

# THE SUNflower



NUCLEAR AGE PEACE FOUNDATION

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## Perspectives

### **Preventing Nuclear Catastrophe: Where Do We Go from Here?**

by IAEA Director General Dr. Mohamed ElBaradei

Earlier this year, four American *éminences grises*, Henry Kissinger, William Perry, George Shultz and Sam Nunn - representing a wealth of experience in defense and security strategies - declared that reliance on nuclear weapons as a deterrent is becoming "increasingly hazardous and decreasingly effective." They called for urgent international cooperation to move towards a world free from nuclear weapons.

The following week, the *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists* announced that they were moving the hands of their famous Doomsday Clock two minutes closer to midnight. “Not since the first atomic bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki,” they reported, “has the world faced such perilous choices.”

To read the whole article, visit:

[http://www.wagingpeace.org/articles/2007/05/24\\_ElBaradei\\_Preventing\\_Nuclear\\_Catastrophe.htm](http://www.wagingpeace.org/articles/2007/05/24_ElBaradei_Preventing_Nuclear_Catastrophe.htm).

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## **The Hamburg Call to Action, The World Future Council Inaugural Congress May 9-13, 2007**

Today we stand at the crossroads of human history. Our actions - and our failures to act - will decide the future of life on earth for thousands of years, if not forever.

Our generation will be scrutinized with exceptional fierceness by those coming after us, for decisions taken now will have profound consequences for them in terms of lives saved or lost.

The World Future Council identifies necessary policies and works to develop a new political realism, based on ethics and science and freed from dogmas which sacrifice our real wealth - our climate, water, soil, air and the health of our communities.

We seek to promote systems and institutions based on equity and justice, replacing those that perpetuate inequity and injustice. We seek equally to overturn policies that violate our future and promote best policies to safeguard our future.

To read the whole article, visit:

[http://www.wagingpeace.org/articles/2007/05/17\\_hamburg\\_call\\_to\\_action.htm](http://www.wagingpeace.org/articles/2007/05/17_hamburg_call_to_action.htm).

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## **Responsibility in An Era of Consequences**

by David Krieger

The inaugural meeting of the World Future Council was recently held in Hamburg, Germany. It brought together 50 Councilors from all continents, chosen for their diversity and pioneering commitment to building a better world. At the conclusion of the four-day meeting, the Council released the Hamburg Call to Action, a document calling for action to protect the future of all life. It began, “Today we stand at the crossroads of human history. Our actions – and our failures to act – will decide the future of life on earth for thousands of years, if not forever.”

The Call to Action is a challenge to each of us to take responsibility for assuring a positive future for humanity and for preserving life on our planet. The document states: “Today there is no alternative to an ethics of global responsibility for we are entering an era of consequences. We must share, co-operate and innovate together in building a world worthy of our highest aspirations. The decision lies with each one of us!”

To read the whole article, visit:

[http://www.wagingpeace.org/articles/2007/05/17\\_krieger\\_Responsibility\\_In\\_An\\_Era.htm](http://www.wagingpeace.org/articles/2007/05/17_krieger_Responsibility_In_An_Era.htm).

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## **Nuclear Proliferation**

## Former President Clinton Speaks on Nuclear Weapons

In early May, Former President Bill Clinton refreshed the public's memory of his stance on nonproliferation when speaking at Harvard University. Clinton emphasized the importance that "we get back into the nonproliferation issue," arguing that a country should do its best to take preventative measures against national disasters rather than being reactionary. Referring to both climate change and nuclear proliferation, Clinton stated, "This is coming. And I know there is no great political constituency for it, but we can avert these disasters for not very much money if they can be put into the public debate and people understand clearly what's going to happen." He also applauded the Bush administration's return to denuclearizing talks and subsequent deal with North Korea.

However, Clinton criticized the Defense Department under the Bush administration for continuing to develop nuclear technology while urging other countries to disarm and abandon their own nuclear programs. He stated, "We didn't have very clean hands when we were going around telling the Iranians or anybody else, 'Please don't have nuclear weapons.'"

Source: Alderman, Jesse Harlan, "Clinton Warns Presidential Candidates to Prepare for Disasters," *The Boston Globe*, 4 May 2007.

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## US Exaggerates Progress in Disarmament

by Nickolas Roth

From May 1st through May 12th, the US delegation at the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Preparatory Committee meeting gave several presentations in which they drastically overstated the United States' commitment to achieve nuclear disarmament, as required by Article VI of the NPT.

