



INTERNATIONAL PEACE BUREAU

ACTIVITY REPORT 2017

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INTRODUCTION

TRANSITION

ABOLITION 2000 (seit Oktober)

What is IPB?

IPB is a global network of peace groups, with 300 member organisations in 70 countries. The organisation has a democratic structure, with an elected Council and Board. IPB was founded in 1891 to coordinate the work of the world's national peace associations. It is a Nobel Peace laureate (1910), and in addition, thirteen of our officers and staff have won the Nobel Peace Prize over the years.

IPB's long-term goal is a world without war. We see our work as a contribution to the development of a peace-building community, cultivating in all societies the seeds of a culture of peace. While the causes of armed conflict are complex, and the attempts to tackle them very varied, IPB has chosen to focus its efforts in a limited number of areas, of which the main one is Disarmament for Sustainable Development. This report offers a summary of the highlights of the year's activities.

NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

IPB has a long history of work to promote the elimination of nuclear weapons, notably in the late 1980s and 1990s when we focused on the struggle to bring the issue to the International Court of Justice (World Court Project); and since 1995 in support of networks such as Abolition 2000, Mayors for Peace, International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, and the Middle Powers Initiative. Several of the awards we have made of the Sean MacBride Peace Prize, and of our annual Nobel Peace Prize nominations, have highlighted anti-nuclear figures. In 2017 we continued on this path by participating in a number of key events and projects:

TREATY ON THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Campaigning for the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was a big part of our work in 2017. The happier we are to see its success growing.


Negotiations

We participated in both negotiations terms in New York, and we promote the Treaty the best we can.

In the first negotiation round March 25-31, 2017, we organized two side events at the UN discussing how to successfully develop a coalition toward the elimination of nuclear weapons and the content of the Treaty. We also organized a reception to exchange views, thoughts and experiences about the discussions at the UN and to give a platform for networking in a friendly atmosphere.

During the second negotiations term June 17 – July 5, 2017, we organized four side events at the UN discussing parliamentarians' actions to prohibit nuclear weapons, compering the Treaty to the Chemical and Biological Conventions, Discussing its draft content and implementation.

The programmes of our events are available on our website.

 <p>ROSA LUXEMBURG STIFTUNG NEW YORK OFFICE</p>	<p>At this point, we want to thank the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation – New York Office for supporting all our side events at the UN during both negotiations terms.</p>
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Adoption

Then, on the very last day of the second negotiation round, on July 7 2017, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear weapons was adopted. It is a document of hope. The vast majority of states do not want to continue to live under the nuclear sword of Damocles and they are taking action.

The Treaty does not only prohibit the use and threat of use of nuclear weapons (which were already illegal under International Customary Law), but also the development, testing, production, manufacture, otherwise acquisition, possession or stockpiling of nuclear weapons too. Assistance in any of the mentioned activities is also forbidden, as well as the transfer of them. Moreover, it provides positive obligations, such as victims' assistance.

Soon afterwards, IPB issued a call for action. As it has been all along this process, the Ban Treaty will only become an encompassing reality if manifold activities of the peace movements worldwide are encouraged and organized. We suggested the intensify work on the following steps:

- To get as many signatories and ratifications as possible, so the Treaty can enter into force as soon as possible.
- To stay in dialogue and convince reluctant governments to join the Treaty.
- Increase pressure on nuclear weapons states.

Nobel Peace Prize to ICAN

The Nobel Committee has awarded International Campaign to abolish nuclear weapons for the Nobel Peace Prize 2017

As ICAN said in strongly associating this award to the survivors of the nuclear bombings and the nuclear tests, "this prize is a tribute to the tireless efforts of many millions of campaigners and concerned citizens worldwide who, ever since the dawn of the atomic age, have loudly protested nuclear weapons, insisting that they can serve no legitimate purpose and must be forever banished from the face of our earth".

Indeed, it is a tribute to all of us. It motivates us to continue our struggle and fight for a world free of nuclear weapons.





THE WORLD CONFERENCE AGAINST A AND H BOMBS

From 1 To 9 August 2017

THE WORLD CONFERENCE AGAINST A AND H BOMBS

Ten thousand people, activists from every Prefecture in Japan, attended the World Conference against A and H bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Several IPB members were also there and our co-president Lisa Clark.

