



General Assembly

Distr.: General

14 July 2025

English

Original: English/French/Spanish

Eightieth session

Item 100 of the provisional agenda*

General and complete disarmament**Youth, disarmament and non-proliferation****Report of the Secretary-General***Summary*

The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution [78/31](#), in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit a report on the issue of the promotion of youth engagement and empowerment activities in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation. It contains the views of Member States, the United Nations, other relevant international and regional organizations and civil society organizations.

* [A/80/150](#).



Contents

	<i>Page</i>
I. Introduction	4
II. Replies received from Governments	4
Canada	4
Honduras	5
India	6
Kiribati	7
Mexico	7
Panama	8
Republic of Korea	9
Serbia	10
III. Replies received from the United Nations and other international and regional organizations	10
European Union	10
Office for Disarmament Affairs	11
Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization	13
United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research	14
IV. Replies received from civil society and non-governmental organizations	14
African Center for Science and International Security	14
Alva Myrdal Centre for Nuclear Disarmament	15
BASIC	15
Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament Peace Education	15
Center for Energy and Security Studies	16
Colombian Campaign to Ban Landmines	16
Côte d'Ivoire section of the West Africa Action Network on Small Arms	16
Geneva Science and Diplomacy Anticipator	17
Global Health Security Fund	17
Hibakusha Stories	18
ICAN France	18
International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons	18
Inter-Religious Council of Kenya	19
James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies	19
MAREA (Movement, Art, Revolution, Expression and Action)	19
Mayors for Peace	20
Mines Action Canada	20
Nonproliferation Policy Education Center	20

Nuclear Age Peace Foundation	21
Oslo Nuclear Project	21
Pace University	21
Princeton University	22
Qazaq Nuclear Frontline Coalition	22
Saint Petersburg State University	22
Soka Gakkai International	23
Strategic Concept for Removal of Arms and Proliferation	23
Teens 4 Disarmament and Non-Proliferation	24
The Children of Ukraine Foundation	24
The Simons Foundation Canada	24
University of Bradford	25
Vienna Center for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation	25
Voices for a World Free of Nuclear Weapons	25
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom	26
Youth Fusion	26
V. Conclusion	27

I. Introduction

1. In paragraph 6 of its resolution [78/31](#), entitled “Youth, disarmament and non-proliferation”, the General Assembly invited all Member States, the United Nations, other relevant international and regional organizations and civil society organizations to share their views on the issue of the promotion of youth engagement and empowerment activities in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation, and requested the Secretary-General to submit a report thereon to the Assembly at its eightieth session.

2. Pursuant to that request, notes verbales dated 12 February 2025 were sent to Member States inviting them to provide information on the subject. Member States and relevant organizations were invited to provide executive summaries of their contributions for inclusion in the report of the Secretary-General, while their submissions in extenso would be posted on the website of the Office for Disarmament Affairs. The replies received are contained in sections II, III and IV below. The replies contained in sections III and IV of the present report have been further shortened, with the contributors informed. The report should be read in conjunction with the report of the Secretary-General on disarmament and non-proliferation education ([A/79/114](#)). Any views received after 30 May 2025 will be posted on the website of the Office for Disarmament Affairs in the original language received. No addenda will be issued.

II. Replies received from Governments

Canada

[Original: English]
[22 May 2025]

This submission provides a summary of Canada’s views on General Assembly resolution [78/31](#), entitled “Youth, disarmament and non-proliferation”. This submission responds to a note verbale from the Office of Disarmament Affairs (ODA-2025-00025/YOUTH), pursuant to paragraph 6 of the above-mentioned resolution, requesting the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States.

Importance of youth perspectives

Canada is deeply convinced of the need to engage diverse populations on disarmament and non-proliferation. In addition to empowering women, Indigenous Peoples, persons with disabilities and the LGBTQ+ community, Canada also supports the full, meaningful and effective integration of youth perspectives into disarmament.

There are an estimated 1.2 billion youth aged 15 to 24 years around the world. Of that number, millions are affected by war and conflict. Whether displaced, injured or traumatized, youth all too frequently carry the burden of a world ravaged by weapons.

Youth are uniquely suited to meet the demands of an increasingly polarized and conflict-ridden world. They are resourceful, utilizing new technologies to work faster and more cooperatively. Youth are passionate about securing their future, with a focus on combating climate change, enhancing equality and fostering economic opportunity. They are resilient, having already endured global shocks in their lifetime such as the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

In disarmament and non-proliferation, youth have always been an integral part of advocating a weapons-free world. They are active in calling for reductions in

military expenditures and a focus on international humanitarian law, and they have highlighted the adverse consequences of weapons use that they and their peers have suffered. Far too often, youth are discounted because of their age and relative inexperience, especially in technical fields, such as nuclear, chemical and biological disarmament and non-proliferation.

Canada's youth engagement and empowerment activities

Canada strongly supports the inclusion of youth in government, multilateral and civil society forums on disarmament and non-proliferation. In line with the youth, peace and security agenda this means not only allowing more youth in the room for important conversations but also providing them with opportunities to have their voices heard and influence policy. To this end, Canada introduced the first-ever International Youth Day at the Conference on Disarmament on that day in 2021. Canada is pleased to see this tradition continue with successive Conference on Disarmament presidents.

Canada also recognizes that youth must be equipped to help to prevent, protect and partner with others for the future. Canada prioritizes funding academic scholarships, such as the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship Programme at the International Atomic Energy Agency, direct civil society engagement during our annual civil society consultations on disarmament and non-proliferation, and advocating transparent and inclusive multilateral processes that allow youth to share perspectives and witness diplomacy in action, such as the Non-Proliferation Treaty and the Review Conference of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction.

Canada will continue to advocate youth inclusion in disarmament and non-proliferation forums, specifically those that seek to secure a safer and more prosperous future for generations to come.

Honduras

[Original: Spanish]
[13 May 2025]

Below are inputs provided by the Ministry of Defence of Honduras regarding national efforts, assessments and measures taken with respect to General Assembly resolution [78/31](#), entitled "Youth, disarmament and non-proliferation".

The Government of the Republic of Honduras hereby submits the following information regarding activities for the involvement and empowerment of youth in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation.

Efforts of Honduras

Honduras, in accordance with international regulations, has approved the following laws, which have been disseminated to all inhabitants of the country:

- Act on the Control of Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Similar Items, Decree No. 30-2000, Gazette No. 29,236 of 29 July 2000
- Laws and regulations for the development and evolution of private security
- Act on the Control of Firearms, reviewed by the United Nations

The United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean supports Honduras in its efforts to curb illicit trafficking in firearms and reduce armed violence.

