3. Previous Leeds Peace Lecturers

The lectures officially began early in 1987 and have taken place in Leeds Civic President Obama's quote on Iran deal:

Date: 15th February 2019                                                                                                           No.21 

Subject:  Manchester Chapter meeting, Basel meeting, INF Treaty and progress report

1. Introduction

This report has been developed by the Chapter Secretary and provides members with an overview of the February 8th Chapter meeting held in Manchester. This considered progress within Mayors for Peace and provided further best practice examples in promoting peace education.

Some of the events considered include:

• Progress with the ICAN Cities Appeal as more prominent towns and cities support it.
• A House of Lords inquiry into UK nuclear weapons policy and international nuclear weapon treaties.
• The Basel Peace Forum, a joint meeting between Mayors for Peace and the Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament (PNND) and the successful publication of the ‘Basel Appeal’.
• A meeting of the European Lead Cities of Mayors for Peace and progress with developing a European structure.
• The Leeds International Peace Lecture 2019 given by Professor Paul Rogers.
• The Bike for Peace Global Tour launch in Westminster.
• Wider developments around promoting peace education.

Internationally, there is real concern around the decision by the US and Russian Governments to suspend the Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty. This Treaty was established in 1987 and was a major factor in a reduction of nuclear weapons in Europe and the end of the Cold War. This briefing will give a brief overview of this debate and the joint statement issued by European and North American Vice Presidents of Mayors for Peace calling for a return to negotiation in this area.

2. February Chapter meeting, Manchester Central Library

The first UK & Ireland Mayors, Provosts and Leaders for Peace Chapter meeting of 2019 was held in Manchester Central Library on the 8th February.

Chaired by the Lord Mayor of Manchester, Councillor June Hitchen, the meeting was well attended with Mayors, senior councillors or officers from Manchester, Glasgow, Renfrewshire, Leeds, Hull, Stockport, Oldham and Oxford attending. There was also a wide range of local and national peace group representatives in attendance.

The format of the meeting followed that agreed at recent meetings of having three formal presentations on progress with Mayors for Peace and the promotion of best practice peace education programmes - a core part of the Mayors for Peace Action Plan. The meeting then allowed for open discussion on the future development of Mayors for Peace.

THE UK & IRELAND CHAPTER OF MAYORS FOR PEACE

C/o Nuclear Policy, City Policy Section, Level 3, Town Hall Extension, Manchester, M60 3NY
Tel: 0161 234 3244   E-Mail: smorris4@manchester.gov.uk   Website: http://www.mayorsforpeace.org
The Chapter Secretary, Sean Morris, provided the meeting with a full progress report on Mayors for Peace at the national and international level. The presentation included updates on many of the issues noted from section 2 below onwards, as well as recent meetings and events, some of which were mentioned in detail in Chapter Briefing No 20 - accessible at the weblink – http://www.nuclearpolicy.info/wp/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/M4P_Briefing_No_20_TPNW_Declarations_and_Legacy_Ambassadors-1.pdf

This included the ICAN Cities Appeal, the visit of the ‘Peace Boat’ to Liverpool and Dublin, the visit of Hiroshima Peace Legacy Ambassadors to Manchester, Oldham and Coventry, and a number of Mayors for Peace supported projects in the UK and Ireland.

Kelly Simcock of the Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Foundation for Peace, based at the Warrington Peace Centre, gave an engaging overview of their programmes assisting people from conflicted communities and people directly affected by terrorist attacks or serious events of violence. She also explained the Foundation’s peace education programme at primary, secondary and tertiary school levels, which are available to any Council / school or college interested in working with them. A lot of work and projects have been developed since the Manchester and London attacks of 2017 with schools in both cities taking part in them.

Further information on these programmes can be found at the Foundation’s detailed website - http://www.peace-foundation.org.uk.

Sara Belhay, UK Project Director of Peace Jam UK, also spoke to the meeting about its work. This is particularly focused on supporting young people in promoting peace at the local, national and international level. Peace Jam is an international group started in the US with a number of national groups around the world. They work with 14 Nobel Peace Laureates to encourage and develop the skills of young people in order to promote local peace leadership.

Sara outlined ‘Peace Jam’s’ work and two upcoming UK events – a national Youth Leadership Conference in Winchester University on the 9th and 10th March; as well as a one day conference in Leeds, called the Leeds Slam, on the 30th March in Leeds University.

The Winchester event will include Nobel Peace Laureate Betty Williams and is for young people aged 14 – 18. As well as a discussion with the Nobel Peace Laureate, there will be workshops, action projects and a peace ceremony. The young people will also present a project or ideas as part of Peace Jam’s ‘One Billion Acts of Peace’. The Leeds event is around the idea of ‘Sport as a Tool of Peace’ and the guest speaker will be the Leeds Rhinos rugby player Jamie Jones-Buchanan.

