



Framework Forum roundtable
**From the NPT to the UN General Assembly:
Filling the legal gap to prohibit and eliminate nuclear
weapons**

Geneva, 1 September 2015, 13:15-18:00

Restaurant Layalina 121 rue de Lausanne, and
Auditorium Jacques Freymond, rue de Lausanne 132

*Sponsored by Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament
Middle Powers Initiative, Basel Peace Office and Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Geneva
Supported by the Right Livelihood Award Foundation and World Future Council*

Concept and program

Introduction

Despite the failure of the 2015 NPT Review Conference, some real gains were made during the four weeks of negotiations. There were a number of initiatives and proposals in the [Draft Final Report of the Chairman of the 1st Committee](#) (May 15) and the [NPT 2015 draft final document](#) (May 21) that had either general agreement or widespread support by NPT Parties.

These included reference to the humanitarian imperative to achieve nuclear disarmament, and various options to establish the legal framework for the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons, which were outlined in a [New Agenda Coalition working paper](#). The *Draft Final Report of the Chairman of the 1st Committee* also included a recommendation for mutually reinforcing building blocks that could be realized simultaneously. Many of these were outlined in the NPT working paper [Building blocks for a world without nuclear weapons](#).

The *NPT 2015 Draft Final Document* also included a recommendation that the UN General Assembly establish an Open Ended Working Group to identify and elaborate effective measures for the full implementation of Article VI of the NPT, including legal provisions required to achieve a nuclear-weapon-free world.

However, many delegations at the 2015 NPT Review Conference highlighted security issues, including regional conflicts, which need to be considered in order to relinquish reliance on nuclear weapons and to prohibit and eliminate them. The recent re-affirming and strengthening of nuclear threat postures between Russia and NATO/USA reinforce the point that security issues are an important consideration. On the other hand, the success of the Iran negotiations demonstrates that nuclear-related conflicts can be resolved, and that this can support nuclear non-proliferation and assist nuclear disarmament.

The Framework Forum, established in 2011, brings governments and disarmament experts together in a round-table format to consider practical measures to establish the legal and political framework for a nuclear weapon free world. This Framework Forum roundtable will discuss the proposal for an Open Ended Working Group and how it could relate to other forums/processes, outline the various options which the OEWG could consider in order to pave the way for negotiations, examine the security issues relating to nuclear deterrence and offer non-nuclear alternatives to address these issues.

Draft Program

13:15-14:45

Lunch Session: Nuclear disarmament and security issues

Venue: Restaurant Layalina, 121 Rue de Lausanne, Geneva. Lunch provided.

Welcome and Introduction

- Hubert René Schillinger, FES Geneva

Speakers

- Tarja Cronberg, Chair Middle Powers Initiative
Diplomacy can work – the Iran deal
- Marc Finaud, Senior Programme Advisor, Geneva Centre for Security Policy
European security and reducing the role of nuclear weapons
- Uta Zapf, PNND Special Representative for Inter-parliamentary Organisations
Parliamentarians, cooperative security and nuclear disarmament

15:00-16:20

Session II: Options to fill the legal gap and practical measures to achieve a nuclear-weapon-free world

Venue: Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, Auditorium Jacques Freymond, 121 rue de Lausanne, Geneva.

Welcome:

- Prof. Robert Roth, Director, Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights

Chair

- H.E. Mr. Benno Laggner, Head of the Task Force on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation, Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs

Speakers

- H.E. Mr. Abdul Samad Minty, Permanent Representative of South Africa to the UN in Geneva
Options outlined in the New Agenda Coalition
- H.E. Mr. John Quinn, Permanent Representative of Australia to the UN in Geneva
Building blocks and practical measures

Respondent

- Aaron Tovish, Mayors for Peace
Nuclear Weapons Convention or a framework agreement

16:20-16:40

Coffee break

16:40-17:45	Session III: United Nations processes including an Open Ended Working Group
	Venue: Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, Auditorium Jacques Freymond, 121 rue de Lausanne, Geneva.
	Chair
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hannah Peters, Program Officer, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Geneva
	Speakers
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annika Thunborg, Deputy Director General and Acting Head of Department, Swedish Foreign Ministry <i>UN machinery including an Open Ended Working Group</i>• H.E. Mr. Triyono Wibowo, Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the UN in Geneva <i>Building High-Level support for UN initiatives</i>• Alyn Ware, PNND Global Coordinator and Co-founder UNFOLD ZERO <i>Elevating the role and success of the United Nations</i>
17:45-18:00	Concluding Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tarja Cronberg, Chair Middle Powers Initiative (MPI)

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