Honduras is a State member of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Within the national framework and in order to show its interest in and appreciation of these efforts, the Government of Honduras keeps up to date with and participates in global efforts involving youth in disarmament and non-proliferation, including the following activities:

- Meeting on security concerns of the States members of the Central American Integration System, towards the approval of a Central American road map to prevent trafficking in and illicit proliferation of arms and ammunition and to address challenges and other concerns.
- Participation in the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects.

Steps taken by Honduras

In its efforts to prevent the proliferation of arms and their derivatives, Honduras coordinates with international organizations, such as the Organization of American States (with its Programme of Assistance on Control of Arms and Munition and its “Orchestras of the Americas for Social Inclusion” programme) and the HALO Trust, for the destruction of weapons, ammunition and explosives. Honduras strengthens the country’s security institutions and develop their technical capacities, thus improving public safety. It also trains at-risk youth through the Orchestras programme.

Destruction of small arms

Thousands of firearms are stored in different warehouses in the Central American and Caribbean region as a result of seizures or confiscations, or as a result of disused weapons of the security forces. These weapons are deposited in arms control departments or directorates, judicial storage facilities, prosecutors’ offices and police stations, among other places.

Participation in workshops and seminars of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean

Morazán soldiers of the Honduran Armed Forces participated in the workshop “Illicit manufacturing of firearms and ammunition in Honduras”, organized by the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

India

[Original: English]
[30 May 2025]

Young people are agents for social change, economic development and technological innovation. India attaches great importance to engaging and working with youth to raise awareness of and find innovative solutions to the issues of disarmament, arms control and international security.

India has sponsored General Assembly resolution [78/31](#), entitled “Youth, disarmament and non-proliferation”, in which Member States are called upon to consider developing and implementing policies and programmes for young people to

increase and facilitate their constructive engagement in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation.

In this regard, the Annual Disarmament and International Security Affairs Fellowship, launched by India in 2019, has been well received by various Member States, particularly the younger generation of diplomats. The most recent edition of the fellowship programme, the fifth edition, was held from 13 to 31 January 2025 at the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service, in New Delhi, with participation of 34 diplomats from 33 countries across various regions in the world. The fellowship programme is intended to raise awareness and exchange views among young officials from across the world on issues related to contemporary disarmament, non-proliferation, arms control and international security affairs. It features talks, presentations and simulation exercises by leading experts on a range of subjects, such as the global security environment, weapons of mass destruction, certain conventional weapons, space security, the security of cyberspace, export controls and emerging technologies, and includes visits to facilities of the Department of Atomic Energy of India and the Indian Space Research Organisation to provide the fellows with first-hand exposure to India's civil nuclear and civil space programmes.

The fellowship programme is also aimed at fulfilling the mandate of the General Assembly resolution entitled "United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education" and is in line with the focus on disarmament education in the disarmament agenda of the Secretary-General, *Securing Our Common Future: An Agenda for Disarmament*.

Kiribati

[Original: English]
[30 May 2025]

Kiribati appreciates the opportunity to share its activities relating to advancing youth engagement in disarmament and non-proliferation affairs, as requested by the Secretary-General. Kiribati believes that nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation education serve as a means for young people from affected communities to learn about the critical importance of key treaties, including the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and to share their testimonies.

Mexico

[Original: Spanish]
[30 May 2025]

Mexico is submitting this executive summary¹ in compliance with General Assembly resolution 78/31, in reaffirmation of its commitment to the meaningful participation of youth in building a world free of nuclear weapons. Recognizing the transformative potential of younger generations, Mexico considers it essential to empower them through education, participation and technical training, in order to consolidate a culture of peace and move towards a world free of nuclear weapons.

Since 2014, Mexico has held an annual summer school on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation for young diplomats from Latin America and the Caribbean, in coordination with the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean and the James Martin Center. This unique initiative has

¹ The full contribution is published and available for consultation on the website of the Office for Disarmament Affairs.

trained more than 350 young people and has established itself as a regional platform for technical training in disarmament issues.

At the multilateral level, Mexico promotes disarmament education through the biennial submission of the resolution on the United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education, as well as through its co-sponsorship of resolution [78/31](#). In addition, since 2022, the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations has incorporated youth delegates, who actively participate in the discussions of the First Committee on disarmament.

During its presidency of the Twelfth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions in 2024, Mexico launched the international contest “Igniting change: youth for humanitarian disarmament”, aimed at young people between the ages of 18 and 29. The initiative sought to raise awareness of the link between humanitarian disarmament, risk education and the Sustainable Development Goals, and received a positive global response.

At the national level, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, through the Matías Romero Institute, offers specialized training in disarmament and non-proliferation to diplomats and public officials. The Ministry also participates in university forums on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons and maintains an internship programme for young people interested in multilateral affairs.

The Armed Forces of Mexico integrate disarmament education subjects and activities into their educational systems, train their personnel in international humanitarian law and promote national campaigns to discourage the use of weapons, such as the “Yes to Disarmament, Yes to Peace” programme, with a special focus on children and youth.

In addition, the National Commission for Nuclear Security and Safeguards, through the Nuclear Society of Mexico, maintains links with the Youth Association for Nuclear Energy in Mexico, which promotes discussions on the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and its implications for disarmament.

Mexico will continue to encourage States to adopt educational measures that enable young people to be active agents of disarmament and international peace, convinced that younger generations are key players in building a safer and nuclear-free future.

Panama

[Original: Spanish]
[10 March 2025]

Panama has a priority interest in strengthening security issues and the actions of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with regard to the country’s participation in international organizations dedicated to the non-proliferation of nuclear and chemical weapons and the prohibition of weapons of mass destruction, both regionally and globally.

In this regard, it calls for activities aimed at the universalization of conventions, treaties and other international instruments to include activities aimed at guaranteeing the participation of young people.

Republic of Korea

[Original: English]

[2 June 2025]

The Republic of Korea believes that the engagement, education and empowerment of youth in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation helps to ensure sustainability and diversity in the discussion. In addition, the active participation of youth, who can offer innovative and forward-looking ideas as future leaders, would spur positive momentum in stagnating disarmament discussions.

As recognized in the Pact for the Future, in which it is stated that the full, effective, safe and meaningful participation of youth is critical to maintaining and promoting international peace and security, the strong engagement, empowerment and education of youth are key to building a sustainable culture of peace, promoting disarmament and non-proliferation and, ultimately, creating a safer and more secure world for everyone.

