

ACTIVITY REPORT 2019



For a World without War

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INTRODUCTION

The year 2019 was full of changes and diverse activities for IPB. Although the global tendency of international politics leaned towards confrontation and more armament, IPB successfully engaged in numerous activities for disarmament, for sustainable development, for social justice, for the environment.

One of the core topics was nuclear disarmament throughout the whole year. IPB participated at the NPT Preparatory Committee in May 3 and organized 3 side events. The highlight of the events in New York was the International Conference “Growing Nuclear Risks in a changing World - New Thinking and Movement Building”, that attracted more than 200 participants from all around the world. But this is not the end of our activities for nuclear abolition. In August, representatives of IPB were present in Japan during the commemoration days of the atomic bombing in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. In September, we organized an international meeting under the title “Remember your Humanity and forget the rest” that focused on nuclear security in Europe after the collapse of the INF Treaty. Abolition 2000 also organized an event on the INF Treaty at the beginning of the year. So, the topic of nuclear disarmament was in the focus the whole year.

The same applies to GCOMS. Although individuals and organizations can join GDAMS only for a few weeks, the IPB office in Barcelona is working tirelessly the whole year on it. During 26 days, from April 13 to May 9, over 110 GDAMS events took place in 27 countries all around the world. Do not miss the opportunity to read the [GDAMS annual report 2019](#) and to be part of it next year and the years to come. The reallocation of money from the military to humanitarian needs remains our greatest objectives.

Our activities did not end here and we hope that this report will give you an impression of the variety of our events. We are proud of the World Youth Summit 2019 – a wonderful example of the involvement and engagement of the IPB Youth Network.

Some of our activities are reoccurring, like our Seán MacBride Peace Prize Ceremonies (although always with other laureates and different locations) or our involvement in the activities during the Stop Air Base Ramstein Week of Actions and some are quite new, like the Workshop on “Challenges of a Common Security Policy in Eurasia”.

The year 2019 was not only important in term of our successful activities, but also as it marked the end of our transformation period. The Triennial General Meeting London in October that took place in London was also reflecting on the movement of the IPB HQ from Geneva to Berlin and the Barcelona office that is coordinating GCOMS. Financial difficulties remain, but they did not prevent an increase in activities.

2019 was also the year of new elections. IPB got a new Co-President - Philip Jennings and Reiner Braun is IPB's Executive Director. The new board is international and eager to get involved in IPB activities. Next year, the Council shall get new members – representatives of younger generations.

There is still a lot to do for peace, disarmament and global justice after 2019, but here is IPB contribution for this year. We will continue our struggle for a world without war in the years to come and we hope that many will join us.

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.

NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

IPB's Vice-President, Joseph Gerson, spoke at the Gensuikyo International Forum



The event, which took place on February 27th 2019, marked the 57th anniversary of the Bikini disaster caused by a U.S. hydrogen bomb test in the year of 1954. Below is a link to the transcript of Joseph's talk at the event, with the theme "After the Post-Cold War Era: Abolition and the Imperative of Preventing Nuclear War": <http://www.ipb.org/yesterdays-news/joseph-gerson-on-after-the-post-cold-war-era-abolition-and-the-imperative-of-preventing-nuclear-war/>

IPB Side-Event for the 2019 NPT Preparatory Committee (PrepCom)



IPB organized several events with partners, among which, on May 4th, the International Conference "[Growing Nuclear Risks in a changing World - New Thinking and Movement Building](#)" with 200 participants and

experts from all continents. They stressed the importance of mobilizing of civil society to enhance nuclear disarmament as a vital challenge together with climate change. Speakers came from Russia, Japan, the US, France, Germany, South Korea, Israel, and Iran. As well as the International Trade Union Confederation, that reminded everyone of the invaluable contribution of the worker's movement to nuclear disarmament and called for its renewal. Daniel Ellsberg, the famous US analyst and whistle-blower, that published the secret Pentagon Papers during the Vietnam War, gave a passionate speech. Speakers demonstrated the high level of danger in this period, as well as the possibilities for people to influence governments with the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) as a driver towards nuclear abolition.



