



Basel Peace Office

***Advancing international peace and security through
the abolition of nuclear weapons***

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Presidents Report 2017/18

I refer to the detailed report of the Basel Peace office (BPO) director, Mr. Alyn Ware. His international engagement, political work and many global contacts have allowed the BPO to become an important institution and place of reference and likely have contributed to carry the name of Basel into the world.

As mentioned in the Director's Report, in January 2018 the participation of the BPO at the 2nd *Basle Peace Forum* was the first important event for the year. It allowed good discussions with visitors at our Pavilion and reminded the people of the threats to peace posed by weapons in general and nuclear weapons in particular.

On May the 1st, 2018 the president moderated a panel on at the NPT Preparatory Committee Session on *Nuclear Weapons, Law, Human Rights and Future Generations*.

In September 2017, IPPNW Switzerland and BPO organized the Symposium *Human Rights, Future Generations and Crimes in the Nuclear Age* which took place at the University of Basel www.events-swiss-ippnw.org. The BPO director moderated a panel on *Nuclear Testing and Nuclear Arms / Nuclear Weapon Zones*. The BPO president, together with Martin Walter, MD presented a talk on *Genetic effects of ionizing radiation*. A well reflected, exhaustive final declaration addressing all aspects of uranium mining, nuclear energy, nuclear weapons, nuclear waste and including legal aspects www.events-swiss-ippnw.org/final-declaration/ was produced.

Discussions with representatives of the Basel Health Dept. (PD Dr. Philipp Huebner, Chemist and Head of the Cantonal Laboratory) and the Presidents Dept (Mr. Lukas Ott, Sociologist and Head of Cantonal City Planning) allowed us to emphasize the mentioned important position of the BPO on an international level. Also, the difficult financial position was discussed and it was agreed, that the two Basel Cantonal Executives for the years 2018 – 2020 would each pay 5000.- Sfr. towards the annual BPO budget. We therefore are very glad about this Cantonal Support 10000.- Sfr./ yr.

Andreas Nidecker
December 4, 2018