



## Work program and key dates/events for 2023

### Draft

The Basel Peace Office undertakes research, program development and public education over a range of issues relating to international peace and nuclear disarmament. In addition, we organise a number of online events and a smaller number of in-person/hybrid events in Basel, at the United Nations in Geneva and New York, in Prague and in other key capitals/cities around the world.

### 1. Work program

#### **SPECIAL PROGRAM: Opportunities for Switzerland to advance nuclear-risk-reduction and disarmament in 2023-2024.**

Basel Peace Office will make use of the special opportunities arising in 2023-2024 to encourage and support the Swiss government to take further leadership on regional and global nuclear risk-reduction and disarmament. These opportunities arise from, amongst other things, Switzerland becoming a member of the UN Security Council from January 2023 until December 2024, the decision of the UN General Assembly to hold a Summit of the Future in 2024 and a Ministerial Meeting for the Summit in 2023, the ground-breaking statement from the G20 Bali Summit, the possibility that Switzerland might join the TPNW, and new openings in advancing nuclear abolition in the UN human rights bodies. See [The Doomsday Clock and Switzerland as a neutral country: Opportunities for Switzerland to advance nuclear risk reduction and disarmament in the period 2023-2024](#) / [Chancen für die Schweiz, atomare Risikominderung und Abrüstung für den Zeitraum 2023-2024 voranzubringen](#).

#### **OTHER PROGRAMS:**

##### **Abolition 2000**

Basel Peace Office (BPO) is a coordinating member of [Abolition 2000](#), the global civil society network to eliminate nuclear weapons. BPO will support the new Abolition 2000 secretariat, help organise the 2023 annual meeting of Abolition 2000, co-draft and promote Abolition 2000 international appeals and action alerts, co-manage the website and help organise some Abolition 2000 webinars. In addition, we will continue to provide support for Youth Fusion (established as an [Abolition 2000 working group](#)) and co-convene a number of other Abolition 2000 working groups including [Nuclear risk-reduction](#), [Nuclear-Weapon Free Zones](#), [UN Disarmament Agenda and a Nuclear Weapons Convention](#), [Economic Dimensions of Nuclearism](#) (Move the Nuclear Weapons Money) and [Peace, Disarmament and SDGs](#).

##### **Basel Peace Forum and PACEY Award**

BPO will organise an intergenerational dialogue on peace, climate action and nuclear disarmament to be held in conjunction with the [2023 Basel Peace Forum](#). The event will also include the [2023 PACEY \(Peace, nuclear Abolition and Climate Engaged Youth\) Award](#) finalist presentations, voting and award ceremony. In addition, BPO will organise a follow-up public event in Basel in November 2023 with the three winning PACEY Award projects.

##### **Common security / human security**

BPO cooperates with PNND, World Future Council and Youth Fusion to advance human security and common security as more effective security frameworks than the traditional reliance on national and military security. In 2023, we will continue to advance these security frameworks through research, articles, appeals and events.

## Earth Trusteeship Initiative

BPO is engaged in the Earth Trusteeship Initiative, a project established by the Right Livelihood College and World Future Council. In 2023, we will advance the principles of Earth Trusteeship at COP28, in the International Court of Justice (see ICJ Advisory Opinion on climate change below), and in the preparatory process for the UN Summit of the Future. One strand of this is the proposal of the UN Secretary General to re-purpose the UN Trusteeship Council to take on governance responsibilities for the global commons (Antarctica, the oceans, atmosphere, outer space and cyber space).

## Engaging legislators - PNND

BPO and PragueVision serve as the European and Head offices for [Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament](#) (PNND). The BPO Director (Alyn Ware), BPO Deputy Director (Marzhan Nurzhan) and PragueVision Vice-Chair (Vanda Proskova) serve as the principal (unpaid) staff for PNND. Key activities for PNND in 2023 will be:

- a) Further national, regional and global events in follow-up to the launch of [Assuring our Common Future: a parliamentary guide to disarmament for security and sustainable development](#);
- b) Organising the PNND 2023 Assembly;
- c) Organising parliamentary participation and side events at the NPT Prep Com in Vienna, July 31 – August 11;
- d) Organising events/actions as part of the [PNND Gender, Peace and Security program](#) and the [PNND Climate / Nuclear Disarmament Nexus Program](#);
- e) Engaging parliamentarians in disarmament through the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Assembly and OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

## Humanitarian impact, human rights and the law

BPO will continue to promote the humanitarian and legal imperatives to prevent nuclear war and achieve a nuclear-weapon-free world. This includes further implementation of the UN Human Rights Committee 2018 affirmation that nuclear weapons violate the Right to Life, through further [submissions to UN Human Rights bodies](#) challenging States parties nuclear weapons policies in their periodic reviews.

