



# **NEIGHBOURS AS FRIENDS, NOT ENEMIES**

**Nordic-Russian seminar**

**Oslo, 3.- 4. February 2020**

**REPORT**

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## ***Neighbours as friends, not enemies***

**Nordic-Russian seminar, PRIO, Oslo, 3.- 4. February 2020**

### **Executive summary**

A Nordic-Russian civil society seminar was organized in Oslo 3. - 4. February 2020 by the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Norway, and the Norwegian Peace Association. The theme of the seminar was "Neighbours as friends, not enemies".

The seminar, which gathered some 45 participants from Denmark, Finland, Norway, Russia and Sweden was a follow up to a Nordic peace and dialogue trip to Russia in May 2018. The seminar was held at the Peace Research Institute Oslo, PRIO, and was funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs through its grant to the Norwegian Peace Council. The organisers are already planning a follow up seminar in Norway in 2021.

The main intention with the seminar was to strengthen relations between peace activists in the North, discuss common challenges and visions and contribute to mutual understanding and perhaps even help reduce the present tension. The tension between the West and Russia is one of the drivers behind the present militarization and arms' race, involving both conventional and nuclear weapons.

Participants had open discussions on how to promote peace, disarmament and a sound environment, and agreed to seek ways to continue with practical and strategic forward-looking initiatives and solution-oriented dialogues.

Different alternatives were discussed of how we can contribute to changing attitudes in order to reverse the nuclear and space-arms race, reduce defence spending and get us out of the dominant growth oriented, militarized, confrontational and competitive patterns. In short, how can we build common security, human security, a culture of peace, and non-violence.

The participants agreed on a final statement, see report conclusions and summing up.

Ingeborg Breines

## **Russian-Nordic seminar, 3.-4. February 2020, PRIO, Opening**

### ***Neighbours as friends, not enemies***

Dear friends, dear everyone,

It is such a great pleasure for me to see you all here and to welcome you to this Nordic Russian seminar, taking place at the renowned Peace research institute of Oslo. Thank you PRIO for offering us both space and cooperation. We who are gathered here to-day come from Russia, Sweden, Denmark, Finland and Norway. Welcome to you all, not least to those who have travelled from Moscow and St. Petersburg and from the other Nordic countries!

Some of you may be aware that this seminar is a follow up to a Nordic cultural and peace journey to Russia, May 2018, under the heading *Neighbours as friends, not enemies*. We were three women who organized the trip, the eminent singer and peace activist Birgitte Grimstad, who you just heard and the late peace activist Trine Eklund, who we miss very much. It is great that several of the participants from the trip are here today, and tomorrow you will also meet more of the artists. We look forward!

But this seminar would not have taken place if it were not for the International Women's League for Peace and Freedom and the Norwegian Peace Association. They took action, got some small financial contribution from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, established a preparatory committee and here we are.

I would like, as a kind of entry to my introductory remarks, to share with you some thoughts after having listened recently to one of my favourite singers, Leonard Cohen. Cohen gave a concert in London in 2018 and greeted the audience with the words: *We are so privileged to meet like this when so much of the world is plunged in darkness and chaos*, and then he went on to sing "Anthem" a song which most of you would know, with the refrain *There is a crack in everything, that is how the light gets in*. And I was thinking that many of us are so deeply depressed and angry by the way the world is run these days, depressed and scared by the rapidly evolving environmental and climate crises and by militarization and the modernization and proliferation of nuclear weapons capable of destroying humanity and the planet many times over. In addition, the inequality gap is growing rapidly between the few who have so much and the many who live in dire need and even starve without a hope of having a decent life. It creates justified, and sometimes dangerous, anger by those who are left behind.

Yet the broad majority of major world leaders do not seem to understand, but continue to act as if military might is the answer to the challenges of the day, totally emerged as they are in the old Roman motto: *If you want peace, you have to prepare for war* (Si vis pacem, para bellum). So we need to prove that this thinking is dangerous, naive and obsolete. We need to develop the alternatives, find the cracks in the walls, literally and figuratively, to get the light in and we need to engage in creating the privileged spaces for this to happen. We, civil society, need to broaden our knowledge, strengthen our cooperation and search for the best common strategies in the hope that we can contribute to a new humanism, a new enlightenment, a new ecological, circular

economy, a common security, in other words a culture of peace. Hopefully we can manage to make this our Russian-Nordic seminar as one crack where the light gets in.

As an encouragement to us all, I would like to mention two such cracks of relevance to our meeting today. Firstly, peace professor Johan Galtung, co-founder with Ingrid Eide and Mari Holmboe Ruge of this very peace research institute, told me once that after the fall of the Berlin wall, he was visiting the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Moscow and was taken down to a room in the basement. What was he shown? A room, full of articles and books that Galtung and others in PRIO had sent to the top authorities in Moscow, as in Washington and other major capitals, without ever getting any feedback. But the books were there, and obviously their thinking had found its way into the sphere of decision-making.

In a rather similar way, I was fortunate to meet president Mikhail Gorbachev in Rome in 2008. It was at one of the Nobel Summits, this yearly meeting place for Nobel peace laureates that Gorbachev initiated with some of the money from his Nobel peace prize. I was there representing the International Peace Bureau (Nobel Peace laureate in 1910). Gorbachev spoke in particular to the international peace movement and said that he would never have dared take any initiative to cross the Atlantic and make efforts to communicate with the "dangerous" American leaders if it had not been for the strong peace movement at the time. He also said that he was aware that the peace movement is frustrated since we never or seldom hear back from the top leaders. But he underlined that they do listen and urged us to be strong and vocal again.