As a champion of action 38, entitled “Establish a platform for youth engagement”, in the Secretary-General’s disarmament agenda “Securing Our Common Future: An Agenda for Disarmament”, the Republic of Korea has proposed the resolution entitled “Youth, disarmament and non-proliferation” biannually since 2019.

The Republic of Korea has been supporting youth initiatives at the national level through the following:

- In June 2022, the Republic of Korea hosted a youth education camp for disarmament and non-proliferation, at which 30 young participants discussed the emerging issues of lethal autonomous weapon systems and space security.
- Since 2023, the Republic of Korea has annually appointed some 30 university students as Korean youth envoys for disarmament and non-proliferation. The participants received an education by participating in a camp (2023) or an academic course (2024).
- To provide on-site experience, the Republic of Korea invited the winning Korean youth envoys to participate in the twenty-second United Nations-Republic of Korea Joint Conference on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Issues in 2023 and the second meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in 2024. The Republic of Korea also included them as the main panellists at the side event centred on the North Korean nuclear issue during the meeting on the Non-Proliferation Treaty.
- The second Responsible Artificial Intelligence in the Military Domain Summit, hosted by the Republic of Korea in 2024, was commenced by two Korean youth envoys for disarmament and non-proliferation, and a side event on youth and peace in the age of artificial intelligence was held.

The Republic of Korea is collaborating closely with the Office for Disarmament Affairs and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) to create more opportunities for youth to play a role in the disarmament agenda.

- Through the United Nations Disarmament Fellowship, Training and Advisory Services Programme, the Republic of Korea has been inviting young diplomats from various countries since 2016, supporting the Office for Disarmament Affairs Youth for Disarmament Initiative and supporting the launch of the Leaders4Tomorrow project in 2022 and the Leaders to the Future workshop series. In addition, this year, the Republic of Korea funded the Youth for

Disarmament Forum, to be organized in October, during the First Committee of the General Assembly.

- The Republic of Korea has supported UNIDIR in launching the youth engagement programme and continued its support for the UNIDIR graduate professional programme in 2022 and 2024.

The Republic of Korea will continue to actively participate in ongoing discussions on youth, including the New Agenda for Peace, and to carry out various activities to engage, empower and educate youth in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation.

Serbia

[Original: English]
[22 May 2025]

With reference to its note No. ODA-2025-00024/YOUTH of 12 February 2025, and in order to raise the level of awareness of young people of the danger posed by small arms and light weapons and their ammunition and explosives, Serbia has undertaken a draft programme and plan of action for the control of such arms and weapons and their ammunition and explosives for the period 2025–2030 to better inform and educate young people, as well as to promote arms control and thereby reduce firearms supply, demand and misuse.

III. Replies received from the United Nations and other international and regional organizations

European Union

[Original: English]
[28 May 2025]

The European Union believes that young people are powerful agents of change, economic development and technological innovation. Engaging young people worldwide in discussions on disarmament and non-proliferation is crucial to advance collective efforts in achieving peace, security and sustainable development. The European Union's commitment to youth engagement is demonstrated by its co-sponsoring of General Assembly resolution [78/31](#).

Reflecting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals, the European Union Global Strategy for Foreign and Security Policy adopts a comprehensive approach that integrates humanitarian, development, security, migration, economic, infrastructure, education, health and research policies. It entails, therefore, the engagement to nurture societal resilience also by deepening work on education, culture and youth.

The European Union Youth Action Plan (2022–2027) is the first-ever policy framework for a strategic partnership with young people, to support delivering on international commitments, such as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the United Nations youth and peace and security agenda, by enhancing meaningful youth participation in the European Union's external action.

The European Union supports the universalization and implementation of non-proliferation and disarmament conventions and the implementation of the European Union Strategy against the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction through Council Decisions that systematically consider youth engagement. Under

European Union Council Decision (CFSP) 2023/124, a Youth Group of 17 fellows (2023–2025) was launched to develop expertise on missile-related issues and raise awareness about the Code.

Under Council Decision (CFSP) 2023/1344, the European Union has supported youth engagement on chemical weapons through initiatives such as a side event at the twenty-eighth Conference of States Parties (November 2023), the OPCW-Brazil youth training programme (April 2024), and the 101st session of the European Youth Parliament (April 2025), involving 300 participants from 41 countries.

The European Union supported – under Council Decision (CFSP) 2024/656 – the fifth Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship Programme, promoting women’s careers in nuclear security through scholarships and through internships with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). By November 2024, 242 students had graduated, with 136 confirmed for internships. European Union funding also supported the Fifth IAEA Nuclear Security School (September 2024).

Council Decision (CFSP) 2024/349 supports capacity-building for young policymakers, scientists, and academics from the Global South, especially women, in fields related to the Biological Weapons Convention. That includes seminars in Geneva, a fellowship programme that provides youth with exposure to disarmament negotiations, an online Biosecurity Diplomacy workshop, and visits to meetings of the Working Group on the Strengthening of the Convention in 2023 and 2024.

Under Council Decision (CFSP) 2022/847, the European Union supports youth-focused projects in the Americas to prevent illicit proliferation of small arms and light weapons and ammunition. This includes expanding the OASIS programme, providing daily activities and training for at-risk youth, such as orchestra and choir classes in Tela, Honduras, benefiting 166 young people by building life skills and reducing violence risk.

Through Council Decision (CFSP) 2022/597, the European Union promoted youth education in non-proliferation and disarmament via the European network of independent think tanks, which led initiatives including awareness courses, internships, university outreach, skill-building workshops, eLearning, and a mentorship programme for young women. Support was extended under Council Decision (CFSP) 2025/889 to expand global reach and deepen youth engagement.

Office for Disarmament Affairs

[Original: English]
[25 June 2025]

The Office for Disarmament Affairs has made significant headway in engaging, educating, and empowering young people in the disarmament field, focusing on recommendations in the biennial General Assembly resolution on “Youth, disarmament and non-proliferation” (resolutions [78/31](#), [76/45](#) and [74/64](#)).

The High Representative for Disarmament Affairs has engaged with youth in events and informal dialogues, including on the margins of multilateral disarmament meetings.

Youth for Disarmament has cemented its place as the Office’s flagship youth programme and has grown in both outreach and impact, offering and co-creating opportunities for young people to participate through capacity-building programmes, writing and artistic contests, and social media campaigns, while providing educational resources to young people of different interests and backgrounds.

In June 2023, the Office continued its Leaders to the Future series. Under this programme, 55 young advocates previously involved in the Office's youth engagement and empowerment efforts took part in training sessions to explore how disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control are linked with other topics related to maintaining international peace and security.

