



## Draft work program and key events 2021

The Basel Peace Office undertakes research, program development and public education over a range of issues relating to international peace and nuclear disarmament. We organise online events, as well as physical events when possible in Basel, at the United Nations (in Geneva and New York) and in other key capitals/cities around the world.

### 1. Work program

#### Abolition 2000

Basel Peace Office (BPO) is a coordinating member of [Abolition 2000](#), the global civil society network to eliminate nuclear weapons. BPO will help organise the 2021 annual meeting of Abolition 2000, co-draft and promote Abolition 2000 international appeals and action alerts, and co-manage the website. In addition, we will continue to convene a number of [Abolition 2000 working groups](#), including on Youth (Youth Fusion), Nuclear Weapons and International Law, Nuclear Weapons Convention, Interfaith Action and Economic Dimensions of Nuclearism (Move the Nuclear Weapons Money).

#### Basel Peace Forum and PACEY Plus Award

BPO is planning to run virtual pavilion and help organise a panel on nuclear disarmament at the Basel Peace Forum 2021 which will be held virtually (online) on January 20-21, 2021. In addition, BPO will organise a youth forum just before the Basel Peace Forum. The Youth Forum will include inter-generational dialogue on nuclear disarmament, climate and public health in times of pandemic, and it will include presentations of the short-listed nominations for the PACEY Plus Award followed by a vote by forum participants to determine the winner.

#### Engaging legislators - PNND

BPO and PragueVision serve as the European and International offices for Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (PNND). The BPO Director and Deputy Director serve as the principle (unpaid) staff for PNND. Key activities for PNND in 2021 will include:

- a) Promotion of Assuring our Common Future; a parliamentary handbook on disarmament for security and sustainable development. This will include a number of global and national events to advance specific policies and recommendations from the handbook;
- b) Organising the PNND 2021 Assembly;
- c) Organising events and advocacy at the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in Bucharest and the IPU Assembly Kigali;
- d) Organising parliamentary participation and side events at Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference in New York;
- e) Engaging parliamentarians in the Move the Nuclear Weapons Money and Target 2045 campaigns;
- f) Developing the PNND Gender, Peace and Security program.

#### Humanitarian impact, human rights and the law

BPO will continue to promote the legal imperatives under customary international law (international humanitarian law, human rights law and the law on peace and security) to prevent nuclear war and achieve a nuclear-weapon-free world. This includes promotion of UN Human Rights Committee General Comment 36 in Human Rights bodies in Geneva.

## **Korea peace and denuclearization process**

The Korea peace and denuclearization process is one of the most exciting developments in the field. This process has already made a breakthrough with a series of leaders' summits/meetings to advance the process toward a formal end to the Korean War, the verified denuclearisation of the peninsula and the establishment of a sustainable peace regime. However, the political dynamics are complicated, the conflicts entrenched and the process faces many hurdles. Dedicated diplomacy, supported by parliaments and civil society, will be required for success. BPO and PNND are intimately involved in the process, and will continue to be active in 2021.

PNND leadership in South Korea, Japan and USA includes key legislators involved in the process such as **Taro KONO**, Japan Minister of Defence and Honorary President of PNND Japan; **Se-kyun CHUNG**, PNND former Co-President and now the Prime Minister; **Ik-pyo HONG**, PNND Korea Executive Member and Chief Spokesperson for the Democratic Party; and **Senator Ed Markey**, PNND US Co-President and Ranking member in the US Senate on East Asia. Through this leadership we are active in advancing parliamentary approaches and initiatives to support the peace process.

BPO helped organise the 2019 and 2020 *PyeongChang Global Peace Forums*, which took place on the anniversaries of the 2018 Olympic Peace initiative (which opened up the diplomatic process). We are now assisting in organisation of the 3rd *PyeongChang Global Peace Forum* which will take place as a virtual event in February 2021.

