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Photo Credit: Aude Catimel, ICAN. Cover Photos: Ivon Bartholomew (Campaigners outside Holyrood); Richard & Cath Dyer (Up the Whales, Down the Nukes)
Welcome

Whether you are a new member or a long-term supporter, thank you for being part of Scottish CND. Now more than ever, your support is crucial, as we face great hope and grave concern for the possibility of a nuclear-free future.

Hope comes in the form of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, which enters into force on 22 January 2021, finally making all nuclear weapons illegal. This couldn’t be more timely, as this year has seen renewed investment in nuclear weapons by nuclear-armed states.

We are proud that Scottish CND has continued to be at the hub of the peace movement in Scotland, with 2,500 individual members and active local groups across the country. I want to thank all of you for the vital work that you do.

Looking back at this year, we marked the 75th Anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, as well as the build up to ratification of the Treaty, with local groups making particular efforts for the 75th anniversary, hosting events online or outdoors in line with Covid-19 restrictions.

We have continued to campaign on a range of issues that directly affect us in Scotland, from submarines in the Gareloch to nuclear convoys on our roads. We have made use of the press and social media to highlight critical issues, including links between environmental justice and nuclear weapons.

Now, with the Scottish Election coming in May 2021, our focus is on ensuring that nuclear weapons are a red line for voters and candidates alike.

The First Minister, the SNP and the Scottish Greens have made public commitments to the removal of nuclear weapons from Scottish soil. Over the months ahead, we need to reinforce this political commitment.

For this, we need you. As a campaign, we need to be big, and diverse, and strong – as strong as the strength of feeling among Scots, from all walks of life, that there is no place for nuclear weapons in our country. That’s why our focus here is as much about building our membership, as about the Treaty and the Elections ahead.

Can you help us to grow? It may only take a little thing: passing this magazine to a friend; gifting a membership; or inviting someone along to a Scottish CND or local group event. Everyone who joins us helps to make the message clear – nuclear weapons are our red line. There’s no place for them here.

Lynn Jamieson
Chair, Scottish CND
The Nuclear Ban is Here

Scottish CND Vice Chair Janet Fenton celebrates the 50th ratification of the Nuclear Ban Treaty, and explores its meaning for Scotland.

In 2017, UN Member States adopted the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), and the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) was awarded the Nobel Peace prize for its contribution. The TPNW is now fully ratified and on 22 January 2021, it will enter into force and be binding on the first 50 states that have ratified it. It will be recognised as a legal instrument and nuclear-armed states will not be able to refuse to discuss it.

The TPNW prohibits developing, testing, manufacturing, transferring, possessing, using or threatening to use nuclear weapons, as well as assisting, or allowing them on their territory or inducing anyone to do these things. Positive obligations include assistance to victims of use and testing, remediation of contaminated environments, and urging all states to join.

A nuclear-armed or nuclear-enabled nation may join, with a legally binding, time-bound plan to eliminate its nuclear weapons, and a nation that hosts nuclear weapons may join, with an agreement for removal by a specified deadline.

In January, Scotland will have the indisputable backing of the global community in its opposition to the nuclear weapons on the Clyde. This is the best protection we can have from applied pressure and will obviate any special negotiations for the removal of the UK weapons system.

For Scotland to fulfil its potential in disarming a nuclear armed state, all we need to do is:

- commit to the TPNW
- gain a clear majority for independence
- accede to the TPNW

... in that order.

The biggest difficulty for our campaign is communicating the basic facts of the Treaty, and Scotland’s potential contribution to it. The 5 million people in Scotland are mostly unaware that it really is that simple.

There is a distraction that the UK and other nuclear-armed states and nuclear-enabled states (that are in NATO or some other nefarious alliance) is presenting. Their determination is to stand, Canute-like on the shifting sands, main-
taining anachronistic arguments until the last polar bear slips under the melting ice caps, talking about a far-off future when the ‘security’ they derive from irrelevant and oppressive ideology and practices will deliver the ‘conditions’ in which they will consider disarmament. (Except they won’t.) Throughout the steadily advancing progress of the Treaty, hard resistance from the 16% of the countries that object to prohibition and elimination, has persisted and is supported by their media. Watching the US and the UK Governments implementing their ideas of functioning democracy, you might conclude that they don’t have solutions for keeping their countries safe, or protecting the people they represent. Their mantra that nuclear weapons provide ‘security’ is not convincing.