Further information on these events and on the wider work of Peace Jam UK can be found at their website: https://peacejam.org.uk/.

The wide-ranging panel discussion also focused on ways to encourage Councils to pass resolutions to support the ICAN Cities Appeal and on ways civil society groups could cooperate with Councils on promoting peace making, peace building and peace education programmes. The presentations from the meeting will go shortly on the Mayors for Peace and NFLA websites.

2. **ICAN Cities Appeal – more cities pass resolutions to support the TPNW**

The ICAN (International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons) Cities Appeal was launched in mid-November at the UCLG Congress in Madrid.

Its aim is to allow local government – town, city and county councils – to pledge their support to the campaign to encourage states to pass the UN International Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). The Cities Appeal has the full support of Mayors for Peace as part of its own strategy to encourage states to pass the TPNW. By passing resolutions, Councils are also showing their support to Mayors for Peace.
In December, Manchester and Renfrewshire became the first members of the UK and Ireland Mayors, Provosts and Leaders for Peace Chapter to pass resolutions to support the TPNW. They join with a number of prominent towns and cities in the United States, Canada, Australia, Japan, Germany, Spain, Switzerland and Norway.

After further discussion with members at the Manchester Chapter meeting, a model resolution which expressly relates to the ICAN Cities Appeal has been developed by the Chapter Secretariat. It is attached at Appendix 1, along with a list of the towns and cities who have passed resolutions since November 2018. It is expected a considerable number of towns and cities will pass resolutions around the world over the next few months. The Chapter Secretariat encourages your Council to show its support for the TPNW, Mayors for Peace and ICAN.

3. House of Lords inquiry into nuclear weapons and international treaties / breakdown of the INF Treaty

In late November 2018, the House of Lords International Relations Select Committee launched an inquiry into the effectiveness of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) at a time of growing international tension. The Committee is particularly concerned about tensions rising between nuclear-armed states and the potential fragmenting of existing non-proliferation and arms control agreements.

The inquiry is also considering the creation of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) and the growing frustration from over two thirds of UN members with the lack of sufficient progress in nuclear weapons disarmament. The inquiry is further seeking to consider the state of global nuclear diplomacy and the role of the UK within it.

This is a welcome and timely inquiry given that real tensions and pressures exist across a number of areas of international security. In addition, the recent decisions by the US and Russian Governments to suspend the Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, accusing each other of breaking the treaty by developing new nuclear weapons, is of real concern.

A number of organisations have responded to this currently ongoing inquiry and there have been written responses from a number of UK based disarmament and security policy organisations. Both ICAN's global headquarters and its UK branch have responded. In local government, the UK and Ireland Nuclear Free Local Authorities (NFLA) have responded raising their concern over an increased level of negative unilateral activity in the area of nuclear weapon treaties and agreements, and sharing the frustration of many non-nuclear weapon states of the stalemate within the NPT arrangements. They also highlighted the benefits of the UK engaging with the TPNW process, rather than actively opposing it.


The House of Lords Committee has invited a number of expert speakers to provide it with oral testimony including Beatrice Fihn, Executive Director of ICAN, Rebecca Johnson, Director of the Acronym Institute for Disarmament Diplomacy, Dr Nick Ritchie from York University and representatives from the UN, NATO, international diplomacy and defence policy think-tanks, and officials from the UK Government.

Beatrice Fihn’s oral testimony to the committee can be watched at: https://parliamentlive.tv/Event/Index/f606da3a-6bfd-46f3-a58f-5722ff8dd48d

The outcome of this inquiry will be considered in the next Chapter Briefing.

The issues over the disagreements between the US and Russia, and potentially with other nuclear weapon states, is of real concern prior to the May NPT Preparatory Conference. The INF Treaty was established in 1987 and had an important impact on the end of the Cold War. It led to a major reduction in the amount of nuclear weapons across Europe. These ongoing tensions, along with concerns over Iran’s nuclear programme following the decision by the
United States to impose harsh sanctions, and the more positive development of a second summit between the United States and North Korea over the latter’s nuclear programme, highlights the prominence of the nuclear weapons debate in a manner not seen since the end of the Cold War.

The European and North American Vice Presidents of Mayors for Peace, including Manchester, agreed a joint statement of concern over the INF Treaty. This follows on from a statement by the Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. This is attached as Appendix 2. It is being sent to the political leaders of the countries of each participating Vice President.

The Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki will lead an international delegation from Mayors for Peace to the NPT in May 2019, and their activity will be outlined in a future Chapter Briefing.

4. Mayors for Peace / PNND meeting in Basel and the ‘Basel Appeal’

The Chapter Secretary, representing Manchester and the wider Chapter, attended a series of events held in Basel, Switzerland in late January to support the work of Mayors for Peace and collaborate with like-minded Parliamentarians.

2019 is the third year the City of Basel has helped to support the Basel Peace Forum, which is organised by the group Swiss-peace. This major international peace conference brought delegates from around the world to talk about the work of international civil society groups and interactions with the business and humanitarian sector. The Secretary General of the OSCE (Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe) was a keynote speaker, and there was also an interesting final plenary with the directors of the International Red Cross and Medecins sans Frontieres (Doctors without Borders) and how they interact with the pharmaceutical and health sectors during major disasters and conflicts.

A series of ‘pavilions’ were also held around the conference, including one hosted by PNND, the World Futures Council and the Basel Peace Office which innovatively asked delegates to ‘count’ million dollar (fake) euro notes and consider which of the UN Millennium Development goals could be spent on in place of the €27 billion of arm exports to troubled parts of the world.

The main activity for Mayors for Peace representatives (from Manchester, Hannover, Granollers and Frogn) in Basel was a joint meeting with the group Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament (PNND), hosted by the Basel Peace Office. This was opened by Lukas Ott from the City and Canton of Basel and included presentations from the Mayor of Hannover Thomas Herrman, the Honorary Mayor of Frogn and PNND member Thore Vestby, and the Chapter Secretary, Sean Morris. Amongst the PNND speakers was one of its board members and Austrian Parliamentarian Christine Muttonen, and representatives from PNND in Germany and Switzerland. The meeting considered both developments in disarmament and ways to encourage Councils to divest investments in companies involved in building nuclear weapons and other weaponry.

A joint statement urging increased diplomacy and multilateralism in talks over nuclear weapons and international security was agreed and called the ‘Basel Appeal’. Following the meeting, it was advertised to members of Mayors for Peace, PNND and civil society to encourage support of it, which proved very effective, particularly in the United States and Norway, where useful activity encouraged a number of prominent Mayors to sign the appeal. It is attached as Appendix 3 with the names of the supporting Mayors / councillors.

The meeting was very useful and enhanced the important connections between local and national politicians, which remains a core part of the Mayors for Peace Action Plan.

5. European Mayors for Peace Lead Cities meeting

The meetings in Basel also allowed time for a discussion with European Lead Cities over the ongoing moves to increase cooperation and look for an effective structure, possibly even a European Chapter.
At present, the Catalan / Spanish City of Girona is translating a legal document into core European languages to provide a draft terms of reference for a European structure. This will then allow for the creation of a board of directors and the opportunity to start to solicit funds and cooperate with other organisations in Europe.

An additional part of this process is to increase the number of lead cities and national Chapters of Mayors for Peace. It was therefore useful to engage with Swiss cities and peace groups and to encourage the development of a Swiss Chapter.

A core part of European developments will be to support the Mayors for Peace’s core aim of promoting activity to develop a world free of nuclear weapons, but also to promote its second aim of supporting the development of safer, resilient and more peaceful towns and cities.

The aim of this process is to have firm proposals in place for the Mayors for Peace Executive Conference, which takes place in Hannover in November.

The UK & Ireland Chapter is keen for its members to develop their own local initiatives to support the aims and ethos of Mayors for Peace.

One such activity has taken place in the city of Leeds since 1986 in the Leeds International Peace Lecture series. First called the Olof Palme Memorial Peace Lecture, which concluded with the final lecture given by Caroline Lucas MP in 2017, this new series is now organised by Leeds City Council and its Peacelink Group in conjunction with Leeds Beckett University and in cooperation with Mayors for Peace.

The first of this new series of lectures was given by international security expert Professor Paul Rogers of Bradford University Peace Studies Department. The lecture was opened by the Lord Mayor of Leeds, Graham Latty and was chaired by the Deputy Leader of Leeds City Council, James Lewis.

Professor Rogers gave a wide-ranging lecture on ‘The Routes to Peace in an Uncertain World’. His talk considered three of the most problematical ‘emergencies’ affecting our world today – the environmental emergency around increasing climate change, the economic emergency around huge divergences in income within countries and between developed and developing countries, and the security emergency which is seeing increased local conflicts, civil wars, decreased use of diplomacy and more unilateral action.