In their presentation titled "The United States and Article VI: A Record of Accomplishment," the US delegation stated that the active stockpile of nuclear weapons is 3,696. The total stockpile of nuclear weapons, including those in the reserve arsenal, is closer to 10,000. But, even if one disregards non-active weapons, the number of deployed warheads is far greater than 3,696. According to the Federation of American Scientists, "The 3,696 number excludes warheads for two ballistic missile submarines that are always considered to be in overhaul; and it attributes 20 warheads to each of 56 B-52 combat coded aircraft and 16 warheads to each of 16 B-2 combat coded aircraft. The actual number of active strategic warheads, those not in the responsive force or inactive stockpile, is 4,663." Under the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, both the United States and Russia are allowed to use special counting rules in order to maintain larger stockpiles than are actually being reported. The difference in estimates for the US is 967 warheads, more than enough to kill millions, if not billions of people.

Additionally, the US delegation stated that Reliable Replacement Warhead (the Bush administration's plan to build a new generation of hydrogen bombs) would help with reducing the overall nuclear stockpile. This, also, is not the whole truth. The Congressional Research Service report on RRW states that three arsenals will be maintained in the US stockpile under RRW: the Life Extension Program maintained nuclear weapons, the RRW stockpile and a third "black" arsenal-on-demand. In any case, the stockpile would likely increase for an indefinite amount of time while the new RRW was being certified.

Overall, the State Department did little to address some of the important issues, such as the United States' failure to ratify the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, maintaining thousands of nuclear warheads on hair trigger alert, or even a Fissile Material Cutoff Treaty.

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## Nuclear Labs

## Funding for RRW Eliminated

On May 23, the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee voted to eliminate all funding for engineering and cost studies of the Bush administration's Reliable Replacement Warhead (RRW) program.

The RRW program was intended to build a new generation of nuclear weapons. Subcommittee Chairman Peter J. Visclosky (D-Pa.) stated that no funding would be provided until "a future nuclear weapons strategy is established." This statement was similar to part of the 2008 Defense Authorization Bill, which had been recently passed. It called for a new study on nuclear weapons strategy.

In the House Defense Authorization Bill, the Bush administration's \$88 million request for RRW was reduced to only \$20 million. The bill asked for a year-long, bipartisan commission to examine the US nuclear strategic posture. Rep. Ellen O. Tauscher (D-Calif.), chairman of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, has said the panel will "help frame the debate over the future direction of our nuclear weapons program and place it in the context of related strategic considerations."

Many arms control experts feared the international implications of going forward with the RRW program. Former Senator Sam Nunn stated in Congressional testimony earlier this year, "If Congress gives a green light to this program in our current world environment . . . I believe that this will be misunderstood by our allies, exploited by our adversaries, [and] complicate our work to prevent the spread and use of nuclear weapons."

Source: Pincus, Walter, "New Nuclear Warhead's Funding Eliminated," *Washington Post*, 24 May 2007.

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## Hunger Strike Provokes UC Regent Response Over Nuclear Weapons Labs

by Andrew Culp and Will Parrish

In May, over 40 students, faculty, and alumni of the University of California, along with supporters in California and New Mexico, went without food for nine days to call for the University of California to withdraw its management of the nation's two nuclear weapons design laboratories, Los Alamos National Laboratory and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

The hunger strike was the latest tactical escalation by students in a six-year campaign for UC weapons lab severance. Though it did not officially endorse this particular action, the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation's UC Nuclear Free campaign has played a key role in the students' campaign in general from the beginning, primarily in regard to educating students and providing them with tools to be effective advocates for change.

The hunger strike ended after a University of California Board of Regents meeting in San Francisco on May 17. The hunger strikers presented petitions with thousands of signatures, over 300 letters directed at the Regents from around the world, and a letter of support signed by over 50 prominent figures and organizations. Regent Norman Pattiz, Chair of the Department of Energy Oversight Committee, opened his committee report with a prepared statement directed at the hunger strikers. Pattiz encouraged the students to lobby Congress instead of the Regents, before telling them to "go out and have some lunch."

Board Chair Richard Blum chose not to answer questions from members of the gallery and asked the room to be cleared. Thirteen individuals were arrested when they refused to leave until the Regents agreed to hold a dialogue with the hunger strikers.

In response to the protest, a handful of Regents have set up meetings with students. In addition, the UCSB Academic Senate has initiated a process to examine the UC's ties to the nuclear weapons laboratories and to encourage the Academic Senates on other campuses to do the same.

# Nuclear Testing

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## Congressmen Look to Expand Radiation Compensation

Congressman Jim Matheson of Utah and Congressman Mike Simpson of Idaho have made progress towards expanding compensation for those affected by nuclear fallout.

The two Congressmen have written a letter to the House Judiciary Committee requesting hearings on expanding coverage for the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA). “When the original counties were set up to be eligible for radiation exposure compensation, that was an arbitrary decision,” Matheson said during a telephone interview. Since then, even though the law was clarified later, “a lot of new information and data” have come out, he said.