We are also planning to join the Association of Swiss Lawyers for Nuclear Disarmament, Youth Fusion and IALANA in co-sponsoring a summer/winter school for international relations, law, science and medical students on the issues of peace, disarmament, human security, law, global health, climate protection and sustainable development. Details are still to be developed.

## ICJ Advisory Opinion on climate change

BPO supports and cooperates with the [Normandy Chair for Peace](#), [World's Youth for Climate Justice](#) and the core group of countries led by Vanuatu that has [launched the UNGA process](#) to achieve an Advisory Opinion from the International Court of Justice on the climate crisis. We expect the case to reach the court by February 2023, after which we will work with like-minded countries on the written submissions to ensure a strong case.

## Korea peace and denuclearization process

BPO is a leading participant (co-organiser) in three initiatives/processes relating to the Korea peace and denuclearization process. These are the 3+3 Coalition for a North-East Asian Nuclear Weapon Free Zone, the annual PyeongChang Odae-san Peace (POP) Dialogue held on the anniversary of the 2018 PyeongChang Winter Olympics which initiated the North/South Summits, and the Korea Peace Network. In 2023, we will play an active role in events and programs of these three initiatives.

## Mayors for Peace

BPO serves as the Representative of Basel in *Mayors for Peace*, with a responsibility to build communication and cooperation between Basel and Mayors for Peace and to implement Mayors for Peace programs in Switzerland. This includes liaising with and building cooperation with the Mayors for Peace secretariat in Hiroshima, the Mayors for Peace European secretariate in Granollers (Spain) and other European Executive Members of Mayors for Peace including Manchester City (UK), Hannover (Germany), Malakoff (France), Biograd na Moru (Croatia) and Ypres (Belgium). An important part of this cooperation is inviting the European Executive Cities to the Basel Peace Forum and BPO side events.

## **Move the Nuclear Weapons Money**

BPO will continue to advance the Move the Nuclear Weapons Money program through events, social media promotion and publication of a nuclear weapons divestment handbook.

## **NoFirstUse Global**

PragueVision and BPO host the secretariat and online platform for [NoFirstUse Global](#), a coalition of over 80 organizations engaging the nuclear armed and allied states to adopt no-first-use policies as a transformational measure in phasing out reliance on nuclear deterrence and achieving a nuclear-weapons-free world. In 2023, BPO will assist in organising key events and program activities for NoFirstUse Global.

## **Nuclear Games / Nuclear Stories**

*Nuclear Games* was launched in 2021 by Basel Peace Office, DOCMINE, Youth Fusion and World Future Council to educate and engage youth with personal stories of the impact of the nuclear age told through an innovative and inter-active online platform. In 2023, the platform will be reshaped and relaunched as Nuclear Stories.

## **Nuclear weapons treaties: NPT, TPNW and Nuclear Weapons Convention**

The NPT is the cornerstone multilateral agreement for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament. BPO will participate in the NPT Preparatory Meeting which takes place in Vienna from July 31-August 11, 2023. The Swiss government is part of the *Stockholm Initiative*, a coalition of 16 countries (some non-nuclear and some allied countries) which is promoting nuclear risk reduction and disarmament measures at NPT meetings. In 2023, BPO will continue to liaise with the Stockholm Initiative, as well as co-organise, a number of side events including on nuclear-weapon-free zones, no-first-use, a nuclear weapons convention and nuclear disarmament and human/common security. The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) is a treaty negotiated and signed by non-nuclear states. BPO and PNND will continue to encourage parliaments and governments of ratifying countries to adopt strong implementing legislation, based on the model of the New Zealand which prohibits transit and financing as well as possession, manufacture, use and threat or use of nuclear weapons, and which establishes a public advisory committee and a Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control to promote nuclear disarmament. BPO is a convening member of the Abolition 2000 working group on a Nuclear Weapons Convention. The working group is advancing ways to use the NWC approach to engage nuclear armed and allied states in advancing nuclear disarmament. In 2023, this will include production of working papers, events and advocacy.

## **Nuclear Weapon Free Zones – Europe and the Middle East**

BPO has been active in building parliamentary and civil society support for a Middle East zone free from nuclear weapons and other WMD. We will continue to monitor and engage where possible in developments and events including through participation in the annual UN Conference on establishing a Middle East WMD free zone, and through building parliamentary support for the proposed zone. In 2023, BPO will also continue to promote discussion on a European NWFZ, including as part of the Abolition 2000 NWFZ working group.