Before travelling to Russia in 2018, we had set up meetings with academics, peace activists, artists and journalists, mainly in Moscow and St. Petersburg; but we were uncertain. It had taken such a long time to prepare this trip. Former Russian contacts did not answer. Were they afraid that they would be labelled "foreign agents" in accordance with the law of 2012 directed at Russian civil society organisations receiving financial support from abroad? Were previous peace organisations not functioning any more? Was there a very conservative trend also in Russia? Were peace and disarmament taboo issues? It was only after a long process and after having received help from the international peace movement that our program started to shape up. Language was also a barrier. We were, however, lucky to get very valuable help from the Russian embassy in Norway and remain grateful for their generosity. The Embassy even opened its doors for a small peace concert we organized and they gave a nice reception. And, it has to be said, there has been no attempts what so ever of recruitment by any intelligence or surveillance, which otherwise has been a big issue between our two countries over the last two years (Ref. Frode Berg case).

Arriving in Russia, already at our first meeting at the Veteran house in Moscow, we started enjoying the dialogue. We were told how pleased they were that we came "with open and friendly faces", as they said. They said they felt isolated from their friends in the West. They had even feared that the Nordic peace movement was dead. Somewhat similar to what we had feared. They had invited lots of people to meet us; they offered song and music, food and food for thought and we were overwhelmed by the warm reception.

We were happy to meet inter alia the Russian branch of Physicians against Nuclear Weapons, Pugwash, the Gorbachev Foundation, the National Committee for Co-operation with the UN's Environmental Organisation UNEP, UNESCO, the Federation of

Peace and Consideration, For Saving the People, St. Petersburg Peace Council, Soldiers' Mothers of St. Petersburg and Movement for Conscientious Objectors from Military Service.

Perhaps I am wrong, but as a Norwegian, I had the feeling that the Russians we met had a special relation to Norway, and I was wondering why? Was it a longing for something smaller and easier to handle than their huge and complex country? Was it because they saw across our common border in the north a rather well functioning democracy and a solid well fare state? Or, was it because of the Barents cooperation with a visa free zone on both sides of the 196-kilometre border (from the Treriksrøysa via the Pasvik and the Grense Jakop rivers)? Or was it because of the successful dividing line in the Barents sea, developed by a small country and a big country after long diplomatic negotiations in a period where interest in the Arctic is strongly growing because of climate change allowing for transport and traffic in the North-East Passage and for new possibilities of exploitations of natural resources like fish, oil, gas and minerals. Or have these relations roots back to the centuries long Pomor trade between the peoples of the extreme north, so important for their survival under harsh conditions? Or is there still gratefulness for the food that Norwegian schoolchildren managed to give to hungry and suffering Russian war prisoners during WWII, or the supplies of brave North-Norwegian war sailors to Murmansk and Archangels early in the last world war? Or is it, as they mentioned several times, the enormous help that Fritjov Nansen, with the assistance of Quisling, gave to Russian peasants and Russian immigrants during the famine following the Revolution in 1917? And perhaps there is pride in the fact that Russia was the first country to recognize the sovereignty of Norway in 1905, or, even more so the pride Russians rightly take in the liberation of North Norway from the Nazis 75 years ago, that was recently celebrated in Kirkenes in the presence of the Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Lavrov, and the Norwegian King and Prime Minister?

Can we measure any effects of the trip? That is of course difficult, but we did get some media attention, we were invited to meet the Norwegian-Russian committee at the Parliament, in Gothenburg the peace movement has established a project with the same title *Neighbours as friends, not enemies* and we are here to-day.

So now, what are the challenges in front of us, and what can we do together? We are not here to debate, but to have a deep and open dialog on how to further peace, disarmament and a sound environment primarily in our part of the world. But since the world is so globalized and we all are interrelated and interdependent, national borders become less important in this sense. What we do here may have effects also elsewhere. We all feel inadequate in the small things we do, but if we agree on a common vision, all our small achievements may grow into something bigger and more important.

For years I have worked on and with UNESCO and the UN Program on a culture of peace. The preamble to UNESCO's Constitution always echoes somewhere in the back of my head "*Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that defences for peace must be constructed*", a quite different form for defence than what we usually hear about. I therefore hope that we will agree to contribute forcefully to a transition from the culture of war and violence to a culture of peace and non-violence. As inspiration and guidelines we have the UN Plan of action made for the International Year for a Culture of Peace and the Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-violence for the Children of the World. We have the rather recent UN Declaration on the Right to Peace and we

have the UN Treaty on the prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, now only lacking the ratification by 15 countries to come into force. We have the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement on climate. And in addition to the normative instruments of the UN, we have important regional agreements and institutions like the Arctic Council, the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Council of Europe and all the civil society organisations.

And since we are in Norway, the country in charge of the Nobel Peace Prize, allow me to remind us all of the words of the peace activist, the baroness Bertha von Suttner, who was the one to inspire Alfred Nobel to also make a prize for champions of peace. She said in her famous book *Down with the weapons*, that we have to create "an active disgust for war". I also think we agree on such an anti-war position and it brings me back to one thing that was mentioned again and again by the Russians we met. They reminded us that the Soviet Union lost some 27 million people during WWII, or during the Great Patriotic War, as they call it, and that almost every family in Russia has lost a loved one. This is still so fresh in their minds that they insist that they would not want any new war.

