

NEWSLETTER



ITALY: 13'000 mobilise for peace and disarmament ! April 25, 2014 , at the Arena of Verona, a day of resistance and liberation



This remarkable event is linked to the **Global Day of Action on Military Spending**, though it comes some days after, and has a wider scope. **See the Appeal** which quotes Pope Francis and Mahatma Gandhi in promoting disarmament and nonviolence in stead of "90 new F35 fighter-bombers, whose acquisition cost stands at € 14 billion..."

Maurizio Simoncelli from Archivio Disarmo gave a speech about military spending during the event, marking the fact that " for us building peace must necessarily pass through disarmament!"

See **Press Release by Italian Disarmament Network**: 'GDAMS: in Italy the Global Day of Action will take place on 25 April at the Arena for Peace and Disarmament'. Further media coverage and reactions at <https://www.facebook.com/arenadiPace2014> or official website www.arenapacedisarmo.org

DISARMAMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT

GDAMS 2014
Ukraine

Military Spending

Arms Trade

Impacts of Weapons

Nuclear Weapons

Miscellaneous

Resources

Views expressed in summarized articles are those of the article's author and do not necessarily reflect the views of IPB

GDAMS 2014

Global Day showcases public rejection of military spending

Once again the worldwide [GDAMS](#) has shown the strength of public feeling about excessive military spending, and the urgent need to re-allocate the money to different priorities. The 2014 edition of GDAMS featured around 125 actions in 25 countries (we're still counting!) and an extraordinary range of creative events: from parliamentary symposiums, petitions and street theatre to 'Penny Polls' and die-ins. There were events in Paraguay and the Philippines, in villages in Rajasthan and on the Peace Boat at the Suez Canal. In California, two dozen organizations distributed 15,000 pieces of literature at 34 rapid transit stations. In addition, IPB coordinated a bigger presence than ever on social media, including a '[selfie' campaign](#), a '[Thunderclap](#)' and lively networking via Facebook and Twitter. A full report will appear on our websites in the coming weeks. Meanwhile plans are developing for a year-round campaign to **Move the Money!**

Ukraine

Ukraine crisis prompts rethink on defense spending in Russia's European neighbors

Russia's readiness to use military force in Ukraine has been a wake-up call for many European countries, which since the Iron Curtain crumbled have slashed defense spending. Some shifted their priorities toward international missions in Afghanistan and elsewhere rather than deterring potential aggression from the East. Now, a serious recalibration is underway, particularly in countries with memories of Soviet tanks rumbling across their borders.

Ukraine Hikes Defense Spending Amid Crimea Crisis, Expands Arms Exports

The author argues that Ukraine's strategy in maintaining its sovereignty against Russia seems to be the investment in its defense forces. According to this commentary it consists of "a much-needed string of arms modernization and acquisition programs". Ukraine's president says any other expenses would not be worth anything. Considering Russia's amount of armed forces it is hardly a convincing strategy, but maybe offers a bright future market for European and American arms manufacturers. Ukraine should not fall back on provocative militarism and nationalism, since they won't win anything but suffering, death and economic decrease.

Russia commits to 18% budget rise

Russian government data has confirmed that the defence budget will increase by 18.4% in 2014 in line with previously announced plans. The increase means that military expenditure has now increased by 92.3% since 2010 in nominal terms.

A Russian view: Hiding the US-NATO military overkill

"America has spent about 40% of the total, annual global expenditures on defense, by all countries, for the past decade. In fact, in 2012, the US spent about \$600 billion on its military according to the OMB- could that be why we are \$17 trillion in debt? Now, how does that compare to the defense expenditures of Russia and China? The shocking truth is that those two alleged threats to US security (hegemony?) only spent about \$200 billion, China a little more than half of it, or one-third of what America did."

Europe Ramps Up Defense Posture Amid Russia Crisis

A deepening crisis in Ukraine has sharpened the defense policy of NATO member states in Eastern Europe, with the Estonia prime minister calling for higher military spending and Poland seeking early orders for missile defense and drones.

Ukraine Crisis Reader

The crisis in the Ukraine seems to grow in intensity and danger by the day. As in every conflict involving global military powers, there is a great deal of information that is being circulated on the Internet and by both mainstream and alternative media, much of it confusing, incomplete, conflicting and at times intentionally misleading. Have a look at this collection of mainstream and alternative media links.

Military Spending

USA -- Demilitarizing the Economy: A Movement is Underway

Communities in the USA that have been living off post-9/11 military budget surges are beginning to feel the effects of this (so far) modest shrinkage. This is the moment to deepen the defense downsizing, and make it endure. An essential piece of this task is to focus on helping communities and workers build alternatives to dependency on building weapon systems we don't need. The Institute for Policy studies has developed a comprehensive strategy for building this alternative economic foundation, linking action at the federal, state and local levels.

Obama plans to outspend Reagan on Nukes

President Obama released his FY 2015 budget on Tuesday, March 4. It asks for considerably more money (in constant dollars) for nuclear weapons maintenance, design and production than Reagan spent in 1985, the historical peak of spending on nukes: \$8.608 billion dollars, not counting administrative costs. Next year's request tops this year's by 7%. Should the President's new Opportunity, Growth and Security Initiative (OGSI) be approved, \$504 million more would be available for warhead spending. The OGSI is \$56 billion over and above the spending agreed to in the December 2013 two-year budget.

UK -- People not Trident: the economic case against Trident replacement

CND has published a new report: *People not Trident: the economic case against Trident replacement*. Collaborating with organisations such as the National Union of Teachers, Greenpeace and Keep our NHS Public, we show how £100 billion could be spent to make a difference in people's lives. Economist Michael Burke has written the introduction, highlighting not only the immediate potential benefits of these alternative investments, but also how they would have a positive, long-term effect on the economy.

UK -- Count military spending in foreign aid budget. Cameron urged

Nationalists and conservatives call for a recalculation of the British aid performance since the government still struggles to reach the UN-target of 0,7%/GDP in foreign aid. They demand the costs for wars in Afghanistan and Iraq or Libya should be counted in. However these kind of proposals are not new to the discussion and may increase euro-scepticism as the EU strongly supports the UN and the MDGs.