IPB also ran several side events in the UN, among which one on "**Nuclear weapons in Europe**" with speakers from Pugwash, CND, ICAN-France and PAX, chaired by Reiner Braun, the IPB co-President. The modernisation of the nuclear weapons based in Europe, both in France, the UK, and in the "hosting states", arose as a central theme with the necessity of broader pressure on the nuclear allies in strengthening the supportive movement towards the entry onto force of the TPNW.

On the second week of the PrepCom, IPB organized a side-event focusing on ***“Modernisations and New Nuclear Technologies”***. US experts from Western States Legal Foundation, the Campaign for Peace, Disarmament and Common Security and French experts from ICAN France described the trends of the new nuclear arms race fuelled by new funds directly taken from social needs.

To focus on Europe, despite a majority of the populations objecting to this stationing, the currently deployed 180 B61 nuclear gravity bombs in US airbases in five European countries (Belgium, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, and Turkey) are under way to be replaced by a new version, the B61-12. The Federation of American Scientists reports, however, that there are 2-5 year delays on the B61-12 project as a whole, while new bomb plans (B61-13) are meant to start in 2038. These are the weapons the United States deploys outside their territory; it is yet unclear when the new bombs will be delivered to their European locations.



IPB also brought support to hold a side event on ***“Nuclear weapons free zone in the Middle East”*** with Israeli Disarmament Movement, which usefully brought back to the participants minds the demand from Arab States and the international community to negotiate a nuclear-free zone in this region where the tensions are building up.



Remember your Humanity and forget the rest! Nuclear Security in Europe after the collapse of the INF-Treaty

Tensions are growing among states possessing nuclear weapons and the collapse of the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty brings Europe closer to the brink of another perilous Cold War. Meanwhile, the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) gains traction and opens new avenues for urgently needed common campaigns and actions. On September 14th 2019 in Brussels, IPB along with a number of partnering organisations had an International Meeting which resulted in the creation of a common European call for nuclear dis-armament with the goal of freeing Europe and the world from nuclear weapons!



The International Meeting and subsequent call to action was a joint project of IPB, INES, IPPNW, Abolition 2000, ITUC, and the Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation, with support from TRANSFORM, and the Belgian Coalition Against Nuclear Weapons.

Their call to action went as follows:

“The vast majority of States and people committed to a world free of nuclear weapons are challenged to act now!

We call on all states to recognize the dangers of the ongoing new Nuclear Weapons Race and take action to reverse this existential threat by opening a new era of negotiations based on a common security approach, using the logic of peace. This logic requires facilitating cooperative relationships in which violence is unlikely.

All nuclear states must stop all work on the development and deployment of new nuclear weapons and their delivery systems, devote the financial savings to addressing urgent human needs – including mitigating the effects of climate change and the development of environmentally sustainable infrastructures and negotiate just transition arrangements with trade unions for affected workers.

We call on European governments to refuse the deployment of any new nuclear weapons or intermediate-range missiles that could deliver such weapons in Europe, as a step towards establishing a European Nuclear-Weapons-Free zone.



We call on all countries to ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, adopted by the UN in 2017, which offers a solid international framework toward the

elimination of nuclear weapons and demonstrates how multilateral cooperative solutions can be found to global threats.

We call upon all Social Movements to support a European Campaign to halt the nuclear arms race and to work for nuclear and conventional disarmament. There can be no progress without major organized actions from citizens.”

Commemoration Days in Hiroshima and Nagasaki



On August 6th, 1945, an atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima. Three days later, on August 9th, 1945, Nagasaki experienced the same horror. The world should never again experience these atrocities.

This year again, representatives of IPB were present in Japan during the commemoration days and actively participating. Additionally, our members organized commemoration events worldwide.

DISARMAMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



#MoveTheMoney Selfie Campaign

GLOBAL DAYS OF ACTION ON MILITARY SPENDING

Demilitarize! Invest in people's needs



Global Campaign on Military Spending (GCOMS), April 13th – May 9th 2019

Final Statement on the occasion of Global Day of Action on Military Spending 2019:

There are many reasons to renew, once again and for the 9th consecutive year, our call for a cut in military spending (based upon SIPRI data), so that the world can move closer to a human security commitment that would better serve humanity. We face the danger of a third world war, and big countries are preparing for war with massive armament investments. It is truly time for the people to stand up.