## **Mayors for Peace**

BPO and PNND will continue to build on the cooperation we have developed with Mayors for Peace, including with the Mayors for Peace secretariat in Hiroshima, the UK Mayors for Peace office hosted by Nuclear Free Local Authorities in Manchester City and with the new Mayors for Peace Europe Office in Spain.

We will continue to invite representatives of Mayors for Peace to participate in our events and actions, and we will support Mayors for Peace initiatives and events, especially those in Europe.

## **Move the Nuclear Weapons Money**

Move the Nuclear Weapons Money is a global campaign established by BPO and partner organisations to cut nuclear weapons budgets, end investments in nuclear weapons and redirect these budgets and investments to support peace, climate action and sustainable development. The campaign also works very closely with the global fossil fuel divestment campaign. In 2021, BPO received the final contribution in 3 years of grants from the Grassroots Foundation for project. From 2021 we will need to find alternative funding.

Subject to funding, we will continue to promote and support nuclear weapons divestment at multiple levels – by federal and local governments (e.g. of sovereign wealth funds and pension funds), universities, religious institutions, investment bodies, banks and other investors. In addition, we will publish a Handbook on Nuclear Weapons Divestment (currently near completion) in early 2021.

We will also work on nuclear weapons budgets in nuclear armed countries – in particular those with parliamentary oversight (France, UK and USA). We will maintain the website, publish blog articles on campaign developments and engage a wide range of stakeholders through outreach, events, advocacy and Move the Nuclear Weapons Money memes.

We have worked on a draft interactive website (and App) for a *Global Online Count the Nuclear Weapons Money initiative*, but have not yet been able to raise the seed funding to take this forward.

## **Nuclear risk reduction and disarmament – Target 2045**

BPO and PNND will continue to work on key nuclear risk reduction and disarmament initiatives through our engagement with policy makers and through public events and promotion. This will include effective policies highlighted in *Assuring our Common Future* and in *Protect People and the Planet Appeal for a Nuclear-Free World*, such as no-first-use, affirming non-use and securing a commitment from the nuclear

armed and allied states to the total elimination of nuclear weapons by 2045, the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of the nuclear age and the establishment of the UN.

### **Nuclear weapons treaties: NPT, TPNW and NWC**

The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) is currently the cornerstone multilateral agreement for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament. BPO will participate in the NPT Review Conference in August 2021 and in preparatory events and advocacy to ensure a successful conference. Key issues at the NPT will include nuclear risk-reduction, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and the Middle East Zone free from Nuclear Weapons and other WMD. BPO will work closely with the new *Stockholm initiative* advanced by the foreign ministers of 16 countries from allied and non-nuclear countries including Switzerland.

BPO will continue to be engaged in the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) including to encourage non-nuclear States to join the treaty and adopt strong implementing legislation. BPO will also participate in the first Conference of States Parties to the TPNW which will take place within a year of its entry-into-force.

BPO will continue to promote the proposal for a Nuclear Weapons Convention (NWC), which would entail a global agreement by nuclear armed and non-nuclear countries, on the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons under strict and effective verification and enforcement. The Model NWC, which has been circulated by the United Nations, provides an outline of what would likely be included in such a treaty.

### **Nuclear Weapon Free Zones – Europe and the Middle East**

BPO has been active in building parliamentary and civil society support for a Middle East zone free from nuclear weapons and other WMD. We will continue to monitor and engage where possible in developments and events including in the 2021 session of the UN Conference on a Middle East WMD free zone.

BPO has promoted discussion on a European NWFZ, including organising events on this topic at the UN and at the NPT Prep Com. We will consider whether there are any opportunities to promote the proposal in 2021 at the NPT Review Conference, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, UN General Assembly and through the *Nuclear-Weapon-Free Europe Network*.

### **Peace and Sport**

BPO has developed a proposal with *Non-violence International*, the *Olympism Project* and *World Future Council* on an *International Peace Convocations Initiative: Advancing the Olympic Truce vision*. The proposal envisages a series of convocations (specialized conferences) of Olympic sportspeople and international peace practitioners to take place every two years in conjunction with the Olympic Games. The first convocation would take place in August 2021 in-between the Olympic Games and the Paralympic Games.