Professor Rogers concluded that concerted political action was, at last, beginning to take place on the environmental emergency, while some encouraging research and limited action was starting to take place to deal with economic discrepancies. But the security emergency requires comprehensive and wide-ranging political change. Politicians, the ‘military industrial complex’ (as President Eisenhower called it) and security think tanks have to start changing in ways to reduce heightened tensions and encourage cooperation.

Professor Rogers has just written a new book on these matters, ‘Irregular War’, which give an expert analysis on possible ways to deal with each crisis — a link to purchase it can be found at the weblink https://bloomsbury.com/uk/irregular-war-9781784538446/.

The Chapter Secretariat is discussing with other members the possibility of undertaking a similar lecture series with academic institutions. Member authorities are encouraged to consider this as one way of showing their interest and support of Mayors for Peace.

The Chapter is supporting again, and cooperating with, the Norwegian group Bike for Peace who are commencing their latest global bike tour for peace at Westminster on the 27th February.

Bike for Peace was established in 1978 by Tore Nærland and organises bike rides to promote peace, tolerance and the low carbon benefits of cycling, as well as working in
cooperation with Mayors for Peace. The latest bike ride will include a route taking in the UK, France, India, China, Australia, New Zealand, Hawaii and the United States. It will conclude with a special meeting at the United Nations in New York. A core group of 12 cyclists will be joined by local cyclists and special events will take place on each part of the journey.

The Westminster launch will include an explanation of the tour from co-ordinators Tore Naerland and Frank Tomlinson, and other planned speakers include Caroline Lucas MP, Fabian Hamilton MP, Douglas Chapman MP, Mayors for Peace Chapter Secretary Sean Morris and CND General Secretary Kate Hudson.

The event will take place in Room W2 in the Palace of Westminster from 10.30am – 12pm on the 27th February. Any Mayors for Peace members who would like to take part should contact the Chapter Secretary – s.morris4@manchester.gov.uk.

8. Peace education initiatives
Various peace education initiatives are ongoing amongst Mayors for Peace members and they include:

- Hiroshima hosted a major schools art project called ‘Peaceful Towns’ encouraging primary schools to create artworks on encouraging peace in their town or city. In total, 469 works were submitted from 29 cities in 14 countries. A Russian entry from Ms Anastasia Skobelytsna (aged 9) from Krasnodar won the overall first prize. The paintings will be exhibited in Hiroshima. Schools in Manchester took part in the competition. Further details and the artworks can be found at the weblink - http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/ecbn/projects.html#section09
- The ongoing project to grow gingko trees from a tree affected by the Hiroshima atomic bombing (that regrew the following spring) continues. At present UK members Manchester, Edinburgh, Shetland Islands, Hull, Oldham and South Ayrshire Councils are growing trees and developing local projects on peace. A number of other members are considering hosting such a project.
- Funding has been provided to develop a mobile phone app for the Manchester City Centre Children’s Peace Trail from Historic England. It is hoped to develop the app to coincide with the development of Manchester’s new Peace Garden project in Lincoln Square in the city centre in 2020.
- The Robert F Kennedy Human Rights Foundation are discussing with a number of UK cities the development of programmes to support civil rights education, human rights and community cohesion in an initiative called ‘Ripples of Hope’. The Chapter Secretary is meeting with a member of the Foundation in early March to discuss the matter further.

These are just a few examples of the many projects that Chapter members are involved in. If your Council is organising local events in the fields of peace, tolerance and community cohesion then please get in touch with the Chapter Secretariat via s.morris4@manchester.gov.uk.

9. Manchester visit to Hiroshima and Kagoshima, April 2019
In 2018, Manchester signed a formal friendship agreement with the Japanese city of Kagoshima. The link between the two cities goes back to the 1860s, when a delegation from Kagoshima visited Manchester to understand its industrial revolution. The first major industrial style factory in Japan was built in Kagoshima with machinery and expertise from the Manchester area - the factory is now the Kagoshima Industrial Museum.

The Governor of Kagoshima Prefecture visited Manchester in 2018 and signed a friendship agreement with the Lord Mayor of Manchester. A similar agreement by Kagoshima was also signed with the Mayor of Camden over educational links between the two cities.

A visit to Kagoshima from the Lord Mayor, supported by the Chapter Secretary, is planned for late April 2019. This will be to visit the Industrial Museum, local schools and local political leaders. Manchester is delighted to develop this link, which is one of the types of ways all Mayors for Peace members can work with each other.
The opportunity to visit Kagoshima also allows the Manchester delegation to visit Hiroshima. Visits with the Mayor of Hiroshima, the Secretary General of Mayors for Peace and a visit to Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum are being planned. A laying of a wreath at the Cenotaph to victims of the Hiroshima atomic bomb is also being arranged.