The Global Campaign on Military Spending (GCOMS) is an international campaign promoted by the International Peace Bureau. GCOMS includes the Global Days of Action on Military Spending (GDAMS), which in its 9th edition includes over 100 events that took place in more than 25 countries, as listed on the CGOMS webpage:

<https://demilitarize.org/resources/gdams-2019-final-report/> or on the IPB website: <http://www.ipb.org/yesterdays-news/gdams-2019-final-report/>

We are pressuring governments to invest money in the sectors of health, education, employment and climate change reduction/response, rather than the military. As we cannot rely on governments and politicians, we are calling for the people to take the future in their own hands.

According to the 2018 update on military spending, as published by SIPRI, world military expenditure has increased in 2018 by 2.6%, much greater than the 1.1% increase in 2017. That is a total of US\$1822 billion, and highlights an alarming acceleration in global militarisation at a time when it should be drastically reduced in order to tackle the grave challenges humanity is facing. This trend of preparing for war is led by the USA, a country which has increased its military spending to US\$649 billion, 4.6% more than in the previous year, remaining thus by far the largest spender in the world and accounting for 36% of global military budget in 2018. The US and its NATO allies account, once again, for more than half of all military spending in the world, having reached US\$963 billion, seemingly following suit of Trump's demands to expand the budget for the military and defence.



In relation to this, the European Union is the second largest military spender accounting for 15% of the global military spending, even more than China, which has increased its expenditure by 5% to US\$250 billion. China is followed in SIPRI's ranking by Saudi Arabia, India, France, Russia, the UK, Japan and South Korea.

Aggressive, old-fashioned international relations, based on distrust, deterrence and competition, fuelled and sustained by toxic masculinity, seems to spur military spending on both sides, deepening the polarization between global powers and their spheres of influence. Despite Russia's decreasing military expenditure, the threat perceptions towards Moscow appear to be a justification of the increases in many European countries. At the same time, NATO increases in militarization could explain growth in the military capabilities of Russia, China and other emerging powers. Rising expenditures in Asia and Oceania mean three decades of continuous growth, fuelled by tensions due to the choice of military power in order to gain influence in a key region in terms of geopolitics, trade and economics.

Global military spending accounts for 2.1% of the world's GDP. An amount which could instead be used to alleviate human suffering and that could fund comprehensive development programmes, such as the UN Sustainable Development Goals. At the same time, we cannot overstate that militarization is profoundly rooted in a predatory economic system, which is destroying life-support systems and generating increasingly obscene levels of inequality both locally and globally. It is therefore essential to incorporate an intersectional and all-encompassing analysis, which could connect the dots among different trends and emergencies, offering alternatives that are more peaceful, sustainable and just. Our coordinated actions are aimed to impact and influence the public opinion to create a powerful discourse, which is meant to result in a shift from the present homeland security

approaches to a human security paradigm that prioritizes human and environmental needs.

We, as active members of global civil society, need to unite our voices and efforts with others in order to name, protest and change this injustice and win reductions of the world's military budget through legal means and with high moral standards. Only in this way can we free up the financial and human resources essential to not only treating the symptoms of the global epidemic called "poverty", but to address issues such as hunger, homelessness, migration, racial and gender inequality, and environmental deterioration.

Here are a few impressions from this year's GDAMS and how people got involved. Make sure that you are not missing next year:





Defence & Security workshop at the EU Parliament, December 3rd 2019

Jordi Calvo and Quique Sánchez, representatives of Centre Delàs of Peace Studies and GCOMS took part in a workshop on Defence and Security at the European Parliament where they introduced the campaign and discussed EU policies in regard to military spending, arms trade and borders control.

The workshop presented the conclusions of three recent reports of the Centre Delàs of Peace Studies, addressing in particular EU funding for the defence sector, external borders control, and European arms exports; altogether these reports showcase the current trends of EU defence and security policies.

The reports' outcomes and other experts' contributions was the basis for a discussion between civil society and political representatives on how to influence the current EU defence, security and migration policies and what an alternative peace and rights-based approach could be.



Military and the Climate

In the coming decade, peace is threatened in many countries around the world by the risk of increasing global warming. The potential impact of climate change on the eruption of conflict was mentioned for the first time in the annual Global Peace Index in 2019. The likelihood of violent conflict is indirectly increased by the impacts of climate change due to the diminishing availability of resources and its repercussions on the threat to livelihoods and as the cause of mass migration.

