



An international conference on
**Divestment, impact investment and other actions
by cities, universities and parliaments
to reverse the nuclear arms race
and protect the climate.**

Basel, April 12-13, 2019

Organised by the Basel Peace Office
in cooperation with the Basel-Stadt Kanton, Mayors for Peace (Europe),
Physicians for Social Responsibility - IPPNW (Switzerland), Parliamentarians for Nuclear
Nonproliferation and Disarmament and the World Future Council.



About the conference

Basel Peace Office has joined with other partners in launching *Move the Nuclear Weapons Money*, a global initiative to cut nuclear weapons budgets and investments, and reinvest these in climate protection, peace and key areas of a sustainable economy, such as education, renewable energy, health, job creation and sustainable development.

One of the most effective tools for non-nuclear governments, cities, universities and civil society is **nuclear weapons divestment**. Such action puts economic and political pressure on corporations to abandon their involvement in the nuclear weapons industry or convert such production to civilian purposes. Similar **divestment from the fossil fuel industry** can assist in cutting carbon use and supporting renewable energy.

Already several governments, cities, religious institutions and universities in Europe, USA and globally have adopted nuclear weapons and or fossil fuel divestment policies. Additional impetus for nuclear weapons divestment comes from the **1996 International Court of Justice opinion on nuclear weapons**, United Nations adoption of the **Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons** in 2017 and the UN Human Rights Committee affirmation in October 2018 that **nuclear weapons violate the Right to Life** as codified in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

This conference brings together legislators (mayors, city councillors and parliamentarians), financial managers, and experts in disarmament and climate change to examine successful divestment policies and support their expansion and replication. The conference also addresses **impact and socially responsible investment**.

The conference builds upon previous Basel events including a **European Regional Meeting of Mayors for Peace and PNND** held in January 2019, the **2019 Basel Peace Forum** which focused on impact investment, and an international conference in Basel in September 2017 on **Human Rights, Future Generations and Crimes in the Nuclear Age**.

Conference website

www.nuclearweaponsmoney.org/basel-conference-2019

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Reversing the financial interests in fossil fuels and the nuclear arms race

Press release
Basel, April 11, 2019

The recent *Fridays for Future* protests demonstrate a global dissatisfaction with the continuing failure of governments and industry to protect the climate. And the setting of the Doomsday Clock hands to 2 minutes to midnight in January this year indicates a continuing high risk of a nuclear conflict.

However, *'devastating climate change and the risk of a nuclear war will not be prevented unless the international community tackles the economic and political influence of the fossil fuel and nuclear weapons industries'*, according to participants of **Move the Nuclear Weapons Money**, an international conference being held in Basel, Switzerland on April 12-13, 2019.

'Companies manufacturing nuclear weapons and producing fossil fuels are making billions – if not trillions – of dollars fostering a nuclear arms race and destroying the climate,' says **Dr Keith Suter** (Australia), Economics Futurist and member of the **Club of Rome**. *'They have vested financial interests in producing more and more nuclear weapons and in preventing a shift from fossil fuels to renewable energy, and they exert intense political power on decision makers to protect these interests. We must shift the economic incentives from destroying the planet to instead support peace and the environment.'*

The conference – which will include legislators (mayors, city councilors and parliamentarians), financial managers, civil society representatives and experts in disarmament and climate change - will focus on socially responsible investment (SRI) as a powerful tool to shift this economic and political power. SRI includes ending investments in nuclear weapons and fossil fuels (divestment) and re-investing in sustainability (impact investment).