In August 2023, under the Youth for Disarmament campaign Advocates in Motion, five young leaders participated in a panel discussion held by the Conference on Disarmament on International Youth Day relating to the agenda items on the cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament.

In 2023, the Office developed the programme Youth Leader Fund for a World Without Nuclear Weapons, which brings youth together in Hiroshima and Nagasaki to learn the lessons of nuclear weapons use. The programme's implementation spans from 2023 to 2030 in four phases of two years each, during which participants deepen their understanding of and develop skills to address nuclear disarmament issues, while expanding their professional networks. In 2023–2024, the first cohort of 100 individuals completed the online component and a selected number of participants took part in the study visit to Japan, which also included a youth-led conference. The second cohort begins their online programme in July 2025.

Since 2023, the Youth for Biosecurity Fellowship has been convened annually with 60 young scientists from the global South engaging on issues related to biosecurity and biosafety within the scope of the Biological Weapons Convention through online learning and in-person study visits to Geneva. The Fellows presented their perspectives at side events held on the margins of the fourth session of the Working Group on the Strengthening of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction. The next cohort commenced its work in June 2025.

In 2024, the Presidency of the Twelfth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, Mexico, in collaboration with the Implementation Support Unit, organized the first edition of the Youth for Humanitarian Disarmament Multimedia Contest, in which young people were invited to use art as an expressive medium to show the impact of cluster munition on communities.

In 2024, the Office launched the second edition of the Youth Champions for Disarmament training programme. Fifteen young leaders representing geographically diverse nationalities and a variety of disciplines participated in the learning programme and in intergovernmental processes, carrying forward activities to promote disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control in their communities.

In 2024, as part of the Youth for Disarmament programme, the Sci-fAI Futures Youth Challenge was launched, a creative, science fiction challenge in which storytelling was utilized to engage, equip and empower young people on the risks and opportunities of artificial intelligence and its implications for peace and security. The winners participated in the second Responsible Artificial Intelligence in the Military (REAIM) summit held in Seoul, Republic of Korea.

During the summers of 2023 and 2024, hundreds of young people around the world participated in the annual #StepUp4Disarmament youth campaign by completing a distance of 8.29 km, a symbolic number that corresponds to the date of the International Day against Nuclear Tests (29 August). The campaign was expanded into the Not One Nuclear Explosion (N.O.N.E) campaign and continues to gain momentum in 2025.

The Office further strengthened its youth approaches through increased efforts undertaken by its regional offices and centres to bridge language barriers and engage youth in their geographic diversity. Those efforts include the Disarmament Toolkit Course by the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, and the “GenerAcción Paz” training programme conducted in Spanish by the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC).

Between 2023 and 2025, UNODA was involved in several intergovernmental meetings, including the third Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, the high-level meeting for the International Day Against Nuclear Tests and the Youth Forum of the Economic and Social Council, organizing side events and youth consultations, and supporting youth speakers. Those efforts were also conducted at a regional level. UNLIREC provided a dedicated briefing on youth mainstreaming during regional preparatory meetings for the Fourth Review Conference of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects.

In 2024, the Office launched the Youth and Disarmament Short Course on its Disarmament Education Dashboard, which spotlights the role of youth in disarmament and pathways for meaningful youth engagement.

In 2025, the Office is hosting the first-ever Youth for Disarmament Forum, which will be held on the margins of the meetings of the First Committee in October 2025.

Social media campaigns have been launched to promote activities by youth to engage their communities on disarmament-related topics. They include the annual #YouthInAction campaign in December, highlighting young people active on the field of disarmament, and the StepUp4Disarmament and N.O.N.E. Campaigns. In 2025, the Office published *Empowering You(th) – 10 Stories of Turning (Disarmament) Ideas into Action* as its Occasional Paper No. 44. Communications campaigns were also conducted by regional centres to engage youth in different languages and contexts.

The Office has continued to offer opportunities for youth to build professional experience through internships, consultancies and the Junior Professional Officer Programme. In 2024, UNODA provided three paid United Nations Youth Volunteer positions.

Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization

[Original: English]
[29 May 2025]

Throughout the reporting period, the Commission strengthened its outreach, education, and capacity-building activities in support of the Treaty’s entry into force and the verification regime. The Knowledge and Training Portal was updated in July 2024, enhancing access to online learning for the global disarmament and non-proliferation community. Collaboration with the Office for Disarmament Affairs continued through segments of the United Nations Disarmament Fellowship Programme held in September 2023, June 2024, and April 2025 relating to the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO). The CTBTO Youth Group Task Force launched an international art competition, with exhibitions at the United Nations in Vienna and New York. Three winning artists were invited to Vienna in June 2024 to visit CTBTO premises and participate in an event organized with UNODA. One winner was invited to New York to present her artwork during the 2024 International Day Against Nuclear Tests and engage directly with high-level officials.

Four editions of the CTBTO Research Fellowship took place over the reporting period, engaging 78 young professionals and resulting in 26 published research papers. The CTBT Young Professionals Network continued efforts to promote knowledge transfer in verification science. Lastly, the CTBTO Mentoring Programme for early-career women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics completed three successful cycles and launched a fourth in May 2025. The fourth cycle paired 40 mentees from all six geographical regions with experts from CTBTO technical divisions and national institutions.

United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

[Original: English]
[29 May 2025]

The United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) believes in the power of today's youth to bring about lasting, positive change in arms control, non-proliferation and disarmament.

The Institute's youth engagement is structured in three main areas:

(a) Promoting a youth-inclusive workforce. Through its Graduate Professional Programme, UNIDIR builds young researchers' capacity by providing practical experience in international security and disarmament;

(b) Raising awareness of arms control, non-proliferation and disarmament among youth. UNIDIR promotes knowledge and outreach, offering an online Youth Disarmament Orientation course;

(c) Fostering knowledge of youth, peace and security and amplifying perspectives. UNIDIR advances research on youth, peace and security issues, as well as engages youth in research and policy work on disarmament. It collects age- and gender-disaggregated data to better understand and address young people's needs in conflict-affected areas.

UNIDIR actively seeks to create opportunities for youth to share innovative solutions on pressing international security issues. In 2024–25, key activities included:

- An exhibition at United Nations Headquarters featuring photos and stories by conflict-affected youth from Colombia, Iraq and Nigeria
- Annual Model United Nations simulations in partnership with Geneva International Model United Nations
- A youth video competition on space security, with winners premiering their work at the Institute's Outer Space Security Conference and engaging with experts in Geneva.

