



ACTION PLAN 2021-2023
INTERNATIONAL PEACE BUREAU:
(RE) IMAGINING OUR WORLD AND
TAKING ACTION FOR PEACE & JUSTICE

The world is at a crossroads between destruction at the hands of a multitude of global crises or a new path to sustainable peace. The strategic competition of the great powers increases dramatically the danger of a long-term great power tension and conflict, we need strategic cooperation. We can only solve the planetary emergency through cooperation. The IPB and our network of global peace advocates and social activists are dedicated to following through on our vision for a better world, one developed on the pillars of sustainable peace and justice. The World Peace Congress in Barcelona must serve as more than a gathering of like-minded individuals discussing what a better world looks like; we must take immediate and steadfast action to make this world a reality. Together with our allies we envision an IPB action plan for the coming years. This includes a global cease fire, as suggested by the UN General Secretary as an essential condition for a more peaceful world.

This plan outlines not only IPB's peace work, but also the important overlaps between our own work and that of diverse social movements – environmentalists, human and workers' rights advocates, indigenous communities, anti-racists, and more. Only by connecting our movements can we create meaningful and comprehensive progress toward sustainable peace.

It is with these considerations in mind that we outline the actions we have planned for the coming years. This plan does not claim to be complete, but rather a collection of activities and actions that have been established to follow up on the groundwork built at the World Peace Congress.

Furthermore, these actions and ideas serve as guidance in IPB's continuation of awarding the Seán MacBride Peace Prize, which will recognize actions by committed individuals in peace and social movements that contribute to a more peaceful world.

IPB World Peace Congress

IPB remains committed to continuing our 5-year rhythm of the World Peace Congress and is happy to invite all to join us in 2026 for the 3rd Congress in the Asia-Pacific.

Equally, we will follow up on the Barcelona Congress by continuing our engagement with local and regional peace organizations for the organization of a regional conference on peace in the Mediterranean region and migration.

Disarmament and Arms Expenditure: “The world is over armed and peace is underfunded” (former UN SG Ban Ki-moon)

We cannot prevent wars and will never reach the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) without worldwide disarmament. Disarmament is a guiding principle of IPB's peace work.

- IPB commits to an intensive preparation of the Global Days of Action on Military Spending (GDAMS) actions in April-May 2022. As a highlight, we are planning a Europe-wide action and rally in Brussels, in front of the NATO headquarters to protest against the absurd military expenditure of the alliance. The pandemic and devastations wrought by the climate crisis underline again that we need the money for social services above all for our underfinanced health care systems and to defend against and reverse the climate emergency.
- IPB will also coordinate regional events and connections with other social movements related to military spending. IPB seeks to draw attention to:
 - Military spending and disarmament in Central and East Asia
 - The digitalization/robotization and automation of armaments
 - Linkages between military emissions, the climate emergency, as well as the role of climate change in propagating wars.
 - NATO military policy
 - Connections between military spending and social spending, especially the enormous cost wasted on the modernization, maintenance and even increase of nuclear weapons
 - Weapons in space, automatization and robotization of the new arms and the arms technology.
- We will develop a central channel for disarmament news and activities of our partners to link activities in different regions.
- We will work diligently with our partners to establish a project on Conversion and Conversion Strategies.
- Lastly, IPB will work closely with parliamentarians, particularly through the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), to raise the issue of disarmament for development.

Nuclear Weapons

We are, according to the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists' Doomsday Clock, one hundred seconds to midnight; there is an enormous risk of an escalatory spiral to a nuclear war. But there is also hope with the anti-nuclear movement and the new Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW).

- **TPNW:** Toward the first MSP, we will call on all nuclear-armed states and their allies to seriously consider joining the TPNW.

- IPB will call for international joint actions to mobilize public support especially in these pro-nuclear states to reveal the truth and defeat the fallacy of nuclear deterrence policy, to urge political changes in these countries.
- IPB will be an active participant in the **First Meeting of State Parties** for the TPNW in March 2022 in Vienna, alongside our friends and colleagues, including the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN).
- **NPT**: IPB will demand that the nuclear weapon states must strictly observe and implement the promises they have made in the past NPT conferences, including “the unequivocal undertaking to eliminate their nuclear arsenals” agreed in 2000, “to achieve the peace and security of a world without nuclear weapons” in 2010, as well as Article 6 of the Treaty itself.
- IPB will call for greater people’s pressure on these governments to the above demands, and to that end
 - Together with our Austrian and other international partners, we will host our own meeting in Vienna, prior to the conference, on the topic of arms spending and nuclear weapons.
 - IPB is doing own actions and supporting coalitions for pushing more governments to sign and ratify the TPNW.
- Together with the US-based Peace and Planet, we will also organize events prior to and during the **NPT conference** in New York in January 2022. We will participate in the NGO actions for the NPT conference with several events.
- IPB will be an active part of the Hiroshima/Nagasaki commemoration events and the **Peace Wave** in August and an active supporter of the campaign “Divestment and Nuclear Weapons”.
- As a founding member of the Nuclear Free Europe Network, IPB will continue to develop activities and events to pressure European governments to end their nuclear sharing arrangements and, on a larger scale, rid the continent of nuclear weapons.