Not just a conference, with delegates, speeches and final declarations, but a heart-warming happening, that filled us all with new energy. Very serious scholarship, in-depth political analyses and a wealth of proposals for action, but in a setting of shared commitment, of profound solidarity and common responsibilities.

In Hiroshima, the three days of the International Meeting – that brought together 96 overseas delegates from 21 countries – offered us the perfect opportunity to look in detail at every aspect of the Ban Treaty, as well as to exchange all our different opinions on the consequences that its approval will have for the world movement for the abolition of nuclear weapons we all contribute to. In my speech (which I had been asked to prepare well in advance, <http://www.ipb.org/yesterdaysnews/hiroshima-world-conference-speech/>) I underscored the main elements I found most interesting in the process leading to the negotiating conference and in the actual text: the role of civil society acting in alliance with governments, on an equal footing; the relaunching of the unique role of the United Nations and its main interest in negotiating disarmament agreements, breaking the current stalemate, and going back to its original mission. But I also pointed out that the Ban Treaty does not – on its own – eliminate nuclear weapons: if we are to properly reap the benefits of the treaty we need to get to work right away, encouraging States to sign and ratify,

informing citizens of umbrella States so that they can exercise pressure on their governments to join the Ban Treaty process; and ultimately create a sufficient groundswell in nuclear-armed countries to force them to take action along the lines demanded by their citizens. Most of these points were of course also stressed by many other speakers in the three main sessions. two speeches can be read at <http://www.antiatom.org/english/world-conference/>

In Hiroshima we also drafted a joint Declaration (<http://www.ipb.org/yesterdaysnews/1724/>), building on our collective analysis of the treaty's content and taking into consideration the many proposals that came out of the discussion in our plenary sessions. The one that most urgently requires our combined effort is the Global Peace Wave, a week of simultaneous actions between 20 and 26 September. (<http://bit.ly/2x0fRqy>) Once we moved to Nagasaki, I was able to get a clearer picture of the Japanese people's enthusiastic participation in the Conference organized by Gensuikyo. Thousands and thousands of delegates, families, schools, trade unions, local peace committees, all travelling to be together at such an important event: it is organized every year, but in this 2017 there was a very special reason to be even more excited! And also more determined. The approval of the Ban Treaty on 7 July was indeed a historic event for the citizens of the only A-bombed country. Nevertheless, the dismay at the lack of participation in the process of the Japanese government was just as strong! Speaker after speaker said we must convince the Japanese government to join this process; and if this government will not be convinced, then we have no choice, we must put all our efforts into

changing the government! The organizers did a great job in inviting international representatives: Martin Kruger, Deputy head of the Disarmament department of the Austrian Foreign Ministry, was with us the entire time, to remind us not only of the role that Austria played throughout the Humanitarian Initiative process that led to the treaty negotiating conference, but

also to pledge the support of Austria in our future steps. I was personally moved by Nakamitsu Izumi, UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs: at the opening plenary in Nagasaki she told us that she felt very emotional at being able to talk about steps towards total nuclear disarmament in her native country and in her native language!

DISARMAMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

IPB continues to build up its major programme, launched in 2005, entitled Disarmament for Sustainable Development. (D for D). This is designed to reflect widespread public concern at the continuing high (and rising) levels of global military spending; and the evidence that all weapons -- both the devastating weapons of mass destruction and those used on a frequent basis (large and small conventional arms, cluster bombs, landmines...) seriously impede sustainable development. Many years and several wars on from 9-11, the failure of military solutions should be obvious to all. IPB advocates reductions in defence budgets and the adoption of a 'human security' approach.

Our **Disarmament for Sustainable Development** programme has three thematic areas: (1) military spending, (2) impacts of weapons on development, (3) justifications for investments in militarism. Since 2011 the central focus of the work is military (and social) spending. The various concepts are discussed in detail in our book *Warfare or Welfare?* A follow-up volume, *Whose Priorities?* provides examples of creative campaigning by NGOs and other civil society organisations who have taken up these issues. More recent IPB publications focus on the links between military spending and the UN's Development Agenda, with its 17 Sustainable Development Goals, and how militarism relates to the challenge of climate change.