China's defence budget 2014 analysis

China's National People's Congress in March 2014 announced that it would increase its defence budget to 808.23 billion yuan (132 billion dollars). In 2013, it was 720.2 billion yuan (117 billion dollars) amounting to an increase of 12. 2 per cent (See, Table 1). China does not release any more than the breakdown of expenditure in broad categories, complicating investigation of the priorities. However, it is possible to assess broadly its defence expenditure through statements from officials, news reports and white papers. The 2014 budget does not show any drastic increase and is low compared to the GDP ratio. It however emphasises China's shift to structural reforms of the military, in particular utilisation of defence spending to boost investment in training, weaponry and equipment.

Opinion: Money for Food or for Nuclear Bombs?

"In the past few months, the U.S. Congress has failed to extend unemployment benefits for 1.3 million people and has passed legislation that will cut \$8.6 billion in food stamps over the next 10 years, affecting 850,000 households in 1/3 of the states. At the same time, the 2015 budget shows a 7% increase in spending on nuclear weapons, from \$18.6 billion to \$19.4 billion -- almost \$1 billion." Strange times, Madelyn Hoffman says.

Arms Trade

New SIPRI publication on trends in international arms transfers, 2013

The SIPRI Arms Transfers Database now contains information on all international transfers of major conventional weapons from 1950 to the end of 2013. It is the only publicly available resource providing consistent data on international arms transfers for this length of time. This Fact Sheet describes the trends in international arms transfers that are revealed by the new data. It lists the main suppliers and recipients for the period 2009–13 and describes the changes in regional trends.

Additional: New SIPRI figures, South Asia and the Gulf lead rising trend in arms imports, Russian exports grow

Sign the petition! No Canadian warplanes in Eastern Europe

The Harper government is sending CF-18 fighter-bombers and approximately 20 military personnel to support a NATO operation in Eastern Europe. Sign the petition to tell Harper you oppose Canadian military involvement in Eastern Europe, and urge Harper to pursue a diplomatic solution to the ongoing crisis in Ukraine.

Japan Ends Decades-Long Ban on Export of Weapons

Taking his nation another step away from its postwar pacifism, the government of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe discarded a nearly

half-century ban on the export of weapons and military hardware, a move aimed at helping Japan assume a larger regional security role to offset China's growing military might.

Additional: Abe administration seeks to revise ODA Charter to assist militaries

Weapons spending inches upward --Five-year projections, an industry view

The Pentagon's five-year projections for procurement spending on its 63 major weapons programs, submitted to Congress this month, has turned more positive than last year's spending forecast, according to an analysis of the US Defense Department's 63 top weapons programs compiled by analytical firm VisualDoD.

U.N. Marks First Anniversary of Arms Trade Treaty

One year after it was opened for signature 118 states have signed the Arms Trade Treaty. Proponents stress out the positive impact this treaty will have if adopted. 50 signatures are still missing for entry into force.

Additional: As major arms exporters ratify Arms Trade Treaty, WCC calls for more such action

Campaigners launch private prosecution against arms companies after London trade fair

Anti-arms trade campaigners in UK have launched an unprecedented private prosecution against two defence companies for allegedly marketing torture equipment at the world's largest weaponry fair in London. Lawyers said that the rare private proceedings were being mounted because state bodies had failed to act on allegations that laws banning the export of illegal weaponry were broken at the biennial Defence and Security Equipment International (DSEI) exhibition in London's Docklands in 2013.

Impacts of Weapons

Chagos islands: UK experts to carry out resettlement study

40 years ago the UK government forcibly evicted hundreds of Chagossian families from their homes in the Chagos Archipelago to make way for a massive US military base in the Indian Ocean south-west of India. The experts group now sent by the Foreign Office and not including Chagossians has the task to examine the possibilities of civil and economic resettlement on the island especially against the background of climate change and its impact on living conditions.

News from campaigns on landmines and cluster munitions

The latest news from ICBL-CMC includes the welcome announcement from Denmark that it has completed destruction of its stockpiled cluster munitions well ahead of the mandated treaty deadline, as well as disturbing reports of recent use of landmines in Crimea and cluster bombs in South Sudan. Also included is ICBL's challenge to states to finish the job as the Mine Ban Treaty turns 15, a spotlight on mine ban advocacy and action in Turkey, and lots more.



NUCLEAR WEAPONS



MISCELLANEOUS

Ten years after his release from Prison, Israeli nuclear whistleblower Mordechai Vanunu is still not free

Mordechai Vanunu remains under restrictions which require him to report and gain approval for any change in residence, to avoid diplomatic missions, not to speak to foreign nationals and which prevent

US Military Averaging More Than a Mission a Day in Africa

For years, the U.S. military has publicly insisted that its efforts in Africa are small scale. It turns out that the numbers do just the opposite. Last year, according to AFRICOM commander General David Rodriguez, the U.S. military carried out a total of 546 "activities" on the continent -- a catch-all term for everything the military does in Africa. In other words, it averages about one and a half missions a day. This represents a 217% increase in operations, programs, and

him from leaving Israel, a thing Mordechai has wished to do ever since his release from prison. Since his release he has been repeatedly harassed and taken in by police for questioning. He has served a further three months in prison for talking to foreigners, which he continues to do in spite of the restrictions. As we continue to work for a nuclear-free future, we invite people around the world to join us as we call on Israel to do the right thing, morally and legally, and finally lift Vanunu's restrictions without further delay, ten years after the original court-imposed sentence for his "crime" has expired. Mordechai Vanunu must at last be given his freedom.

Peter Weiss - special event: Climate Change Isn't the Only Thing That Threatens the Whole Planet's Future

Lawyers, scholars, policy experts and others gathered at New York's Downtown Community Television Center Wednesday evening with keen awareness that climate change isn't the only threat hanging over the whole planet's future. The event, organized by the Lawyers Committee on Nuclear Policy (LCNP), was meant to both honor its president emeritus, Peter Weiss, for his decades of work for nuclear disarmament, and highlight the ongoing need for such work.

Letter to Japanese Government on NPDI Ministerial Meeting in Hiroshima

Regarding the NPDI Ministerial Meeting to be held in Hiroshima on April 11-12, 2014, Masakazu Yasui, Secretary General of the Japan Council against A and H Bombs (IPB Member Gensuikyo) and others met a representative of the Japanese Foreign Ministry on April 8, and handed over the letter to the Government of Japan entitled "Towards the 2015 NPT Review Conference: We Call for Intense Effort to Achieve a Total Ban and Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, in Response to the People's Desire of the Only A-Bombed Country."