10. Conclusions and recommendations

This briefing highlights considerable local, national and international activity in Mayors for Peace over the past couple of months. It is welcome that increased cooperation is taking place in what is becoming a much more uncertain world.

The understandable concerns over the suspension of the INF Treaty hint at the potential of a new nuclear weapons arms race and the return of nuclear weapons across the continent of Europe. This is something the Mayors for Peace will actively lobby against, encouraging negotiation and dialogue instead. The upcoming NPT Preparatory Conference will see how entrenched views are in this area. This comes at a time when over two thirds of UN members are undertaking the signing and ratification of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW).

In a real, practical and symbolic way Chapter members in the UK and Ireland can show their support for negotiation rather than confrontation by passing resolutions supporting the ICAN Cities Appeal. These can show that local government is in solidarity with Hiroshima and Nagasaki and the large majority of states pushing hard for a world free from nuclear weapons.

Chapter members can also get involved in promoting examples of peace education in their localities. The Chapter Secretariat encourages them to link in with organisations like the Foundation for Peace and Peace Jam to encourage the next generation of young people to campaign for a more peaceful way forward.

Therefore, the opportunity to make practical moves forward to reduce tension at the present moment, while supporting moves to make a more peaceful world in the future, are available for all Chapter members, and they are recommended to do this and, by such activity, show solidarity as proud members of Mayors for Peace.
ICAN CITIES APPEAL - A global call from cities and towns in support of the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

1. About the ICAN Cities Appeal
Nuclear weapons pose an unacceptable threat to people everywhere. This is why, on 7 July 2017, 122 nations voted to adopt the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. All national governments are now invited to sign and ratify this crucial global agreement, which prohibits the use, production and stockpiling of nuclear weapons and lays the foundations for their total elimination. Cities and towns can help build support for the treaty by endorsing the ICAN Cities Appeal.

On November 7th 2018 ICAN launched the Cities Appeal, a commitment by cities and towns to show support for the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and call on their governments to join. The Appeal states:

“Our city/town is deeply concerned about the grave threat that nuclear weapons pose to communities throughout the world. We firmly believe that our residents have the right to live in a world free from this threat. Any use of nuclear weapons, whether deliberate or accidental, would have catastrophic, far-reaching and long-lasting consequences for people and the environment. Therefore, we support the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and call on our governments join it.”

2. Suggested model resolution for UK and Ireland Mayors for Peace members
“(N) Council is an active member of the Hiroshima-led Mayors for Peace; both of which have been working for almost four decades to promote multilateral nuclear disarmament.

Mayors for Peace work with the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), which received the Nobel Peace Prize for its work in encouraging over two thirds of United Nations members to agree to the International Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons (TPNW).

Council supports ICAN’s new ‘Cities Appeal’ which urges Councils to formally support the TPNW. It has already been signed by a number of important global cities likes Hiroshima, Nagasaki, Sydney, Melbourne, Los Angeles, Geneva, Mainz, Trondheim, Zaragoza and in the UK, Manchester and Renfrewshire.

In supporting the Cities Appeal, Council is deeply concerned about the grave threat that nuclear weapons pose to communities throughout the world. We firmly believe that our residents have the right to live in a world free from this threat. Any use of nuclear weapons, whether deliberate or accidental, would have catastrophic, far-reaching and long-lasting consequences for people and the environment. Therefore, we warmly welcome the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons by the United Nations in 2017, and we call on the UK / Republic of Ireland Government to join it.

Council instructs the Chief Executive to write to the UK Government to inform them of this resolution and urge them to take account of it.”

3. Signatories, as at February 15th 2019 (alphabetical order by country):
- Sydney, Australia
- Melbourne, Australia
- Fremantle, Australia
- Wollongong, Australia
- Toronto, Canada
- Mainz, Germany
- Hiroshima, Japan
• Nagasaki, Japan
• Trondheim, Norway
• Granollers, Spain
• Zaragoza, Spain
• Geneva, Switzerland
• Manchester, UK
• Renfrewshire
• Los Angeles, USA
• Baltimore, USA
• Ojai, USA
Mayors for Peace European and North American Lead Cities Statement, February 13th 2019

The governments of the United States and Russia have both decided to formally suspend their involvement in the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty. This now gives just a few months to restore one of the most important treaties of the Cold War era. This Treaty helped to lead to the withdrawal of large numbers of nuclear and conventional missiles from Europe and considerably de-escalated the threat of a nuclear conflict on the continent.

As Vice Presidents and Lead Cities in Europe and North America of the Mayors for Peace (1), an organisation established by the Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1982 and committed to the eventual goal of a world without nuclear weapons, we are very concerned with the suspension and potential abrogation of this core nuclear disarmament treaty. We are also concerned with plans by both these and other states to extensively modernize their nuclear arsenals, including development of stealthier and lower yield more “useable” weapons.