The UK’s nuclear weapons policy need not be part of how a Scottish Government plans its future. In an independent Scotland, the UK will simply be our neighbour, like the Republic of Ireland.

At a recent meeting of the Scottish Parliament Cross Part Group for Nuclear Disarmament, a visiting TD (Irish Parliamentarian), Sean Crowe, was talking about that country’s ratification and was questioned about the unanimous vote on the legislation that now means that all nuclear weapons activity, in line with the TPNW, is illegal in Ireland. Standing aside from the nuclear armed rhetoric and thinking about what nuclear weapons are and what they do made it a no-brainer.

On 22 January, 50 member states of the TPNW will be bound by its prohibitions and also its obligations — which means urging all the world’s governments to join. Scotland will not be alone in telling the UK, it’s finally time to ban the bomb.
Counting the Cost of Uranium Mining

Leona Morgan discusses the legacy of a racist, destructive and environmentally damaging enterprise

I’m an indigenous woman from the occupied territories of Turtle Island (North America). My people are from the Southwestern United States. We call ourselves Diné, also incorrectly referred to as “Navajo.” Our worldview and culture are based in the lands of our ancestors, located within four directional, sacred mountains. My family is from northwestern New Mexico, near the sacred mountain Tsoodzil (Mount Taylor), located in a region that was extensively mined for uranium.

From the 1950s to 1980s, there was a uranium boom in the U.S. and much of it within our four sacred mountains. The uranium was mined primarily for nuclear weapons by private companies and purchased by the U.S. government until 1971. Before the 70s, most laws to protect environment, water, workers, and human health did not exist. Because there were no laws for proper decommissioning of uranium mines and mills, over 15,000 contaminated sites across the country were “abandoned” and remain to this day. Today, mining is more regulated, but still contaminates our environment, sacred places, and our health.

Decades after mining ended in our region, we are still living with the health effects, including: cancers, kidney disease, auto immune disease, birth defects, and others caused by uranium as a heavy metal and as a source of radiation. A recent health study called the “Navajo Birth Cohort Study” found uranium in the urine of Diné participants, at levels higher than 95% of the U.S. population, including uranium in babies less than one year of age.

Due to colonization, our traditional homelands and four sacred mountains are not under our ownership or control. Our people are “recognized” by the United States government and we have a reservation, called the Navajo Nation, yet are not 100% sovereign, being subject to the laws of the United States. Our existence has been shaped by institutionalized racism, which continues to impact our quality of life and access to basic public services and human rights. This is not history, but the status quo of Diné and indigenous peoples worldwide.

Uranium mining is a by-product of colonization and racism, and will continue as long as imperialism is powered by nuclear weapons. The first nuclear bomb ever exploded was in New Mexico, known as the Trinity Test, on July 16, 1945. July 16th is also the day of the world’s largest uranium spill, which occurred in a Diné community in 1979. The effects of Trinity still linger. Most downwinders of U.S. nuclear tests have access to compensation for related health effects and deaths under the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA), but not those who were hurt by Trinity. RECA also provides compensation to uranium workers, but only those who worked before
or during 1971. RECA is set to expire in 2022. Many are working to extend the law and expand coverage in Congress.

The Navajo Nation banned uranium mining in 2005, but there are threats of new mining nearby and on Tsoodzil. Since 2008, there has been some clean-up of 523 abandoned mines on Navajo Nation with 3 sites considered done. At this rate, it will take over 2,000 years to clean up sites on Navajo Nation, not including the total 15,000 national sites.

Nuclear weapons and nuclear energy would not be possible without federal funding. With the false notion that nuclear energy is a so-called “solution” to climate change, places with uranium will always be threatened. As long as uranium is mined for electricity, the U.N. Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons may help to reduce that threat, but will not stop it completely.

With our health already compromised by contamination from extractive industries, historical trauma from colonization, and disparities in access to clean drinking water and adequate healthcare, indigenous people are more susceptible to developmental problems, substance abuse, poverty, and sicknesses like Covid-19. Everything is interrelated. In order for all communities worldwide to be safe from uranium, it is not enough to stop the nuclear industry. We must bring justice to everyone hurt by uranium and its uses in both energy and weapons and to restore balance to our Mother Earth by cleaning up all the places that have been contaminated.