GLOBAL CAMPAIGN ON MILITARY SPENDING

In 2017 the **Global Campaign on Military Spending (GCOMS)**, launched in 2014, consolidated the progress made during the 10 annual Global Days of Action (GDAMS) since 2011. New partnerships were formed and new issues addressed. In 2017, we were increasingly immersed in a World that is based on a divisive rhetoric, hate speeches, and xenophobic thinking. The consequence is a dominant worldview insisting on a separation between good and evil and supporting on-going military campaigns –

and the increased budgets to support them. We were also facing a situation where the back then newly elected US president signed amendments that increase the military budget and denies human rights; and Europe was planning to fund military research through the current proposal for a fully-fledged European Defence Research Program (EDRP), which amounts to 3,5 billion euros. Moreover, the deterioration in China-US ties, with a particular emphasis on maritime security, made the World even more dangerous. While this represents a considerable challenge, it also underlines the importance of putting forward alternative policies and approaches. The IPB issued, once again and for the 7th year running, its Call for a cut in military spending, so that the World can move towards a human security approach that would better serve humanity

Every year IPB works with the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) to make known their annual military spending data.





GLOBAL DAYS OF ACTION ON MILITARY SPENDING 2017

The highlight of our campaigning year was once again GDAMS. In 2017 the Global Days Of Action On Military Spending ran from April 18th, which is Tax Day in the U.S. and a traditional moment in the calendar for civil society to challenge the uses of U.S. public money, until April 18th. On the 24th, the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) published the global military expenditure figures for 2016, together with an analysis of its trends. Having a period of 10 'Global Days' offered GDAMS campaigners a more flexible scope to choose a suitable moment to organize events that fit local or national contexts. 116 GDAMS events took place in 30 countries. These events varied in shape and size depending on countries and partners. As in previous years, a whole range of actions were organized,

including: street protests/demonstrations, seminars, press conferences, media releases, videos, petitions, peace vigils, penny polls and photos. These various actions highlighted the unacceptable global military expenditure of \$1.69 trillion in 2016, and linked it to regional, national and local issues like the Pentagon budget hearings in the U.S., the militarisation and drug wars in Latin America, the economic crisis in Europe, nuclear weapons modernisation, the tendency towards militarism in Japan, the growing tension between South and North Korea and other issues.

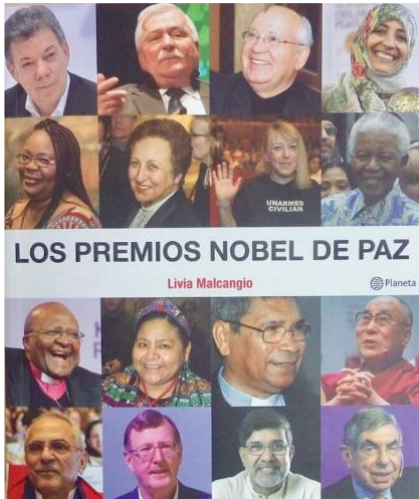
Please find the whole report including all actions organized during [GDAMS 2017](#) with a selection of photos on our [website](#) or [Flickr](#) page to see the full collection of reports/photos/videos.

The pictures below were taken in Greece, Iraq, Kenya, India and Australia (left to right).



OTHER PROJECTS

The 16th World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates in Bogota, 2 – 5 February 2017



IPB co-president Lisa Belletti Clark wrote on her representation of the IPB in Bogotá. “The excitement and energy for peace that I felt in all those I met is indescribable.

And, while I was aware of the remarkable example that Colombia can offer other peoples and other countries, hardly any of those I spoke to were blind to the difficulties that may lie ahead. It’s merely that they have all, jointly and individually, committed to working towards the full implementation of the peace accords. Before leaving for Colombia I had written an article (see [Special Newsletter on the Summit](#)), with a brief summary of the content of the Havana accords and explaining why I thought that it was worth devoting our energies to supporting this important peace process. But my experiences in Bogotá went way beyond my expectations. Nothing I had read or heard had prepared me for the exciting days I had in that city! The Summit with its press conference, youth workshops, a thematic forum, a plenary session on the Peace Process in Colombia ended with the following declaration.