In 2019, IPB has made a conscious effort to include the Environment and the destabilising forces of Climate Change in our campaigning for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Demilitarisation. We have also published an Information Paper on Military & Environment *"The 'Carbon Boot-print': United States and European Military's*

Impact on Climate Change", which can be found here: <http://www.ipb.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/IPB-Information-Paper-the-carbon-boot-print-1.pdf>

We at IPB are intensifying our focus on the role of the Environment and Climate change in 2020, and are already planning on publishing a number of Information Papers. The topics of which include *Ecosystem Services and the Military, the Military Resource drain, and the Proses of Transitioning from Military to Civilian Markets*. These are subject to change, however, they will be consistent in their goal to shed light on the devastating impact of military activity on the already overexploited and under-protected environment, and its intensifying effect on Climate Change.



IPB-ITUC World Youth Summit 2019 – Transform! #ChangeTheRules – Just transitions towards peace, social justice and environmental sustainability

In partnership with the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) and with support from the International Labour Organization's Bureau for Workers' Activities (ILO-ACTRAV), the Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung, and the German Peace Society (DFG-VK), more than 100 participants from 28 countries gathered for the World Youth Summit 2019 in Berlin from September 20th to 22nd, coinciding with a 'Fridays for Future' event on September 20th and the International Day of Peace on September 21st.



The Summit, which was held at the Technical University of Berlin, was youth-led and built on the conversation that begun during the IPB World Congress 2016, *"Disarm! For a Climate of Peace – Creating an Action Agenda"*. Both IPB's

World Conference 2016 and the ITUC's 4th World Conference held in Copenhagen in December 2018 addressed the need to incorporate the youth into visions of a peaceful, just, and sustainable future. Thus, the World Youth Summit engaged with youth from diverse backgrounds and with varying perspectives and approaches to peace, justice and sustainability, as well as experts and laypeople from different fields related to the Summit's issues.



Furthermore, the Summit sought to create a bridge to connect these individuals and foster discussions on approaches to promote peace, justice and sustainability together with non-youth stakeholders active in the peace movement and related fields. In the process, young voices were lifted up and amplified, equipped with a toolkit for further action, and provided a network of like-minded individuals.

The program included speakers from a diverse set of backgrounds – young and old, Global North and Global South, academics and practitioners, men and women – and gave extensive room to non-formal education and building connections. Results – ideas for concrete steps towards transformation,

identification of obstacles, visions to be reached – from the non-formal education sessions were written down and discussed in the final plenary.



In solidarity with the massive protest actions on Friday (Fridays for Future), the Summit started with a public event on Friday featuring scholars on the Summit's three themes of peace, sustainability and justice that analysed the urgency of quick and profound changes to our society. The main message – that we urgently and extensively need to create change on structural and individual levels – was discussed from the themes' perspectives. Military was identified as a key player for environmental damage and injustices. On Saturday, the non-formal education sessions began in the morning and brought the participants into small groups to exchange experiences, brainstorm ideas, and develop possible strategies and actions. Afterwards, the topics of the Summit were expanded upon in thematic panels and subsequent working groups. On Sunday, both the non-formal education sessions, as well as the final plenary, discussed “what to do” by focusing on the recommendations developed in the morning non-formal education sessions.

The attendees concluded the Summit by compiling a list of recommendations, touching on the topics of peace, justice, and sustainability, but also economic reform; transformative approaches; short-term and long-term goals; local, regional and global level actions; social justice; transformation towards equality; socioeconomic equality; and gender equality. The full PDF of recommendations can be found here: <http://ipbyn.org/activities/ipb-ituc-world-youth-summit-2019/>

The Summit not only provided a chance to network and learn from youth leaders and professionals around the world, but also served to motivate and inspire engagement in their newly-developed strategies and actions for affecting change. In the words of the Youth Network themselves:

“We are certain that the Summit rejuvenated the IPB Youth Network’s drive to work more intensively with young people and sparked discussions on actions and activities around the NPT Review Conference 2020 and other events. We ask everybody to engage in the IPB Youth Network and to extend this invitation to peers or interested persons.”



Seán MacBride Peace Prize

Douglas Roche – Seán MacBride Prize Ceremony – Toronto, Canada



The award ceremony for Douglas Roche was held in Toronto on April 25th 2019. It was organised by IPB with the assistance of the Canadian Pugwash Group.