Why I am a Member

“A world without nuclear weapons must be possible for our grandchildren. Scottish CND is part of the solution.” David Kelly & Kate Crawford

“I believe the destructive power of nuclear weapons is horrendous, and to deliberately use them on people is a human evil.” Jaden Marie Browne

“Scottish CND’s commitment to the removal of nuclear weapons is the bright star at the centre of Scottish politics.” Pat Kane

Join us today
www.banthebomb.org
AGM Report

We were delighted to welcome at least 100 people to our first online AGM on Saturday 21 November. While moving online had its challenges, it made our meeting more accessible to members who couldn’t attend in person due to distance or disability, and we were thrilled to see some members who hadn’t been able to join us for an AGM in years.

Our guest speaker was Alexander Kmentt (on sabbatical from his role as Austrian ambassador, working as a Senior Research Fellow at KCL). Amb. Kmentt gave a fascinating speech on the Nuclear Ban Treaty (TPNW). He was followed by David Hutchinson Edgar, Coordinator of Irish CND, who explained how the Treaty had been embraced in Ireland, with the Irish parliament having already approved a bill to write it into domestic legislation.

Bill Kidd MSP, Convener of the Cross-Party Group on Nuclear Disarmament, delivered a message to the AGM from Scotland’s First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon, after which the three speakers took questions from the meeting.

The AGM also saw the election of a new executive committee, and we were delighted to welcome Gail Lythgoe, Emma Cockburn, Gordon Dickson, Shona Mc Alpine, Valentina Clavell and Lesley Taylor. They join our office-bearers, Lynn Jamieson, Isobel Lindsay, Janet Fenton, Ann Ballinger, Mike Blackshaw and David Mackenzie to make up Scottish CND’s leadership team for 2020-21. We thank outgoing executive members Arthur West, Drew Kyle and Paul Shaw for their dedication and hard work. Our thanks and good wishes also to Brian Quail, absent due to ill health.

The meeting ended with a lively debate on resolutions. In addition to the executive resolution setting out our plan for 2021, we passed resolutions calling for demilitarisation in the South China Sea; preparing to mark the Marshall Islands Remembrance Day; promoting the history of peace in Scottish museums; and, after thoughtful debate, restating our commitment to independence, not as a party political goal, but as the surest route to a nuclear-free Scotland and world.

THE FIRST MINISTER’S MESSAGE TO SCOTTISH CND’S AGM

“My commitment to a world without nuclear weapons has been unshakeable since I first joined CND as a teenager in the 1980s. The need for nations and governments to work together to secure a safer, more peaceful world is as great now as it was then, and the ratification on October 24th of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) by 50 states at the UN is an important step towards that goal, which I welcome. The Scottish government, along with most Scottish MSPs and MPs, and large sections of Scottish civil society, stand firmly against weapons of mass destruction, and I commend CND Scotland and their international colleagues for taking forward the work needed to secure a safer future for us all.”
**Time for Transformation**

Speaking at the Scottish CND AGM, Alexander Kmentt explained the value of the Nuclear Ban Treaty (TPNW), taking apart the arguments used against it by nuclear-armed states, and discussing how civil society organisations like ours can help to build the case for a world free of nuclear weapons.

The Treaty is clearly grounded in the humanitarian consequences of nuclear attacks and nuclear testing for humanity and for our environment. This, as Ambassador Kmentt explained, provides a human security focus which counters the narrative of the nuclear-armed states. It poses the unavoidable question: How can the threat and risk of inflicting global consequences, possibly affecting all of humankind, be seen as a responsible policy by any state?

The Treaty reverses the idea that nuclear-armed states need to take the lead on nuclear disarmament. The human security argument appeals to a sense of responsibility of all states, and a call to action to strengthen the normative framework for nuclear disarmament. Rather than waiting, and calling on nuclear-armed states to fulfil their promises, one action all states could take is to set a norm in international law - just as has already been done with cluster munitions and landmines, to achieve real and lasting change around the world.