So we need *peace on earth* and also *peace with the earth*. Environmental issues concerned many of the young people we met in Russia. Since then, the Swedish schoolgirl Greta Thunberg has shaken up the world insisting that we have to act as if our house is on fire. Thousands of young people across the world are dead afraid of the climate catastrophe that is already being felt in the melting of the ice, in the burning of forests, the desertification of agricultural land, in ravaging storms and a rising sea level. In addition we shamelessly centralize, weaken our agricultural competence and cover mother earth with asphalt rendering it barren. We have to find ways of producing and consuming which ensures the well being of all and the integrity of the biosphere. We need a new kind of social contract benefitting both humanity and the planet.

We presumably also agree that the big challenges today and the threats against humanity and the biosphere cannot be met by military might. The military actually makes us less safe, both economically and ecologically, by taking so much of the resources that are needed for other purposes and by the enormous greenhouse gas emissions, the radiation and pollution it provides. It is high time to understand that we cannot allow the military to be an exception to international climate agreements and continue to make very heavy boot prints on the soil, the water, the air and even the atmosphere. We must work to change attitudes in order to reverse the nuclear and space-arms race and reduce defence spending. War and militarism are human inventions; it is time for us to recognize that they now are obsolete.

Can we contribute to radically change production and consumption patterns so that we stop producing and using things we do not need? It seems obvious that we cannot continue to misuse the world's resources, both financial and intellectual, for military purposes. According to SIPRI the world spends more than 1.8 trillion dollars a year on the military, which corresponds to approximately 615 regular UN budgets. How can the UN then be able to do its work? The US alone has military expenditure that is more than 10 times that of Russia. The military expenditure of the US is growing and that of Russia has been reduced over the last two years. Already president Roosevelt was warning about the growing military industrial complex, saying: "Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who

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## TUESDAY 4 FEBRUARY

**10.00 Peaceful cooperation: challenges and possibilities in the Arctic .****by Sverre Lodgaard (20 min)**

Questions and discussion

**11.00 Panel 1: Nuclear threat and militarization**

Introduction to debate

**Nuclear threat and artificial intelligence by Esbjerg Peace Movement (10 min)****The North as a Platform for War - or Peace by Agneta Norberg (10 min)**

Contributions by other participants

Discussion

Cross border music by Birgitte Grimstad, Elfi Sverdrup, Tuva Færden,  
Ruth Wilhelmine Meyer (10 min)**12.30 Lunch****13.30 Panel 2: Environmental challenges**

Introductions to debate

**The military threat to climate and environment by Åse Møller-Hansen (10 min)****Why the environmental protests are on the rise in Russia and what they can  
change? By Artem Filatov (10 min.)**

Contributions by other participants

Discussion

**15.00 The Road Forward**

Summary and proposals for further work by Russian and Nordic representatives

**16.00 Closure**

**OSLO PEACE SEMINAR 3.-4.2.2020: SPEAKERS. MUSICIANS, PARTICIPANTS**

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## **Torunn Tryggestad: Welcome, talking points**

- Good morning everyone.
- My name is Torunn L. Tryggestad and I am the deputy director of PRIO and director of the PRIO Centre on Gender, Peace and Security
- It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to PRIO and to this two-day Nordic-Russian seminar entitled "Neighbours as friends"
- Welcome to our guests from the Nordic countries - and a particularly warm welcome to our guest from Russia. It is not that often we have people representing Russian civil society visiting us here at PRIO.
- PRIO does not normally host events at our premises that are not our own. However, when we got the request from WILPF-Norway, we immediately decided to make an exception.
- PRIO has historically had close relations to the peace movement. And in the case of WILPF Norway the relations are somewhat special because of Ingrid Eide – who is one of the founding mothers of PRIO.
- As you maybe know PRIO celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary last year – and is as such one of the oldest peace research institutes in the world – if not THE oldest.
- Over the coming two days you will discuss the role of civil society – and the prospects for a stronger Nordic-Russian civil society collaboration – in fighting militarism, the nuclear threat and the impact of military activities on the environment and the climate.
- These are all topics of great interest and relevance to PRIO – although we currently do not have any specific research projects or programs focusing specifically on issues of disarmament or the nuclear threat.
- As you maybe know, PRIO is a project funded institute, and funding for such research topics have unfortunately not been readily available in recent years.
- However, we do have researchers at PRIO who are interested in working on these topics and they are continuously developing project proposals and submitting these to relevant funding institutions.
- So hopefully we will succeed in raising funds - eventually.
- We do not give up. Because we strongly believe that both research and civil society activism are sorely needed in order to build peace.
- I have just returned from a week in New York where I attended a number of meetings at the UN.

- A central concern at the UN is of course the ongoing undermining of multilateralism and the lack of trust and cooperation between the permanent members of the UN Security Council.
- This lack of trust and cooperation are increasingly permeating the whole UN system and have a strong impact on the UN Secretary-General's reform agenda – in which conflict prevention is a key priority. He has repeatedly called on the member states to invest more on conflict prevention and peacebuilding efforts.
- But we seem to be moving in the wrong direction. The share of Official Development Assistance (ODA) focusing on peacebuilding efforts in conflict-affected countries has stagnated from 16.8 % in 2009 to 11.2 % in 2017. Nominally, this percentage amounted to 7.5 billion USD in 2017.
- **By contrast**, global military spending rose to \$ 1822 billion in 2018, marking the highest level of military spending since 1988.
- So your seminar – focusing on issues of de-militarisation and disarmament - is timely.
- I wish you fruitful discussions over the next couple of days.
- And I encourage you to share with us any output that might come out of this seminar.
- Thank you!