## **Peace and Sport – 2024 Youth Olympics**

BPO has developed a proposal with Non-violence International, the Olympism Project and World Future Council on an *Olympic Peace Convocations Initiative: Advancing the Olympic Truce vision*. The proposal envisages a series of convocations (specialized conferences) of Olympic sportspeople and international peace practitioners to take place every two years in conjunction with the Olympic Games. We are currently liaising with the project partners and the International Olympic Committee Education Commission to ascertain whether we can launch this in conjunction with the 2024 Youth Olympics in PyeongChang, South Korea.

## **Religions for Peace and other inter-faith work**

BPO is a member of the [Abolition 2000 Interfaith Working Group](#). The BPO Director is author of the [Religions for Peace Nuclear Disarmament Resource Guide](#). A German language edition of the Resource Guide was published with the support of Prof Lucas Kundert and the Basel Reformed Evangelical Church in 2017. BPO also cooperates with United Religions Initiative, which in 2022 awarded Youth Fusion with the Gorbachev/Shultz Legacy Youth Award. In 2023, BPO plans to continue participating in inter-faith nuclear disarmament events, promotion of the resource guide, and engaging religious leaders in our key initiatives including Move the Nuclear Weapons Money and UNFOLD ZERO.

## **UNFOLD ZERO – United Nations initiatives for nuclear disarmament**

BPO co-founded [UNFOLD ZERO](#) with Global Security Institute, PNND, Mayors for Peace, PragueVision, the NGO Committee on Disarmament, World Federalists, World Future Council and Aotearoa Lawyers for Peace. In 2023, UNFOLD ZERO will continue to promote UN initiatives and processes through the UNFOLD ZERO [newsletter](#) and [blog](#). And we will continue to organise actions, events and networking platforms including for the [Global Week of Action on Peace, Climate and Nuclear Abolition](#) and other relevant UN Days.

### **UN Summit of the Future**

BPO is engaged in the [Coalition for the UN We Need](#) (C4UN) which is facilitating civil society engagement in the UN Summit of the Future. We are also engaged in the World Future Council Working Group on the Summit of the Future which is advancing effective policy measures on key issues (climate, peace and disarmament) in the UN Summit process. In 2023, we will participate in a number of preparatory meetings, consultations and events including the Global Futures Forum (March 20-21).

### **Youth programs including Youth Fusion**

BPO will continue its youth internship program to train youth in international diplomacy, policy development and campaign building. BPO will also support and co-manage [Youth Fusion](#), the global youth network of Abolition 2000. We will also continue to participate in the IPU Network of Young Parliamentarians, and advance nuclear disarmament initiatives to young parliamentarians through this network.

## **2. Key events/dates, 2023**

*Note: We are still to decide on which of the International/UN days we organise events. For IPU and OSCE Parliamentary Assemblies and for the NPT Review Conference and UN General Assembly, we will hold side events and engage in the committee/plenary sessions.*

**Jan 19-21:** Basel Peace Forum, Inter-generational Forum and PACEY Award events. *Basel and online.*

**Jan 24-26:** Anniversary of UN Resolution 1 (1). Doomsday Clock announcement. Anniversary of TPNW EIF.

**Feb 7-9:** PyeongChang Odae-san Peace (POP) Dialogue. *PyeongChang and online*

**Feb 13-14:** IPU Annual Parliamentary Hearing at the UN. *New York*

**Mar 1:** World Future Day and Nuclear Remembrance Day. *Online events*

**Mar 8:** International Day for Women

**Mar 11-15:** IPU Assembly. *Manama, Bahrain*

**Mar 20-21.** Global Futures Forum. *New York and online.*

**May 24:** International Women's Day for Peace and Disarmament

**Jul 2-6.** OSCE Parliamentary Assembly. *Vancouver, Canada*

**July 31 – Aug 11:** NPT Preparatory Meeting, *Vienna*

**August 6-9:** Hiroshima and Nagasaki Days

**Aug 29:** *UN International Day Against Nuclear Tests.*

**Sep 18:** Ministerial Meeting for the Summit of the Future, *New York*

**Sep 21-Oct 2:** UN High Level period and 2 weeks of action. Includes UN Day for Peace, UN Day for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, NY Climate Week and UN Day for Nonviolence. *New York and online*

**Oct 4-30.** UNGA Disarmament Committee. *New York*

**Nov 6-17:** COP28. *Dubai, United Arab Emirates*

**Nov?:** 4<sup>th</sup> Session of the UN Conference on Establishing a Middle East Zone free of WMD. *New York.*

**Dec 10:** Human Rights Day. Anniversary of launch of Youth Fusion

### **Dates still to be decided:**

- Abolition 2000 Annual Meeting (probably July 30 in Vienna and online)
- PNND Assembly
- PACEY 2022 Award follow-up event (usually in November)
- Launch of Nuclear Fear
- SAFNA/IALANA/BPO summer school