

Proposal for a Pan-European march for PEACE AND DISARMAMENT NOW summer 2024, to gather in Geneva on 9 August (Nagasaki +85)

We live in dangerous times where the future of life on earth is at stake. Cruel wars rage both in Europe and elsewhere, with the threat of escalation. We must stop this. Collectively we must ensure that international humanitarian law is to be the regulating framework of conflict. It cannot be selective or reinterpreted. We need true peace, meaning good neighbours, food on the table and safe children. True peace is a strangers friendly and warm gaze, it is warm bread on the world's table, it's a mother's smile.

23-24. September 2024, the UN will hold its Summit of the Future in New York to adopt an action oriented 'Pact for the Future'. www.un.org/en/summit-of-the-future The session ends with a main debate in the General Assembly on 28-29. September.

We see that the UN Charter has tools for creating peace, but they have to be used more effectively and to a greater extent. The Summit of the Future gives civil society a golden opportunity to put forward demands for the UN to live up to its mandate.

Therefore, a group from several organizations in Bergen, Norway has begun to discuss whether it is possible to organize a pan-European march to the UN office in Geneva summer 2024 to deliver demands to the General Assembly based on the fact that the UN's highest and most important task is *to save future generations from the scourge of war.*

The UN General Assembly has decided that the outcome of the Summit of the Future shall be an intergovernmentally negotiated, action-oriented pact for the future, consisting of a Chapeau and five chapters: • Sustainable development & financing for development • International peace and security • Science, technology and innovation and digital collaboration • Youth and future generations • Transforming global governance. You'll find more here: <https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda> <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>

The main weakness of the agenda for the summit is that it does not advance the main task of the UN-Charter well enough - to prevent war. This was the main reason for forming the UN after World War II. Preventing war is essential for humanity, and for achieving all sustainability goals. The UN Summit of the Future gives us a golden opportunity to organize a Pan-European march under the main slogan:

The people of Europe demand PEACE AND DISARMAMENT NOW

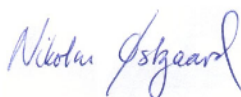
Many slogans that complement the main slogan, such as *War and rearmament are the greatest threat to man and the environment, A new fair economic world order, reform the UN, Weapons export = refugee import ...* will be natural. With the March for peace and Disarmament, we will also be able to contribute to the organization of a growing and absolutely necessary peace movement in Europe. Some of us have experience from such a march against the deployment of nuclear weapons in Europe in 1981. As then, everyone will have to organize their part of the march themselves, in terms of transport, accommodation and food. Participating in a part of the march can be a meaningful way to campaign in your vacation!

We would be grateful if you, by January 20, could inform us if you would like to help realize such a march and give any input about slogans etc. We also hope that you can spread this invitation to your related organizations /people so that they can also have their input. If the answers show that there is support for the initiative, those who respond to our call here will receive detailed information to facilitate the practical planning of the march. Answers are to be sent to email

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Bergen 19/12 2023