- *Re-evaluate the sanctions against Russia.*
- *Invite President Putin and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Lavrov, for conversations among neighbours in all the Nordic countries, like we see being done in Finland.*
- *Sign- and ratify the UN Treaty against Nuclear Weapons.*
- *Reduce the defence budgets in the Nordic countries like Russia has done. (Cfr. Report from Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, SIPRI, about military expenses in the world, 2017).*

I think we have started a practical and strategic dialogue that is forward-looking and solution-oriented, and we intend to continue. And, indeed, we have work to do, because the world is using abnormal and growing sums to build military might, but fails to meet the needs and concerns of people. The world's resources, financial and intellectual, are being misused for military purposes. We need to move the money and instead tackle the real security issues such as the threat to the very survival of humanity and the planet, be it by climate change, nuclear weapons or excessive inequality.

To us, it is insane when the world spends 1.8 trillion dollars a year on military expenditure and there are not enough resources to implement the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement. More than 100 billion dollars of these resources are devoured by nuclear weapons, whose production, modernization and use hopefully soon will be ruled out on military, political, legal, ecological and moral grounds.

Rich and poor states alike seem to be pressured into arms races, spending more on armament than they need and can afford. To continue a process of militarization, often outside democratic control, that mainly serves the arms producers and dealers and even brings corruption is a dangerous path that will not bring hope to young people in desperation. In order to move towards just and peaceful societies, we need to address the root-causes of conflicts, not only the symptoms.

Excessive military expenditures not only represent a theft from those who are hungry and suffer, but are also an ineffective means of obtaining human security and a culture of peace. Substantial reductions in military costs could eliminate the crushing poverty whereby nearly one third of humanity lives in insufferable conditions, a majority being women, children and young people. Since one year military spending equals about 615 years of UN annual budgets, such a reduction in military costs would also strengthen both the United Nations' and our efforts and possibilities to "save succeeding generations from the scourge of war".

Existing military forces should instead be retrained to fight the global climate and environmental change, which warrants urgent remedial actions and an holistic approach which requires changing attitudes and rethinking of unsustainable and destructive production and consumption patterns.

Finally, I would like to mention what a senior Russian researcher we met at the Peace Council in St Petersburg underlined in his speech. He said that they consider NATO/USA nuclear submarines hiding in the depths of Norwegian fjords as a major threat to their security. Coming from Northern Norway I can see how surveillance of Russian submarines is a major occupation, costing us enormous sums. This madness has to stop. It undermines the building of trust, so vital for real cooperation and for our survival. I hope not to hurt any of the sensitive and sensible men in the audience, but both missiles



and submarines are symbols of a totally outdated and testosterone filled masculinity, based on muscular strength and might, which we for far too long have allowed to rule international relations.

To us, countries are not strong by their show-off of weapons, but by the caring they do for people and the planet. We want welfare – not warfare! Friends, again, we have work to do, together!

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# Oksana Paramanova: Human Rights' approaches to reduce the level of militarization



1



СОЛДАТСКИЕ МАТЕРИ  
Санкт-Петербург

Our principles:

- Human rights
- Empowerment
- Personal responsibility
- Rule of Law
- Inherent dignity of the human person
- Non-violent conflict resolution
- Civilian control over the observation of law in the Russian Armed Forces
- Civil society development

Since 1991 we protect the legal rights of:

- Conscripts
- Soldiers
- Conscientious objectors

2

### Militarization in numbers

Approval of the army 82,4

Military service is obligatory for men – 80%

The situation in the army

Good

Dr

answer

Participation of the Russian Army in covert operations abroad

29

47

Approve

Disapprove

### At the beginning...

3

### Militarization in numbers

Approval of the army – 82,4%

Military service is obligatory for men – 80%

Men don't want to serve

Everyone must serve


Agree

Approve

Disapprove

### Conscription is still going on

- Main Violations for Conscripts
  - Violations in conscripts' medical examination
  - Criminal prosecution of conscientious objectors
  - Forced conscription
  - Corruption
  - Restriction of access to information



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7

### Seminar on the Exchange of Good Practices



10

### Human Rights School



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8

ПРАВА ПРИЗЫВНИКА  
В ВАШЕМ СМАРТФОНЕ  
СКАЧАТЬ



Our mobile apps for conscripts and soldiers have been downloaded about 20000 times and more than 3100 people use them regularly  
More than 35% appeals from the army are received through the app.

### Themed Seminars and Workshops




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9

### Video materials

Video-course for the conscripts



Legal video-advice

12

**Themed seminars and consultations on the rights of ACS.**  
Videos and Animation

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13

**Lack of civilian control over the army**

- ❖ The regional organizations stopped their human rights activities
- ❖ The so-called parent committees, don't work
- ❖ The Ministry of Defence has become more closed
- ❖ There is no statistics on army from the authorities

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16

**RESPECT and «Soldiers' Mothers» on the Right for Alternative Service and Peacemaking**

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14

**Hotline and Skype**

- Mobile "Hotline" (two phone numbers) respond to acute situations in recruitment offices, military units and etc.