IV. Replies received from civil society and non-governmental organizations

African Center for Science and International Security

[Original: English]
[12 May 2025]

From July 2023 to June 2025, the African Center for Science and International Security initiated programmes to empower youth in the areas of weapons of mass destruction disarmament and non-proliferation. The Center organized 10 regional workshops, virtual policy dialogues and specialized youth training sessions. These

events engaged over 400 students, early-career professionals and young policymakers, equipping them with essential knowledge, building their capacity for leadership and igniting their interest in careers in the disarmament and non-proliferation sectors.

The Center scaled up mentorship initiatives, providing youth associations with technical support and guidance. These efforts have enhanced the operational capacity and sustainability of these organizations and have strengthened youth leadership in the global nuclear and scientific community.

Alva Myrdal Centre for Nuclear Disarmament

[Original: English]

[30 May 2025]

The Alva Myrdal Centre for Nuclear Disarmament was established in 2021 at Uppsala University to provide teaching, research and policy support on nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control. The Centre has launched several initiatives to empower youth in the field in four main areas: (a) the Armament and Disarmament Summer School, which offers a course for the next generation of professionals in the field; (b) participation in the upper secondary school days of the Swedish Institute of Foreign Affairs and seminars at the yearly Gothenburg Book Fair; (c) hiring students at the Centre to offer work/life experience and training; and (d) Inviting young researchers along with experienced senior researchers to the annual Centre conference.

BASIC

[Original: English]

[29 May 2025]

The BASIC Emerging Voices Network is a global network of high-potential, early-career technical and policy experts focused on youth engagement and empowerment in the nuclear field. It is open to anyone who is between the ages of 18 and 35 or who has been working in the nuclear field for less than seven years.

During the past two years, the Network has completed four policy cycles and, by July 2025, will have completed two more. These policy cycles involve a combination of collaborative paper-writing and workshops, culminating in a publication and an online launch event at which participants present their work to a large audience.

The Network has also begun new initiatives to help members to build their skills and networks, including foresight methodologies training, a peer-to-peer mentorship scheme, networking sessions and meet-ups. A biweekly newsletter allows members to share their latest achievements and publications with the Network.

Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament Peace Education

[Original: English]

[10 April 2025]

Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament Peace Education encourages young people to think critically about nuclear weapons. From September 2023 to June 2025, Peace Education has delivered workshops to over 9,500 students aged 9 to 19 in 60 educational settings across England and has worked with nearly 400 initial teacher training students.

The organization has produced six free teaching packs and distributed over 600 printed copies and 1,800 downloads. In 2024, its updated resource, Under Pressure, received the Association for Citizenship Teaching “quality mark”. In 2025, the organization launched Verses of Hope, a national poetry competition marking 80 years since the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Center for Energy and Security Studies

[Original: English]
[29 May 2025]

The Center for Energy and Security Studies facilitates youth engagement and intergenerational exchange in the nuclear field. In April 2024, in conjunction with the Moscow Non-Proliferation Conference, the Center held its New Generation Experts Segment for the second time. Participants of the Segment had the opportunity to engage with peers and to take part in the Conference jointly with senior professionals and become directly involved in discussions on relevant topics. Forty young nuclear non-proliferation experts from 20 countries gathered to participate in the event.

In cooperation with the Center, the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO) has been implementing the CTBTO research fellowship Programme since 2021. As part of this initiative, more than 100 young experts from more than 45 countries have had the opportunity to engage with leading non-proliferation professionals and contribute to academic articles within international research groups.

Colombian Campaign to Ban Landmines

[Original: English]
[29 May 2025]

The Colombian Campaign to Ban Landmines launched the Jóvenes Contra los Robots Asesinos initiative with Stop Killer Robots, educating over 100 Latin American youth on the humanitarian, legal and ethical implications of lethal autonomous weapons systems. The initiative empowered participants with advocacy tools and content creation skills, amplifying disarmament messages through social media and awareness campaigns. The Campaign’s youth members worked closely with universities in Bogotá to raise awareness about the harm that weapons pose in a country where armed conflict is still present.

The Campaign facilitated youth participation in international disarmament forums, including the sixteenth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the tenth Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty, in collaboration with organizations such as the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons and Control Arms, where delegates addressed issues such as nuclear disarmament and regional arms trade dynamics.

Côte d’Ivoire section of the West Africa Action Network on Small Arms

[Original: French]
[15 May 2025]

The main mission of the Côte d’Ivoire section of the West Africa Action Network on Small Arms is to contribute towards the growth of a secure and peaceful

environment that is conducive to sustainable development. Its work contributes to the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of public security policies.

From July 2023 to July 2025, the Action Network stepped up its efforts to combat gun violence in the community, particularly in schools and student communities.

To strengthen its community impact, the Action Network has adopted an inclusive and gender-sensitive approach through solemn marches, radio and digital media broadcasts, community education and engagement conferences, and the production of a variety of communication materials.

Taken together, these actions have directly affected over 5,000 people, and, indirectly, potentially over 400,000 people.

Geneva Science and Diplomacy Anticipator

[Original: English]
[21 May 2025]

Between 2023 and 2025, the Geneva Science and Diplomacy Anticipator has advanced youth engagement in global peace and security through innovative experiential learning. Central to this effort is its Open Quantum Institute, which aligns quantum technology development with the Sustainable Development Goals. A key tool is the Quantum Diplomacy Game, a simulation that immerses participants in future scenarios shaped by emerging technologies.

The Geneva Science and Diplomacy Anticipator contributed to the Youth for Biosecurity Fellowship, educating youth on anticipating synthetic biology developments, dual-use risks and opportunities for prospective action. It hosted briefings at the United Nations Disarmament Fellowship Programme, which were focused on anticipating the impacts of quantum technologies. Through interactive simulations, young professionals were empowered to reach common understandings to prevent technological misuse and further divides, particularly in the quantum technology and biosecurity fields.

Global Health Security Fund

[Original: English]
[29 May 2025]

The Global Health Security Fund empowers youth from the Global South to engage in disarmament through its ongoing sponsorship of the Youth for Biosecurity Fellowship. In partnership with the Office for Disarmament Affairs, the Fund supported the Fellowship annually in the period 2023–2025, helping young professionals to participate in programming related to the Biological Weapons Convention in Geneva.

Each year, 20 fellows participate in an innovation seminar hosted by the Fund. This includes workshops on communications and human-centred design to build skills essential for policy engagement in biosecurity and disarmament. Complementary programmes such as the Action Accelerator Vehicle and the Biosafety Journal Club expand youth access to biosecurity education and innovation tools across Africa and Latin America, and beyond.

