



News update from Christian CND

April 2017

Christians working and praying for a nuclear weapons-free world

Poll: UK Should Attend Nuclear Talks



A full 75% of UK adults think the Government should be represented at nuclear disarmament talks due to begin at the United Nations next week. Only 9% said the Government should not attend and 16% were undecided.

The opinion poll was conducted in the wake of news that the Government would not attend the talks. The Government has long insisted that nuclear disarmament can only be achieved through 'multilateral' negotiations rather than through the 'unilateral' action of giving up our own nuclear weapons.

Among those who voted Tory in 2015, a solid 79% are in favour of the Government taking part in these negotiations. Those who voted Labour were equally adamant at 79%. The YouGov poll, commissioned by Abolition 2000 UK, asked a representative sample of UK adults, "Do you personally think the UK government should or should not be participating in [the upcoming nuclear ban treaty] negotiations?"

Total sample size was 1,951 adults. Fieldwork was undertaken between 15th - 16th March 2017. The survey was carried out online. The figures have been weighted and are representative of all UK adults (aged 18+). Full results of the poll can be found at YouGov.com.

You can use this information when contacting your MP (see enclosed letter prompt).

Embassies Walk

The focus this year was on the Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty Negotiations. Most of the Embassies we approached had been at the forefront of setting up the current Treaty Negotiations in New York. Letters had been sent to these 18 Embassies early in February to request an appointment, and our Embassies Walkers had a variety of experiences, from outright refusal to even accept a letter (the US embassy), to an interesting and helpful meeting in St Martin-in-the-Fields with Indonesian embassy staff.

A full report will follow in the next *Ploughshare*.

CCND in NY

Update from CCND Exec members Caroline Gilbert and Kelvin Gascoyne in New York: Ambassadors of the U.S.A., France and the UK stood outside the General Assembly to protest against the conference starting the negotiations on a multilateral Treaty to Ban Nuclear Weapons, even though they had always said that was what they wanted! There's no pleasing some people.

Reports and photos from Caroline and Kelvin will come in regularly, some will be posted on the website and a full report will be in the next *Ploughshare*.

Also see ICAN: <http://www.icanw.org/updates/> and Reaching Critical Will: <http://tinyurl.com/m3hjmfd> These websites will be updated more regularly as they have more staff!

You can also follow on social media with the hashtag #nuclearban and the Twitter accounts @RCW_ and @nuclearban as well as @ChristianCND.



Caroline and Kelvin join other campaigners at a vigil in Ralph Bunche Park opposite the UN building

Forthcoming events

Christian CND will be represented at the forthcoming May **NPT PrepCom** in Vienna by Caroline Gilbert, Geraldine Ellis, Patricia Pulham and Michael Pulham.

CCND will have a stall at **Spring Harvest** in Skegness on 9 – 13 April. CCND will also be at the **National Justice & Peace Network Annual Conference** 21 – 23 July in Swanwick. If you are going to either of these events, pop along and say hello!

Until 30 April: 20 millisieverts per year: An exhibition about Fukushima. Conway Hall, 25 Red Lion Square, Holborn, **London**. Contact Conway Hall before visiting as opening hours vary: 020 7405 1818.

20 – 23 April: Global Days of Action on Military Spending. See <https://demilitarize.org.uk/> for more info. #GDAMS2017

15 May: International Conscientious Objector's Day. Events around the country. mail@coproject.org.uk
London: 12noon in Tavistock Square.

3 June: Peace History Conference at the Imperial War Museum, London. Organised by Movement for the Abolition of War. <http://www.abolishwar.org.uk/>

8 – 16 July: Disarmament camp at **Coulport** in the West of Scotland. As the Global Nuclear Ban Treaty conference finishes in New York we will gather to disrupt the Trident submarine bases at Faslane & Coulport. Contact Jane Tallents tp2000@gn.apc.org <http://trident-ploughshares.org>

21 – 23 July: A Sabbath for the Earth and the Poor – the challenge of Pope Francis. National Justice & Peace Network 39th Annual Conference. The Hayes, **Swanwick**, Derbyshire. <http://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/conference/>

27 – 31 July: Peace News Summer Camp. Nr **Diss**, Norfolk. 020 7278 3344.
peacenewscamp@googlemail.com
<http://peacenewscamp.info/>

6 August: Hiroshima Day.
London: 12noon in Tavistock Square, annual London Region CND event. david.lrcnd@cnduk.org 0207 607 2302

9 August: Nagasaki Day.
London: Peace Walk from Westminster Cathedral to the

London Peace Pagoda followed by a Lantern-floating ceremony at sunset. Times tbc. 020 7228 9620.

25 – 28 August: Greenbelt. Our theme for the festival is The Common Good. Boughton House in **Northamptonshire**. Info: 0207 329 0038.
<http://www.greenbelt.org.uk/>
Christian CND will be there!

4 – 8 September: Trident Ploughshares will be taking part in the week of action against DSEI, the world's largest arms fair. Contact Chris Bluemel chrisbluemel@yahoo.co.uk

4 – 11 September: Stop the Arms Fair week of action. ExCeL Exhibition Centre, Royal Victoria Dock, 1 Western Gateway, **London** E16 1XL 020 7281 0297
<https://www.stopthearmsfair.org.uk/events/stop-the-arms-week-of-action/>

12 – 15 September: DSEI, the world's largest arms fair, at Excel Centre, **London**.

14 – 15 October: CND Conference. Including the AGM and policy conference and a day of public discussion & debate. More details tba. <http://www.cnduk.org/>




25 November: Christian CND Annual General Meeting. Venue tba.




Please send photos of your events to Christian CND for *Ploughshare*, and/or our new website – <http://christiancnd.org.uk/>.

Also don't forget to tell us about your plans for Hiroshima and Nagasaki Days, or the International Day of Peace.

- Pack of 24 A4 sheets of Interfaith quotations £1 a pack
- CCND stickers 10 stickers for 50p, 50 stickers for £2
- Legacy Guide Free
- Churches' Guide Free
- T-Shirts £12 each. Unisex Large and Extra Large.
- Cotton bags £3 each.
- Picasso Greetings Cards. £2.50 for six.
- Christmas Cards, £2.50 for six.
- Sowing the Seeds of Peace Communications Pack. Free
- Church quotes on Trident Church Porch A4 Poster Free,
- Badges 30p,
- Enamel brooches £1.50
- Window stickers 50p
- Pens £1
- Waking the Sleeping Giant A history of CCND £2.50.

Send orders to address below. Cheques made out to Christian CND. *Please add a minimum of £2 for p&p.*

Ask your faith leader to sign this multi-faith statement on nuclear weapons:
<http://www.endnuclearweapons.org.uk>