Hotline receives calls from all over Russia.

Through the "Hotline" the draftees, who have been forced conscription (caught in raids), received effective legal assistance.

- About 4000 calls in year.
- Permanent legal assistance via Skype for conscripts and soldiers of all regions of Russia.
- From 46 Russia's regions.
- More than 400 legal advices in year.

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17

**The game "Escape from the Military Machine"**

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15

**Increased violence and mortality in the army**

**Main Human Rights Violations in the army:**

- Refusing of providing medical assistance
- Deaths of soldiers in peacetime
- Tortures and abusive treatment in the army
- Extortions
- Poor sanitary conditions

In 2019 more than 1000 legal advices for soldiers and their families

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18

**Fact**

the hospital

www.soldiersandthens.ru

19

**Legal support**

**ECHR**  
4 complains to the ECHR for the protection of conscientious objectors

**Regional courts**  
The access to personal files of military commissariats with the possibility of photofixing them

The protection of conscientious objectors from criminal prosecution – 4 cases in 2019

**Military courts**  
To protect soldiers and their families rights – 9 cases of violence in the army in 2019

Legal opinions on bills – since 2018 more than 10 independent legal opinions

www.soldiersandthens.ru

22

**ALTERNATIVE CIVIL SERVICE**  
Conscientious objection

Main reasons of a low interest in ACS in the society

- High level of militarization
- Negative image of alternative servicemen
- Negative image of alternative service
- Lack of information about ACS, or the presence of unreliable (distorted) information
- Criminal prosecution

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20

**Our peacemaking initiatives**

[www.alternativeservice.info](http://www.alternativeservice.info)

Everyone can find information about, how military and alternative service is organized in 18 countries and also news, stories about alternative service and anti-militarist library.

www.soldiersandthens.ru

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**Fact**

Young man was on ACS in "Barnaul's regional gerontological center".

In July 2019, he needed to see a doctor because felt worse.

He asked his employer for medical leave.

He went home (other town) and applied to clinic for treatment.

After he found out that his application for leave had not been satisfied.

He was on sick leave because of his illness.

When he returned to work, he discovered that an investigator was calling him in for questioning.

He was accused.

- He violated his work duties within 2 weeks
- He had left the place where he was going through an ACS without the permission of his employer.

The organization's lawyers prepared a legal position that made it possible to terminate the investigation.

The man was prematurely dismissed from alternative service for health reasons.

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21

**International peacemaking projects**

- **Women's peacemaking initiative**, aimed at settling the military conflict in the south-east of Ukraine by peaceful means.
- **International coalition Human Rights defenders** working on the development of the peace process in Syrian Arab Republic.

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24



25



26



## Oleg Bodrov : NATO and Russia Confrontation in the Baltic-Nordic Region – Challenges and Possible Solutions

### NATO & Russia Confrontation in the Baltic-Nordic Region. Challenges & Possible Solutions

1

has to convince the first to use nuclear weapons.  
 "All Vot RE." The prohibition of nuclear weapons is not  
 to the national interests of Russia."  
 President of KZ. Supreme Commander of the Russian  
 launched the Russian nuclear strategy. "The Russian  
 missiles were launched from submarines, and ground  
 based facilities capable of carrying nuclear weapons. It is  
 demonstration of psychological readiness to use nuclear  
 weapons.  
 Russian NGOs cooperated with the NATO's Baltic  
 "Foreign Agents".

2

- 100 millions residents in 11 countries.
- Inland sea, water exchange 27 years.
- One of the most polluted contaminated seas.
- Confrontation between NATO and Russia.

3

- Increasing number of
- Number of war exercises
- Number of participants has also increased (due to the
- Nature of the exercises is mainly crisis management, well equipped with weapons.
- Increased number of

can be provoked and can be provoked by  
 one or the other side.

This may be a result of extreme locations of  
 geographical of the theater of operations and the  
 lack of negotiation.







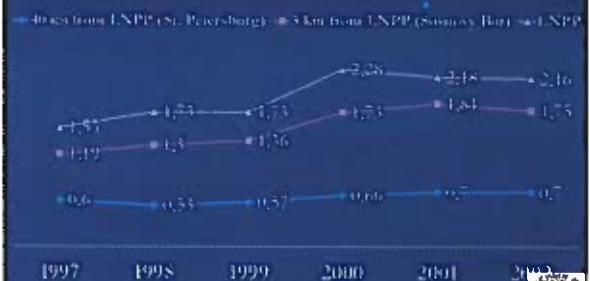
### Health Condition Near MAYAK reprocessing facility

- 22 000 km<sup>2</sup> contaminated by Sr-90, Cs-137, Pu-239;
- More 500 000 victims;
- Cancer cases doubled over the past twenty years and reached 400 cases per 100 thousand people (40% more than in Europe);
- The number of congenital anomalies of children has reached 52,3 per 1 000 births in 2010. It is 55% more than in all Russia.



19

### Percent of Genetically Aberration of Pine Trees Seeds Near LNPP



22

### Yenisei River contamination

(V. Khiznyak, nuclear regulatory inspection, Krasnoyarsk, 1994)

- Contamination of the Yenisei River man-made radionuclides from ZATO Zheleznogorsk above natural background can be detected on 1,500 km.
- Pu content is 140 times above background levels.
- "It is possible that some areas of Yenisei have contamination that may be classified as radioactive waste".



