

# *Speech by PNND/Margareta Kiener Nellen, 146<sup>th</sup> Assembly of IPU, Bahrain, General Debate of 14 March 2023*

**Theme: Promoting peaceful coexistence and inclusive societies : Fighting intolerance.**

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Ms. Chair

Distinguished Parliamentarians, dear friends

Whenever I speak on behalf of Parliamentarians for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament (PNND), I bring with me this “Peace Messenger” from Nagasaki, which was brought to me to Switzerland by young people from Nagasaki.

*(MKN shows this small beautiful pink paper bird handcrafted by the people of Nagasaki to the audience)*

Let us not forget the catastrophic humanitarian and environmental consequences of the nuclear tests in the Pacific, of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, of Tchernobyl and Fukushima!

Let us recall that from the ashes of World War II, and in the wake of the nuclear bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the United Nations (UN) was established with a common vision to end war and with its very first resolution (by consensus), to eliminate “all weapons adaptable to mass destruction”.

- Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament (PNND) and Peace Women Across the Globe (PWAG) welcome this discussion on the connections between peace, inclusivity and combatting intolerance.
- Let us highlight a few international initiatives for such inclusion, which can be implemented by you, distinguished parliamentarians:
  - UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on the role of **Women in Peace and Security** and UN Security Council Resolution 2250 on the role of **Youth in Peace and Security**.
  - [Assuring our Common Future](#), the IPU/PNND handbook on disarmament, which includes examples of parliamentary action to implement these important UN resolutions on inclusivity.
  - [Nuclear Disarmament For Religious Leaders and Communities](#), an inclusive, multi-faith handbook for all religions on nuclear disarmament published by Religions for Peace in cooperation with PNND. It highlights commonalities and cooperation between religious faiths.

- The [UN Alliance for Civilizations](#) which was established to explore the roots of polarization and intolerance between societies and cultures today, and to build a practical program of action to address this issue.
- PNND and Peace Women Across the Globe (PWAG) stand ready to cooperate with you, dear parliamentarians, to build peace and inclusion.

But let us be clear:

In order to reach peace and inclusion, we must stop the ongoing arms race. The money this deadly arms race absorbs, is urgently needed for health, climate protection, humanitarian aid, peace promotion and the fulfilment of SDG's by 2030.

Let me conclude:

PNND stands for preventing war including nuclear war.  
PNND stands for the vision of a world free of nuclear weapons.

The UN Summit for the future must recommend the global elimination of nuclear weapons no later than 2045, the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United Nations.

We count on you, distinguished Parliamentarians, to join forces for a culture of peace.

Save mankind and our planet!

I thank you for your attention.

Margareta Kiener Nellen

Bahrain, 14 March 2023