'Most of us are currently supporting fossil fuels and nuclear weapons through investments made in these industries on our behalf by our governments, cities, universities, religious organisations, banks or pension funds,' says **Professor (em) Andreas Nidecker MD**, President of the Basel Peace Office which is organising the conference. *'We can each make a difference by calling on them to end these investments.'*

'Through divestment we can put pressure on the industries to change,' says **Dr Ute Finckh-Krämer**, Council Member of **Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament** and former Deputy-Chair of the German Parliament Subcommittee on Disarmament and Arms Control. *'Such action highlights the immorality (and stupidity) of making vast profits on the destruction of the planet. It also gives support to legislators who are trying to adopt and implement policies for nuclear disarmament and climate protection.'*

'Impact investment is the other side of the Socially Responsible Investment coin,' says **Professor Laurent Goetschel**, Executive Director of **swisspeace**. *'By focusing investments on economic enterprises which support sustainable development, investors can benefit from stable returns as well as the satisfaction that their investment funds are being used for the improvement of human lives and the environment. It's a win-win for all and should be a guiding principle, at least for all public investment funds.'*

The conference is part of the **Move the Nuclear Weapons Money campaign** which is gaining traction around the world. *'Already a number of sovereign wealth (national government) funds, pension funds, city and state funds, banks, universities and religious organisations have decided to end their investments in the nuclear weapons and/or fossil fuel industries,'* says **Mr Thies Kätow**, researcher for the **World Future Council**, one of the co-sponsors of the conference.

'As a portion of the trillions of dollars of global investment money, the amount divested to date is only moderate,' says Mr Kätow. *'However, as the nuclear weapons and fossil fuel divestment campaigns grow, their political impact could be as powerful as the divestment campaign against South Africa in the late 20th Century, which was a critical factor in moving the South African government to end apartheid in 1994.'*

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Move the Nuclear Weapons Money

*Divestment and other actions by cities, universities and parliaments
to reverse the nuclear arms race and protect the climate*

Program

Day 1: Friday April 12: Public conference

Rathaus (City Hall), Marketplatz

Registration: 2:00 pm

Session 1: 2:30 – 3:45pm

POLICIES TO ADDRESS THE THREATS AND IMPACT OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS & CLIMATE CHANGE

CHAIR: Andreas Nidecker, President of the Basel Peace Office

SPEAKERS:

- **Lukas Ott**, Head of Cantonal and City Development Unit, Basel-Stadt Kanton President's Department
City and Kanton initiatives for nuclear abolition including divestment.
- **Daniel Rietiker**, Lecturer in International Law at the University of Lausanne, President of the Association of Swiss Lawyers for Nuclear Disarmament.
Illegality of nuclear weapons under international law
- **General (ret) Bernard Norlain**, Former Air Defense Commander (France). Honorary President of the Revue Défense Nationale. Vice-President of Initiatives for Nuclear Disarmament.
Security without nuclear weapons, initiatives for disarmament
- **Cllr Audrey Doig**, Member of the Renfrewshire City Council. Vice Chair of Nuclear Free Local Authorities Scotland. *City actions for nuclear risk-reduction and disarmament*

Coffee break

Session 2: 4:15 – 5:45pm

SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE AND IMPACT INVESTMENT. BUILDING A PEACE ECONOMY

CHAIR: Marzhan Nurzhan, PNND Coordinator for CIS Countries. Coordinator, Abolition 2000 Youth Network.

SPEAKERS

- **Laurent Goetschel**, Executive Director, Swisspeace.
Impact investment: investing to support sustainable development
- **Serge Stroobants**, Institute for Economics and Peace, Director of Operations for Europe
Positive Peace – business and investing in peace
- **Bärbel Höhn**, Chair, Global Renewable Congress.
Investing in Renewables for a sustainable future
- **Robert Smith**. Founder and Director, ICV investments.
Working with investors on nuclear divestment and socially responsible investment

Apero: 6pm – 7pm. *Rathaus (City Hall), Marketplatz*

Conference dinner: 7:15 pm *Zunftsaal Schmiedenhof Banquet Hall, Rümelinspl. 2, 4001 Basel*

Day 2: Saturday April 13. Conference continues
Room 120, Kollegienhaus, University of Basel, Petersplatz 1

9:00 *Special presentation*

CHAIR: **Alyn Ware**, PNND Global Coordinator, Member World Future Council, Director Basel Peace Office

SPEAKER: **Keith Suter**, Member Club of Rome. Foreign Affairs Editor, TV Channel 7 "The Morning Show"
Building a Peace Industrial Complex (by video conference from Australia)

