

Dear friends,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak to you today.

First I want to express my appreciation for your commitment. It is amazing that you came all the way from Japan to raise your voice against nuclear weapons.

My name is Katharina Bergmann, I am a medical student from Germany and the coordinator of the Nuclear Weapons Inheritance Project which is part of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War.

The name NWIP stands for the idea that we as young generation do not want to inherit the nuclear weapons from our parent's generation and give it further to our children.

The question is: How can we as students/young people take part in the disarmament process? How can we influence international nuclear weapons policy?

At this point I want to tell you about the Model of Change which shows how we can have an impact on decision-making:

What we can do is to inform people like our friends and family. If we are informed we can take action. For instance we can organize a petition or small street action. With these actions we can raise awareness and create an informed opinion. People will get involved in disarmament campaigns and strengthen disarmament initiatives. So these initiatives can extend and intensify their impact on decision makers. Due to the increased impact the decision makers will be encouraged to take steps towards a Nuclear Weapons Convention

So, here in New York we try to adapt this model together with Ban All Nukes generation. Our slogan for our actions during the NPT Review Conference is: Global Zero Now.

Firstly we started with an informative postcard action which was also launched in Japan.

Moreover we had a workshop at the Peace Conference last Saturday and an information stall at the Peace Festival.

Secondly we are organizing street actions to call attention to us and our goal of a nuclear weapon free world. We had the vigil and breakfast in front of the UN building on Monday and we will have our festival on Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza on Friday.

Beside that we also talk with diplomats during the whole NPT Conference.

These actions are only possible because of a great cooperation between young people from different organizations. It is important that we as the next generation work together and unit our efforts.

We have to stand united to show that we don't want to take over the fatal inheritance of nuclear weapons

Thank your attention.