Final Declaration

BUILDING ROADS TO PEACE

Bogotá, February 4, 2017

(Adopted by the 16th World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates)

We, the Nobel Peace Laureates, have gathered in Bogotá to promote peace in the world and to support the efforts of the Colombian people to achieve a fair and long-lasting peace. We welcome President Juan Manuel Santos to the Nobel family and congratulate him for the agreement reached to end a 52-year internal armed conflict. We thank the Colombian people, civil society, and particularly the Chamber of Commerce of Bogotá, for the extraordinary support given to this summit.

We are also here, in Colombia, to share our experiences in peace building with the Colombian people and to seek a consensus on the fundamental principles that should guide the way to peace.

We welcome, enthusiastically, the recent signature – in November 2016 – of the agreement between the Colombian Government and the FARC guerrillas that ended the last and longest armed conflict in the Western Hemisphere, a conflict that left more than 8 million victims and displaced people, and over 220,000 deaths.

We highlight some characteristics of the peace process in Colombia, which may serve as lessons for other conflicts in the world:

- Positive and negative experiences of other processes were studied and considered.
- The negotiations started with a fundamental tenet: the core of the solution to the conflict is recognizing, restoring and guaranteeing victims’ rights to truth, justice, reparation and non-repetition. An innovative model of transitional justice was achieved, which respects international standards, while seeking to attain maximum justice without sacrificing peace.
- The process was conducted in an environment of discretion, patience and seriousness, with regular communiqués to the media, avoiding the pressure to produce news or results every day.

We urge the international community, in the same manner that it embraced the peace process in Colombia, to accompany and support its implementation. This includes guaranteeing the presence of the State and its services in the areas most affected by the conflict; demining the territory; instituting the transitional justice system; implementing rural development, illicit crop substitution and victim reparation programs; combatting violence from criminal bands, such as those integrated by former paramilitaries; and reincorporating the former guerrillas into civilian life, including the participation of FARC in politics, once it has completed its disarmament.

The agreement ending the conflict in Colombia has been the best peace news the world has received in a long time. That is why, as Nobel Peace Laureates, we commit ourselves to support the consolidation of that peace, for the benefit of the Colombian people, the Latin American region and the whole world.

We have received equally with special consideration, “The Colombia Charter: 10 Principles of Peace”, which President Santos has proposed to this Summit for the endorsement of his Nobel Laureate colleagues, and for its international dissemination.

We hope that the example of Colombia will inspire people dealing with other conflicts to persist with their efforts to find just and lasting peace. (...)

The whole declaration and Lisa’s article can be found [here](#). In the same edition you will find “The Colombia Charter” including 10 Principles for Peace, and an IPPNW statement on “Nobel Peace Laureates: Time to prohibit and eliminate nuclear weapons now!”.



THE #NO\$54BILLIONFORWAR CAMPAIGN

Our environmental and human needs are desperate and urgent. We need to transform our economy, our politics, our policies and our priorities to reflect that reality. That means reversing the flow of our tax dollars, away from war and militarism, and towards funding human and environmental needs, and demanding support for that reversal from all our political leaders at the local, state and national levels.

We and the movements we are part of face multiple crises. Military and climate wars are destroying lives and environments, threatening the planet and creating enormous flows of desperate refugees. Violent racism, Islamophobia, misogyny, homophobia and other hatreds are rising, encouraged by the most powerful voices in Washington DC.

President Trump plans to strip \$54 billion from human and environmental spending so as to increase already massive spending on the military. The plan raises Pentagon spending to well over 60 cents of every discretionary dollar in the U.S. budget -- even as Trump himself admits that enormous military spending has left the Middle East "far worse than it was 16, 17 years ago." The wars have not made any of us safer.

Washington's militarized foreign policy comes home as domestic law enforcement agencies acquire military equipment and training from the Pentagon and from military allies abroad. Impoverished communities of color see and face the power of this equipment regularly, in the on-going domestic wars on drugs and immigrants. This military-grade equipment is distributed and used by many of the same private companies that profit from mass incarceration and mass deportation.