20

### Nuclear Site 40 km West from SPb.



21

# \*Natalia Kovaleva : Militarization as a threat to future generations

**Militarization as a threat to the health of future generations**

Natalia V. Kovaleva,  
St. Petersburg Society of Medical Genetics  
Public Council of the South Coast of the Gulf of Finland

1



4

**Militarization affects population in multiple aspects**

- Economic and social: lack of funds for the population wellness and social development
- Institutional: reduction of the of civic institutions' ability to influence the decisions of authorities, including regarding hazardous facilities
- Mental and psychological: living with "enemies around", increasing in both aggression and frustration
- Demographic:

2



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**Demographic as the worse consequence of militarization**

Quantitative demographic changes: depopulation

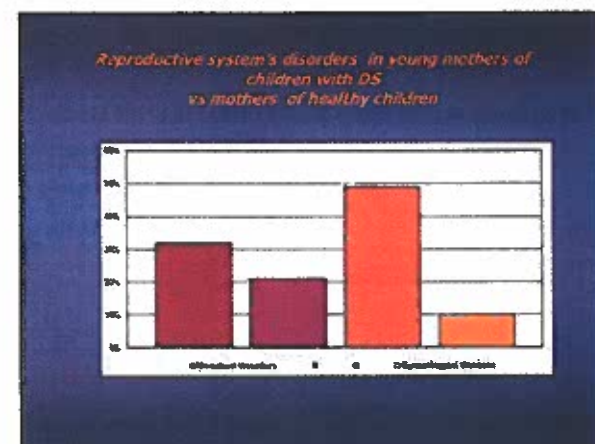
- due to emigration
- due to decrease in childbearing

The under population of a huge territory can provide militarists to use the most dangerous remote weapon, i.e. nuclear weapon

Qualitative demographic changes: gene pool deterioration

- due to emigration of the most educated and successful
- due to accumulation of genetic mutations as the outcome of chronic psychological stress

3



6

27.

What can be done now for reducing existing tensions .



7

of the ...  
the ...  
1st

35  
30  
25  
20  
15  
10  
5  
0

<20 20-24 25-29 30-34 35-39 40+  
Age

Stop  
Pensioners  
education  
-Campanella

Thank you for our attention!

8

9





29.  
Poul Eck Sørensen : Artificial intelligence

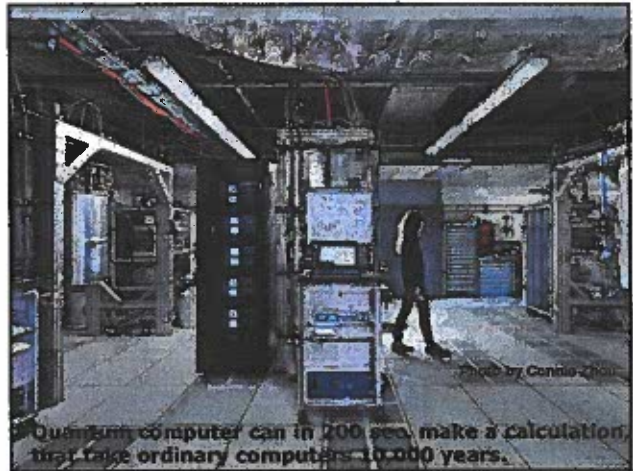
Oluf la Cour Dragsbo : Atomic winter

Lisbet Skou : Nuclear weapons

The Peace-Movement of Esbjerg, Danmark



1



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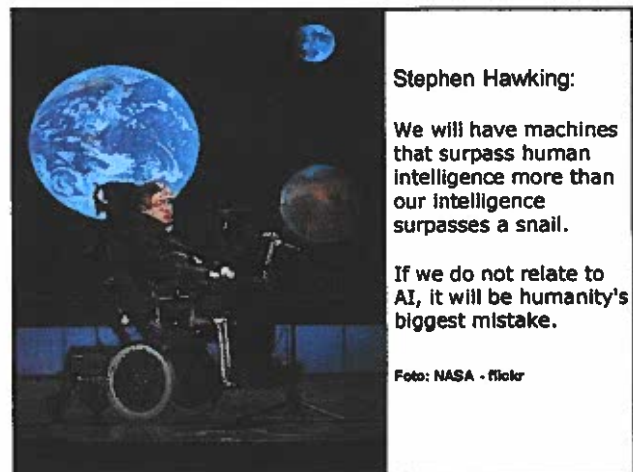


### Contents:

- 1) Artificial Intelligence  
v/ Poul Eck Sørensen
- 2) Atomic winter  
v/ Oluf la Cour Dragsbo
- 3) Nuclear weapons  
v/ Lisbet Skou

Proofreading  
v/ Kls Eck Sørensen

2



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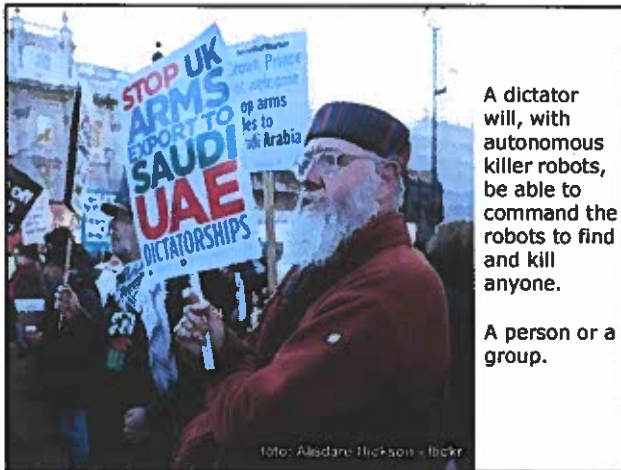
# Artificial Intelligence