Douglas Roche received the Seán MacBride Prize for his unrelenting commitment to peace, in particular as President of the UN Association and as Ambassador for Disarmament during the height of the Cold War. He has helped maintain strong Canadian public support for the ideals of multilateralism in one of the most turbulent times in modern history. He is the founding Chairman Emeritus of the Middle Powers Initiative (MPI), an international network of NGOs that hosts international meetings of states seeking the elimination of nuclear weapons. Canada's former Ambassador for Disarmament is a dedicated champion of nuclear abolition, able to move easily among nations and peace congresses. He was also highly instrumental in creating Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (PNND).

During negotiations, whether as Canada's ambassador, the Holy See's special adviser, the Chairman of MPI, or as the Past President of PNND, he continued to be an articulate and well-informed delegate to the UN's NPT and

disarmament negotiations. A constant inspiration who provides solid leadership and sage guidance for several international and national organisations, including the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs movement. We award Mr. Roche for his tireless efforts to promote international peace and disarmament.

The key note speaker was Elizabeth Linda McQuaig, journalist and bestselling author of the book "*Nuclear Weapons: The Untold Story*".



Douglas Roche also held a moving and impactful acceptance speech where he reflected on his career and voiced his concerns for the future. He finished his speech with the words "*Though relinquishing positions of responsibility, I'll go on working for peace until God decides otherwise. The grandstand has no appeal for me. I'll never quit this work. There's too much to do*", showing the spirit of someone who is truly committed to seeing a more peaceful world.

His full speech can be found here: <http://www.ipb.org/yesterdays-news/douglas-roche-the-dissent-of-a-90-year-old/#more-3399>

Bruce Kent - Seán MacBride Prize Ceremony – London, United Kingdom

Undoubtedly, awarding the Seán MacBride Prize to Bruce Kent was the highlight for everyone during IPB's Board and Council Meeting in London on October 19th 2019.



Bruce Kent is an internationally known peace activist and a “real peace hero” who, even in his 90th year, remains an active campaigner and organizer for peace and human rights. He was one of the main speakers at the large march and demonstration against nuclear weapons in London in 2016.

Bruce was ordained as a Catholic Priest in the Diocese of Westminster, London in 1958 and became a Chaplain to Pax Christi from 1974 to 1977. He joined the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) in 1960 and was elected chair from 1977-1979, becoming the General Secretary in 1979 for 6 years. He was elected CND Chair again from 1987 to 1990. He was also Chair of War on Want from 1974 to 1976 and was the British co-ordinator for the Hague Appeal for Peace in 1999. He is now a Vice-President of CND, Pax Christi and the Movement for the Abolition of War (which he co-founded in 2001).

He was also one of the founders and main organizers of the European Nuclear Disarmament Campaign in the 1980s. He was also, in 1988, one of the main organizers of a 1000-mile peace walk from Warsaw to NATO

HQ in Brussels to call for a united peaceful nuclear-free Europe.

Bruce was also IPB President from 1985 till 1992 and he has been an inspiration to so many people of all ages in the UK and elsewhere.

Among the attendees were Kate Hudson, director of CND, Theresa Alessandro, director of Pax Christi, Lisa Clark and IPB's Co-President Reiner Braun. Nobel laureate Mairead Maguire and previous Sean McBride award winner Jeremy Corbyn were among those who sent messages of congratulations.

In his acceptance speech Bruce Kent cautioned against the Nuclear Arms race and the forgetting of the horrors of their use. He said the following:

"Next year is the 75th Anniversary of the detonation of the nuclear bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The Hibakusha related to me their Nagasaki memories of August 9th 1945, the annihilation, the loss, the agonizing pain and suffering (...) On saying farewell, they shared a worry that with their passing their message to the world would be forgotten. They said please ensure that there will be no silence. I recalled the quote of Martin Luther King who said 'Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.'"

Elayne Whyte Gómez – Seán Mac Bride Prize Nomination

The award ceremony for Elayne Whyte Gómez will be held in the Spring of 2020.

Ambassador Elayne Whyte Gómez is proudly serving as Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the United Nations Office in Geneva, and is dedication to the improvement of international law. This dedication inspired this young diplomat to lead successfully the negotiations of the landmark Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in 2017, as an ultimate step of successful disarmament treaty negotiations.