Using just a fraction of the proposed military budget, the US could provide free, top-quality, culturally competent and equitable education from pre-school through college and ensure affordable comprehensive healthcare for all. We could provide wrap-around services for survivors of sexual assault and intimate partner violence; replace mass incarceration with mass employment, assure clean energy and water for all residents and link our cities by new fast trains. We could double non-military U.S. foreign aid, wipe out hunger worldwide. The list of possibilities is long.

Instead, the Trump administration plans to take much of their \$54 billion gift for the Pentagon from the budgets of the Environmental Protection Agency (even threatening to shut down its already under-funded environmental justice office), the Department of Health and Human Services (slashing family planning and anti-violence-against-women programs), from the State Department (thus privileging war over diplomacy), and foreign aid (so that the wealthiest country in human history turns its back on the world's most desperate).

Among those most desperate are the 24 million refugees who have been forced out of their homes and countries, more than at any time since World War II. Instead of cruel Muslim bans and cuts to the already meager number of refugees allowed into the U.S., we should be welcoming far more. Alleviating the refugee crisis also means working to end, rather than escalate, the wars that create refugees, and supporting human rights defenders in their home communities. That means more diplomacy and foreign aid, not more military spending.

With its hundreds of billions of un-audited dollars, the military remains the greatest consumer of petroleum in the United States, and one of the world's worst polluters. The US needs new green, sustainable jobs across our economy targeted to people facing the highest rates of unemployment and low wages. Military spending results in an economic drain. Clean energy production creates 50% more jobs than the same investment in military spending.

The U.S. military also serves as a security force protecting the extraction and transport of fossil fuels domestically and from the Middle East and other parts of the world. U.S. military force thus enables the continued assault on the planet and some of its most impoverished inhabitants by ensuring the supply of cheap fossil fuels, all while subsidizing some of the largest corporations in the world. A December 2014 Gallup poll showed people in 65 nations considered the United States far and away the largest threat to peace in the world. If the United States was known for providing clean drinking water, schools, medicine, and solar panels to others, instead of attacking and invading other countries, we would be far more secure and face far less global hostility.

International Network Against Military Bases

In connection with the Stopp Air Base Ramstein campaign 2017 the international conferences against military bases was held in Kaiserslautern on September 8th and 9th 2017. There it was decided to revive the international network against foreign military bases in light of an insane armament and confrontation policy. The founding statement by Dave Webb and Reiner Braun was signed by activists from 6 countries.

It says "We believe that peace and international security is best achieved by pursuing an approach of common security based on cooperation with neighbours, trust, understanding and diplomacy. Foreign military bases are not the form of 'common security' that we believe will work in the long term. They constitute a major threat to others, the environment and to world peace by threatening military actions with its subsequent danger to citizens and destruction of the infrastructure and the environment. [...]"

Our goal is to close all foreign military bases. Military bases pose threats of political and economic expansion, sabotage and espionage, and crimes against local populations. U.S. bases in particular are the largest users of fossil fuel in the world, heavily contributing to environmental degradation and agree that the closure of U.S. and other foreign military bases is one of the first necessary steps toward a just, peaceful and sustainable world.

We commit to supporting and working with all organizations and networks who campaign for the removal of foreign military bases in their countries and communities, to raise public awareness, increase political and international pressure and help as far as possible to organise and co-ordinate non-violent resistance with the aim of eventually closing them all."

FROM THE OFFICE DIARY

The Changing Landscape of the International Peace Bureau (IPB)

By Lohes Rajeswaran, Treasurer IPB

Over the last few months, IPB is in the process of decentralizing its operations. Work being carried out from three offices instead of one, Berlin, Geneva and Barcelona. Each office has its specific function. The Berlin office is the coordination centre of IPB, Barcelona manages the Global Campaign on Military Spending (GCOMS) project, Geneva office will be representing IPB at the United Nations in Geneva and plan activities relevant to the work of the UN. We are currently in a transition period. The last few months several meetings, workshops and participation in events have taken place internationally. IPB continues to be visible and effective in its work in the international arena. We are working towards IPB's vision and goals with a great impact internationally. The state-of-art in technology, communication, networking, the concept of sharing space is in vogue, this is relevant to the 21 century needs, importantly it is *cost cutting to organizations and at the same time enables activities to be more visible (social media), have an impact at low costs*. With this new trend of working IPB is going forward with its work. As of 1 July 2017, The International Peace Bureau, relocated its office from 41 rue de Zurich, Geneva to be housed within the Maison Internationale des Associations, Rue des Savoises 15, 1205 Genève. Maison Internationale des Association is situated in the city centre of Geneva. It houses about 80 NGOs. Like IPB they are working for Peace and betterment of the world with their various activities, meetings and conferences etc. A sense of solidarity prevails all round. IPB *continues* to work towards achieving its vision "A World Without War" through its programmes, awareness campaigns, and capacity building of youth.