In doing this, the Treaty offers the potential for real transformation: leading to greater global engagement with the humanitarian consequences and risks of nuclear weapons, and the urgent need for disarmament. Opponents of the Treaty have spared no effort to fight it and try to undermine it. “If anything,” said Amb. Kmentt, “that’s probably the best indication of its transformational potential.” But it is essential that civil society creates enough pressure in the other direction, so that states around the world are confident in supporting the Treaty and able to resist the pressure of the nuclear-armed states.

“The TPNW is a democratic shift in the nuclear weapons debate,” said Amb. Kmentt. “It shows that nuclear disarmament is an urgent priority, and that the implementation of nuclear commitments has so far been far from satisfactory or credible.”

By exposing the double standards that exist on nuclear weapons, and clarifying that the majority of states see the status quo as illegitimate and unlawful, the Treaty brings us to a crossroads in nuclear disarmament - an opportunity, if we seize it, to finally create a world in which nuclear weapons have no place.
Nuclear Risks
A Scottish Perspective

Nuclear Free Local Authorities
Councils in East Ayrshire, Edinburgh, Fife and Renfrewshire have all passed resolutions committing to a nuclear-free future for Scotland.

Sutherland Space Hub
Planning permission has been granted, despite the threat to a unique peatland habitat, and the potential for military use.

Dounreay Power Station
Taken offline in 1977, the Dounreay site is still being decommissioned, with work continuing into the 2030s.

Missile Testing Range
Constructed in 1957 for the launch of the UK’s first guided nuclear missile. It continues as a weapons testing site today.

Rosyth Dockyard
Continues to hold the hulks of ageing nuclear submarines that have not yet been decommissioned.

Faslane / Coulport
Faslane, the base for the UK’s nuclear weapon submarines, and Coulport, where the warheads are stored, are prime targets in any nuclear conflict.

Torness Power Station
An accident at Torness would put much of Scotland’s population at risk.

Hunterston B Power Station
An accident here would result in nuclear damage to the whole of the Central Belt, yet regulators have cleared it to run for another year.

Dundrennan Range
Depleted uranium shells from tests on the range have given rise to health fears.

Nuclear Convoys
Nuclear weapon convoys regularly pass through central Scotland on their way from Burghfield to Coulport.

Shetland Space Centre
Lockheed Martin is developing plans for a base on Unst, that would enable space satellites to be launched by 2024.
What You Can Do

- writetothem.com
- Register to vote www.mygov.scot
- theyworkforyou.com
- Find out your candidate’s position pledge.icanw.org
- Find out your party’s position

Make it Clear:
#NukesAreMyRedLine
on 6 May 2021

- Put up a poster
- banthebomb.org
- Attend any hustings
- Get your council to join the ICAN pledge
- Know the arguments
- Make your voice heard

Nuclear Weapons are our Red Line
Campaigning for Change in Japan

Young campaigners from **Giin Watch** speak with us about their work to promote the Nuclear Ban Treaty (TPNW).

“I have two objectives,” says Yuriko Naito, a third-year student from Tokyo who is one of the leading campaigners with Giin (Parliament) Watch in Japan:

“One is to change the relationship between citizens and politics, and the other is to achieve a nuclear-weapons-free peaceful world.”

Yuriko and fellow students Yuta Takahashi and Suzuka Nakamura are part of a new student-led initiative, supported by Peace Boat, to call on Japanese policy-makers at all levels to support the Nuclear Ban Treaty and advocate for a nuclear free world.

They have a tough challenge ahead of them. Despite Japan suffering cruelly from the nuclear attacks on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, only 22% of Japan’s 710 parliamentarians currently support the Treaty. City councils have shown more progress, with nearly 500 - a quarter of the country’s total - committing their support.

The challenges aren’t just political. Closer to home, Suzuka says her family, from Nagasaki, understand her work. Her younger brother is taught about ICAN in school, and is proud that his sister is associated with them. But her university friends aren’t persuaded: “When I tweet about it, some of my friends respond - hey, what about Japan’s security?”

For Yuriko, the shock was discovering that her little brother accepted the notion of nuclear deterrence. “Having this conversation with my family, I realised that my activity in this project is important, because young people are becoming adult and they are electing upcoming leaders.”