9:25 *Session 1: DIVESTMENT AT FEDERAL, REGIONAL AND CITY LEVELS*

CHAIR: **Thies Kätow**, World Future Council research officer

SPEAKERS:

- **Marit Nybakk**, PNND Co-President (Norway). Former Vice-President of Norway Parliament
Nuclear divestment by the Norwegian Government Pension Fund Global
- **Ute Finckh-Kraemer**, former Vice-Chair, Bundestag Subcommittee on Disarmament and Arms Control.
State government divestment: The Berlin experience
- **Maaïke Beenes**, Program officer humanitarian disarmament at PAX Netherlands
Lessons from the Cluster Munitions divestment campaign
- **Rudolf Rechsteiner**, President Ethos Foundation
Exclusion of nuclear weapons and fossil fuel industries from Swiss Pension Funds

10:45: *Coffee break*

11:15: *Session 2: DIVESTMENT BY BANKS, UNIVERSITIES, RELIGIOUS GROUPS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS*

CHAIR: **Alyn Ware**, PNND Global Coordinator, Member World Future Council, Director Basel Peace Office

SPEAKERS:

- **Maaïke Beenes**, Program officer humanitarian disarmament at PAX Netherlands
Don't Bank on the Bomb
- **Nishant Malapatti**, Financial adviser for Blackrock USA.
Divestment in the USA – universities and private investors
- **Chayley Collis**, Member of Huddersfield Quakers UK (by video conference from UK)
Divestment by faith-based institutions – the example of UK Quakers
- **Marzhan Nurzhan**, Coordinator Abolition 2000 Youth Network.
Youth actions to move the nuclear weapons money.

12:30 *Lunch*

1:15pm *Session 3: NUCLEAR WEAPONS IMPACT, RISK REDUCTION AND DISARMAMENT*

CHAIR: **Kristýna Chyňavová**, PragueVision Institute for Sustainable Security

SPEAKERS:

- **Marc Finaud**, Geneva Centre for Security Policy.
Nuclear weapons threats, policies and deployments
- **Marget Kiener Nellen MP**, Head of Swiss delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:
Parliamentary action to advance cooperative security and end nuclear deterrence
- **Andreas Nidecker MD**, President of the Basel Peace Office. Board Member of Swiss Physicians for Social Responsibility; *Humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons as rationale for divestment*
- **Alyn Ware**, PNND Global Coordinator, Member World Future Council, Director Basel Peace Office
Federal divestment policies: Building cooperation on fossil fuel and nuclear weapons divestment

2:45pm: *Coffee break*

3:15pm *Session 4: BUILDING THE CAMPAIGN – SHIFTING ECONOMICS TOWARDS PEACE*

CHAIR: **Andreas Nidecker**, President, Basel Peace Office

SPEAKERS:

- **Fabian Hamilton MP** UK Shadow Minister for Peace and Disarmament (by video conference)
Economic conversion and defense diversification in the UK
- **Jürgen Grässlin**, Federal Spokesman of the German Peace Association - United War Resisters (DFG-VK)
Preventing exports of weapons to conflict zones
- **Quique Sánchez Ochoa**, Project Manager at Centre Delàs and the Global Campaign on Military Spending.
Global actions on military spending
- **Alyn Ware** – PNND Global Coordinator, Move the Nuclear Weapons Money Co-founder
Move the Nuclear Weapons Money Campaign

4:30pm *Closing session: Conclusions and follow-up: Alyn Ware*

Speakers and Chairs



Elisabeth Ackermann

Ms Ackermann is President of the Basel-Stadt Government and Member of the Governing Council since 2017. She has held other positions at the Cantonal Government including Member of the Grand Council; President of the major council group Green Alliance; President of the IGPK Rheinhäfen; Vice-President of the Finance Commission; President of the Grand Council.



Maaike Beenes

Ms Beenes works for the humanitarian disarmament program for PAX in the Netherlands. She researches investments by financial institutions in producers of controversial weapons, notably nuclear weapons and cluster munitions, and is co-author of the reports 'Don't Bank on the Bomb' and 'Worldwide Investments in Cluster Munitions'. She was involved in the negotiations for the Treaty on the Prohibition on Nuclear Weapons on behalf of PAX and ICAN.