RESOURCES

'Worldwide Investments in Cluster Munitions: A shared responsibility'

Take look at this report from PAX on increased and decreased investments in cluster munitions, first published in 2009 and since then continuously updated.

Ban Nuclear Weapons Now! Voices from Hiroshima on YouTube

IPB member organization Peace Boat recorded this strong statement condemning nuclear weapons and

exercises since the command was established in 2008.

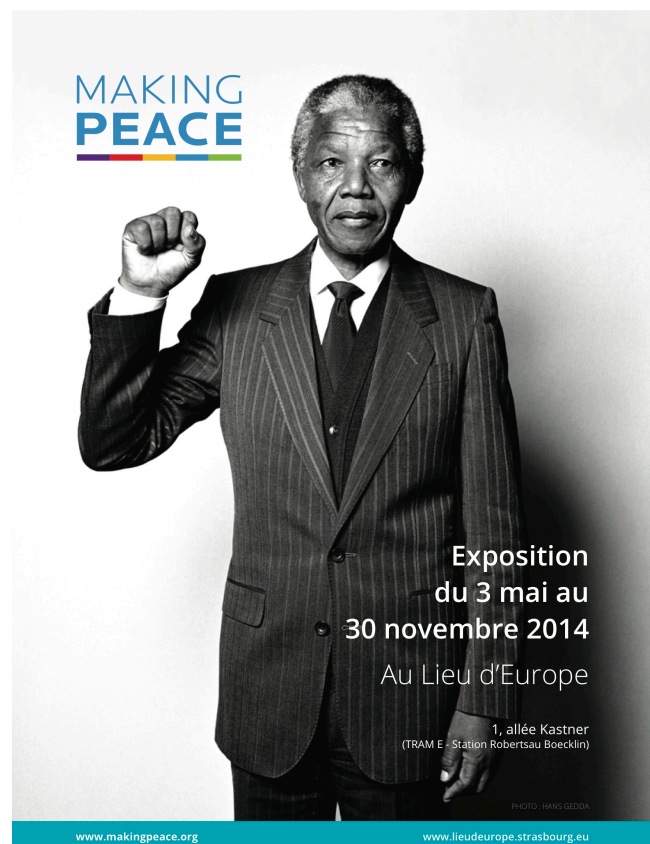
Successful launch of the European peace trails

Visit this site to find out where to walk exciting peace trails in Berlin, Budapest, Manchester, Paris, The Hague, Torino and Vienna and learn about peace and its long history.

MAKING PEACE



Making Peace photo exhibition – Latest news



Making Peace is being presented at the new Lieu d'Europe (European Center), **Strasbourg**, from the 3 May – 30 November 2014.

With its high-tech research and exhibition facilities, the new center provides an opportunity for the public and especially students to learn about the history of Europe. Notably it also pays tribute to the work of René Cassin: described as jurist, humanitarian, and internationalist. Cassin represented France at the League of Nations, where he was driving force behind the UN commission that drew up the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948. He was President of the European Court of Human Rights,

calling for reduced military spending.



The International Peace Bureau is a non-profit association founded in 1891, the oldest international peace organization, dedicated to the vision of a World Without War. Our network includes 300 member organisations in 70 countries. Our current main programme centres on Disarmament for Sustainable Development and we campaign mainly on the reduction of military expenditure. We depend on your support to continue working on this and a range of other topics, including nuclear and conventional disarmament, arms trade, peace education, culture of peace and peace history.

This Newsletter was edited by Malte Albrecht. If you have feedback or material for the next edition please send to: nletter@ipb.org

and received the [Nobel Peace Prize](#) in 1968.

The venue for this first showing of Making Peace in France is ideal as it is within walking distance of major European institutions including the Council of Europe (with its European Court of Human Rights), the International Institute of Human Rights (IIDH), and the European Parliament, all of which are regularly visited by schools who will have the opportunity of using the Making Peace Educators Guide designed by Christa Tinari (Peace Praxis).

Symbolically we are also planning on presenting Making Peace in **Sarajevo** where it will open on 28 June (until 21 September 2014) as part of the city's [commemorative program of events](#) marking the start of the First World War. More about this in the next edition.

If you or your organization would like to find out more about Making Peace or would like to see Making Peace presented in your town/city, please do let us know.

NB. Making Peace was produced by the **IPB** and curated by **Ashley Woods** (formerly with **Magnum** and **VII Photos**).

help@makingpeace.org

www.makingpeace.org



IPB is in need of support, please consider:

Leaving us a legacy or making an endowment or a simple donation. In this way you can enable IPB to plan its work more effectively and thus help to "save succeeding generations from the scourge of war". For more information, please contact: Víctor de la Barrera, Treasurer - victor@ipb.org - Tel: +41 (22) 731 6429

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NEWSLETTER



IPB NEWS – SUPPLEMENT

1st MAY 2014

Please read below some important extra items. Feel free to forward to interested persons. To subscribe to the newsletter [sign up here](#).

If you are unable to open the attachments, please write directly to: mailbox@ipb.org

Note : The April edition of IPB News was published yesterday April 30. If you did not receive it by email, please let us know – we can adjust our mailing lists.

For previous editions go to [our archive](#).

THE PEACE EVENT SARAJEVO 2014 IS ONLY FIFTY DAYS AWAY ! JOIN US !

Message from the International Preparatory Committee: Today, on April 17th, we are exactly fifty days away from the **Peace Event Sarajevo 2014** (6-9 June) and will be one of the major gatherings on Non-violence and Peace. It will be an important opportunity for all the participants to exchange their experiences, thoughts, ideas, knowledge, and passion for peacebuilding and human rights. It will offer a wide presentation of the Culture of Nonviolence and Peace we want to built for our world and it will approach a great variety of themes such as Social Justice, Gender, Women and Peace, Reconciliation and Dealing with the Past, Militarism and alternatives, Nonviolent actions, Human Security, analysis and testimonies from different regions of the world.

The activities of the Peace Event will include an international Forum, many cultural events, a Kids' zone, a Peace Fair and an international Youth Camp. Registration is still open for Forum and Youth camp participants.

www.peaceeventsarajevo2014.eu AND www.facebook.com/pages/Peace-Event-Sarajevo-2014 and <https://twitter.com/PeaceEvent2014>.