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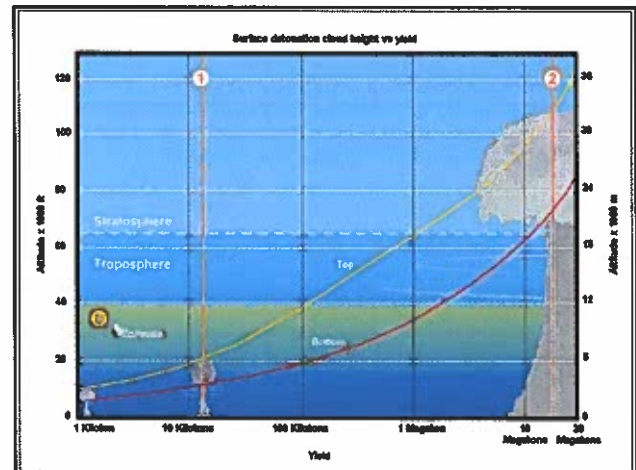


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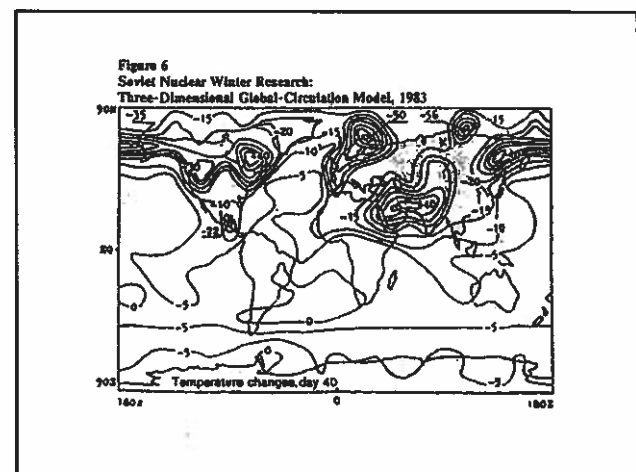
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11

# Atomic Winter

9

# Nuclear weapons

12

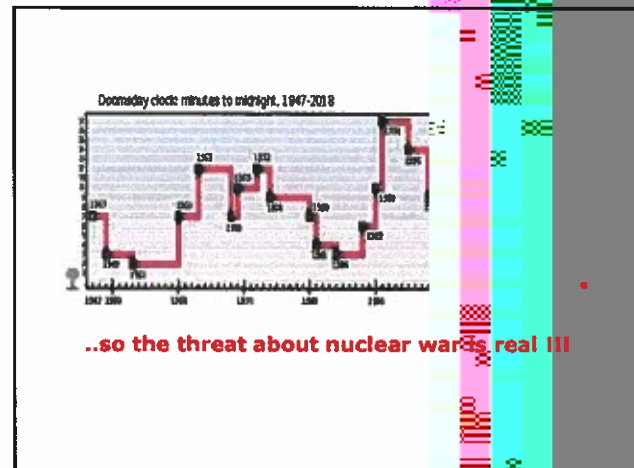


31.

## Is the threat of a nuclear war real ?

- The terror balance, MAD (Mutually Assured Destruction)
- Some disarmaments of nuclear weapons
- About 2000 USA: NUT (Nuclear Use Theory) bomb shell

13



16

- Embassies don't work with diplomacy
- Agreements about disarmament are broken
- Nuclear weapons are modernized into "little handy ones"
- 2018: USA declare a new Nuclear Doctrine

14

## The Doomsdays Clock can be turned back! Let's do it again!

- 1982 Mayors for Peace were started by the mayors in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.  
Today they exist in 7.861 cities in 163 countries and areas  
(Sweden 26 cities, Finland 4, Norway 106, Denmark 12, USA 218 and Russia 67)
- 2017 UN Ban on Nuclear Weapons, 122 countries voted for  
(Sweden for, Finland abstained, Norway and Denmark voted n USA and Russia voted no)
- The military pollution from conventional weapons in peacetime and wars

17

- Artificial Intelligence (AI) in military the biggest mistake for mankind
- An Atomic winter small or big, contributes to exacerbate the climate crisis
- Who can press the button ??  
Not a few ...
- 1947: worried atomic scientists made The Doomsday Clock

15



**All countries in the world  
must sign and ratify  
the UN ban on nuclear weapons!**

18

## **Neighbours as Friends - not as Enemies !!**

**Palme Commission: "States can no longer seek security at each other's expense; it can be obtained only through cooperative undertakings".**



**Thanks for your attention  
Esbjerg Peace-Movement**

[www.frednu.se](http://www.frednu.se)

[www.space4peace.org](http://www.space4peace.org)

According to Bruce Gagnon, founder of Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space, all civil space programmes are cover for broad spy-satellite programmes. Swedish space contacts are the US, South Korea, India, Taiwan and Israel. RUAG Space AB, earlier known as Saab Space, is delivering advanced space equipments for satellites and launching pads.