Kristýna Chyňavová

Ms Chyňavová is a law student at Charles University in Prague. She also serves as research and program officer for PragueVision Institute for Sustainable Security, focusing on the Korean peace and disarmament process and on the legal and political relevance in the 21st Century of the ideas and writings of Bertha von Suttner, the Prague born peace activist who was the first woman to receive the Nobel Peace Prize.



Chayley Collis

Chayley Collis is Communications Manager at Green Building Store, a member of Huddersfield Quakers, and formerly a writer/researcher for the Ethical Consumer Association. In 2015 she convinced her Quaker meeting to end investments in the fossil fuel industry, a policy move that has been adopted by over a quarter of all Quaker meetings in the UK



Audrey Doig

Ms Doig is a member of the Member of the Renfrewshire City Council and a member of the Scottish National Party, which campaigns for an independent and nuclear-free Scotland. She also serves as Deputy Convener of the Nuclear Free Local Authorities Scotland, which campaigns for a Scotland free of both nuclear weapons and nuclear power.



Marc Finaud

Mr Finaud is Senior Advisor, 'Arms Proliferation' Cluster Leader, Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP). He is a former French diplomat having served in bilateral and multilateral postings, including the Conference on Disarmament. He is also Bureau Member at Initiatives for Nuclear Disarmament (IDN).



Ute Finckh-Krämer

Dr Finckh-Krämer is a member of the global council of Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament. She is a German peace activist and former member of the Bundestag (SPD, 2013-2017). She was co-chair of the Bundestag subcommittee on disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation, and has also served as Chair of the Social Defence League.



Laurent Goetschel

Professor Goetschel is director of *swisspeace* and professor of political science at the University of Basel. He has written and taught extensively on conflict resolution, peacebuilding, mediation and human rights, and is the principle organiser for the annual *Basel Peace Forum*. He worked as a journalist with the Associated Press from 1989 to 1991 and served as the political advisor of Swiss Foreign Minister Micheline Calmy-Rey.



Jürgen Grässlin

Mr Grässlin is one of Germany's most prominent armament opponents. He is the Federal Spokesman of the German Peace Association - United War Resisters (DFG-VK), spokesman of the campaign "Action Outcry - Stop the Arms Trade", and Chairman of the Armaments Information Office (RIB e.V.). He is the author of numerous books on arms exports and military/economic policies. In 2011, Grässlin was awarded the "Aachen Peace Prize", 2016 the "Grimme Award".



Fabian Hamilton, MP

Mr Hamilton is a British Labour Party politician who has been the Member of Parliament (MP) for Leeds North East since 1997. He serves as a member of the Foreign Affairs Select Committee, Shadow Minister for Peace and Disarmament, Chair of the all-party groups on business services, prison health, and civil contingency, and Vice-chair of the all-party groups on Iran and Tibet.



Bärbel Höhn

Bärbel Höhn is the Special Representative for Energy in Africa for the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, Chair of the Global Renewables Congress (GRC), and Member of the Bundestag (2015-2017). Ms Höhn has served as Minister for Environment, Agriculture and Consumer Protection in North Rhine-Westphalia (1995 - 2005), and Chair Bundestag Committee for the Environment, Conservation & Nuclear Safety.



Thies Kätow

Mr Kätow is research officer for the World Future Council and the Move the Nuclear Weapons Money campaign, focusing on nuclear weapons divestment. He also serves as interim coordinator in Germany for Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament.



Margaret Kiener Nellen, MP

Ms Kiener Nellen is a member of the Swiss National Council since 2003, and currently serves as Vice-Chair of the National Council High-Level Advisory Group on Counter Terrorism and Violent Extremism. She is also Head of the Swiss delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, member of the Swiss Delegation to the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and Executive Member of IPU. She has served as Vice-President of the IPU Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians.