The parts of Utah that were not originally covered and all of southern Idaho are being looked at for the expansion. “We ought to have a hearing, and we should hear from the scientists,” Matheson said.

RECA currently provides \$50,000 to people who were afflicted with certain types of cancer from nuclear testing that occurred at the nuclear test site in Nevada during the 1950s and 1960s. Those who participated in above-ground testing receive \$75,000. Uranium workers currently are given \$100,000.

Source: Bauman, Joe, “Feds Urged to Expand Fallout Compensation,” *Deseret Morning News*, 26 May 2007.

## Resources

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### Nukes of Hazard

The Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation recently unveiled its **Nukes of Hazard blog** dedicated to providing insight and analysis on Congressional action on nuclear weapons and non-proliferation issues. You can visit the blog at [nukesofhazard.blogspot.com](http://nukesofhazard.blogspot.com); email updates are also available by subscribing at the site. The blog’s authors, Jeff Lindemyer and Kyle Atwell, regularly write on all aspects of nuclear issues, including the attempted development of new nuclear weapons and the first START treaty and opine on topics, including the alert status of the US and Russia nuclear arsenal and the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.

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### New Book: Nuclear Disorder or Cooperative Security?

Just released by the Lawyer’s Committee on Nuclear Policy, Western States Legal Foundation, and Reaching Critical Will of the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, *Nuclear Disorder or Cooperative Security?*, an assessment of the report of the Hans Blix-led Weapons of Mass Destruction Commission and its implications for US policy. The book offers up-to-the-minute analysis and comprehensive recommendations regarding US policy in relation to the international security framework; non-proliferation and disarmament; missiles and weapons in space; nuclear weapons R&D; climate change and nuclear power; Iran and the nuclear fuel-cycle; and demilitarization and redefining security in human terms. It recommends that the United States make nuclear disarmament the leading edge of a global trend towards demilitarization and redirection of military expenditures to meet human and environmental needs.

# Foundation Activities

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## Foundation to Celebrate Co-Founder's 93rd Birthday

On June 14th, the Foundation is celebrating Co-founder and Senior Vice President Frank K. Kelly's 93rd Birthday. Frank K. Kelly has been a visionary advocate for humanity and has inspired many people through his writing and teaching to take action on behalf of humanity. The event will help fund the annual Frank K. Kelly Lecture on Humanity's Future. The lecture is presented annually by a distinguished individual to explore the contours of humanity's future and what we can do today to help shape a more positive and promising future for our planet and all its inhabitants.

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## Poetry Reading by Foundation President

Foundation President David Krieger will conduct a poetry reading on June 17th. He will be reading from *The Doves Flew High*, his newest book, which received the Peace Writing Award of the Peace and Justice Studies Association and OMNI Center for Peace, Justice, and Ecology. "Each poem is a seed of peace. Together they create a bouquet for life that we will want to take into our hearts for no less than the survival of the human race," noted Perie Longo, Santa Barbara Poet Laureate. The reading will take place at the Karpeles Manuscript Library Museum, 21 West Anapamu, Santa Barbara, at 3:15 p.m.

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## New York Representative to Attend Pugwash Workshop

The Foundation's New York Representative, Alice Slater, will attend the Pugwash Extraordinary Workshop at Pugwash Nova Scotia, July 5-7, for the 50th Anniversary of the Pugwash Conferences. The Pugwash Conferences were convened to discuss the Einstein-Russell Manifesto that denounced nuclear weapons. Having expanded over the last 50 years, there have been over 275 Pugwash Conferences, Symposia, and Workshops, with a total attendance of over 10,000. In addition to nuclear weapons, the Conferences also focus on reducing the danger of all armed conflict and seeking cooperative solutions for global problems. While there, Slater will not be representing an organization or country but herself as a private individual, which is a basic rule of the Conferences.

## Quotes

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"You have carrots and sticks. In most cases, carrots are more effective than sticks."

- - Former International Atomic Energy Agency head **Hans Blix**, encouraging the use of incentives in order to resolve potential Iranian nuclear weapons proliferation concerns.

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"It is ridiculous that after years of security breaches and safety debacles DOE would decide that the best way to fix these problems is by hiring the same incompetent contractors. This decision truly fits the definition of 'insanity.'"

- - Project on Government Oversight senior investigator **Peter Stockton** commenting on the University of California being awarded the management contract for the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

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“Russia is not a threat. They’re not a military threat. They’re not something that we ought to be hyperventilating about.”

- - US President **George W. Bush** deflecting criticism from Russian President Vladimir Putin over deploying missile defense in Eastern Europe.

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“At some point in the day I knew I wasn’t being watched ... [I] simply inserted the flashdrive into my computer, took what I needed.”

- - Former Los Alamos National Laboratory employee **Jessica Quintana** describing how she illegally removed confidential nuclear weapons data from work.

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## Editorial Team

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