

Messages of Solidarity from Anti-nuclear and Peace Movements

Gediminas Rimdeika

Doctor/ Long-term conference participant

Lithuania

Dear PEACE WAVE participants, organizers and participants of the World Conference against A and H Bombs,

This year the conference is again taking place remotely due to the pandemic. We cannot meet again, stay together, discuss the situation in our countries and in the World, but powerful Internet can partially compensate this. I am pleased to remember the year of 1992, when I first attended the Conference in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the unique atmosphere there. I am proud to have nearly over thirty years of attendances at the Conferences, where I had the chance to know many people dedicated to this work in Japan and other parts of the world. The pandemic forced us to intensify our work in Lithuania as well. The photo exhibition presented by Gensuikyo about the tragedies of Hiroshima and Nagasaki continues to travel around Lithuania. This year it will be opened in Kupiškis on August 5 in the premises of the cultural center and will run until the end of September. During several years, the exhibition was shown in the Lithuanian Parliament, the Government of Lithuania, Lithuanian Medical and Elektrėnai City Libraries, Vilnius Žvėrynas, Lentvaris and Kaunas City Gymnasiums, Vilnius Fire Department. Lithuanian press has repeatedly written about the importance and significance of the exhibition. It is of a particular importance to the younger generation.

Dear friends, we need to work even harder in our countries to urge our governments to look even more responsibly at the reduction and total ban on nuclear weapons in the world. We cannot stay still knowing that there are still about 13,410 nuclear weapons in the world. Our aim is for as many countries in the world as possible to participate in the programme of 2017 July Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW).

I wish the best success to the Conference organizers, energy to the remote Conference participants.

Ali Ruckert

President, Communist Party of Luxemburg

On behalf of our party, I would like to inform the participants of the Conference about the solidarity of the Communist Party of Luxemburg and about the fact, that the communist daily newspaper here in Luxemburg is doing its utmost to inform the people about the truth.

Joseph Gerson, on behalf of the Board of Directors
Campaign for Peace, Disarmament and Common Security
U.S.A.

We write with congratulations and appreciation for your organizing this year's World Conference against A- & H-Bombs. We look forward to participating in the Conference and to learning from and continuing to build ties with Gensuikyo and your many national and international partners. In the midst of increasingly dangerous 21st century nuclear arms races and the escalating tensions among the nuclear weapons states, the World Conference and the campaigning that will follow from it will be critical in reversing and eliminating the existential nuclear threat.

Since the World Conference was launched in 1955, it has played leading and prophetic international roles in movement building and advocacy for its three goals: preventing nuclear war, banning all nuclear weapons, and providing support for Hibakusha. Our engagements through the World Conference with Hibakusha, analysts, grassroots movement leaders and diplomats have provided us and other U.S. nuclear abolitionist and peace movement partners with essential resources and with opportunities to carry forward our educational and organizing initiatives.

In addition to providing one of the most important international forums to share information and analysis and to launch and coordinate national and international campaigns for the complete abolition of all nuclear weapons, we want to highlight the World Conference's contributions to the international vision and pressure which led to the negotiation of the Treaty on Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and its entry into force. Just as Gensuikyo's local and national and community-based organizing have prevented Japan from becoming a nuclear weapons state, this year's World Conference will play a critical role in pressing the Japanese government to signing and ratify the TPNW.

We also want to communicate our special appreciation for the ways that the World Conference has been organized amidst the pandemic and the Suga government's failures to adequately insulate the Japanese people from Covid-19. Kudos to the World Conference organizing committee and to the staff and volunteers who are making it possible.

We look forward to the World Conference and to our collaborations which will follow.

Phyllis Creighton
Science for Peace, Canada

Greetings and good wishes as you get ready for the world conference on A & H bombs! I hope you are well and as skilled and committed as ever to our cause of freeing

the world from the terror of nuclear weapons. From time to time Setsuko-san tells me about you.

As a Canadian who attended the 2001 and 2005 conferences, I hope that the conference energizes people to work together so more nations will sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. We can and we must achieve this goal for the sake of humanity.