# Nuclear remembrance and action week August 6-9, 2018



## Take action for nuclear abolition on the 73rd anniversaries of the nuclear bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki

## 1. Join a local Hiroshima or Nagasaki Day event

There are events happening around the world. Visit <u>Hiroshima and Nagasaki Day events</u> to see if there is an event near you.

#### 2. Support the UN High-Level Conference

The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) decided to hold a High-Level Conference on Nuclear Disarmament in 2018 to advance effective measures for nuclear disarmament and pave the way for the elimination of nuclear weapons through a global treaty. However, the pro-nuclear states prevented the conference from being held this year. (See <u>Nuclear Weapon States' Long Arm Seen Behind Deferral of Landmark UN Conference</u>)

In October the UN will decide whether to re-schedule the event for next year, or drop it altogether. Help ensure that the UN is not blocked from holding this important event to achieve a nuclear-weapon-free world. **Call on your government to support the UN High Level Conference when the UNGA makes its decision this October.** For more information visit <u>www.unfoldzero.org</u> or contact <u>info@pnnd.org</u>.

#### 3. Divest from nuclear weapons

Money makes the world go around. The corporations manufacturing nuclear weapons are fueling the nuclear arms race for their own financial gain. They actively lobby their parliaments and governments to continue allocating the funds to nuclear weapons. And they support think tanks and other public initiatives to promote the 'need' for nuclear weapons maintenance, modernization or expansion.

You can help curb the power of the nuclear weapons corporations by encouraging your university, church, city, bank or government to divest from them. For more information visit <u>www.nuclearweaponsmoney.org</u> or contact <u>info@nuclearweaponsmoney.org</u>.

Move the nuclear weapons money

## 4. Fold an origami crane



It is believed that folding 1,000 origami cranes brings one a peaceful and healthy life. Following the nuclear bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945, origami crane folding became an action for peace and nuclear abolition, particularly for young people.

This arose from the story of Sadako Sasaki, a child at the time of the nuclear bombing of Hiroshima. Sadako contracted leukaemia from the radioactive fallout. She tried to make 1000 cranes but passed away before she could finish. Her classmates finished the 1000 cranes for her, and then made crane making their message for peace. They raised funds for a memorial to Sadako in the Hiroshima Peace Park. Origami crane making is now taught in schools around the world.

Action: Organise a crane-making workshop at your local school, youth group, workplace or place of worship.

#### **Resources:**

- <u>Video on folding a paper crane</u>
- The story of Sadako and the 1000 origami cranes
- <u>The Peace Crane Project</u>

## 5. Join the International Fast for nuclear abolition

Every year, an International Fast is held in several countries worldwide between Hiroshima and Nagasaki days (6th-9th August). The fast takes place in sorrow and in commemoration of the 300,000 deaths at the atomic bombings of Japan. The fast is supported by organisations around the world including the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND). Fast by yourself, set up a group of fasters, or join one of the groups fasting in France, Germany, New Zealand, Togo, United Kingdom or USA. Contact Marc Morgan, Dominique Lalanne or Angie Zelter.

## 6. Endorse the Hibakusha Appeal for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons

In April 2016, <u>Hidankyo</u>, the Japan Confederation of A and H Bomb Sufferers Organizations, launched an appeal for the total elimination of nuclear weapons. The appeal, which was co-sponsored by the Korean and US associations of Atomic Bomb Victims and supported by Gensuikyo, calls on all governments to conclude a treaty to prohibit and eliminate nuclear weapons, i.e. a nuclear weapons convention. People around the world are invited to endorse the appeal.

Click here to see the appeal. Send your endorsement to Hidankyo

## 7. Organise a prayer vigil or church service

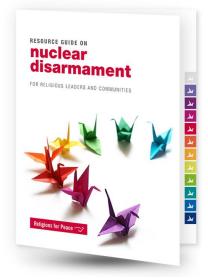
Religious and faith-based communities can reflect on the morality of nuclear weapons, the role that ethics can play to abolish nuclear weapons, and the peace-making power of religious leadership and action.

#### Actions:

- Organise a special service at your church, mosque, synagogue, temple or other place of worship.
- Endorse the Joint statement of religious leaders and legislators for a nuclear-weapon-free world. See

#### **Resources:**

• <u>Nuclear Disarmament for Religious Leaders and Communities</u>. Available in <u>Arabic</u>, <u>English</u>, <u>German</u>, <u>Japanese</u> and <u>Spanish</u>).



## 8. Engage your legislator/parliamentarian



Parliamentarians play a key role in determining government policy regarding nuclear abolition. They are able to ask questions in parliament (to which governments have to reply), propose motions, release joint statements and organise events.

Over 800 parliamentarians from across the political spectrum have joined <u>Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and</u> <u>Disarmament</u> (PNND) in order to enhance their impact globally. The Inter Parliamentary Union, a body of over 160 parliaments, has adopted a resolution (by consensus) calling on parliaments to work with governments to eliminate the role of nuclear weapons in security doctrines and negotiate a nuclear weapons convention.

#### Actions:

- Invite your legislator/parliamentarian to join PNND;
- Ask your legislator/parliamentarian to call on your government to support the UN High-Level Conference on Nuclear Disarmament

#### **Resources:**

- PNND: Visit <u>www.pnnd.org</u>. Contact <u>info@pnnd.org</u>
- Parliamentary Action Plan for a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World.

## 9. Engage your mayor and city council

Over 7000 cities are members of Mayors for Peace, which is led by the Mayor of Hiroshima. See <u>www.mayorsforpeace.org</u>.

#### Actions:

 Organise a commemoration event at your city council or at a suitable site in your city (Peace Garden, Peace memorial....). Invite the mayor to speak. Present the Hiroshima Peace Declaration which will be released on August 6;



- Ask your city council to adopt a motion honouring the 73rd anniversary of the nuclear bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and supporting the call for the total abolition of nuclear weapons.
- Ask your city council to divest city funds from nuclear weapons corporations. See <u>www.nuclearweaponsmoney.org</u>

#### 10. Hold a film/video event

Organise a nuclear disarmament film event. Documentaries include <u>Nuclear Savage</u> and <u>Where the</u> <u>Wind Blew</u>. Movies include <u>The Man Who Saved the</u> <u>World</u>, <u>Thirteen Days</u> (based on the Cuban Missile Crisis), <u>Crimson Tide</u> and <u>The Peacemaker</u>.

Contact <u>info@pnnd.org</u> for information and assistance with screening *Where the Wind Blew* or *The Man who Saved the World*.



Karipbek Kuyukov, artist and second generation victim of nuclear weapons who features in *Where the Wind Blew*.