

THE SUNflower



NUCLEAR AGE PEACE FOUNDATION

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Perspectives

Hubris vs. Wisdom

by David Krieger

In the Nuclear Age, humankind must not be passive in the face of the threat posed by nuclear weapons. The future of humanity and all life depends upon the outcome of the ongoing struggle between hubris and wisdom.

Hubris is an ancient Greek word meaning extreme arrogance. Wisdom is cautionary good sense.

Hubris is at the heart of Greek tragedy - the arrogant belief that one's power is unassailable. Wisdom counsels that no human power is impregnable.

Hubris says some countries can hold onto nuclear weapons and rely upon them for deterrence. Wisdom says these weapons must be eliminated before they eliminate us.

To read more, [click here](#).

2013 Nagasaki Declaration

by the 5th Nagasaki Global Citizens' Assembly

Although more than 50,000 nuclear weapons have been eliminated since 1986, more than 17,000 remain. It would only take a small number of these weapons of mass destruction to end civilization and most life on earth. Nine countries possess nuclear weapons, another five host U.S. nuclear weapons on their soil, and more still base their security on alliances with nuclear weapon states. Countless atomic bomb survivors worked hard until their last days for the elimination of nuclear weapons.

We, the participants in the 5th Nagasaki Global Citizens' Assembly for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, heard again the voices of survivors of the U.S. atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and their urgent appeal that the elimination of nuclear weapons becomes a reality while they are still alive. We also listened to hopeful voices of young people accepting responsibility for achieving and maintaining a world without nuclear weapons. The ties of mutual understanding and solidarity were deepened through three days of spirited interaction and discussion.

We pledge to continue our utmost efforts to achieve a world without nuclear weapons, and we appeal to the people of the world: "Nagasaki must be the last A-bombed city."

To read more, [click here](#).

US Nuclear Weapons Policy

White House Insists on Costly New Nuclear Weapon Programs

The White House has formally objected to language in the Senate version of the 2014 defense authorization bill that calls on the administration to study alternatives to a hugely expensive plan to extend the service lives of two types of nuclear warheads. The current plan supported by the White House involves creating an "interoperable" warhead, called IW-1, that will replace both the Air Force's W-78 and the Navy's W-88 warheads. The W-78 is used on Minuteman III land-based ballistic missiles, while the W-88 is used on submarine-based missiles.

Kingston Reif of the Center for Arms Control and Nonproliferation said, "It defies comprehension that the administration would oppose studies of alternative options to the IW-1 given the major concerns about [its] affordability, technical feasibility, necessity and executability."

Elaine Grossman and Douglas Guarino, "[White House Warns Senate Off of Warhead-Cost Measure](#)," *Global Security Newswire*, November 19, 2013.

Nuclear Disarmament

Netherlands on an Unstoppable Path Toward Denuclearization

The Dutch Parliament has adopted a motion to end the "nuclear task" of the Netherlands by 2023. The motion states that the successor to the F-16 fighter jet may not have a nuclear task. The U.S. has provided over 20 B61 nuclear bombs for use by the Netherlands on its F-16 planes under the NATO nuclear sharing agreement. There are also U.S. nuclear bombs in Belgium, Germany, Italy and Turkey under this agreement.

Krista van Velzen of IKV Pax Christi said, "Now the Joint Strike Fighter [which will replace the F-16] may not be used to carry and deploy nuclear weapons. This means that within the next 10 years, when the last F-16 has been replaced, the Netherlands will have no alternative but to bid farewell to the American weapons of mass destruction now stationed at Volkel."

"Netherlands Now on an Unstoppable Path Towards Denuclearization," *IKV Pax Christi*, November 19, 2013.

Nuclear Proliferation

Saudi Nuclear Weapons Allegedly On Order from Pakistan

The BBC has reported that a number of sources from different countries have indicated that Saudi Arabia is likely to have a number of nuclear weapons "on order" from Pakistan that could be delivered at the request of the Saudis. The evidence provided is largely circumstantial, including the facts that Saudi Arabia financially supported the Pakistani nuclear program; and that the Saudis clandestinely purchased ballistic missiles from China in the 1980s that are capable of carrying nuclear warheads.

Israel is currently the only country in the Middle East with nuclear weapons. A conference on establishing a Weapons of Mass Destruction Free Zone in the Middle East, agreed upon by all signatories of the Non-Proliferation Treaty in 1995 and again in 2010, has yet to take place.