Hibakusha Stories

[Original: English]
[30 May 2025]

Between 2023 and 2025, Youth Arts New York/Hibakusha Stories focused on disarmament education through the arts. For nearly 10 years, the organization welcomed atomic bomb survivors (*hibakusha*) in a programme to share their living memories of Hiroshima and Nagasaki with high school students, engaging some 100 *hibakusha* who shared their testimonies with more than 50,000 young people. As it has become more difficult for atomic bomb survivors to travel, the work has necessarily shifted from authentic to artistic representation, involving partnerships with many talented artists.

ICAN France

[Original: English]
[29 May 2025]

Over the past two years, ICAN France has made youth engagement a central pillar of its advocacy strategy, taking significant steps to empower young people and making space for their leadership in a field often dominated by experts.

ICAN France has included youth delegates in major international disarmament events. It also supported participation in the 2024 Hiroshima-ICAN Academy to strengthen intergenerational memory and develop the expertise of young leaders.

At a national level, ICAN France has prioritized youth-led initiatives, particularly through its social media strategy. New formats have revitalized disarmament communication, increased outreach and provided educational content that is accessible to a wider audience. ICAN France continues to advocate for an inclusive and innovative youth presence in nuclear disarmament debates.

International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons

[Original: English]
[21 May 2025]

The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) is a non-governmental organization that empowers young people to participate in the field of nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament. It provides information, training and opportunities for participation in decision-making processes. The Hiroshima-ICAN Academy, launched in 2019, nurtures global leaders so that they are able to contribute to a secure world. The ICAN Critical Nuclear Weapons Scholarship programme supports emerging scholars in developing groundbreaking research on nuclear weapons. ICAN also sponsors young delegates to attend global disarmament meetings.

ICAN supports youth-led non-proliferation and disarmament events through its small grants programme and supports youth-led partner organizations in organizing nuclear disarmament and awareness programmes on the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons locally, involving parliamentarians, governments, students and religious groups. ICAN amplifies youth voices via social media and spotlights youth-oriented and youth-led initiatives.

Inter-Religious Council of Kenya

[Original: English]

[30 May 2025]

In the past two years, the Inter-Religious Council of Kenya has remained at the forefront in empowering youth through interfaith and civic-led initiatives that build on peace, resilience and security. The Council has prioritized inclusive youth participation through structured platforms such as the Interfaith Youth Networks at the national and county levels. Through these platforms, young people have been actively involved in conversations on peaceful living, social cohesion and addressing the causes of violence.

The Council has trained youth on the use of artificial intelligence and social media as tools for digital peacebuilding and countering violent extremism. The Council's outreach has also expanded to civic education and advocacy and has enhanced youth participation in national peace and security programmes.

James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies

[Original: English]

[26 May 2025]

The James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies works to promote global peace by preventing the spread of weapons of mass destruction through research and education. The Center leads two youth programmes: the Critical Issues Forum and the Summer Undergraduate Nonproliferation Fellowship Program, both of which are focused on training future leaders in disarmament and non-proliferation.

Each summer, the Center trains around 12 undergraduates through lectures and research, with students developing skills in policy and open-source analysis on key non-proliferation issues.

The Critical Issues Forum is an international disarmament education programme that brings together high school students and educators from India, Japan, Pakistan and the United States. The Forum promotes cross-cultural communication, critical thinking and youth activism through conferences and online events.

Together, these programmes equip youth globally with the knowledge and tools needed to build a safer, nuclear-weapons-free future.

MAREA (Movement, Art, Revolution, Expression and Action)

[Original: English]

[29 May 2025]

MAREA (Movement, Art, Revolution, Expression and Action) is a youth-led organization based in Mexico that develops artistic, educational and community-centred projects to promote social awareness, human rights and collective transformation. In 2024, MAREA created Desarme Creativo ("creative disarmament"), with the support of the Office for Disarmament Affairs, as part of the Youth Champions for Disarmament initiative, using art and culture as powerful tools for disarmament, peacebuilding and social justice. By working with over 300 children and young people in three different states of Mexico, MAREA facilitated creative workshops that combined disarmament education, mental health tools and artistic expression.

Mayors for Peace

[Original: English]
[27 May 2025]

Mayors for Peace is a global network of municipalities committed to the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the realization of lasting world peace.

During the reporting period, Mayors for Peace sent youth delegations comprising high school students from Hiroshima to sessions of the Preparatory Committee for the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. At side events, the students shared their peace efforts and the voices of Hiroshima.

Mayors for Peace organized and livestreamed peace education webinars, providing a platform for young leaders involved in disarmament and peacebuilding to share their experiences and engage in global dialogue.

The Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation, which houses the Mayors for Peace secretariat, welcomed participants in the Youth Leader Fund for a World Without Nuclear Weapons in 2024, in Hiroshima. Participants reflected on the atomic bombings and renewed their commitment to a world without nuclear weapons.

Mines Action Canada

[Original: English]
[14 April 2025]

Mines Action Canada has been involving youth in disarmament for almost 25 years through various programmes, such as the Mine Action Fellows programme. Mines Action Canada sponsors members of the programme to attend capacity training alongside multilateral disarmament meetings. From July 2023 to June 2025, Mines Action Canada held three youth trainings alongside meetings on the Convention on Cluster Munitions and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction. The Fellows learned how to lobby delegates and draft statements and delivered opening remarks and statements at the plenary meeting.

The Fellows received monthly emails on various topics in disarmament and had the opportunity to apply for small grants, which allowed them to develop and implement projects in their communities.

Mines Action Canada hosted an international youth seminar on explosive weapons and four regional youth seminars on how to advocate against landmines, cluster munitions and explosive weapons in populated areas, which brought together youth from North America, the Caribbean, Africa and the Asia-Pacific region.

Nonproliferation Policy Education Center

[Original: English]
[14 April 2025]

Over the last two years, the Nonproliferation Policy Education Center engaged early-career professionals in nuclear and space policy education and analysis. This includes the building of technical, legal, economic and historical understanding of United States and international space and nuclear policies and related arms control and disarmament issues.

The Center's Nuclear Policy Certificate Program introduces young professionals to the civil and military dimensions of nuclear energy, with attention to the history of nuclear programmes. The Space Policy Certificate Program is focused on space systems as they relate to strategic military concerns, including their possible use in general and nuclear wars.