NEW ABOLITION 2000 SECRETARIAT

Dear friends and colleagues, we are very happy to inform you that with the International Peace Bureau there is a new home for the Abolition 2000 network. After our successful Annual General Meeting in Vienna in May, the Coordinating Committee, approved transition of the Abolition 2000 Secretariat to the Berlin Office of the IPB. IPB has also designated a staff person, Malte Albrecht, working in IPB's Berlin office, to help the network. The renewed attention on our subject of abolishing nuclear weapons makes now an excellent time for us to redouble our efforts to make breakthroughs on all demands of the abolition 2000 statement. With IPB and Abolition 2000 working closer together we are better prepared than ever for this task. Therefor upcoming events will be documented and published online at <http://www.abolition2000.org>. Our Working Groups are permanently open for new volunteers to help with the activities we undertake. If you would like to participate, either contact the individual(s) specified on our working groups page or contact the Secretariat through an e-mail to Malte. We are looking forward to a renewed and deepened cooperation with the IPB network after many years of successful mutual actions. Best regards from us all, Abolition 2000 Coordinating Committee.

SEAN MACBRIDE PEACE PRIZE

Each year IPB awards its own Peace Prize, in memory of our former President Sean MacBride. The IPB decided to award the 2017 MacBride Peace Prize to three nominees: The All Okinawa Coalition Against Construction of New Base in Henoko, Jeremy Corbyn and Noam Chomsky. The Prizes were awarded on three different ceremonies in Barcelona, Geneva, and New York. For more information about the MacBride Peace Prize see our website: [MacBride Peace Prize](http://www.ipb.org/macbride-peace-prize).

The non-monetary Prize consists of a medal cast by the California-based company [From War to Peace](http://www.fromwar.to/peace), that is recycling "copper from disarmed nuclear missile systems to create [Peace Bronze](http://www.fromwar.to/peace), the most precious metal in our world."

We also thank and appreciate the contribution made by the [Irish Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament](http://www.ircd.org/), who have covered the production costs and made the arrangements for the medal every year since the inception of the Prize.

All Okinawa Coalition Against Construction of New Base in Henoko



On November 24th 2017 Suzuyo Takazato and Hiroshi Ashitomi received the MacBride Peace Prize on behalf of the All Okinawa Coalition. The All Okinawa Coalition was honoured the award for organizing the long-standing, committed and coordinated resistance of the Okinawan people against the new construction of the Henoko base as well as the closure of the Futenma Marine Air Base. Joseph Gerson stressed out in his laudation "the Coalition's steadfastness and exceptional

range of nonviolent actions, the broad popular support it enjoys, and the spirit and dedication that characterize this exceptional anti-bases movement make it a model for peace and justice struggles and deserving of support and solidarity". "70.6% of the US military facilities exclusively used by the US military in Japan is located in Okinawa... The damages caused by the US military have been a part of our daily life." said Suzuyo Takazato in her speech. The Ceremony was held in the Barcelona city hall in the beautiful Chronicle Hall where we were welcomed by the Mayor of Barcelona Laura Pérez.

More information:

<http://www.ipb.org/all-okinawa-coalition-against-construction-of-new-base-in-henoko/>
Photos: <https://goo.gl/MrnKNU>

Jeremy Corbyn



The awarding of the prize to a lifelong activist and fighter for peace as well as for civil conflict resolutions and disarmament was a moving and remarkable action in Geneva on December 8th 2017. Jeremy Corbyn courageously stood on the stages of resistance against nuclear armament and war, and stood up for his positions against his own party as chairman. It was the laudation by Sharan Burrow, the Secretary General of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), who highlighted Jeremy Corbyn's unique life's work. She stressed that he stands for people's social rights, as well as for human rights and peace. A just society is also always a peaceful one. There were more than 200 guests who attended the ceremony including high-ranking diplomats of the UN, ambassadors and

representatives of international governmental organizations who absorbed this message with enthusiasm, which seemed to speak from the hearts of everyone. It was the mayor of Geneva, Rémy Pagani, who in his opening again stressed the city's role for peace – a dialogue and city of reconciliation.