Mark Urban, "[Saudi Nuclear Weapons 'On Order' from Pakistan](#)," *BBC Newsnight*, November 6, 2013.

Temporary Deal Reached on Iran's Nuclear Program

Diplomacy has prevailed, at least temporarily, as talks in Geneva have led to a six-month agreement between Iran and the "P5+1" (United States, Russia, China, France, United Kingdom and Germany). The deal will roll back some economic sanctions against Iran in exchange for Iran's agreement to allow further inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency, "neutralize" its stocks of 20 percent-enriched uranium, and cap enrichment at 5 percent. Uranium must be enriched to around 90 percent to be used in a nuclear weapon.

Israeli leaders, along with some members of the U.S. Congress, have strongly criticized the deal, their primary concern being that Iran will continue to be allowed to enrich uranium, even at a low level.

Matthew Lee and Brian Murphy, "[Anatomy of Iranian Nuclear Deal](#)," *Associated Press*, November 25, 2013.

NAPF Associate Martin Hellman also has an article examining the importance of this nuclear deal entitled "[Avoiding Needless Wars, Part 10: Iran](#)."

Nuclear Insanity

Air Force Nuclear Launch Officers are Burned Out

The RAND Corporation recently completed a draft study commissioned by the U.S. Air Force to investigate reasons for heightened levels of misconduct among launch officers working at underground missile silos. Courts-martial in the ICBM force were 129% higher in 2011 and 145% higher in 2012 than in the Air Force as a whole.

The study results indicated "a toxic mix of frustration and aggravation, heightened by a sense of being unappreciated, overworked, micromanaged and at constant risk of failure." RAND conducted confidential discussions with approximately 100 launch officers, security forces and others working in the missile fields. It found low job satisfaction and "burnout," which the lead author of the study defined as feeling exhausted, cynical and ineffective on the job.

Robert Burns, "[Nuke Troubles Run Deep: Key Officers 'Burned Out'](#)," *Associated Press*, November 20, 2013.

U.S. Flies Two Warplanes Over New Chinese Air Defense Zone

The United States deployed two unarmed B-52 bombers over a chain of islands claimed by both China and Japan. The act comes shortly after China imposed an "air defense identification zone" over the uninhabited islands, called "Senkaku" in Japan and "Diaoyu" in China. The Chinese Defense Ministry said that any noncommercial aircraft entering the zone would need to submit advance flight plans and maintain radio contact with Chinese authorities.

The American B-52s flew in the disputed air space for approximately one hour before returning to their base in Guam. White House spokesman Josh Earnest, who may not have been briefed on the meaning of the word "diplomatically", said, "We believe that inflammatory rhetoric and inflammatory policy pronouncements like those made by the Chinese over the weekend are counterproductive, and we believe that those differences of opinion can and should be resolved diplomatically."

Craig Whitlock, "[U.S. Flies Two Warplanes Over East China Sea, Ignoring New Chinese Air Defense Zone](#)," *Washington Post*, November 26, 2013.

Missile Defense

U.S. - Russia Missile Defense Talks Stall

Madelyn Creedon, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Global Strategic Affairs, has stated that the United States is "not making much progress" in arms control and missile defense talks with Russia.

Russia views U.S. plans for missile defense in Europe as a threat and has refused to discuss new arms control agreements until those concerns are resolved. Russia fears that U.S. missile interceptors planned for Europe

could instead be aimed at Russian strategic nuclear arms. The U.S. has denied that this would happen, but has refused to sign a binding agreement to that effect.

Rachel Oswald, "[U.S. Pessimistic About Missile-Defense, Arms-Control Progress with Russia](#)," *Global Security Newswire*, November 13, 2013.

Resources

Red Cross Four-Year Plan toward Nuclear Abolition

The Council of Delegates of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement has adopted a resolution entitled "Working towards the elimination of nuclear weapons: Four-year action plan." The resolution reaffirms the principal call of the Red Cross and Red Crescent movement resolution in 2011 urging all governments "to take concrete steps leading to the negotiation of a legally binding international agreement to prohibit the use of and completely eliminate nuclear weapons - based on existing commitments and international obligations - and to conclude such negotiations with urgency and determination."

To read the resolution, [click here](#).

New Poster Highlights Countries' Statements on Banning Nuclear Weapons

The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), of which the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation is a member, has published a new poster highlighting significant statements made by different countries in support of a ban on nuclear weapons. The poster is just a snapshot of recent statements made by countries. To download a copy of the poster, [click here](#).