Young professionals help the Center to develop strategic war games for both courses, which includes the students as participants. These games explore escalation risks involving nuclear use, strikes on nuclear infrastructure, and space-based conflicts that could potentially escalate into nuclear conflicts.

Nuclear Age Peace Foundation

[Original: English]
[30 May 2025]

The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization that holds consultative status with the United Nation and is focused on the pursuit of a world free of nuclear weapons through advancing the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and international endeavours related to nuclear justice.

In 2023, Reverse the Trend: Save Our People, Save Our Planet became the youth initiative of the Foundation. Reverse the Trend is focused on empowering young people through experiential education by inviting them to attend international conferences on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation education and by organizing regional activities. The youth-led chapters are based in Canada, Japan, the Pacific and South and South-East Asia.

Oslo Nuclear Project

[Original: English]
[15 April 2025]

The Oslo Nuclear Project is a research initiative based at the University of Oslo that provides research, teaching and public outreach related to nuclear weapons issues. Since 2019, the Project has promoted youth engagement in disarmament and non-proliferation by providing education, mentorship and professional development opportunities to global audiences. This has included the creation of paid opportunities, trainings and outreach lectures and events in schools and civil society. The Project has conducted several activities aimed at empowering the next generation of nuclear experts. These efforts have included publishing opinion pieces and academic articles, contributing to media conversations on nuclear weapons, providing new training formats and hosting biannual conferences for graduate students.

Through continuous student and civil society engagement, the Project provides a rigorous and fact-based knowledge base for the next generation of experts, equipping them with the necessary skills to reduce future nuclear weapons risk.

Pace University

[Original: English]
[3 May 2025]

The Pace University International Disarmament Institute is a global leader in disarmament education, providing space for the generation and sharing of knowledge. The Institute is focused on undergraduate education, supporting majors in Peace and Justice Studies and International Relations and Global Studies, as well as minors in

Diplomacy and in Coastal and Ocean Studies. In curricular experiences and funded internships, students monitor and participate directly in disarmament policymaking at the First Committee of the General Assembly, treaty-specific conferences and local forums.

The Institute aims in particular to amplify the voices of communities affected by weapons, making written submissions to disarmament forums. The Institute has facilitated United Nations and non-governmental organization discussions about youth engagement and disarmament education, including through annual statements to the First Committee, side events, and a workshop for United Nations personnel.

Princeton University

[Original: English]
[10 May 2025]

In October 2022 and October 2023, the Princeton University Program on Science and Global Security organized and hosted the Princeton School on Science and Global Security. Launched in 2020 and held annually, the School's mission is to train next-generation scientists and engineers from around the world in technical perspectives on understanding, reducing and ending the threat from nuclear weapons and to foster an international community of related researchers. The 2024 School included 22 student participants from 12 countries. The 2023 School included 17 student participants from 7 countries.

Qazaq Nuclear Frontline Coalition

[Original: English]
[29 May 2025]

The Qazaq Nuclear Frontline Coalition is a youth-led intergenerational civil society organization that advances nuclear disarmament and justice for communities affected by nuclear testing in Central Asia. Since 2024, the Coalition has actively engaged youth from front-line regions, amplifying their voices at global forums.

The Coalition co-organized eight side events during Nuclear Ban Week and delivered the historic first statement on behalf of nuclear-affected communities. The Coalition produced a comprehensive working paper based on a nationwide survey of more than 500 respondents, offering policy recommendations and calling for the establishment of an international trust fund under the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons to support survivors.

The Coalition also amplified women's voices through the independent documentary *JARA – Radioactive Patriarchy: Women of Qazaqstan*, screened at the United Nations and more than 15 international venues. Through education, research, advocacy and media engagement, the Coalition exemplifies meaningful youth participation in disarmament.

Saint Petersburg State University

[Original: English]
[28 May 2025]

Saint Petersburg State University offers a Master's Degree programme in Strategic and Arms Control Studies. The programme provides students with career opportunities and research support and connects them to international expert networks and leading experts in the field of disarmament diplomacy. Students of this

programme participated in the Moscow Non-Proliferation Conference and educational trips to international organizations in Vienna and have had internships at Rosatom and the Center for Energy and Security Studies in Moscow.

The Interdisciplinary Centre for Global Biosafety Studies at Saint-Petersburg University engages interns in analytical and administrative work. Students from the Student Academic Society are working on projects that focus on current events in arms control and disarmament.

Soka Gakkai International

[Original: English]
[28 May 2025]

Soka Gakkai International has advanced youth engagement and empowerment in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation. Between July 2023 and June 2025, it organized various activities, both within the context of United Nations forums and at the grass-roots level.

Soka Gakkai International youth representatives attended disarmament-related United Nations conferences, including the Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. Prior to the Meeting, the student division in Japan conducted a youth peace awareness survey in five nuclear-affected countries.

Soka Gakkai International youth in Japan co-organized the Future Action Festival in March 2024, focusing on the intersection of the nuclear and climate crises. The event was attended in person by 70,000 youth and online by over 500,000. The organizing committee delivered a joint statement based on the youth peace awareness survey, which had received 120,000 responses that contributed to discussions in the lead-up to the Summit of the Future.

Soka Gakkai International also promoted regional initiatives, including *hibakusha* testimony hearings (Japan), a youth dialogue with *hibakusha* (Norway), youth peace fairs (Philippines) and the Youth Summit on the Renunciation of War (Japan).

Strategic Concept for Removal of Arms and Proliferation

[Original: English]
[8 May 2025]

Strategic Concept for Removal of Arms and Proliferation (SCRAP Weapons) is committed to advancing the call for the convening of a fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, through youth-led and youth-centred initiatives. SCRAP Weapons has been represented by youth at international forums, including the monthly speaker series of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War Canada; an event held by the International Peace Bureau entitled “Common Security, the New Agenda for Peace and the Pact for the Future”; the informal regional meeting held by the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, entitled “Separate agendas, common objectives”; the 2024 United Nations Civil Society Conference; meetings of the First Committee of the General Assembly; and multiple side events held during the Summit of the Future at United Nations Headquarters and the second session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2026 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

To promote and advance disarmament education, SCRAP Weapons recently launched the “Arms and arguments” book club, a platform for fostering critical thinking and dialogue among youth.

Teens 4 Disarmament and Non-Proliferation

[Original: English]
[30 May 2025]

The goals of Teens 4 Disarmament and Non-Proliferation are to inform future generations about the stories of survivors who experienced atomic bomb radiation and its consequences in Nagasaki and Hiroshima. Teens 4 Disarmament wishes to collaborate with teens around the globe to educate communities about the history of nuclear weapons and proliferation.

