Appeal for a diplomatic solution in North East Asia

The Abolition 2000 members and affiliated networks listed below, representing peace and disarmament organisations from around the world, call on the United States and North Korea to step back from the brink of war in North East Asia, and instead adopt a diplomatic approach to prevent war.

We call for the immediate commencement of negotiations to prevent a military conflict from erupting, and to resolve the underlying conflicts. Such negotiations should take place both bilaterally and through a renewed Six-Party framework involving China, Japan, North Korea, Russia, South Korea and the United States.

The escalating tensions and threat of military conflict over North Korea's nuclear and missile capabilities makes a diplomatic solution of vital importance and the highest priority. The increasing risk of war - and possibly even the use of nuclear weapons by miscalculation, accident, or intent - is frightening.

More than three million citizens of Korea, China, USA and other countries lost their lives in the Korean War from 1950-1953. Should a war erupt again, the loss of lives could be considerably worse, especially if nuclear weapons are used. Indeed, a nuclear conflict erupting in Korea could engulf the entire world in a nuclear catastrophe that would end civilization as we know it.

In supporting diplomacy rather than war, we:
1. Oppose any pre-emptive use of force by any of the parties, which would be counter-productive and likely lead to nuclear war;
2. Call on all parties to refrain from militaristic rhetoric and provocative military exercises;
3. Encourage China, Japan, North Korea, Russia, South Korea and the United States to consider the phased and comprehensive approach for a North-East Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone with a 3+3 arrangement*, which already has cross-party support in Japan and South Korea and interest from the North Korean government;
4. Encourage China, Japan, North Korea, Russia, South Korea and the United States to also consider options and modalities for turning the 1953 Armistice Agreement into a formal end to the 1950-1953 Korean War;
5. Welcome the call of the UN Secretary-General for a resumption of Six-Party talks and his offer to assist in negotiations;
6. Welcome also the offer of the European Union to assist in diplomatic negotiations, as they did successfully in the negotiations on Iran’s nuclear program;

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* The 3+3 arrangement would include Japan, South Korea and North Korea agreeing not to possess or host nuclear weapons, and would require China, Russia and the USA agreeing not to deploy nuclear weapons in Japan, South Korea or North Korea, nor to attack or threaten to attack them with nuclear weapons.
Endorsers of the Appeal for a diplomatic solution in North East Asia:

Organisations:

- Abolition 2000 UK (UK)
- Albert Schweitzer Institute (USA)
- All Souls Nuclear Disarmament Task Force (USA)
- Anglican Pacifist Fellowship of New Zealand (NZ)
- Aotearoa Lawyers for Peace (New Zealand)
- Artistes pour la Paix (Canada)
- Artsen voor Vrede - Flemish IPPNW (Belgium)
- Association Des Medecins Francais Pour La Prevention de la Guerre Nucaleaire - IPPNW France (France)
- Association of World Citizens (Germany)
- The ATOM Project (Kazakhstan)
- Australian Anti-Bases Campaign Coalition (Australia)
- Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America (USA)
- Basel Peace Office (Switzerland, International)
- Beyond Nuclear (USA, International)
- Blue Banner (Mongolia)
- Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament – CND (UK)
- Canadian Pugwash Group (Canada)
- CND New Zealand (New Zealand)
- CND Scotland (Scotland)
- Christian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (UK)
- Coalition for Peace Action, New Jersey (USA)
- Coalition for Peace Action, Pennsylvania (USA)
- Colorado Coalition for the Prevention of Nuclear War Committee of 100 (Finland)
- Connecticut Peace and Solidarity Coalition (USA)
- Cymru Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (Wales)
- Denman Island Peace Group (Canada)
- DPRK Friendship and Cultural Society (Australia)
- Earth Action (USA, International)
- Earthcare not Warfare (USA)
- Economists for Peace and Security (USA)
- Edinburgh Peace & Justice Centre (Scotland)
- Edinburgh CND (Scotland)
- Environmentalists Against War (USA)
- European Environment Foundation (Switzerland)
- Frauen für den Frieden – Women for Peace (Switzerland)
- Gandhi Development Trust (South Africa)
- Gensuikyo - Japan Council against A and H Bombs (Japan)
- Grandmothers for Peace (USA, International)
- Green Party of Washington State (USA)
- Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action (USA)
- Harrison fellowship of Reconciliation (USA)
- Hokotehi Mori Trust (Rekohu, Chatham Islands)
- Human Survival Project (Australia, International)
- IALANA (International Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms) Italy Section (Italy)
- IALANA Germany – Vereinigung für Friedensrecht
- International Fellowship of Reconciliation - Austria
- IPPNW Germany
- Iona Community (Scotland)
- Irish Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (Ireland)
- Japan Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms
- Ke Aupuni O Hawaii (The Hawaiian Kingdom) (Hawaii)
- Lawyers’ Committee on Nuclear Policy (USA)
- Leo Club of Sunflower Saidpur City (Bangladesh)
- Mankato Area Peace vigil (USA)
- Medact (IPPNW UK) Nuclear Weapons Group (UK)
- Le Mouvement de la Paix (France)
- Network of Spiritual Progressives (USA)
- Nobel Peace Prize Watch (Norway)
- Norges Fredslag - Norwegian Peace Society (Norway)
- Norwegian Peace Council (Norway)
- Nuclear Age Peace Foundation (USA)
- Nuclear Free Local Authorities (UK)
- NZ DPRK Society (New Zealand)
- One People One Planet (New Zealand)
- Oxford Network for Global Justice and Peace (UK)
- Pacific Institute of Resource Management (NZ)
- Pax Christi International (Belgium, International)
- Pax Christi Metro New York (USA)
- Peace Action Manhattan (USA)
- Peace Action NY State (USA)
- Peace Depot (Japan)
- Peace Foundation – Te Taupapa Rongomau o Aotearoa (NZ)
- People (Northern Ireland)
- Peace Union of Finland (Finland)
- Peaceworkers (USA)
- People for Nuclear Disarmament (Australia)
- Peoples Solidarity for Participatory Democracy (Republic of Korea)
- Phoenix Settlement Trust (South Africa)
- Physicians for Social Responsibility/IPPNW (Switzerland)
- Portland Fellowship of Reconciliation (USA)
- Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs (Italy, International)
- Quaker Peace and Service Aotearoa New Zealand (NZ)
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- Scientists for Global Responsibility (Australia)
- Shining Bangladesh Foundation (Bangladesh)
- Soka Gakkai International New Zealand
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- STEP the War Coalition (Philippines)
- Swedish Fellowship of Reconciliation (Sweden)
- Swedish IALANA (Sweden)
- Swiss Lawyers for Nuclear Disarmament (Switzerland)
- Trident Ploughshares (UK)
- Tri-Valley CAREs (USA)
- United Religions Initiative (USA)
- Uniting for Peace (UK)
- Forum voor Vredesactie - Peace Action (Belgium)
- Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility (USA)
- Western States Legal Foundation (USA)
- Western Washington Fellowship of Reconciliation (USA)
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- WILPF Scottish Section (Scotland)
- Seattle Fellowship of Reconciliation (USA)
- World Beyond War (USA, International)
- World Future Council (Germany, International)
- Yorkshire Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (UK)
- Youth for Nuclear Nonproliferation and Disarmament (Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka).
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