Media contact: press@peaceeventsarajevo2014.eu

My family in WWI project:

<http://www.peaceeventsarajevo2014.eu/page-for-article-collection/articles/my-family-in-ww1-appeal-to-work-with-us-for-june-678th-sarajevo-event-and-more.html>

MANAGEMENT OF THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE - A CASE FOR THE NORWEGIAN POLICE

22 April 2014. *Tomas Magnusson writes:* We wish to inform readers about the next step in our work to rescue the Peace Prize for the original vision of Suttner and IPB. Attached please find a letter of accusation sent to the Norwegian Økokrim (police department for economic crimes) on April 8, with a draft media release. In the letter you will find the reasons why we

are seeking help from the police to protect the rights of the peace and disarmament activists Nobel wished to support. The letter contains an updated summary of the evidence that shows Nobel's intention. Now that the documentation has been published for six years and not led to any changes, we have had to realize that in this issue we in reality face the raw power of militarism and they are not going to give up their prize voluntarily. To use the non-violent methods of conflict resolution that society provides in such situations, we have sent the attached letter of accusation to the Norwegian Økokrim. The media release was circulated on 24th April.

MARSHALL ISLANDS TAKE NUCLEAR POWERS TO COURT

MacBride Peace Prize laureate Jackie Cabasso writes: On April 24, [the Republic of the Marshall Islands \(RMI\) filed the Nuclear Zero Lawsuits in the International Court of Justice against all nine nuclear-armed nations](#), as well as against the United States in U.S. Federal District Court. RMI claims that the Nuclear Weapon States are in breach of Article VI of the NPT, which entered into force 16,121 days prior to the filing.

United for Peace and Justice is part of a consortium of NGOs working to highlight the legal and moral issues involved in the Nuclear Zero Lawsuits. We respect the courage of the plaintiff in bringing these lawsuits against some of the most powerful nations in the world.

We urge you to join us by raising your voice in support of the Nuclear Zero Lawsuits. Go to www.nuclearzero.org, where you can learn more about the lawsuits and sign the petition encouraging leaders of the Nuclear Weapon States to begin good-faith negotiations. A guide for NGOs and campaigners with more information, sample articles, social media tools, images and the actual court documents are at www.wagingpeace.org/nuclearzero.

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/apr/24/marshall-islands-sues-nine-nuclear-powers-failure-disarm>

<http://www.ndtv.com/article/world/former-us-test-site-sues-nuclear-nations-including-india-for-disarmament-failure-513285>

Letter from CND : <http://cnduk.org/cnd-media/item/1910-an-open-letter-to-president-loeak-of-the-marshall-islands>

NEW ROUND OF IPB ON-LINE COURSE: Disarmament for Sustainable Development

The International Peace Bureau and the Open University of Catalonia are pleased to announce that they have re-established their collaboration on their on-line course focussing on the IPB's programme **Disarmament for Sustainable Development** ('D for D'). The course is due to open on 1st October, and is open to adult students from any part of the world.

Announcement in English – Catalan – Spanish (but note the course is in English only):

http://www.uoc.edu/opencms_portal2/opencms/EN/campus_pau/formacio/ong/list.html
[Disarmament for Development \(Course description\)](#)

Dates: October 1, 2014 - February 15, 2015

Cost: Registration + Enrolment fees: €300

Course description summary: IPB's and UOC's Disarmament for Development programme focuses on a set of issues often overlooked by those working on poverty or peacemaking:

military spending and the impacts of weapons on development. This course deals with both the issues and the ways of campaigning on the topic.

For more information write to: secretariacp@uoc.edu, mailbox@ipb.org

NPT SIDE-MEETINGS: PREPCOMM OF THE NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY REVIEW CONFERENCE – NEW YORK

Once again NGOs are active at the PrepComm of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference. IPB is working with our member organisations IALANA (lawyers) and INES (scientists and engineers), and others, to run a series of important side-meetings, during the first week of the PrepComm. See **flyer attached** for all details. Topics covered include nuclear weapons in Europe; nuclear weapons and automatization; strategies to reach a world without nuclear weapons; and the nuclear weapons-nuclear energy linkage. There will also be a day conference on *Facing the Danger of a 21st Century Great Power War: A Conference on the Centenary of World War I*.

BARCELONA CONFERENCE: A CENTURY OF WAR AND PEACE

Jordi Calvo of the IPB member organisation the Centre Delas writes: We are proud to invite you to our next “**Trobada de Barcelona: A century of war and peace in the world**”, which will take place in Barcelona on the evenings of 8th and 9th May. A series of expert speakers from Catalonia and beyond will address topics such as: *Progress and limits of world governance in preventing war; a century of armed conflict and peace processes; and citizenship, movements and building a peaceful world.* [FULL TEXT](#)

BRUSSELS CONSULTATION ON MILITARY SPENDING

IPB Secretary-General Colin Archer has been invited to make a presentation on military spending at an invitation-only UN consultation on May 15, organised by Prof Alfred de Zayas, Independent Expert for a Democratic and Equitable World Order.

IPB AWARDED QUAKER GRANT

We are delighted to report that IPB has been awarded a two year grant by a British Quaker trust, the Polden-Puckham Charitable Foundation. The money is given to support the new programme **Move the Money!** which builds on the [Global Day of Action on Military Spending](#). **Further contributions are urgently needed.**

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The International Peace Bureau is dedicated to the vision of a World Without War. We are a

*Nobel Peace Laureate (1910), and over the years 13 of our officers have also been recipients of the Nobel Peace Prize. Our 300 member organisations in 70 countries, and individual members, form a global network bringing together expertise and campaigning experience in a common cause. IPB has UN Consultative Status since 1977 and is the Secretariat for the NGO Committee for Disarmament (Geneva). Our main programme centres on **Disarmament for Sustainable Development**, of which the **Global Day of Action on Military Spending** is a key part.*

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/ipb1910>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/IntlPeaceBureau>

- **Global Day of Action on Military Spending:** *April 14, 2014. Reports at: <http://gdams.org>*
- **Making Peace photo-exhibition** *curated by Ashley Woods of REAL Exhibition Development (already shown in [Geneva](#), [Utrecht](#) and [Stockholm](#) (Nobel Museum). Many other locations being planned. <http://www.makingpeace.org>*
- **Sarajevo Peace Event:** *June 6 - 9, 2014 - <http://www.peaceeventsarajevo2014.eu/>*
- **On-line course 'Disarmament for Development'** - *October 1, 2014 - February 15, 2015*
http://www.uoc.edu/opencms_portal2/opencms/EN/campus_pau/formacio/ong/list.html

*To subscribe to our **newsletter** or join IPB as a **member** (organisation or individual) go to our main website.*

Please consider: Leaving us a legacy or making an endowment or a simple donation. In this way you can enable us to plan our work more effectively and thus help to "save succeeding generations from the scourge of war" .

