NPT Review Conference, the signed petitions were symbolically presented to Ambassador Baali of Algeria, Chairman of the Conference. During the opening week of the 2010 NPT Review Conference, President Libran Cabactulan and UN High Representative Sergio Duarte accepted symbolic presentations of more than 17 million signatures collected around the world expressing the collective will of international civil society to see the commencement of negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention without further delay. Abolition works closely with Mayors for Peace and its 2020 Vision Campaign, which reset the original Abolition 2000 target date, with the goal of eliminating nuclear arsenals by the year 2020. Abolition 2000 also works closely with Parliamentarians for Nuclear Nonproliferation and Disarmament and ICAN.

Abolition 2000 mainly is a volunteer network, but has received essential administrative support from a series of organizations that have served as its Secretariat since its founding. These have included the

California-based Nuclear Age Peace Foundation, the New York-based Global Resource Action Center for the Environment (GRACE), the Polaris (now Rideau) Institute, Ottawa, Canada, Pax Christi USA, and the current Secretariat, IKV Pax Christi (now PAX), The Netherlands.

For more information, contact:  
Abolition 2000 Secretariat  
C/O PAX  
PO Box 19318, 3501 DH Utrecht, The Netherlands  
Phone: +31 30 232 0593 Fax: +31 30 236 8199

## Operating principles

The Abolition 2000 Network for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons is composed of organizations which have endorsed the Abolition 2000 Statement.

The Abolition Statement is the founding document of the Network and is the only document which has been endorsed by all of the network endorsers.

Amendments to the Abolition Statement require consensus.

As a functioning Network, we seek means to maintain communications among all of our organizational endorsers.

Operating as a Network of the whole, our mission is to maintain communications with the endorsers of the Statement and maintain the list of the endorsers.

Any organizational endorser of the Abolition Statement may have a copy of the contact list for the Network, at cost, to encourage broad communication.

The Network is currently organized by region, working groups, and projects.

No one can speak in the name of the Network as a whole, but working groups, projects, regions, or other configurations of Abolition 2000 endorsers can issue statements, documents etc., in the name of the Group, Project, etc., which are consistent with the principles set forth in the Abolition 2000 Statement e.g., Model Nuclear Weapons Convention Working Group of Abolition 2000.

Organizations are encouraged to identify themselves as endorsers of Abolition 2000 on their letterheads, etc.

The Abolition 2000 Network may invite all endorsers to annual or special meetings.

At previous annual meetings, resolutions were adopted by the participants at the meeting, but the resolutions were issued only in the name of the participants at the meeting.