Arms Trade

IPB will work with global partners to prepare an international conference in 2023 on the abolition of arms exports and imports. IPB continue supports activities for investments in the arms industry.

Anti-Militarism and Nonviolence

The **World Social Forum** in Mexico City in April 2022 is the central meeting for social movements from around the world. IPB is an active part of the team organizing gatherings on the theme of peace. This work will include a strong focus on small arms and light weapons and their connection to war and migration.

Common Security

IPB is an active part in the steering committee and high-level commission of the **Common Security 2022**, a report that seeks to revitalize the concept originally presented by the Olof Palme Committee in 1982. The high-level seminars, coordinated by IPB and our partners, will carry into 2022 and contribute to the development of the final report in April 2022.

- Upon its release, we will actively develop and disseminate the report. We will draw international attention to topic through an informational advocacy campaign and a series of public events.
- We see this report as a milestone, adding value to large actions around the 50th anniversary of the OSCE conference 2025 in Helsinki.
- Building from the Common Security report and related initiatives, IPB will create a working group to advance Common Security diplomacy and initiatives.

Culture of Peace

IPB supports the idea of developing a new document and campaign for “Culture for Peace in the 21st Century”.

Global Challenges: Justice!

Climate and Peace

Climate justice is not achievable without peace and disarmament. The last report of IPCC is again an alarming warning sign. There is no time to lose.

- We plan to build an international climate-peace network with organizations working on different components of these issues and highlighting the overlaps between our work.
- We will actively participate in **COP 26** in Glasgow in November 2021 alongside the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND), bringing the theme of peace and disarmament into the discussion on the climate emergency.
- We want to inform about military as climate killer, the importance of the emissions by military actions and exercises.

A Global Social Contract

The close cooperation between IPB and international trade unions (ITUC and UNI Global Union, and increasingly with Education International, the international teachers' union) characterizes the renewed IPB. We want to intensify and expand this cooperation and will be active together for this purpose on the International Day of Peace on 21 September. IPB supports the suggestions of ITUC for a “new social contract”, will spread the idea in the international peace movement and will develop activities together with ITUC.

We suggest a new working group together with partners on **conversion** from military to non-military production.

Education

There is no peace without education and no education without peace education.

IPB will enlarge our cooperation with organizations which are working on peace education and with UNESCO. This includes on the global level the "Education International", Peace MOMO in South Korea and the International Institute on Peace Education (IIPE) and the Global Campaign for Peace Education (GCPE).

IPB suggests developing a brochure about the dangers for peace in the Arctic.

Coalition Building: Stronger Together

The World Peace Congress in Barcelona has also highlighted the connections between the peace movement and a variety of social movements, including anti-racism, economic justice, indigenous rights, gender equality, and more.

- **Justice and peace** are intertwined. IPB will continue to develop closer ties with these organizations, organize events to highlight the interconnections in our work, and stand in solidarity with their initiatives.
- Wars always create **refugees**. We are in solidarity with the people who are forced to leave home and will develop common actions with international refugee organizations.
- Democracy, **human rights**, labor rights and conversion are the common goals of IPB and ITUC. We want so to strengthen them.
- **Conflict prevention** and conflict resolution are major challenges in a world full of crises. IPB will together with organizations working for conflict solutions establish an information and action campaign
- IPB is supporting the **indigenous activists** in their fights for human rights against violence, intimidation and killing. IPB supports the idea of an international peace congress in one of the Indigenous Peoples Sovereignty Lands.

Youth Actions

The development of the **IPB Youth Network** is a big progress and hope for the future of IPB.

- We will further support the IPBYN in their development and involve them directly in IPB activities. We will expand cooperation with other youth organizations, above all from the trade unions and other social movements.
- IPB hopes to organize an International Youth Congress for 2024 with strong support from the Youth Network.

Regional Peace actions

Asia:

- We will continue to develop the IPB Asia Network through webinars and informational events, coordination of organizations, and advocacy work.
- We will continue our cooperation with the Asia Europe People's Forum (AEPF) and other like-minded Asian and Pacific-organizations.

Africa:

- IPB plans to join the International Peace Research Association (IPRA) and International Fellowship of Reconciliation (IFOR) in Juba in 2022 for an international conference and a first in-person gathering of IPB's emerging Africa Network.
- IPB will highlight a variety of themes on the continent:
 - Conflicts and climate change,
 - Social struggles, including workers' rights
 - Regional conflicts and strategies for common security policies.

Latin America:

The aim is to build up an IPB Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) Network.

- IPB plans to organize a conference on violence and small arms.
- We are also preparing an event in parallel to the proposed IPRA conference 2023 in the region – including connecting local and regional efforts with the larger peace movement.

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