Donate online now at: <http://www.ipb.org/web/index.php?mostra=content&menu=Support&submenu=Donate>

NPT PrepComm 2014: Side meetings

The last Prep-Com prior to the NPT Review Conference 2015 will take place from 28th April 2014 – 9th May 2014 in New York.

A few weeks after the Mexico conference addressing the humanitarian consequences of nuclear arms, the discussions on nuclear disarmament are back on the international agenda. Official and civil society supporters of a world without nuclear arms meet again with those who insist on retaining them (particularly the P5).

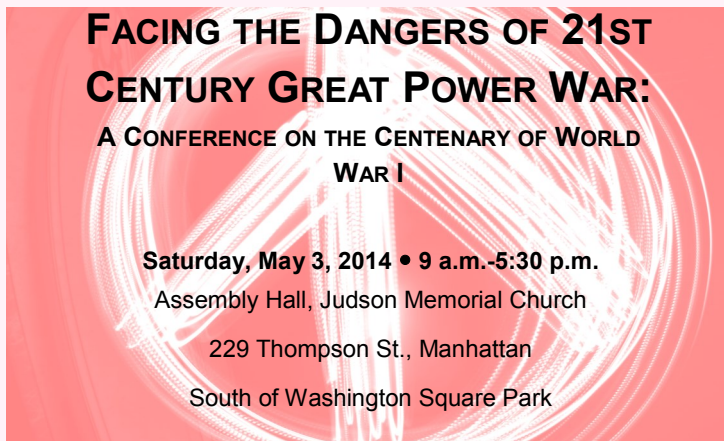
IPB, INES, and IALANA with the support of the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation and Foundation Peace Education are organizing a series of joint “Side Events” at the PrepCom once again. These can be found in the attached flyer. (Please pay attention to the different venues).

We cordially invite you to participate in the discussions.

We would like especially to refer to the conference on Saturday 3rd May: Facing the Danger of a 21st Century Great Power War: A Conference on the Centenary of World War I.

You are cordially invited to participate in these interesting debates.

Colin Archer; Reiner Braun; Lucas Wirl



Conference conveners and sponsors:

American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), Peace and Economic Security Program (PES); International Peace Bureau (IPB); and the International Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms (IALANA) and its U.S. affiliates, Lawyers Committee on Nuclear Policy (LCNP), Rosa Luxemburg Foundation (RLF) and the Western States Legal Foundation (WSLF)

Endorsing Organizations:

Abolition 2000 Global Network to Eliminate Nuclear Weapons (Abolition 2000),
Peace Action

NPT SIDE EVENTS

1. Nuclear Weapons in Europe – stop the process of modernization – start steps to disarmament

[Monday, April 28, 10-13, Room C](#)

With: Dave Webb (CND, GB), Arielle Denis (ICAN, France), Lisa Clark (Beati i Costruttore di Pace, Italy), Ludo de Brabander (vrede, Belgium), Peter Becker (IALANA)

2. The revolution in nuclear technology: nuclear weapons and automatization

[Tuesday, April 29, 10-13, UN Church Center](#)

With: Reiner Braun (IALANA/IPB, Germany), Subrata Ghoshroy (USA/ India), Claus Montonen (INES, Finland), Andrew Lichterman (WSLF, USA)

3. Strategies to reach a world without nuclear weapons – how to reach an international draft agreement for a nuclear weapons free world and a start of negotiations?

[Wednesday, April 30, 15-18, UN Church Center](#)

With: David Krieger (Middle Power Initiative/INES, USA), Alyn Ware (PNND, New Zealand), Susi Snyder (Pax Christi international), Yayoi Tsuchida (Gensuikyo, Japan)

4. Nuclear weapons and nuclear energy – abolish both

[Thursday, May 1, 10-13, UN Church Center](#)

With: Dave Webb (CND, GB), David Krieger (Middle Power Initiative/INES, USA), Peter Becker (IALANA), NN (Japan), Jackie Cabasso (WSLF, USA)

ABOUT

IALANA:

IALANA is an international association of lawyers and lawyers' organisations working for the elimination of nuclear arms, the strengthening of international law and development of effective mechanisms for the peaceful settlement of international disputes. www.ialana.info

INES:

The International Network of Engineers and Scientists for global responsibility (INES) is an independent non-profit-organisation concerned about the impact of science and technology on society. www.inesglobal.com

IPB:

The International Peace Bureau is dedicated to the vision of a World Without War. Their current main programme centres on Sustainable Disarmament for Sustainable Development and they campaign mainly on the reduction of military expenditure. www.ipb.org

ROSA LUXEMBURG FOUNDATION:

The Rosa Luxemburg Foundation is an internationally operating, progressive non-profit institution for civic education affiliated with Germany's "Die Linke" (Left Party). Active since 1990, the foundation has been committed to the analysis of social processes and developments worldwide.

www.info@rosalux-nyc.org

Foundation Peace Education:

The Peace Education Foundation works on peace education and building movements for peace. They work towards the aim: „Create peace without arms“. Therefore they support organisations for peace movement especially civilian conflict management and peace education. www.friedensbildung.org

CONTACT

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Side Events at the NPT PrepCom in New York

April 28 to May 9

2014



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(TRANSLATION into English from the original in Norwegian,
by Fredrik S. Heffermehl)

Oslo, April 8, 2014

ØKOKRIM,
The Norwegian National Authority for Investigation and Prosecution of
Economic and Environmental Crime
C. J. Hambros plass 2C
0164 Oslo, Norway

REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION
- UNLAWFUL MANAGEMENT OF THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

Thanking you for the meeting on 26.3 2014 with Thomas Skjelbred, the Deputy director of ØKOKRIM, I am glad that the Norwegian National Authority for Investigation and Prosecution of Economic Crime will look into potential criminal aspects of the Norwegian management of "the prize for the champions of peace (fredsförfäktare)" established by Alfred Nobel.