The President of Mayors for Peace, Mayor Kazumi Matsui, commented on these developments (2):

“Quite recently, the Mayor of Nagasaki and I sent a letter of request to the Presidents of the United States and the Russian Federation to convey the earnest wishes of civil society, which expects to see acceleration of both governments’ efforts based on this treaty. The announcement of withdrawal despite such an expectation is against the wishes of civil society, and it is not acceptable at all.

So that the tragedies of Hiroshima and Nagasaki will never be repeated, and in order to respond to the wishes of civil society, we once again strongly urge the leaders of the US and Russia to continue their dialogue and efforts based on reason and not to abandon this treaty without an alternative arrangement.”

The European and North American Lead Cities of Mayors for Peace strongly support this call for dialogue from the Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. We do not want to see nuclear missiles return to military bases around Europe where their presence could ratchet up international tension and security.

Mayors for Peace is a strong supporter of the new Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty’s nearly 50-year obligation to negotiate in “good faith” the elimination of nuclear weapons, which will be discussed in May of this year at the United Nations. The great progress that has been made since the signing of the INF Treaty risks going into reverse, starting a new arms race in a much more uncertain world.

We too call on President Trump and President Putin to come together and find a diplomatic solution to this crisis. There remains over 14,000 nuclear weapons in the world, over 90% of which are owned by the United States and the Russian Federation. The real need is to find sensible ways to de-escalate tension and promote again multilateral nuclear disarmament. We do not want to see nuclear weapons stationed again across Europe and the start of a new type of ‘cold war’. We call as well on European leaders to work with the US and Russia to find a new form of peaceful diplomacy and to help restore this important treaty.

Ends –

For more information please contact Sean Morris, UK and Ireland Mayors for Peace Chapter Secretary. The UK & Ireland Chapter has issued this statement on behalf of the European and North American Vice Presidents / Lead Cities of Mayors for Peace, on 00 44 (0)161 234 3244.

Notes:
(1) The European and North American Vice Presidents / Lead Cities of Mayors for Peace who formally support this statement are:
• Ms June Hitchen, the Lord Mayor of Manchester (UK)
• Ms Jacqueline Belhomme, the Mayor of Malakoff (France)
• Mr Philippe Rio, the Mayor of Grigny (France)
• Mr Stefan Schostok, the Lord Mayor of Hannover (Germany)
• Mr Thore Vestby, the Honorary Mayor’s representative of Frogn (Norway)
• Mr Josep Mayoral Antigas, the Mayor of Granollers (Spain)
• Mr Ivan Knez, the Mayor of Biograd na Moru (Croatia)
• Mr T M Franklin Cownie, the Mayor of Des Moines (USA)
• Ms Valerie Plante, the Mayor of Montreal (Canada)

(2) See Mayors for Peace, February 1\textsuperscript{st} 2019
http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/news/data/20190204/Mayor_Matsui’s_comment.pdf
Basel Appeal on Disarmament and Sustainable Security

An Open Letter on the INF & START treaties, nuclear risk-reduction and disarmament measures to preserve peace and achieve sustainable security


To:  Donald Trump, President of the United States
     Vladimir Putin, President of the Russian Federation
     Jens Stoltenberg, Secretary-General of NATO
     Miroslav Lajčák, Chair of the OSCE
     Federica Mogherini, EU High Representative for Security and Foreign Affairs
     Eliot Engel, Chair of the US House Foreign Affairs Committee
     Adam Smith, Chair of the House Armed Services Committee
     James Inhofe, Chair of the US Senate Armed Services Committee
     James Risch, Chair of the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee
     Leonid Slutsky, Chair of the Russian Duma Committee on Defence
     Konstantin Kosachev, Chair of the Russian Federation Council Committee on Foreign Affairs
     Viktor Bondarev, Chair of the Russian Federation Council Committee on Defence and Security

CC:  Xi Jinping, President of China
     Theresa May, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom
     Emmanuel Macron, President of France

Dear President Trump, President Putin, Secretary-General Stoltenberg, Chair Lajčák, High Representative Mogherini, Mr Engel, Mr Smith, Senator Inhofe, Senator Risch, Mr Slutsky, Mr Shamanov, Mr Kosachev and Mr Bondarev,

Last year, the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists moved the hands of the Doomsday Clock to 2 Minutes to Midnight citing “the failure of world leaders to deal with looming threats of nuclear war and climate change”, and highlighting the increasingly high risks of a nuclear exchange by accident, miscalculation, conflict escalation or intent.*

We applaud the Korean peace and denuclearization process which commenced since then, and we give our full support for continuing diplomacy to ensure success. And we welcome adoption by the United Nations of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

However, we are extremely concerned about the deteriorating security environment in Europe and internationally during 2018 arising from the erosion of the Intermediate Nuclear Forces Treaty; United States withdrawal from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (Iran nuclear non-proliferation agreement); unresolved conflicts between Russia and the West including over Crimea and Syria and between nuclear armed states in other regions including South Asia and the South China Sea; further development and modernization of nuclear weapons and related military systems; and provocative war games and nuclear threat postures.