Giin Watch is contacting all of Japan’s parliamentarians and city councils. Those who support the Treaty are celebrated on social media, and have the opportunity to take their photo with ICAN’s Nobel Prize medal - a positive way of recognising their support. And slowly, the numbers are growing.

In a country where it’s fairly unheard of for young people to contact politicians, Giin Watch are not only promoting the Treaty, but helping to forge a new kind of citizen-led activism - one that they hope will change politics for their generation.

“My friends are generally supportive,” says Yuta, “But for most of them, the issue of nuclear weapons is very much abstract and far away. Many young people can’t find any entry point into politics, or any standard by which they measure which politician is good or bad. I really hope my actions are providing some opportunities for my fellow young people to look at politics in the context of their daily lives. Through myself, if my friends can feel the nuclear weapons issue is closer to them, it’s my pleasure.”
Common Cause for our Planet

Scottish CND Vice Chair Isobel Lindsay reflects on the twin threats of climate change and nuclear war, and the ways they inter-relate.

There are two truly existential threats to human civilisation and the very survival of human and animal life. Others, like massive meteorite hits, are not in our control. But nuclear war and climate change are.

We have always used the old phrase to explain the risk of nuclear weapons use - by ‘accident, miscalculation or madness’. I think we should add ‘panic and fear’. This is what we will face if we fail to stop the drift (which may become a rush) to climate change. That change will be a major disrupter. More droughts in large parts of the world. More floods in others. Low-lying areas wiped out. More storms. Extensive crop and livestock failure. Such massive social and economic disruption is unlikely to come without serious conflict. And, of course, many military bases including those with nuclear weapons are on coastal sites, as we know in Scotland, and so are nuclear power stations.

Drought and flooding will create inevitable, large population movements and international food and resource shortages. Unless humanity undergoes a dramatic moral conversion to a much more modest cooperative and sharing culture, this means conflict. Mass migration and shortages of food and resources create fear and panic. We have seen the political impact of modest levels of migration in the current situation. Multiply that and imagine the potential for small clashes that grow into big wars. Add nuclear weapons to this mix and the increased risk of proliferation under conditions of global stress.

There is also, of course, the current impact of the military on our environment. Leaving aside the devastation and pollution caused by war and all the questions around land use and other resource misuse, the military have a high carbon footprint. The US military in particular emits more CO2e than most countries. If it was a separate country, it would be the 47th worst carbon polluter in the world. In the UK, emissions from the military sector (armed forces and arms industry) have been calculated as 11 million tonnes of CO2 annually. This obviously goes up with participation in overseas wars.

The peace movement and the environmental movement have substantial overlap among their supporters. Yes there are a few (eg the Royals) who are concerned about the aesthetics of the environment and about wildlife except the kind they shoot but would never question the possession of nuclear weapons. There might be a few CND supporters who don’t like wind farms but the movements are inter-related. Extinction Rebellion, the direct action environment group, has an XR Peace wing. We must work to develop the message that our world has two big survival threats – climate change and nuclear weapons.

(Photo credit: Victor Hanacek, picjumbo.com)
Local Group Snapshots

Aberdeen & District CND
Aberdeen & District CND, like everyone else, has had to re-think how to continue to operate in 2020. Several of our members visited Faslane Peace Camp in January and we provided finance for a new mobile with the help of Aberdeen University CND. We have maintained regular phone contact with Faslane Peace Camp over the year. We have continued being part of a consortium trying to get the local council pension scheme to disinvest from nuclear, arms and fossil fuels and have the good news that it has considerably reduced its investments in the arms trade. We maintain links locally with the University CND Group and a Christian CND group in Peterhead and Fraserburgh. Our AGM guest speaker was Linda Pearson from Don’t Bank on the Bomb. Our yearly Hiroshima memorial took place on Zoom with poems, music and a speaker from Japan.

Glasgow CND
Following a successful AGM, we have a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and a constitution. Attendance at our monthly online meetings has significantly increased. We are preparing a campaign strategy for the Scottish elections in May 2021, including street stalls around our area and a number of online events. We have set up a working group to maximise the use of social media during the campaign. The aim will be to maximise the number of elected MSPs who support a nuclear free Scotland; the theme will be ‘Nuclear Free Scotland – We Can Do It’. We will also have a special event on 21 January 2021 to celebrate the coming into force of the TPNW and another to show solidarity with the people of the Marshall Islands on their Remembrance Day on 1 March 2021.