More information:

<http://www.ipb.org/jeremy-corbyn/>

Photos: <https://goo.gl/D8j4x7>

Noam Chomsky



Chomsky is awarded by the Seán MacBride Peace Prize for his tireless commitment to peace, his strong critiques to U.S. foreign policy, and his anti-imperialism. Professor Chomsky has been properly described as “a genuine people’s hero, an inspiration for struggles all over the world for that basic decency known as freedom”, as “one of the greatest and most radical public thinkers of our time”, “one of the most significant challengers of unjust power and delusions”, and as a ‘guru’ for the world’s anti-capitalist and anti-imperialist movement. In recent years, in addition to his continuing contributions to the fields of linguistics, philosophy and cognitive science, his critiques have focused on the U.S. post-9-11 “War on Terror” which has provided cover for a continuation of U.S. imperial policies, and the imperative of addressing the dangers posed by nuclear weapons and climate change. The award ceremony was held in New York on 12th May, 2018.

More information and the laudation by Irene

Gendzier: <http://www.ipb.org/noam-chomsky/>

Photos: [here](#).

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

In order to provide a sense of breath of IPB's concerns and partnerships, here is a selection of highlights taken from the wide range of activities undertaken:

March 25-31: IPB held numerous lectures and side events at the first round of the UN TPNW negotiations in New York.

May 2-5: IPB participated in the first preparatory committee of the NPT review conference in Vienna.

May: IPB participated in the anti-NATO protests in Brussels.

June 17-July 5: IPB held numerous events at the second round of the UN ban treaty negotiations in New York.

October 14: IPB participated in the CND international conference in London.

November: Lisa Clark attended the conference "Perspectives for a nuclear weapons-free world and complete disarmament" in Vatican City with the Pope

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REGULAR ACTIVITIES:

The IPB BOARD met several times by Skype and held physical meetings in Vienna and Barcelona.

The annual **COUNCIL** meeting was held in Barcelona at the end of November

NEWSLETTER: Our main networking tool: *IPB News* (monthly) carries vital information and opinion on all aspects of Disarmament for Sustainable Development work, plus nuclear and other topics. Persons wishing to subscribe should contact the Secretariat.

WEBSITES: Maintaining our two websites (plus one added in 2016 to present the Berlin Congress 2016) as well as their corresponding Facebook and Twitter pages is time-consuming but vitally-important work. Readers are encouraged to consult them on a regular basis:

www.ipb.org

www.demilitarize.org

www.ipb2016.berlin

IN MEMORIAM

During the year we lost a number of important friends, including **Tony deBrum**, former foreign minister of the Marshall Islands and anti-nuclear weapons activist; **Taniguchi Sumiteru**, survivor of the atomic bombing of Nagasaki and anti-nuclear weapons activist.

STAFF AND OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

- Younis Ahmed – Geneva Office
- Jordi Calvo – Barcelona Office (coordinator)
- Arielle Denis – Geneva Office (consultant)
- Khang Huynh Dac – Geneva Office (finance coordinator)
- Amela Skiljan – Berlin Office (coordinator)

INTERNS

- Roberta Daveri
- Nina Decoularé-Delafontaine

- Sofie Gelinder
- Sarah El Gharib
- Marion Huot
- Anna Labadze
- Marine Laborde
- Sarah Velontahiana Lucek
- Lea Perekrests
Romy Petit
- Alicia Sanders-Zakre

Special thanks to all our elected officials, members, volunteers and consultants, including: Colin Archer, David Atwood, Victor de la Barrera, Tim Clennon, Verdiana Grossi, David Hay-Edie, Alan Leather, Lars Lundberg, Yeshua Moser-Puangsuwang, Horst Stasius, Lee Weingarten.