Nishant Malapatti

Nishant Malapatti is an associate at Blackrock Solutions, where he provides analytics and management for pension plans, foundations and endowments. Mr Malapatti volunteers his time with a few NGOs (Nuclearban.US, Business Plan for Peace, Move the Nuclear Weapon Money), providing strategy and research to create strong cases for institutions to divest away from weapons manufacturers and into alternative investments while maintaining traditional portfolio management practices.



Andreas Nidecker

Prof (em) Dr Nidecker MD is President of the Basel Peace Office. He has served as President of the Swiss affiliate of IPPNW and on the IPPNW International Board. president of "Sun21 - energy and resources", a Basel based association to promote energy conservation and the use of renewables, co-founded with Martin Vosseler, the founder of PSR / IPPNW Switzerland.



Gen (ret) Bernard Norlain

Mr Norlain is a retired Air Force General - Général d'armée aérienne (France). He has served as a fighter pilot, commander of Air Combat Command, military adviser of two French Prime Ministers, and Director of the French Institute for advanced Defense Studies. He currently serves as Vice-President of Initiatives for Nuclear Disarmament.



Marzhan Nurzhan

Marzhan is Coordinator of Abolition 2000 Youth Network. member of CTBTO Youth Group and International Young Student Pugwash Movement. Ms Nuzhan represented campaign Move the nuclear weapons money at various international platforms such as OSCE PA, IPU Assembly and NPT PrepCom meetings.



Marit Nybakk

Ms Nybakk is PNND Co-President, Chair International Forum of the Labour party, board member Norwegian Court's Administration and former member of the Norwegian Parliament. She has served as Vice-President of the Parliament, Chair of the Defense Committee, Deputy-Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee, President of the Nordic Council, President of the Norwegian Association for Women's Rights, and Deputy Chair of the delegation to the NATO parliamentary assembly. Ms Nybakk is the longest serving women parliamentarian in Norway's history.



Lukas Ott

Mr Ott is Head of Cantonal and City Development Unit, President's Department, Canton Basel-Stadt, Switzerland. studied sociology, art history and botany at the University of Basel. He has published widely in public and administrative law, social and cultural history. From 2000 to 2017 he was city council president of Liestal.



Rudolf Rechsteiner

Dr. Rudolf Rechsteiner is president of the Ethos Foundation which is the leading organization for Socially Responsible Investment and active share ownership representing 220 pension funds in Switzerland. He was a member of the Swiss national Parliament 1995-2010 and today is working as a lecturer on energy and environmental policy for various universities and for the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH).



Daniel Rietiker PhD

Dr Rietiker is a lecturer in public international law at the University of Lausanne (Switzerland), senior lawyer at the European Court of Human Rights (Strasbourg, France), member of the International Law Association (ILA)'s Committee on non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and contemporary international law, and the president of the Association of Swiss Lawyers for Nuclear Disarmament. In 2014, he was a visiting fellow at Harvard Law School leading to the publication "Humanization of Arms Control - Paving the Way for a World Free of Nuclear Weapons", Routledge, 2017.



Quique Sánchez Ochoa

Mr Sanchez Ochoa holds a Bachelor in Political Science and Masters in Peace, Conflict and Development, he has dedicated his career to peacebuilding and human rights advocacy through activism and education. He currently works as a project manager in Centre Delàs of Peace Studies (Barcelona) and is part of the coordination team of the Global Campaign on Military Spending (GCOMS).



Robert Smith

Mr Smith is founder and chair of the Investment Community Visibility (ICV) Group which works with investors to create a social impact beyond a financial return. Mr Smith serves as Advisor to the Kennedy family's New Frontier Bio; United Nations Capital Development Fund; Permanent Secretariat of the World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates and the Africa Rising Foundation. In 2018, Robert was recognized as one of the 100 Visionary Leaders leading us towards a better world by Real Leaders Magazine.