* On January 24, 2019, the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists re-set the Doomsday Clock at 2 Minutes to Midnight indicating no improvement to the extreme risks to humanity from nuclear weapons and climate change.

1) INF Treaty

We are particularly concerned about the unravelling of the Intermediate Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, an historic agreement reached in 1987 between the United States and the Soviet Union to eliminate all of their nuclear and conventional ground-launched ballistic and cruise missiles with ranges of 500 to 5,500 kilometres, and to utilize extensive on-site inspections for verification of its implementation.
We call on the United States and Russia to refrain from developing and deploying weapons systems that could violate the Treaty, and to resolve compliance issues through dialogue and through enhanced work of the Special Verification Commission established by the Treaty.

We call on the Russian Duma and U.S. Congress to refuse to authorise, or allocate funding for, the development or deployment of weapons systems which might violate the Treaty, such as the Russian 9M729 missile, or which could provide similar capability as weapons prohibited under the INF Treaty, such as air or sea launched nuclear-armed cruise missiles.

And we call on European member States of NATO to re-affirm their opposition to any deployment of nuclear missiles in Europe.

2) New START Treaty

We are also concerned that the current conflicts may undermine the new START Treaty which provides common-sense limits and verification on the numbers of U.S. and Russian deployed strategic weapons and delivery vehicles, and which is set to expire in February 2021. We call on the US and Russia to extend the New START Treaty until 2026 and to undertake additional cuts to their nuclear stockpiles, either unilaterally or through negotiations.

3) Nuclear risk-reduction including No-First-Use

In order to reduce the risk of nuclear weapons use by accident, miscalculation or escalation, we call on Russia, the U.S. and NATO to re-affirm that a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be launched, and to implement such a declaration by adopting policies to never initiate the use of nuclear weapons (‘no-first-use’ policies). And we call on Russia and the U.S. to rescind their ‘launch-on-warning’ policies and to end their high operational readiness to use nuclear weapons.

4) Achieving a nuclear-weapon-free world

We highlight the universal obligation to achieve a nuclear-weapon-free world, and we welcome the commitment made by NATO and the United States to ‘create the conditions’ to realise this goal. We call on them to implement this commitment through:

   a) enhanced dialogue and engagement with other nuclear-armed States;
   b) developing an action plan for the comprehensive phase-out of nuclear deterrence and its replacement by common security;
   c) undertaking initial steps by reducing nuclear stockpiles, cancelling nuclear weapons modernisation programs, cutting nuclear weapons budgets and reallocating these funds to support sustainable development; and
   d) joining with other nuclear-armed and reliant States to negotiate a global nuclear weapons convention (to eliminate all nuclear weapons) as already supported by China, India, Pakistan, North Korea and most non-nuclear countries.

We reaffirm that disarmament helps create security, and we commit to acting resolutely for a nuclear-weapons-free and less militarised world. We call on cities, parliaments, governments and civil society around the world to join us in this endeavour.

Endorsers:

The Basel Appeal for Disarmament and Sustainable Security is endorsed by the following legislators at local, state, national and regional levels (mayors and parliamentarians) and representatives of think tanks and civil society organisations working with legislators:

1. Mayors and city councillors/officials

   Jon Askeland (Norway)
   Mayor of Radøy

   Steve Benjamin (USA)
   Mayor of Columbia, South Carolina
   President, United States Conference of Mayors
Jackie Biskupski (USA)
Mayor of Salt Lake City, Utah

Cllr David Blackburn (United Kingdom)
Chair of UK and Ireland Nuclear Free Local Authorities

James Brainard (USA)
Mayor of Carmel, Indiana

Sharon Weston Broome (USA)
Mayor of Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Mathias De Clercq (Belgium)
Mayor of Ghent, Member Mayors for peace

Kirk Caldwell (USA)
Mayor of Honolulu, Hawaii

Joe Coviello (USA)
Mayor of Cape Coral, Florida

T.M. Franklin Cownie (USA)
Mayor of Des Moines, Iowa
Vice-President Mayors for Peace

Bálint Csontos (Switzerland)
President Grüne Baselland, Municipal Council Ramlinsburg.

