

BASEL PEACE OFFICE

Advancing international peace and security
through nuclear abolition



PSR/PPNW Schweiz



GLOBAL
SECURITY
INSTITUTE



NUCLEAR
NON-PROLIFERATION
INITIATIVE



PNND

World Future Council

swiss
peace

Seminar für Soziologie

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Basel Peace Office (BPO) is a coalition of Swiss and international organizations established in 2013 to work for the peace and security of a nuclear-weapon-free world. The coalition organizations are represented on the BPO Board by:

- Lukas Ott. President's Department, Basel Stadt Kanton (City of Basel);
- Prof Dr Andreas Nidecker. Board Member, Swiss Physicians for Social Responsibility / International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War Switzerland
- Jonathan Granoff. President, Global Security Institute;
- Laurent Goetschel. Executive Director, Swisspeace;
- Alexandra Wandel. Executive Director, World Future Council;
- Daniel Rietiker. President, Association of Swiss Lawyers for Nuclear Disarmament
- Margareta Kiener Nellen. Global Council Member, Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament (PNND)

BPO partners with other organizations and coalitions that are engaged in the UN Summit of the Future, including the Coalition for the UN We Need (C4UN). We endorse the peace and security proposals of C4UN to the UN Summit of the Future (See [Final Report of the Peace and Security Consultations for the Global Futures Forum and UN Summit of the Future](#), Chapter 8).

Chapeau: Protecting Future Generations through common security, peace, climate protection and nuclear disarmament.

Nuclear weapons policies, armed conflict and human-generated climate change pose existential threats to humanity and the world's ecosystems. These issues need to be at the top of the agenda of the UN Summit of the Future. In order to effectively prevent war, keep global temperature rise under 1.5 degrees and end the threat of nuclear annihilation, the international community through the UN needs to enhance common security, i.e. security for all, through global governance and multilateralism. Continuing the current unbridled nationalism and militarism, combined with competitive fossil-fuel based economies, will lead inexorably to planetary destruction. The Basel Peace Office recommendations go to the core of these issues.

Chapter I. Sustainable development and financing for development

We recommend that UN member states at the Summit of the Future:

- a) Advance the [implementation of Article 26 of the UN Charter](#) by committing to significant cuts in military budgets, ending investments in the nuclear weapons industry and reallocating these resources to peace, climate protection and sustainable development. Most of the \$100 billion global nuclear weapons budget could be immediately cut. Cuts to the current global military budget of \$2.3 trillion could be made gradually (for example at 5% reductions per annum) while the common security mechanisms for international security are gradually strengthened to replace and phase-down global reliance on military security.
- b) Affirm the connection between peace and sustainable development, noting that the global economic cost of armed conflict and violence in 2022 was \$16.5 trillion in constant purchasing power parity (\$2 trillion more than in 2021), which is equivalent to 10.5 per cent of the global gross domestic product, or \$1,895 for every person in the world (See [Global Peace Index 2022: Measuring peace in a complex world](#)). This indicates that peace and conflict resolution should be made a priority for the post 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.
- c) Draw upon the most recent scientific evidence on climate change from the [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change](#), and the full body of law relating to the climate as is being applied by the International Court of Justice in the [Climate Change Case](#) (including the precautionary principle and the principle of inter-generational equity) in order to adopt more stringent limits on Greenhouse Gas emissions, faster transition to net-zero carbon economies and speedy negotiations for a [Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty](#).

Chapter II. International peace and security

We recommend that UN member states at the Summit of the Future:

- a) Affirm [Common Security](#) as the foundation for global governance that can effectively prevent war, resolve international conflicts peacefully, uphold human rights for all, protect the environment and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Common Security provides a **win-win framework** for addressing relations between countries, as it focuses on resolving issues so that everyone benefits, rather than a win-lose approach (one country dominant over another) or a lose-lose approach (such as war);
- b) Agree to include nuclear weapons abolition in the post 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, with a commitment to achieve a 75% reduction in nuclear weapons stockpiles by 2035 and the global elimination of nuclear weapons no later than 2045. See [Nuclear abolition to be included in the post-2030 Sustainable Development Goals](#), Hiroshima Organization for Global Peace/C4UN);
- c) Agree to codify and implement the G20 statement of November 2022 that *'the threat or use of nuclear weapons is inadmissible'* through the adoption of no-first-use policies and through negotiations and adoption of a global agreement (which includes the nuclear armed and allied states) prohibiting the threat or use of nuclear weapons and providing a framework for their complete elimination. (See [Nuclear Taboo: From Norm to Law presented to the NPT Prep Com](#) and [Abolition 2000 NWC Reset: Frameworks for a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World](#)).
- d) Commit to enhancing the use of the International Court of Justice in order to peacefully resolve international conflicts and prevent war, including to adopt an aspirational goal for universal acceptance of ICJ jurisdiction by 2045. (See [Legal Alternatives to War: LAW not War](#)).

Chapter III. Science, technology and innovation and digital cooperation

No recommendations in this section

Chapter IV. Youth and future generations

We recommend that UN member states at the Summit of the Future:

- a) Agree to establish representatives of future generations at all governance levels, including a [UN Special Envoy for Future Generations](#) and Commissioners/Ombudspersons for Future Generations at regional, national and city levels;
- b) Agree to further develop and implement the rights of future generations including through the [International Court of Justice Case on Climate Change](#), Universal Periodic Reviews of States obligations under Human Rights law and by committing to fully support the UN Special Envoy of Future Generations once it the position is established.
- c) Affirm the principle of inter-generational dialogue and cooperation as a model for engaging youth and protecting the rights of future generations, rather than treating youth and future generations in separate 'silos'.

Chapter V. Transforming global governance

We recommend that UN member states at the Summit of the Future agree to [Re-purpose the UN Trusteeship Council](#) in order to provide better governance over the global commons (oceans, atmosphere, sea-bed, outer space and the Antarctica).