We follow up with this letter of accusation. Those who bear particular responsibility for the misuse of the Nobel Prize are the Nobel Committee chair, Thorbjørn Jagland, and the committee secretary, Geir Lundestad. Their acts may be violations of the Penal Code § 255, jf. § 256 (grave embezzlement) and § 275, jf. § 276 (grave breach of trust). Enterprise liability based on § 48 a is also a possibility, considering subsection 2 that includes *foundations* in the concept *enterprise* in subsection 1.

GENERAL BACKGROUND FOR THE REQUEST

Prosecution is not an end in itself. But after six years of work, countless requests to the Norwegian Nobel Committee, the Swedish Nobel Foundation, the Norwegian and Swedish Foundation Authorities to have the prize awarded to winners that meet the requirements of the Nobel testament, we see no other solution.

The historical backdrop in this case is that Swedish inventor and industrialist Alfred Nobel in his later years took a keen interest in the cause of peace. He created the "prize for the champions of peace" to provide financial support for the efforts to abolish the military in all countries, and replacing power with law in international politics. Over the years, the Nobel Committee has forgotten the

testament and the prize has been awarded more and more frequently to other people and organizations than the intended beneficiaries. This is illegal and punishable.

The prehistory of this request is the following: The demand that the Nobel Committee must examine its mandate and the purpose of the prize was first put forward in an article in *Aftenposten* on August 14, 2007, see **Attachment 1**. A legal analysis of the purpose was presented in the spring of 2008, in letters both to the Nobel Committee and the Parliament, by the then President (later the Nobel chair) Thorbjørn Jagland. I have since researched and substantiated the demand for a change of the selection policy and a full replacement of the committee members in the book *Nobel's will* (Vidarforlaget, 2008). The Nobel Prizes have been awarded since 1901, but this book is the first known legal assessment of the award's purpose. It was followed up with a greatly expanded book in English, *The Nobel Peace Prize. What Nobel Really Wanted* (Praeger, 2010) which was later published in several translations, Chinese, Finnish, Spanish, and Swedish: *Nobels fredspris. Visionen som försvann*, (Leopard, 2011 – The Nobel Peace Prize. The vision that disappeared). In addition, I have published a large number of newspaper and journal articles.

All attempts to have an honest and genuine debate about the prize and the mandate have failed. During six years, the Committee has not once related to 1) the legal significance of the testator's intention, or 2) what kind of peace work Nobel wished the prize to support, and 3) the term "champions of peace (fredsförfäktare)." Neither Parliament nor the Nobel Committee has shown any interest in what Nobel intended. This made it necessary to try also complaints to the public agencies for the monitoring of foundations.

The Norwegian Foundations Authority considers the case to belong under Swedish authorities, the seat of a foundation is where its money is being managed. Based on my requests the Swedish Foundations Authority (The *Länsstyrelsen* (the County Administrative Board of Stockholm)) opened an investigation in January 2012. This case was concluded on March 21, 2012, with the Authority expecting that a number of measures would be implemented to ensure compliance with the testator's description of purpose. The Authority assumed that the Nobel Foundation in its response had given satisfactory assurances of being aware of its ultimate and superior responsibility for ensuring that all prizes are awarded in accordance with the purpose stipulated in the will of Nobel and thereby in conformity with the law. By these promises to the County Board the Nobel Foundation obtained a dismissal of the case from further investigation. However, once the investigation had been shelved, the Swedish Nobel Foundation applied to a different authority, the Kammarkollegiet, to be exempted from its obligation to supervise the decisions of the Norwegian Committee. The case has yet to be decided, but the Foundations Authority in a submission to the Kammarkollegiet has advised sharply against exempting the Nobel Foundation from its full responsibility for

the peace prize.

Many will undoubtedly have reservations to raising questions with political implications with the police. They should be resolved through the ordinary course of public debate. I fully agree. But for democracy and the rule of law to function some preconditions are indispensable. In this case, the Nobel Committee has refused to take any account of the Nobel testament as a limitation of its freedom of action. Solicitations that they award the prize in accordance with the will – even orders from a public authority that they do so – have had no effect. Freedom of speech becomes of no value when those entrusted with societal power do not heed protests based on solid documentation of criminal conduct and abuse of power.

Perhaps the most serious in this matter is that the subjects of this complaint seem to feel free to push ahead confident that society's law enforcement agencies will not enforce the laws against them. The case therefore raises fundamental questions of democracy. Politicians are elected on a mandate and must, like everyone else, abide by the laws. This is elementary and should, of course, not least be clear to Jagland. In the Nobel case he violates the very values of democracy and rule of law that he is tasked with promoting in his high office in the Council of Europe. His attitude to obeying the law and to public debate must not become the common norm; if it should we would no longer have neither democracy nor rule of law.

As evidence in the case I filed, in the meeting with ØKOKRIM, my Swedish book on the Nobel Peace Prize and a four-page resume of salient points. Both in that resume (dated March 26, 2014) and in the following references to pages are - unless otherwise stated - to my Swedish book on the Nobel prize. To the extent desirable I will be pleased to assist ØKOKRIM with further references or documentation.

LEGAL BASIS

The law is not a problem in this case. According to the Inheritance Act § 65, what the testator "meant" - his subjective will – is to be implemented. What Nobel actually "meant" is a question of evidence. The political ideas and concepts of the period are the key to a correct understanding of Nobel's purpose. Studying the evidence I discovered a concept that Nobel had used in the testament, but nobody had noticed. Nobel used the expression "the prize for the champions of peace" about the recipients, and this is the simplest and safest intake to the testator's intention. Clear evidence of how Nobel understood the concept "champions of peace" are found in his correspondence with Bertha von Suttner.

Nobel had reacted with strong enthusiasm to the Suttner bestseller *Lay down your arms* (1889), he joined her Austrian society of the friends of peace as a

member, supported her work financially and promised her to “do something great” for the movement (60-61). The prehistory of the will is well summarized in the book Kenne Fant wrote on Alfred Nobel (see p. 51-52, p. 229-232 in my book (even if Fant probably is wrong when he says that Nobel immediately wrote to Suttner once he had signed the will (p. 232)).

By the will Nobel made a clear choice of side in the battle between two diametrically opposed views on the possibility of an agreement between all countries in full disarmament. The two views are described as follows in a contemporary report from the peace conference in The Hague in 1899:

In the debate on ending armaments two world views were clearly exposed: Those who believed in the road of trust and cooperation were opposing those praising the old belief that nothing other than weapons can solve international conflicts. This latter category did their best to sabotage the deliberations.