Aberdeen University CND
Despite all university activities being online, we hosted multiple events this semester. In September, we held film screenings and informal discussions on the topic of Nuclear Weapons, including a screening of the emotive and powerful ‘Twice’ via NetflixParty. In October, for Charities Month, our committee walked 458km and raised an amazing £402 for Chernobyl Children International. We would like to thank everyone for donating! In November, we are hosting multiple educational events for students of Aberdeen University, with topics, from SCND itself to the peace camp in Faslane, which we are very excited for!

Ayrshire CND
Ayrshire CND are meeting online - any Scottish CND members or supporters in Ayrshire are invited to get in touch with the branch to find out more.
Renfrewshire CND

The Peace Pole in the Barshaw Peace Garden was gaily dressed to celebrate the ratification of the UN Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons by 50 states. The treaty will make possession of nuclear weapons illegal when it becomes international law on 22nd January. Renfrewshire CND members Bill and Anne Gray, Roisin Mulholland and Duncan Macintosh festooned the peace pole with 50 white peace poppies, one for each of the ratifying states.

SNP CND

The past 6 months have been challenging for everyone involved in any kind of campaigning. Normally SNP CND would have been attending conferences with stalls and making arrangements for follow-up presentations around the country. We should also have had our AGM combined with talks and presentations. Partly in follow-up to the seminar and to our “Roadmap to Trident Removal” resolution to SNP Spring Conference 2019 (unanimously accepted with minor amendment) we have submitted a resolution to the SNP Conference (November 28-30 2020) on a “Timescale for Trident Removal”. We are advocating an early signature of TPNW and that Trident should be removed within 3 years of a positive referendum result for Scottish Independence.

Edinburgh CND

Edinburgh CND has continued to campaign throughout the ‘lockdown’ period. We usually meet on the first Tuesday of the month. Check out our Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/EdinburghCND or Website www.edinburghcnd.org for further details. Our meetings are being held via Zoom but that has not stopped us having successful Public Meetings, fund-raisers and our annual Hiroshima day event. All welcome at our meetings.

Get Involved with your Local Branch

Local branches are the heart of Scottish CND’s activism. Find contact details and join yours today at www.banthebomb.org
Anti-Racism & the Peace Movement

Farah Bogani of the Campaign to Stop Killer Robots shares reflections on the first stage of the Humanitarian Disarmament Forum.

A record 115 people from 40 countries participated in Part 1 of the Humanitarian Disarmament Forum from 19-23 October - the first of its kind to be held virtually. Acknowledging that the humanitarian disarmament community needs to commit to being race-inclusive and adopt a wider intersectional approach, the Forum aimed to create spaces for learning and honesty about “the ethical disconnect between what we are trying to achieve in this world and how we go about getting there.”

Keynote speaker Dominique Day, Chair of the UN Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent, opened by urging everyone to question racialised assumptions born from a legacy of normalising white supremacy and violence against Black bodies. She noted that without taking steps to understand what systematic racism looks like, we delegitimise our campaigns and work. It is critical that we recognise the racialised nature of policy- and decision-making within our spaces because “how we act internally absolutely impacts and reflects our external priorities, and vice versa.”

Over three days, participants worked in affinity groups (Asian/Brown/Indigenous/Mixed; Black; White) to explore their experiences of power, privilege and oppression. Discussions considered the complexity of identity, and how to apply learnings to the broader disarmament movement. Coming together in the final session, groups and participants had the opportunity to share reflections with each other. Diana Prado, speaking for the Black affinity group, shared the need for everyone to question who is not at the table and why, and to make visible those who are often invisible. Gen Hidari, for the Asian/Brown/Indigenous/Mixed group, spoke of colonial history and impact, and the way intersectionality can inform disarmament work today. Maaike Beenes added the White group’s discussions about how identities influence our work, how to grow representation in the movement, and how privilege can be used to platform voices that are not being heard.

We know that, while the goal of humanitarian disarmament is to prevent and mitigate human suffering, our field is not exempt from being complicit in, perpetuating, and suffering the inequalities of power. The final session of Part 1 left participants with important lessons for continuing anti-racism work, through solidarity and constant self-reflection. In Day’s words: “If we want to make change, we have to commit to do it. We have to commit to do it by any means necessary.”