Jakob R. Day (USA)
Mayor of Salisbury, Maryland

Cllr. Audrey Doig (Scotland)
Member of the Renfrewshire City Council
Vice Convener of NFLA Scotland

Thor Edquist (Norway)
Mayor of Halden

Jorge O. Elorza (USA)
Mayor of Providence, Rhode Island

Stephanie Esswein (Germany)
Mayor of Mutlangen

Cllr. John Feely (Ireland)
Vice Chair of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council

Karen M. Freeman-Wilson (USA)
Mayor of Gary, Indiana

Cllr. Ernie Galsworthy (United Kingdom)
Member, Merthyr Tydfil Local Council
Chair, Nuclear Free Local Authorities Welsh Forum

Quentin M. Hart (USA)
Mayor of Waterloo, Iowa

Philippe Hivert (France)
Mayor of Grigny
Chef de projet chargé de la promotion de la Culture de Paix, de l'Histoire et des Relations Internationales

Thorvald Hillestad (Norway)
Mayor of Re

Cllr. June Hitchen (United Kingdom)
Lord Mayor of Manchester
Vice-President of Mayors for Peace

Sylvester James (USA)
Mayor of Kansas City, Missouri

Ivan Knez (Croatia)
Mayor of Biograd na Moru. Vice-President of Mayors for Peace

Rick Kriseman (USA)
Mayor of St. Petersburg, Florida

Alain Mathieu (France)
Mayor of Lancy

Josep Mayoral (Spain)
Mayor of Granollers. Vice-President of Mayors for Peace

Mark W. Mitchell (USA)
Mayor of Tempe, Arizona

Cllr. Eddy Newman (United Kingdom)
Manchester City Council representative

Richard Northey (New Zealand)
Representing the Waitemata Local Board, Auckland, New Zealand

Lukas Ott (Switzerland)
Former Member of parliament of the Canton of Basel-Landschaft
Former Mayor of Liestal

William Peduto (USA)
Mayor of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Catherine E. Pugh (USA)
Mayor of Baltimore, Maryland

Paul Quilès (France)
Mayor of Cordes sur Ciel
Président d’IDN (Initiatives pour le Désarmement Nucléaire)
Former Defence Minister of France

Daniel Rossellat (Switzerland)
Former Mayor of Ramlinsburg.

Quentin M. Hart (USA)
Mayor of Waterloo, Iowa
Stefan Schostok (Germany)
Lord Mayor and CEO of Hannover
Vice-President of Mayors for Peace

Asle Schrøder (Norway)
Mayor of Steigen

Odd Haktor Slåke (Norway)
Mayor of Frogn

Richard Thomas (USA)
Mayor of Mount Vernon, New York

Antonio Trebeschi (Italy)
Sindaco di Collebeato (Mayor of Collebeato)

Thore Vestby (Norway)
Vice-President of Mayors for Peace

Nan Whaley (USA)
Mayor of Dayton, Ohio

2. Parliamentarians (current and former)

Signed by 78 Parliamentarians from 22 countries.

3. Representatives of think-tanks and civil society organisations

Signed by representatives of 98 think-tanks and civil society organisations.

The full list of names can be found at:

Appendix 4

Some photos from the events mentioned in the Policy Briefing
(in chronological order)

1. Events in Basel, Switzerland

Left: Staff from Granollers ‘counting the nuclear weapons money’
Above: Attendees at the joint Mayors for Peace / PNND meeting in Basel

2. Visit of Kagoshima delegation to Manchester

Left: The Manchester and Kagoshima delegations outside Manchester Central Library
Above: The Kagoshima delegating meeting officials in the Museum of Science and Industry, Manchester
3. Leeds International Peace Lecture

Left: Professor Rogers giving the 2019 Peace Lecture
Above, left to right: NFLA Chair & Leeds Cllr David Blackburn, Leeds City Council Deputy Leader Cllr James Lewis, Lord Mayor of Leeds Cllr Graham Latty, Lady Mayoress Cllr Pat Latty, Professor Paul Rogers, Mayors for Peace Chapter Secretary Sean Morris

4. Mayors, Provosts and Leaders for Peace Chapter seminar with NFLA and ICAN UK

The Lord Mayor of Manchester, with Cllr Eddy Newman, of Manchester City Council opening the meeting

Mayors for Peace Chapter Secretary Sean Morris gives a progress report

Kelly Simcock from the Foundation for Peace outlines its work on peace-building and education

Sara Belhay from Peace Jam UK outlines its work and upcoming meetings in March