(quoted from Heffermehl ”*The Nobel Peace Prize, What Nobel Really Wanted,*” p. 21).

Ragnvald Moe, secretary of the Nobel Committee (1910 to 1946) wrote in his work in French on *The Nobel prize and the peace movement* (Aschehoug, 1932) that the language in the final will was chosen to cover more fully the various aspects of the work of the peace movement of the 1890s (p. 99).

This clear evidence makes it superfluous to discuss the three terms "fraternity / disarmament / peace congresses" in Nobel's will. Much wrong and confusing has been said about them, but it is sufficient to note that they square well with the evidence of whom Nobel envisioned as the "champions of peace," namely Suttner and her friends of peace. This is also how it was perceived by contemporaries, including the Swedish King Oscar II who complained that "[Nobel] had come under the influence of visionaries and in particular women [sic]" (p. 35) and by leading Norwegian politicians in 1901 and the next few years. For example by foreign minister Jørgen Løvland in 1904 (p. 116) and in 1910, as recalled in 2010 by the Minister of Knowledge Tora Aasland (p. 276-7). Further, in 1901 and 1906 respectively, by the Presidents of Parliament Carl Berner and Gunnar Knudsen (pp. 86-87).

Nobel left to the Parliament of Norway the appointment of five members of the award committee because our Parliament at the time of Nobel was a leader in promoting the peace program Nobel wished to support. There still are people supporting the idea of creating a disarmed "fraternity of nations" (p. 265-267), and they are more important than ever. But today the Parliament holds the opposite view. There is bipartisan consensus in Parliament on an increase of the military budget from year to year. The testament is the same, but the majority in Norwegian politics has abandoned the Nobel approach, and misuses his funds to freely promote their own ideas, a unison belief in and commitment to military

strength and power games as the way to an enduring peace. This abuse of the Nobel money has become possible by cultivating the concept of a general "Peace Prize" and the idea that they are free to design its content, completely disconnected from Nobel 's intentions and the rules of law on how wills must be read (what Nobel "meant"). References to evidence of this being their practice (quoted from my book in English) are found in my letter November 11, 2010, to the Swedish Foundations Authority, **Attachment 2**.

A good and very revealing description of the Committee's practice was given by the Nobel committee secretary Geir Lundestad in an article published at the Nobel Foundation's website in 2001. In Lundestad's view, the prize would not have been such a success

had it not been for the decent, even highly respectable, record the Norwegian Nobel committee has established in its selections over these 100 years. One important element of this record has been the committee's broad definition of peace, enough to take in virtually any relevant field of peace work.

. . . although the Norwegian Nobel committee never formally defined "peace," in practice it came to interpret the term ever more broadly. [Emphasis added.]
(original text is in English, quoted from Heffermehl "The Nobel Peace Prize, What Nobel Really Wanted," p. 77).

Lundestad here provides an accurate, entirely correct description of the committee's thinking. In plain language, he writes that the committee interprets the term "peace" more and more broadly, i.e. it decides on the basis of a term that does not come from the will. Particularly remarkable is the fact that Lundestad envisions the possibility of having "formally defined" the term "peace." The thought that Nobel's own description and intention might be of any importance does not occur to him at all. Such a practice is not even close to being called an interpretation, it completely ignores Nobel and his will. Nobel's purpose obviously bears no weight.

Had the task been to award a general "peace prize" it would have been acceptable to adapt the content over time, to shifting ideas. The specific idea of the Nobel prize is a choice of route, to create peace through disarmament, the opposite of peace through armament. This idea does not change over time, but the committee's use of the concept "Peace Prize" has continued unaffected by all requests to the Nobel Committee to study the testament and implement the intention of Nobel. The committee leader Thorbjørn Jagland again and again, even though he should know better, has used terms like "peace / cause of peace / peace work" and formulations of the type: ".... who has done most for the cause of peace in 2009?" (Nobel speech for Barack Obama).

Furthermore, the Nobel Committee has not shown any respect for the detailed orders in the aforementioned decision of March 21, 2012, of the Swedish Foundations Authority. In its submission to the Authority the Norwegian Nobel Committee had claimed that it was autonomous and independent and not to take instructions from anyone. The Authority pointed out that his was a false view, the Norwegian committee is subordinate to the board of the Nobel Foundation in Stockholm.

DISCRETION TO PROSECUTE AND ØKOKRIM'S PRIORITIES

During six years working with the Nobel testament, I have become more and more concerned with what the practice and selections tell us about a decline in democratic culture and respect for the rule of law. When the Norwegian book, *Nobel 's will* (2008), had no effect it was followed up with a second book in English (2010), supplemented by a part II which is using the responses to my criticism of the Nobel Prize as a case study of power and politics. My conclusion is clear: the attitudes Jagland and Lundestad have toward the law, power, and the legal rights of political opponents is problematic. Democracy and the rule of law depends on an honest, fact-based and truth-seeking debate to function.

The first reaction of Jagland, in a letter to me June 24, 2008, was that the Parliament had not passed any act on the Nobel prize and therefore could not be in breach of law (p. 144). Jagland has never changed this bizarre attitude, in actual practice he has, both in selections of winners and public debates a.o. with me, acted as if the laws are without any interest as a frame that political activity must be kept within. My orientation of July 10, 2008, to Jagland, then president of Parliament, on the applicable legislation and the idea that Nobel wished to support follows as **Attachment 3**. The core of the problem with the Jagland and Lundestad management of the Nobel prize was formulated already in a short article in Dagbladet on October 28, 2008, where Gunnar Garbo, a former Member of Parliament for the Liberal Party and a Norwegian ambassador, wrote on the book "*Nobel 's will*" (2008):

"A conspicuous silence surrounds the accusation that Fredrik Heffermehl has directed to Parliament and the Nobel Institute in his recent book "Nobel's will." What Heffermehl documents, is something that not only the awarders, but most of us have overlooked: that those who manage Nobel's will are not entitled to interpret the purpose of the award in their own best judgment. They are bound by law and justice to select the winners that best correspond to what the testator meant.

...

Fredrik Heffermehl accuses the Norwegian awarders of breaking the laws. They can keep silent, but they cannot silence him away. A serious accusation requires a response. *Either they must prove that his legal and ethical arguments do not hold. Or they have to admit that he is right and*

change their practice accordingly. This is a moral challenge not only to the committee, but to the Norwegian Storting as well." (two phrases put in italics here).