The shortened version of this article has been republished here with permission of the author. The full-length version of this article was first published in the First Committee Monitor, Vol 18 No. 3, on 25 October 2020.
The Middle East Treaty Organisation (METO) describes its mission as: “to eradicate WMDs, broker peace, and build security in the Middle East.” No small challenge, then. But this tiny organisation has the passion, the wisdom and the insight to take it on. In the words of its cofounder Sharon Dolev:

“It seems like everybody is asking for something impossible to happen while they believe it is impossible... We thought that if we can imagine it, then we can find the path.”

Founded by an Israeli (Sharon Dolev), an Iranian (Emad Kiyaei) and a Brit (Paul Ingram), METO embodies the world it is seeking. It calls for a Treaty to establish a Nuclear Weapons-Free Zone in the Middle East; but, although it has presented several drafts as an example of what could be negotiated, it is not trying to impose an agreement on policy-makers - rather, it is interested in creating a space and a process where the countries of the Middle East can come together and find common ground.

In addition to its focus on policy-makers, METO seeks to campaign and educate the public on the threat of nuclear weapons, and to draw together a network of civil society organisations to advocate for a Middle East free of weapons of mass destruction.

But did you know the role that Scotland has played in bringing this brave organisation into being? In an interview with Pressenza last month, Sharon explained: “Another milestone that for me was very, very important was the first round table, the first round table took place in Edinburgh. And basically at the first roundtable when the draft treaty was re-written like taken apart and built again, was all by volunteers from Scotland who decided to adopt us, and that was one of the most beautiful solidarity activism that we got to experience. And I have to say that it gave us a lot of power to move forward, to be able to do something that we couldn’t do just because we didn’t have the funds, like hold a round table. We couldn’t do it, we didn’t have the money, and suddenly people are helping us, lots of people coming together to make room for discussions.”

Supporting each other and working in solidarity, we hope that as we work towards, not only a WMD-free Middle East, but also a nuclear-free world, we will be - in the words of METO - “achieving the possible.”
We rely on your membership pledges and generous donations to keep Scottish CND going. But did you know we also have an online shop at https://scottishcndshop.org with a wide range of t-shirts, flags, stickers and other items? Perfect for small gifts this festive season!

Scottish CND has joined the Glasgow Community Lottery to help raise funds for our work. If you would like to support us, you can buy a ticket online. 60p of every £1 ticket goes directly to us. We know that there are many reasons why you might not want to join a lottery, and that’s OK. If you do play, please play sensibly. £1 a week, if you can afford it, is more than generous.

As well as special offers on our t-shirts and Christmas cards, you can find white poppies all year round, a colourful selection of badges - classic and new, earrings, tote bags, and even temporary tattoos! Or dip into our Publications section for a range of serious but important writings on the nuclear challenge and how we address it.

https://scottishcndshop.org/
The Scottish Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament is at the forefront of campaigning for the abolition of nuclear weapons in Scotland. 2021 is a momentous year, with the entry into force of the TPNW in January, the Scottish elections in May, and the rescheduled COP 26 in November. Help us to make the case for peace and disarmament throughout the year by joining us today.

**Yearly Membership Rates**

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<tr>
<td>Unwaged</td>
<td>£10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pensioner</td>
<td>£10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Name: ___________________________________________________
Address: ___________________________________________________
Telephone: ________________________________________________
Email: ___________________________________________________

**Standing Order**

Please pay from the account below £______(insert amount) once every year starting __________(date*) until further notice to cover my annual membership fee to Scottish CND (00970363, 80-07-67). *please make this date one month from now.

Name of bank: _____________________________________________
Address of bank: ___________________________________________
Account no: _______________ Sort code: _______________________
Account name: _____________________________________________
Signature: _________________________________________________

**Donate via Cash / Cheque**

I enclose a cheque of £______ for my annual membership fee / as a donation to Scottish CND (delete as appropriate).

**Post:** Scottish CND, 77 Southpark Avenue, Glasgow G12 8LE

**Join Online:** www.banthebomb.org

**Telephone:** 0141 357 1529