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Websites / partner links:

NFLA:

<http://www.nuclearpolicy.info>
(Also links to Facebook and Twitter)

CNFE: <http://www.cnfe.eu>

MFP: <http://www.mayorsforpeace.org>

KIMO: <http://www.kimointernational.org>

ICAN: <http://www.icanw.org>

ICAN UK: <http://www.ican-uk.org>

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The Deputy Mayor of Barcelona Lana Bonet Rull speaking at the M4P Europe / ICAN / NFLA joint webinar

NFLA host joint webinar with M4P & ICAN

Over 220 attendees heard from leading European Mayors, ICAN senior staff and a SIPRI academic in a major webinar on peace, security and disarmament in Europe over the next decade.

The joint webinar helped the launch the European Mayors for Peace Chapter, who

held it in conjunction with ICAN and the NFLA.

The event was moderated by the NFLA Secretary and was formally opened in a video message from the Mayor of Hiroshima.

The event was opened by the European Chapter Mayor and the Executive Director of ICAN, Beat-

rice Fihn.

Dr Tytti Erasto of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute outlined the interaction between the TPNW and the NPT.

The Deputy Mayor of Barcelona, the Mayor of Oslo and the Mayor of Grigny outlined wide support for disarmament.

Joint webinar also looks at safe and peaceful cities

The Mayors for Peace / ICAN & NFLA webinar also considered the second pillar of Mayors for Peace work – the promotion of safe and more peaceful cities.

Cllr Eddy Newman, a former Lord Mayor of Manchester, looked at how the city responded to a terrorist attack on the city. A core part of

that response was to promote tolerance and community cohesion, as well as remembering those who had died and developing a complete peace education programme.

Mayor Ricardo Rio of Braga, who is an Executive Member of the Global Parliament of Mayors, outlined what

his city and the GPM were doing to try and reduce violence in cities by 50% over the next decade.

The Lord Mayor of Manchester concluded the webinar by noting how informative and inspiring it had been.

A link to the webinar is on the NFLA website.

NFLA media releases,

December 2020:
(On NFLA website)

- NFLA welcomes online recording of webinar on peace, security and disarmament in Europe
- NFLA publishes report on the potential impact of Brexit on energy and environmental policy

NFLA publishes report on Brexit and its expected impacts

NFLA have published a new report which considers the possible impacts on energy and environmental policy as the UK formally leaves the EU transition period at the end of 2020.

There has been much discussion between the UK Government and the European Union, but it

has proved very difficult to determine the future relationship between the two.

The NFLA 'Brexit' report raises ongoing concern from many environmental groups that some parts of UK environmental legislation could be diluted. Recent guarantees still

do not ensure a 'triple lock' on such legislation.

Other issues looked at in the briefing include the impacts Brexit will have on the cost of energy, the Irish single energy market, the UK safety regime and nuclear fusion. It is on the NFLA website.

NFLA prepares report on nuclear transport risks

The NFLA Secretariat has sought comments on a draft and detailed report it has put together on nuclear transport issues.

The report seeks to consolidate NFLA concerns across both defence and civil nuclear transports.

On the defence side, the report looks at the safety

issues and perceived risks of nuclear weapon road convoys. This comes as a DSNR report outlines further reductions in staffing in the defence nuclear sector. It argues that their remains real public safety concerns to such convoys.

On the civil side, the

report outlines the large amount of transports that take place on an average year. It reviews a number of recent accidents, as well as other issues like the Stonehaven train crash and its implications on rail safety.

The report will be published in January.

NFLA AGM planned for January 2021 to look to future

Due to the need to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the NFLA over the past 2 months, the NFLA AGM for 2020/21 will take place at the end of January. It will focus on a workplan for 2021.

2020 has been a difficult year for all due to the restrictions created by the Covid-19 pandemic.

The AGM also approves the NFLA annual fin-

ancial report, the NFLA Service Plan and an Annual Report from the NFLA Secretary.

The meeting is provisionally set for January 29th, 2021.



Dr Tytti Erasto of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute speaking at M4P / ICAN / NFLA webinar



Beatrice Fihn, Executive Director of ICAN, speaking at the M4P / ICAN / NFLA webinar



Daniel Hogsta of ICAN speaking at the M4P / ICAN / NFLA webinar (All photos courtesy of Dr David Lowry)

JOINT STATEMENT PLANNED FOR TPNW ENTRY

As noted previously, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons will be entering into force on the 22nd January now that 50 states have ratified it.

Civil society groups around the world are planning to commemorate this date with events celebrating moves to ban nuclear weapons.

NFLA are engaging with the Mayors for Peace European Chapter and ICAN on seeking for prominent cities to agree to a joint statement that welcomes the TPNW. Such cities have passed resolutions on the TPNW. There will be further details on this in the NFLA's January 2021 newsletter.

NFLA OFFICE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR BREAK

After a long year, the NFLA Secretary is taking 3 weeks leave.

The NFLA office will be closed from Monday December 14th and reopen on Monday January 4th. The NFLA wish you a happy Christmas and peaceful 2021.

Rochdale and Hebden Royd receive Hiroshima tree seeds

Over the past few years, a number of UK members of NFLA or the Mayors for Peace have received ginkgo seeds from Hiroshima.

The seeds derive from a mother tree that was damaged in the atomic weapon attack on Hiroshima in 1945, but which regrew the spring

after. These trees are seen as a sign of resilience after disaster and a symbol of peace.

The seeds have now been grown in the likes of Manchester, Hull, Edinburgh, Shetland Islands, Oldham and South Ayrshire. They have been used as part of different peace educ-

ation projects.

The latest Councils to receive ginkgo seeds are the Mayors for Peace members Rochdale and Hebden Royd Councils. They received the seeds just as National Trees Week began. They will nurture them carefully and use them as powerful symbols of peace.

NFLA Secretariat attend RWM Exchange & NuLEAF meetings

Over an average year the NFLA Secretary attends many stakeholder events on behalf of its members.

Two meetings were held in December that look at how the large amount of radioactive waste and redundant nuclear reactors should be dealt with.

The NFLA Secretary is one of the represent-

atives to the RWM Exchange, which is a new body to look at getting civil society views on how the UK's radioactive waste legacy will be managed.

The meeting noted that Copeland and Allerdale Councils in W Cumbria have decided to engage in seeing if there is any suitable land that could be used for a deep

underground rad-waste repository.

Copeland Council has suggested a site under its Irish Sea coast could be considered. This would be of real interest to the Isle of Man, Irish & Scottish Governments. The matter was also discussed in the LGA NuLEAF meeting, who assist Councils in this area.

Forthcoming dates or meetings of interest to NFLA members

Entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons at the United Nations, 22nd January 2021

NFLA Steering Committee and Annual General Meeting, 29th January 2021 (date tbc)

Other Forum meeting will be timetabled in for February and March 2021 in conjunction with the NFLA Forum Chairs