Between 2014 and 2015, she was co-Chair of the 5th Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM). She is currently a member of the Committee on the Implementation of Article 5 of the Conference of the States parties to the Anti-Personnel Landmine Convention (APLC) and a Vice-president of the Conference of the States parties of the APLC. She was Vice-president of the Second Conference of the States Parties of Arms Trade Treaty.

For these reasons and for her continued commitment to nuclear disarmament and a world free of nuclear weapons, IPB is proud to award her with the Seán Mac Bride Prize.

OTHER PROJECTS

Workshop on “Challenges of a Common Security Policy in Eurasia”



IPB along with the Asia-Europe Peoples Forum (AEPF) organised a workshop from September 23rd to 24th on the challenges of a common security policy in Eurasia.

The objective of the workshop was to analyse the current state of affairs in the two continents, as well as its impact on peace and security, the current security situation in Asia and Europe, to develop items of a security

architecture based upon the concept of a Common Security Policy, to address inhibiting as well as stimulating factors of the concept, and to name actors and implementation strategies for a Eurasian Common Security concept.

The workshop was led by a number of speakers, including Lisa Clark, Joseph Gerson, Jordi Calvo, Reiner Braun and many more.

More information on the workshop, including the programme, the statement of the participants and the report are on our website <https://www.ipb.org/news/registration-is-now-open-for-the-workshop-on-challenges-of-a-common-security-policy-in-eurasia/>

Action Week against the Airbase Ramstein

A week of diverse actions from June 23rd to 30th gathered more than 5.000 people from 14 countries to stand united against war, illegal

drone strikes and military spending, and motivated for further engagement for peace and justice.



- ***Peace Camp***

The heart and soul of the protest actions was the Peace Camp, which was set up for one week by 800 tireless helpers and took place on a large meadow. "We want to shape our own lives and futures;" This thought and spirit, along with the commitment of the peace activists and the lively cultural contributions on stage, shaped the fantastic atmosphere in the Camp. On the last day, peace activists came together to celebrate five years of resistance against the US Air Base in Ramstein.



- ***Peace Workshop***

The Peace Camp also included a "Peace Workshop," which hosted over 30 different events and an international anti-base congress.

The final declaration of the Congress summarizes the principal demands of the campaign and calls for the termination of the Stationing Agreement and the dissolution of Germany's NATO membership. A speech given by the chairman of the Friends of the Earth Germany was certainly a highlight of the Congress. He called for cooperation between the peace and climate change movement; a cooperation that represents the future of both movements but undoubtedly, also a great challenge.

- ***Football Tournament***

The peace activists from the camp came together with locals from Ramstein and Kaiserslautern in the Apostel Church to learn more about the unlawful actions of the US Air Base and the importance of protesting against it. This event was particularly promoted by the Kaiserslautern Palatinate Initiative "Entrüstet Euch!" ("Demilitarize yourselves!"). The football tournament organized by the initiative, where 10 teams competed, showed not only the powerful role sports can play in peace-building, but also acted as a contribution against racism and for solidarity with refugees.

- ***3rd International Conference "No to Military Bases & Wars"***



On June 28th, a large number of representatives and activists from 14 countries met at the international meeting against foreign military bases, discussion the situation in their countries, common actions and possible common further steps. The full declaration of the Conference can be found in both German and English following this link: <https://www.ramstein-kampagne.eu/declaration-of-the-international-conference-no-to-military-bases-wars/>

The conference was attended and supported by several international speakers: Pat Elder (USA), John Lannon (Ireland), Alain Rouy (France), Vincenzo Santiglia (Italy), Dave Webb (UK), and Ann Wright (USA).



- ***Demonstration against the Air Base***

On June 30th more than 5000 people demonstrated in front of the Air Base. The large demonstration, nearly twice the size of the year before, was followed by acts of civil disobedience by more than 650 people.

We will continue our activities against all foreign military bases, and we will meet again in Ramstein 2020, July 5th to 12th.



PyeongChang Global Peace Forum



Lisa Clark, IPB's Co-President, and Corazon Fabros, an IPB Board Member, participated in the PyeongChang Global Peace Forum, which was held from the 9th till the 11th of February in South Korea "to mark the first anniversary of the PyeongChang Olympics, and the 20th anniversary of the Hague Agenda for Peace and Justice".