Central to the democratic rule of law is the framework of law that politics and politicians are bound to operate within. If a political majority violates the law and neither the political nor the administrative control mechanisms do work, the institutions established to enforce the law are the last barrier to ensure people the protection of the law. Such considerations are strong grounds of principle for ØKOKRIM to accommodate the request for an investigation to be opened.

The democratic rule of law is a method of non-violent conflict resolution, based on, inter alia, that everyone must obey the law. The obligation to comply with the law should not at least be clear to the legislators, they are not themselves above the law. This is elementary. But this is precisely how Thorbjørn Jagland has acted in this matter. Since June 2008 he has consistently behaved as if he has full confidence that the laws will not be enforced against the Nobel Committee.

In a similar way Geir Lundestad obviously expects that so few will react that the committee does not have to consider the will of Nobel, but is free to define his own "Peace Prize." When the Swedish Foundations Authority emphasized that the will has to be followed and that the supreme and final responsibility rests with the Nobel Foundation in Stockholm the Norwegian Committee must have realized that it has a problem. The purpose of having an application submitted to Kammarkollegiet was, according to Lundestad in a statement to me in June 2013, to ensure that the Norwegian committee should be completely free from all constraints - also from Nobel and his will. The statements of Lundestad on the historical aspects of the purpose of the peace prize appear odd coming from a professor of history.

The unwillingness to show any interest in Nobel's purpose and to consider evidence and arguments regarding Nobel's purpose has lasted for more than six years. The determination to break the law has thus been firm and enduring and it is hard to believe that the two have acted in good faith.

Finally; Those entrusted with social power cannot be permitted to operate without respect for democracy and the rule of law. Ignoring dissent and mowing down dissidents is a dangerous path to embark on. If we allow such norms to become political standard, how much democracy do we then have?

Respectfully,

Fredrik S. Heffermehl

Attachment 1: Article, Aftenposten August 14, 2007, *Peace prize in danger.*

Attachment 2: Survey sent to Länsstyrelsen November 11, 2010, on actual practice.

Attachment 3: Letter July 10, 2008, FSH to President of Parliament Jagland.

We support and give our backing to the request for investigation and prosecution:

Anna-Lisa Björneberg, Sweden, chair of Fredsam (Gothenburg),
Nils Christie, Norway, professor, University of Oslo
Erik Dammann, Norway, founder “Future in our hands,” Oslo
Thomas Hylland Eriksen, Norway, professor, University of Oslo
Ståle Eskeland, Norway, professor of criminal law, University of Oslo
Erni Friholt, Sweden, Peace movement of Orust
Ola Friholt, Sweden, Peace movement of Orust
Gunnar Garbo, Norway, ex MP, leader of *Venstre*, the Liberal Party
Lars-Gunnar Liljestrand, Sweden, Chair of the Association of FiB lawyers
Tomas Magnusson, Sweden, ex President, International Peace Bureau
Birger Schlaug, Sweden, author, ex MP
Sören Sommelius, Sweden, author and culture journalist
Maj-Britt Theorin, Sweden, ex President, International Peace Bureau
Gunnar Westberg, Sweden, Professor, ex Co-President IPPNW (Nobel peace prize 1985)
Jan Öberg, TFF, Sweden, Transnational Foundation for Peace and Future Research.

From: 16 Scandinavians (list of names/backgrounds at bottom)
Spokespersons: Fredrik S. Heffermehl, Norway (details below)
Tomas Magnusson, Sweden (details below)

Media release

April 23, 2014

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION OF NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

The management of the Nobel Peace Prize has become a case for the Norwegian police, following a request for criminal investigation from 16 prominent Scandinavians, parliamentarians, lawyers, authors and peace activists, 10 Swedes and 6 Norwegians, to the authority on economic crime, the ØKOKRIM. The move is based on the research of Norwegian lawyer Fredrik S. Heffermehl who in his books has called for respect for Alfred Nobel and the peace plan he wished to support. -- In his last years Nobel joined the peace movement and wished to support financially its idea of co-operation on disarmament to replace military force and forces. The Norwegian Parliament that appoints the five-member committee must step down and be replaced by people who favor the idea of the prize," says Heffermehl. He claims that his demands through 6 years, and even an order in March 2012 from the Swedish Foundations Authority have not led the awarders to show any interest in Nobel and what he really wanted. This is unlawful and criminal, and the requested police investigation comes as a last resort to secure justice for "the champions of peace" Nobel specified in his will.

The letter of accusation points in particular to Thorbjørn Jagland, the chair of the Nobel Committee and the incumbent Secretary General of the Council of Europe, and to Geir Lundestad, the powerful secretary of the committee. "The laws must be respected also by politicians, it is particularly worrisome that the Nobel awarders act as if they were above the law and seem to feel confident that society will not enforce the law against them," says Sweden's Tomas Magnusson, a former president of the International Peace Bureau. "Ignoring dissent and mowing down dissidents is a dangerous path to embark on. If we allow such norms to become political standard, how much democracy do we then have?"

CONTACT FOR FURTHER COMMENTS:

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Foundations Authority decision, books etc.: <http://www.nobelwill.org>

The 16 persons signing the request for criminal investigations are:

Anna-Lisa Björneberg, Sweden, chair of Fredsam (Gothenburg),

Nils Christie, Norway, professor, University of Oslo
Erik Dammann, Norway, founder “Future in our hands,” Oslo
Thomas Hylland Eriksen, Norway, professor, University of Oslo
Ståle Eskeland, Norway, professor of criminal law, University of Oslo
Erni Friholt, Sweden, Peace movement of Orust
Ola Friholt, Sweden, Peace movement of Orust
Gunnar Garbo, Norway, ex MP, leader of *Venstre*, the Liberal Party
Fredrik S. Heffermehl, Norway, lawyer and author on the Nobel Peace Prize
Lars-Gunnar Liljestrand, Sweden, Chair of the Association of FiB lawyers
Tomas Magnusson, Sweden, ex President, International Peace Bureau
Birger Schlaug, Sweden, author, ex MP
Sören Sommelius, Sweden, author and culture journalist
Maj-Britt Theorin, Sweden, ex President, International Peace Bureau
Gunnar Westberg, Sweden, Professor, ex Co-President IPPNW (Nobel peace prize 1985)
Jan Öberg, TFF, Sweden, Transnational Foundation for Peace and Future Research.