Teens 4 Disarmament has spread the testimonies of atomic bomb survivors and has given lectures to teenagers, carrying out extensive educational work on the environmental, emotional and physical consequences of nuclear detonation. The mission is to educate, engage and empower teens about disarmament to create a difference in our world.

The Children of Ukraine Foundation

[Original: English]
[30 May 2025]

The Children of Ukraine Foundation is a 501(c)(3) public charity dedicated to mitigating the impact of war and laying the groundwork for a peaceful and secure future. By helping conflict-affect youth restore their livelihoods, the Foundation gives children the tools to build prosperous futures.

In May 2024, the Foundation published a report entitled “The transnational experiences of Ukrainian displaced children” which documents the stories of children fleeing war and confronting psychological trauma. The Foundation actively amplifies the voices of conflict-affected youth at international forums, including at the Summit of the Future and the Economic and Social Council youth forum. By detailing challenges, sharing best practices and advocating for sustainable solutions, the Foundation highlights the vital role of disarmament and non-proliferation in protecting vulnerable populations.

The Simons Foundation Canada

[Original: English]
[30 May 2025]

The Simons Foundation Canada promotes youth disarmament and non-proliferation education by initiating and funding studies, student awards and disarmament education programmes at a number of universities, including the Program on Science and Global Security at Princeton University; the Simons Chair in Disarmament, Global and Human Security and the Simons Award in Nuclear Disarmament and Global Security at the University of British Columbia; and a mapping study of disarmament course offerings at Canadian universities aimed at focusing on the role of higher education institutions in advancing disarmament.

The Foundation has also initiated and co-convened conferences, panels and events at post-secondary institutions on nuclear disarmament, arctic security and

disarmament education. The Simons Foundation Canada was also a co-convener of the first Youth-Parliament Nuclear Summit, held in Ottawa.

University of Bradford

[Original: English]

[28 April 2025]

The University of Bradford Department of Peace Studies and International Development is committed to advancing nuclear disarmament education and empowering young people. In the 2024/25 academic year, the entity focused on capacity-building, providing young participants with critical insights into treaty implementation and disarmament law, enhancing their advocacy skills. Master's students observed the third Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in New York, offering them exposure to international diplomatic processes.

The Department hosted the Interdisciplinary Nuclear Disarmament Symposium, facilitating discussions on nuclear disarmament and emerging technologies, with student contributions underscoring the importance of youth perspectives in global peacebuilding. Disarmament education is embedded across teaching modules. Furthermore, students participated in the eighth annual Student/Young Pugwash conference, enhancing professional development and global engagement.

Vienna Center for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation

[Original: English]

[21 May 2025]

From July 2023 to June 2025, the Vienna Center for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation reaffirmed its commitment to youth empowerment and education in non-proliferation and disarmament through a broad set of initiatives, continuing to equip young professionals with the tools, knowledge, and networks necessary to contribute meaningfully to the field. Key efforts included educational outreach, professional development and mentoring through the Young Women and Next Generation Initiative.

The Center supported youth engagement via webinars, university visits and its flagship mentorship programme, which paired 42 young women with senior experts in the field. These efforts have led to tangible outcomes, including internships, research opportunities and career advancement for participants. The Center also provided paid internships and fellowships, and regularly engaged with global young professionals and students, including participants in the United Nations Disarmament Fellowship, Training and Advisory Services Programme, through lectures, workshops and online content. Outreach was further amplified through digital platforms and podcast participation.

Voices for a World Free of Nuclear Weapons

[Original: English]

[23 May 2025]

Voices for a World Free of Nuclear Weapons brings together people of diverse faiths to work towards a world without nuclear weapons. Voices has focuses on two main initiatives: Nuclear Prayer Day (August 6) and the Gorbachev-Schultz Legacy Youth Award, which are both aimed at raising awareness and empowering youth in nuclear disarmament efforts.

From 2023 to 2025, Voices engaged young people through events and partnerships. In 2023 and 2024, Voices hosted virtual gatherings for Nuclear Prayer Day, which featured youth speakers and honoured Youth Award winners for their activism and communication work. In March 2025, a special event with the Charter for Compassion highlighted past youth awardees.

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

[Original: English]
[28 April 2025]

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom has undertaken several initiatives to promote youth engagement in disarmament spaces.

The League has facilitated the participation of young League members in disarmament conferences, including the second and third Meetings of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2026 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

The League has mainstreamed youth perspectives in its *First Committee Briefing Book* with a chapter contributed by Pace University.² They also published weekly summaries on discussions regarding youth and disarmament education in *First Committee Monitor*.³

The League's youth network has campaigned to oppose nuclear weapons and autonomous weapons systems,⁴ among other issues.

The League has also spoken at events with young students at universities in Australia, Brazil, Canada, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States to raise awareness about weapons and militarism and to mobilize against them.

Youth Fusion

[Original: English]
[28 May 2025]

Youth Fusion is a global platform for young people advocating for nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and peace, which raises awareness about the renewed threat of nuclear weapons and encourages discussions that influence policymaking. Between 2023 and 2025, the organization translated issues into accessible, youth-driven initiatives that linked nuclear risks to human rights, climate justice and intergenerational responsibility through educational dialogue, creative campaigns such as the Youth Hotline, and engagement in critical forums such as the Preparatory Committee for the 2026 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the Human Rights Council.

² Matthew Breay Bolton, "Youth and disarmament Education", in *First Committee Briefing Book*, Ray Acheson and Emma Bjertén, eds. (New York, Reaching Critical Will of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, 2023).

³ Available at <https://reachingcriticalwill.org/disarmament-fora/unga/2024/fcm>.

⁴ See Leandra Pedretti, "Digital activists: youth advocacy in the age of autonomous weapons", Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, 10 August 2024.

V. Conclusion

In the light of the reaffirmation by the General Assembly of the important and positive contribution that young people can make in sustaining peace and security through its unanimous adoption of biennial resolutions on youth, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control (resolution [74/64](#), adopted on 12 December 2019, resolution [76/45](#), adopted on 6 December 2021, and resolution [78/31](#), adopted on 4 December 2023), Member States, the United Nations, other relevant international and regional organizations and civil society have strengthened their efforts to promote the meaningful and inclusive participation of young people in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation.

The replies contained in the present report demonstrate the vital role played by young people in disarmament efforts. Their participation spans diverse regions and highlights both the local impacts of disarmament and the leadership provided by youth in protecting their communities. The engagement and empowerment of youth, as inheritors of peace, remain indispensable to building secure futures.