Press Conference on Counteractions Marking NATO's 70th Anniversary

On the 12th of March 2019, IPB held a press conference on the premises of its Berlin Office. The aim of the event was to present to the German press the various events and demonstrations being organised to mark the 70th anniversary of NATO, which occurred on the 4th of April 2019.

The press conference was hosted by the "No to War – No to NATO" network. Kristine Karch and Lucas Wirl, Co-Chairs of the international network, attended the press conference, together with Reiner Braun, Co-President of the IPB and member of the coordinating committee of "No to War – No to NATO". They were also joined by Alexander Neu from the German leftist party (Die Linke), Member of the German Parliament.



During the press conference, speakers presented the various actions planned in Germany and internationally on the occasion of the NATO's anniversary. Subsequently, they elaborated on the importance of opposing the alliance's demand to receive 2% of member states' GDP, its confrontational politics and policies, and its ever-expanding global involvement. Lastly, speakers presented to the press a few alternative strategies for a cooperative and common security policy, marked by the effort of demilitarisation in lieu of accelerating the international arms race.

Counteractions to NATO's 70th Anniversary between March 30th and April 4th, Washington D.C.

NATO foreign ministers met in Washington DC to mark the 70th anniversary of the alliance. As a counteraction, the network "No to War – No to NATO" organised a series of parallel events in the city, starting on March 30. The final day of events, April 4th, also marked 51st years since Martin Luther King, Jr. – who struggled against racism, poverty and war – was assassinated.

"Why? NATO is the largest military alliance in the world with the largest military spending and nuclear stockpiles. While claiming to "preserve peace," NATO has violated international law and bombed Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Serbia, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Libya. NATO has exacerbated tensions with Russia and increased the risk of nuclear apocalypse."

- **March 30th, 1pm, Lafayette Park: March "A Call for a Mass Mobilization to Oppose NATO, War and Racism"**



- **April 2nd, 9am-6pm, St. Stephen & the Incarnation Episcopal Church (1525 Newton street): "Peace and Disarmament Counter Summit"**



- **April 3rd, 12-10pm: St. Stephen & the Incarnation Episcopal Church (1525 Newton street): "No to NATO, Yes to Peace Festival"**



- ***April 4th: Rally with speakers and music & Nonviolent demonstrations***

Demonstrators gathered at 7:30 a.m. at the Albert Einstein Memorial near where the NATO foreign ministers met. Speakers and musicians included Ben Grosscup, Luci Murphy, Megaciph, Art Laffin, Ludo De Brabander, Kristine Karch, Phil Wilayto, Medea Benjamin, Ann Wright, and Eric Colville.

At 9:30, they walked 15 to the MLK Memorial for a rally with speakers and musicians including Graylan Hagler, Luci Murphy, Eric Colville, Art Laffin, Jaribu Hill, Omali Yeshitela, Karlene Griffiths Sekou, Kevin Zeese, and Ben Grosscup.

No to NATO Activities in London

Hundreds of peace activists from across Europe gathered in central London on November 30th to challenge the NATO war machine, and discuss alternatives to current policies which are taking the world closer to war.

In a packed hall draped with banners from a number of peace movements, participants welcomed speakers such as Tariq Ali, Ludo de Brabander from Vrede vzw, Lindsey German from Stop the War Coalition, and Kristine Karch from No to War – No to NATO network in Germany. Representing IPB Arielle Denis, well-known to many in the audience, was in the chair for the session.

More information on these activities can also be found on our website: <https://www.ipb.org/activities/2019-activities/no-to-nato-activities-in-london/>

Seminar on European Militarism

The Dutch committee Oorlog is Geen Oplossing (War is No Solution), VD AMOK, and the Network No to War – No to NATO held a seminar on European militarism April 14th in

Amsterdam. This was before the EU Parliamentary elections, and sought to discuss and to analyse the policy of militarization of the EU.



The seminar took place the day after the international day of peace, and included parliamentary speakers of the SP and speakers from Kurdish, Palestinian, and Moroccan social movements, as well as our own Reiner Braun.

Triennial Meeting

The Triennial Meeting of IPB occurred on October 19th 2019, at St Thomas' Hospital, London. The Assembly is the highest policy-making body of the IPB. It is also a forum for the exchange of ideas, information and resources among civil society movements, scholars, and activists. It is open to Council members, as well as individuals belonging to IPB member organisations, individual IPB members, and observers.