Serge Stroobants

Mr Stroobants is the Director of Operations for Europe and the MENA region at the Institute for Economics and Peace. He is a former Colonel in the Belgian Armed Forces with an academic specialization in political sciences, international relations, security and defense, global risk analysis, foresight and crisis management. He is also an Assistant-Professor at Vesalius College in Brussels, senior fellow at the Irish College of the KU Leuven and senior associate at the European Institute for Asian Studies and the Global Institute for Cybersecurity Technologies. He is founder of BANTS Consulting, a strategic security consultancy company.



Keith Suter

Dr Suter is Foreign Affairs Editor for the Australian TV Channel 7 "Morning Show". He is a member of the Club of Rome, and has served as Chair of the International Humanitarian Law Committee of Australian Red Cross (NSW) and the International Commission of Jurists (NSW), as well as Director of Studies at the International Law Association (Australian Branch) and Managing Director of the Global Directions think tank. He is a leading authority on the social and economic consequences of the arms race, and was a pioneer of the concept of a 'Peace Industrial Complex.'



Alyn Ware

Mr Ware is Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament (PNND) Global Coordinator and Co-founder of Move the Nuclear Weapons Money. Mr Ware is also co-founder of Abolition 2000, an international network of over 2000 organisations working for the elimination of nuclear weapons. He is consultant for the International Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms, co-founder of UNFOLD ZERO and a member of the World Future Council. He has received the Right Livelihood Award ('Alternative Nobel Peace Prize') and has been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize three times.



Conference organisers and partners



Basel Peace Office

A joint initiative of four swiss and four international organisations established to advance research, training and policy-development programs dedicated to international peace, security and global abolition of nuclear weapons. BPO coordinates a number of international programs including the *Climate-Nuclear Nexus*, *Engaging Legislators* (PNND), *Framework Forum*, *Humanitarian consequences and the law*, *Move the Nuclear Weapons Money* and *UNFOLD ZERO*. BPO is a coordinating member of Abolition 2000, the global civil society network to abolish nuclear weapons.



Basel-Stadt Kanton

Basel-Stadt is a city-kanton which straddles the Rheine River at the corner of Switzerland, France and Germany. Basel is known for its contribution to peace including the Basel Peace Congress of Socialists of 24 November 1912 which launched an international declaration opposing war, the 1499 Treaty of Basel which ended the Swabian War, and the 1795 peace agreement between France, Prussia and Spain which was negotiated in Basel. Since 2005, Basel-Stadt has been a member of Mayors for Peace.



Physicians for Social Responsibility (Switzerland):

The Swiss affiliate of the *International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW)*, a global network of medical professionals (doctors, medical students, other health workers) who share the common goal of creating a more peaceful and secure world freed from the threat of nuclear annihilation.



Mayors for Peace (Europe)

Mayors for Peace is a global network of over 7,700 cities from 163 countries working together to achieve a nuclear-weapon-free world, and to build cooperation between cities on broader peace issues including prevention of war, elimination starvation and poverty, addressing the plight of refugees, human rights abuses, and environmental degradation. Mayors for Peace is led by the Hiroshima Mayor and 26 Lead/Executive cities.



Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament (PNND).

A global, cross-party network of legislators from nuclear-armed and non-nuclear countries working to reduce nuclear-weapons risks, prevent proliferation and achieve nuclear disarmament. PNND leaders include current and former presidents, prime ministers, foreign ministers, heads of parliamentary committees and leaders of inter-parliamentary organisations including the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.



World Future Council.

An international coalition of leaders from governmental bodies, civil society, business, science and the arts, supported by a staff of policy experts, focusing on effective policies to ensure a sustainable world for future generations.

www.nuclearweaponsmoney.org

\$1 000 000 000 000
(ONE TRILLION)
US DOLLARS
ALLOCATED TO
NUCLEAR WEAPONS PROGRAMS
OVER 10 YEARS COULD INSTEAD COVER

UNITED NATIONS
budget for
10 years

100 million
HOME SOLAR PANEL SYSTEMS

UP TO 100 million
HOUSES

2-10 million
Teachers

preventive health
care for all Africans
67 million clean biomass stoves
1 million fresh water wells in Africa

up to 400,000
HOSPITALS
and
FOOD
for all 780 million
malnourished people