### **Religions for Peace**

BPO Director is convenor of the [Abolition 2000 Interfaith Working Group](#) and author of the [Religions for Peace Nuclear Disarmament Resource Guide](#). A German language edition of the Resource Guide was published with the support of Prof Lucas Kundert and the Basel Reformed Evangelical Church. In 2021, BPO plans to continue participating in inter-faith nuclear disarmament events, promotion of the resource guide, and engaging religious leaders in our key initiatives including Move the Nuclear Weapons Money social media memes and the Appeal for a Nuclear-Weapons-Free World.

### **UNFOLD ZERO – United Nations initiatives for nuclear disarmament**

BPO co-founded [UNFOLD ZERO](#) with PNND, Mayors for Peace, PragueVision and Aotearoa Lawyers for Peace, in cooperation with the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs. In 2021, UNFOLD ZERO will continue to promote UN initiatives and processes through the UNFOLD ZERO [newsletter](#) and [blog](#). And we will continue to organise actions, events and networking platforms including for the [Global Week of Action on Peace, Climate and Nuclear Abolition](#) and the *UN International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons*.

## Youth programs

BPO will continue its youth internship program to train youth in international diplomacy, policy development and campaign building. BPO will also co-manage *Youth Fusion*, the youth initiative of the Abolition 2000 global network to eliminate nuclear weapons. This will include organising webinars, youth actions and youth delegations to key international events such as the NPT Review Conference. We will also continue to participate in the *IPU Network of Young Parliamentarians*, and advance nuclear disarmament initiatives to young parliamentarians through this network.

## 2. Memberships

BPO and/or PNND will network and engage in peace, disarmament and security issues through membership and participation in:

- *EU Non-proliferation consortium*. BPO is a member;
- *Mayors for Peace*. Basel Kanton is a member;
- *Inter-Parliamentary Union*. PNND is a permanent observer;
- *Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean*. PNND is applying to be a permanent observer;
- *United Nations: WFC and IALANA* have ECOSOC consultant status. BPO is registered through UNODA and will apply for ECOSOC status;
- *Abolition 2000*. BPO is on the coordinating committee and manages several of the working groups;
- *Korea Peace Network*. PNND is an active member;
- *NGO Committees on Peace and Disarmament (NY, Geneva and Vienna)*. BPO and/or PNND are members;
- *Stop Killer Robots (Switzerland) campaign*. BPO plans to join the campaign;
- *International Peace Bureau*. BPO is a member;

## 3. Basel Peace Office key events/dates for 2021

**Jan 19-21:** *Virtual*. Basel Youth event and Basel Peace Forum

**Jan 22:** *Global*. Entry-into-force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

**Jan 24:** *Global*. Anniversary of UN Resolution 1 (1) on nuclear disarmament.

**Feb 9-11:** *PyeongChang and virtual*. PyeongChang Global Peace Forum.

**Jul 6-10:** *Bucharest*. OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

**Aug 6-9:** *Hiroshima, Nagasaki and Global*. 76<sup>th</sup> anniversary events of the nuclear bombing of these cities.

**Aug 9-27:** *New York*. NPT Review Conference and Abolition 2000 Assembly

**Aug 16-17:** *Tokyo, Japan*. Peace Convocation: Advancing the Olympic Truce and UN visions for peace

**Sep 21-27:** *Global*. Global week of action on peace, climate action, SDGs and nuclear disarmament.

**Sep 26:** *Global*. International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons

**Oct 2-5:** *Pontresina, Switzerland*. World Future Forum (WFC Annual meeting)

**Oct 14-30:** *New York*. UN General Assembly

**Nov 6-10:** *Kigali*. IPU Assembly

**Nov ?:** *New York*. Second session of the UN Conference on Establishing a Middle East Zone free from nuclear weapons and other WMD.

## Dates to be finalised

- Launch of Nuclear Weapons Divestment handbook
- PNND Assembly
- Various webinars (see Work Program above)