During the Assembly the new board and council was elected for the next three years, the **results of which can be found on page 21**. The organisation's future development and projects were also discussed and agreed upon.

Attached to this meeting, the MacBride Peace Prize Ceremony awarding Bruce Kent took place as well as the Conference on 21st century security issues.

21st Century Security: Challenges and Solutions



Thank you to all who came to the immensely successful CND-IPB international conference, to the outstanding speakers, and everyone who participated in our riveting sessions.



Joined by activists and experts from around the world, the conference presented a global take on the problems we face together. Strategizing for global and local alternatives, for a vision, and reality, of peace and justice. Themes included: common security, resource wars, climate change, nuclear dangers, human rights and more.

Speakers included Bruce Kent, Arielle Denis, Joseph Gerson, Lisa Clarke, Reiner Braun, Kate Hudson, and more.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES:

The IPB BOARD gathered several times through video conferences and held physical meetings in Paris in March and London in October. The General Assembly was also held in London at the end of October.

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 & SOCIAL MEDIA: Maintaining our two websites and their corresponding

Facebook (facebook.com/ipb1910),
Twitter (@intlPeaceBureau)
and Instagram pages (@IntlPeaceBureau)

is vitally-important work.

The same applies for the social media channels of GCOMS:

Facebook (@DemilitarizeDay),
Twitter (@DemilitarizeDay)
Instagram (@gcoms).

Readers are encouraged to consult them on a regular basis:

www.ipb.org
www.demilitarize.org

IPB Election 2019-2022

BOARD MEMBERS	Position	Country	Organisation
Philip Jennings	Co President	Switzerland	IPB - UNI Global Union General Secretary
Lisa Clark	Co President	Italy	IPB - Beati i Costruttore di Pace
Lucas Wirl	Treasurer	International	ILANI
Jordi Calvo	Vice President	Spain	Centre Delàs
Corazon Fabros	Vice President	Philippines	Gensuikyo
Joseph Gerson	Vice President	USA	Peace Action
Dave Webb	Vice President	UK	Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND)
Alain Rouy	Board Member	France	Mouvement de la paix
Arielle Denis	Board Member	France	IPB Consultant
Binalakshmi Nepram	Board Member	India	Manipur Women Gun Survivors
Etienne De Jonghe	Board Member	Belgium	Pax Christi International
Jargalsaikhan Enksaikhan	Board Member	Mongolia	Blue Banner
Jun-Kye Lee	Board Member	South Korea	Institute for Reunification and Peace Policy
Patricia Perez	Board Member	Argentina	ILAPyC
Steve Staples	Board Member	Canada	Rideau Institute
Yeshua Moser-Puangsuwan	Board Member	Canada/Thailand	Nonviolence International
Rieko Asato- Kodama	Board Member	Japan	Gensuikyo

IPB Staff Members 2019

BERLIN OFFICE

- Amela Skiljan – (Coordinator)
- Theresa Kresse - (Coordinator)
- Reiner Braun – (Co-President)

INTERNS

- Philipp Straub
- Jessica Fort
- Alessandra Thomson
- Natalie Carrusca

BARCELONA OFFICE

- Jordi Calvo – (Vice-President)
- Quique Sánchez – (Coordinator)
- Pere Brunet – (Consultant)
- Pere Ortega – (Consultant)
- Chloé Meulewaeter – (Consultant)

INTERNS

- Gilles Gounongbé

GENEVA OFFICE

- Arielle Denis – (Coordinator)
 - Khang Huynh Dac – (Finance Coordinator)
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IN MEMORIAM

*During the year we lost two important friends. **Cynthia Cockburn**, a British academic, feminist, and peace activist, passed away on September 12th at the age of 85. She was a researcher, writer, and photographer. She was also an active antimilitarist and has long been involved in a number of peace and anti-war organisations. We have also lost the highly esteemed peace activist Elisabeth "**Betty**" **Chapman**, who passed away on February 3rd at the age of 91. She was actively engaged in developing a just and peaceful world until her last weeks. Betty was particularly active with the Quakers and the work to create a peace tax, and she also initiated the establishment of a regional office of the Norwegian Peace Alliance in Tønsberg. She often expressed her views in local and national papers, and was a long time individual member of IPB.*

