

IPB Work against Nuclear Weapons 2022/2023: for a world free of nuclear weapons.

11 October 2022

We are living in very dangerous times: the Doomsday clock is the closest ever to midnight; the war in Ukraine is escalating and global tension is increasing with the potential for further conflict; nuclear weapons states are modernizing and even increasing their arsenals; and political leaders even threaten nuclear use. We are closer to nuclear war than ever before. We underline the IPB position of the general illegality of threats and use of nuclear weapons.

So it has never been more important to revitalize the nuclear disarmament process, to put nuclear abolition back on the agenda in the nuclear weapons states and increase the reach and impact of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW).

The following points are crucial:

- 1) We will strengthen and help develop anti-nuclear and peace movements, and enhance public support for the elimination of nuclear weapons, in each country before the NPT PrepCom in April and the 2MSP of the TPNW in November 2023. In particular, we will call for the elimination of nuclear weapons in nuclear-armed states and nuclear ‘umbrella’ states to ensure changes to their governments’ nuclear and security policies. IPB will be present at both events with their own activities and will support the actions of partners.
- 2) We will continue to work to strengthen the TPNW through IPB-related and other supporting activities. We will continue to support the campaigns and actions of ICAN (such as public events and international rallies). We will work to increase support of governments, especially those of the nuclear-sharing and ‘umbrella’ countries. We are supporting the ICAN Cities Appeal.
- 3) We will develop an IPB brochure that includes arguments against nuclear deterrence. We must overcome the nuclear deterrence theory and instead advocate the concept of common security, which emphasizes cooperation rather than military competition and nuclear deterrence and the so-called “defensive use of nuclear weapons”.

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- 4) We will raise public awareness on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons. This is crucial for increasing public support for nuclear abolition and defeating the nuclear deterrence theory, as many governments insisted in the NPT and first state conference of the TPNW. We propose that the IPB and member organizations organize this activity, including the Hibakusha speaking tours and A-bomb photo exhibitions.
- 5) We will promote and raise awareness of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones (NWFZs) as a concrete contribution by nuclear-weapon-free states. To this end, we will call for the United Nations to undertake a second comprehensive study of NWFZs and within the study, address the issue of single-state zones.
- 6) IPB will promote and support campaigns and actions against nuclear weapons worldwide.
- 7) IPB underlines its opposition to nuclear energy and the weaponization (civilian and military use) of nuclear energy.
- 8) IPB supports worldwide activities for supporting the victims of nuclear testing, especially indigenous victims, underlying our commitment for the immediate ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) by all nuclear weapons states.

We suggest the following additional points for the work of IPB:

- 1) Call for new negotiations between Russia and the U.S. for a new START treaty;
- 2) Engage with the European network against Nukes in Europe and support their annual month/week of actions;
- 3) Support the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) in its campaign against US nuclear weapons in Britain;
- 4) Finalize a position paper on two existential threats: nuclear weapons and climate change (see Doomsday clock and IPCC);
- 5) Collaborate with Abolition 2000. IPB succeeded in successful international cooperation with ITUC, ICAN, IPU, and Mayors for Peace in our work against nuclear weapons.

Approved by IPB Nuclear Weapons Working Group