Chinese Nuclear Forces in 2013

The *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists* has published a study by Hans Kristensen and Robert Norris that contains some details on China's nuclear arsenal.

The number of weapons in China's nuclear arsenal is slowly growing; the authors estimate that China has approximately 250 nuclear warheads in its stockpile. China is assigning a growing portion of its warheads to long-range missiles.

To read the full study, [click here](#).

Uranium Mining and the U.S. Nuclear Weapons Program

The Federation of American Scientists has published a report by Robert Alvarez that examines the history of uranium mining in the United States and its connection to the U.S. nuclear weapons program. This is an excerpt of a longer history that Alvarez is writing on the U.S. nuclear weapons complex.

To read the report on uranium mining, [click here](#).

Foundation Activities

Nukes Are Nuts - New Campaign and a Great Gift Idea

The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation is launching a new campaign around the idea "Nukes Are Nuts." It's both a campaign theme and a common sense statement. We'll be publicly releasing some 30-second videos and other material soon.

It would be great if you could help us get the campaign off the ground. Here are a couple of ways you can really make a difference:

First, make a "selfie" video saying why you think nukes are nuts. Make it short, punchy and about 15 seconds in length. Email your video to sjones@napf.org.

Second, check out our online store for [Nukes Are Nuts merchandise](#) that is available now and will arrive to you in time for the holidays. Merchandise includes t-shirts, reusable water bottles, beanies and more.

You'll be hearing lots more about the Nukes Are Nuts campaign in the coming weeks. We hope you'll get involved and get in on the ground floor. Thank you for your support!

Inner City Youth Activists Attend NAPF Peace Leadership Training

A recent NAPF Peace Leadership Training held at the University of Massachusetts/Amherst found new advocates among those living in the inner cities. Young activists involved with Arise Springfield learned from NAPF Peace Leadership Director Paul K. Chappell how to deal with anger and violent situations, and how to bring the principles of nonviolence into their lives.

Springfield is known for having one of the highest crime rates in the U.S. Event organizer Mary McCarthy said, "Paul Chappell explains that Peace Leadership training is a gateway. I see young people seeking refuge and direction. They crave knowledge and want to facilitate positive change in their community...This is the essence of peace work."

Within the next several months, Paul Chappell will be giving peace leadership trainings in Uganda, Canada and the University of San Diego Graduate School of Leadership and Education Sciences.

For more information about Paul's recent trip to Massachusetts, [click here](#).

Social Media Update

The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation is amping up its social media outreach in an effort to be more available and interactive with our supportive community. We would love for you to join us on our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#), and share the news of our new "Nukes are Nuts" campaign, as well as your own efforts in waging peace. If you have any nuclear disarmament news, be sure to hashtag it with #nukesarenuts!

Annual Report Now Available

The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation has published its Annual Report: "Nuclear Zero: Seven Billion Reasons Why." The report outlines many of the Foundation's recent programs and plans for the future.

To download a copy of the Annual Report, [click here](#).

Quotes

"France has had a tradition of helping countries with suspect nuclear ambitions. Before the treaty, Paris provided Israel with the Dimona reactor that it knew would be used for weapons development. After the NPT went into force in 1970, France provided Saddam Hussein's Iraq with the Osirak reactor. In the early 1970s, France provided Pakistan with plutonium extraction technology. An early partner in India's 'peaceful' nuclear program, France also continued to assist New Delhi after it exploded its first nuclear weapon in 1974."

-- **Bennett Ramberg** in a [letter to the editor](#) of the *Los Angeles Times*. Ramberg criticized the portrayal of France as a leading voice in nuclear non-proliferation after it rejected a proposed multilateral agreement with Iran to resolve concerns around the Iranian nuclear program.

"Trust can quickly be destroyed, while rebuilding it is a slow process. It is not easy to overcome years of confrontation, and that certainly cannot be done overnight. Trust is built when agreements are adhered to – and when a constructive approach takes the place of provocations."

-- **Guido Westerwelle**, Foreign Minister of Germany, commenting on the nuclear deal reached between Iran and the P5+1.

"Perfection must be the standard of our nuclear forces...there is no room for error."

-- U.S. Secretary of Defense **Chuck Hagel**, explaining the reason for the firings of multiple top-level U.S. military officers working on nuclear weapons.

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