Prevention of Arms Race in Outer Space, PAROS, is a declaration in the UN. This agreement, is confirmed by all countries in the UN, except the US and Israel.

### **Espace is expanding.**

The US' Space Industry has close contact with Swedish Space Corporation. Last August 2019, president Trump, inaugurating a Space Command. It is about strategic space attacks on satellites which all countries gradually have become dependent on. To launch an attack and damage important space systems is an effective and dangerous way to weaken or totally paralyze an entire country. In this context it was alarming to read a note in the regional paper, Norrländska Socialdemokraten, 2019, about the state giving Espace million kronor for expanding. One of their new planned activities will be launching mini-satellites. These mini-satellites will most probably be used to destroy China's and Russia's satellites. The mini-satellites has been developed at Angstrom Laboratories, in Uppsala, Sweden.

### **The Swedish Kings of Cyberwar.**

"Sweden is the third biggest spybase after the US and Britain", said Edward Snowden, in an article published in The New York Review of Books, 2017.

In the middle of Mälaren lake close to Stockholm, there is an island, Lovön, where Sweden's National Defence Radio Establishment, known as FRA, is situated. In 2013, just weeks before Edward Snowden went public with what he knew about NSAs mass surveillance, the head of the NSA, General Keith B. Alexander, welcomed a group of Swedish intelligence officials to a secret meeting at NSA's headquarter, in Fort Meade, Maryland. The subject of the meeting was to discuss Sweden's growing importance to the NSA. In 2008, under the rightwing leadership of Carl Bildt, FRA had been given expansive power by the Swedish government. The FRA was now officially allowed to vacuum up all communications traveling over fiber optic networks into and out of Sweden...." including emails, text messages, and telephone calls". This was of great interest to the NSA because the large part of Russian communications travelling through Sweden. After the meeting with the Swedes, NSA officials declared: "We will get a unique collection of communications data on high priority Russian targets such as leadership,

internal politics, and energy". FRA was viewed as an ideal partner and collaborator in NSAs hacking and cyberwarfare project, called QUANTUM. One of these operations was called WINTERLIGHT. This was aimed at secretly hacking into high foreign computers network to obtain information stored on the hard drives and servers in question. Targets were administrators of foreign computers networks, government ministries, oil, defence and other big corporations. QUANTUM operations have a.o. targeted OPEC headquarters in Vienna, and Belgacom whose clients include European Commission and European Parliament. According to NSA, WINTERLIGHT, was using a complex attack strategy to secretly implant a malware program on the targeted computer or network. interesting is that winterlight was a cooperation project between NSA, GCHQ and FRA the hacking attacks on computers seem to have been initiated by the SWEDEN. the fra was setting up the implants on targeted computers. After the alleged suspicion that the Russian government had sought to influence the, 2016, presidential election, cybersecurity has become an urgent national priority. Less noted however has been the extent to which the US itself has coordinated with Sweden and allies to develop hacking and surveillance tools that are far more advanced than the e-mail "phishing" strategies used in the suspected Russian examples. A major target of NSAs technology is Russia itself.

I will end up this piece by noting another dangerous development: In July 2016, Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania, Germany, Italy and the UK signed a memorandum agreeing upon establishing a Stratcom of Excellence in Riga, Latvia. StratCom is short for The United States Strategic Command. It is a combat command run by Pentagon, responsible for information about warfare and other Operations. Sweden joined in 2016.

## Åse Møller-Hansen : The military threat to climate and environment

### The military threat to climate and environment

Åse Møller-Hansen, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Norway



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR  
PEACE & FREEDOM

[www.wilpf.no](http://www.wilpf.no) [www.wilpf.org](http://www.wilpf.org)

1

In addition comes emissions from:

- all other countries military activity
- the global war industry
- extraction of metals, minerals, oil, coal
- transport
- war and military exercises



4

### Military activity in times of peace and war

Military activity from fossil fuel emissions to radioactive waste is the single greatest contributor to the worldwide environmental crisis.

Air, water, soil



2

In order to reach the climate targets, it is absolutely necessary to disarm

- Kyoto negotiations: the military explicitly exempted
- Paris Agreement: encourages the countries to report all emissions as part of the national climate targets. Acceptance for military secrecy.



5

The U.S. military consumes 17 billion liters of fossil fuel a year

In 2017 Pentagon released 59 million metric tons of carbon dioxide and other warming gases.



3



6

37.

### The existential threats are global

- Climate emergency
- 15 000 nuclear weapons
- Military is supposed to take care of national security, but threatens global security and therefore .....also the national security.



7

### Other paths to peace and disarmament: Long-term strategies

- Alliance building: peace and environmental movement
- Departments of peace
- New economic thinking
- Art, film, music, creativity.



10

### Alternative security strategies

- Human security. Environmental security
- Peace, environment and climate must be a part of the security thinking.
- Military resources must be redirected to create a greener, more just and peaceful world
- There are alternatives to war and violent conflict.



8

Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed

- UN – resolutions
- Commitment to a culture of peace
- S/RES 1325 on women, peace, and security
- Stronger international cooperations on all levels. «Enemy» states must cooperate



9

# Artem Filatov: Ecological protests are on the rise in Russia. What can they change?



1

## Russian people wrote to the king of Norway

Шиес подает сигнал SOS

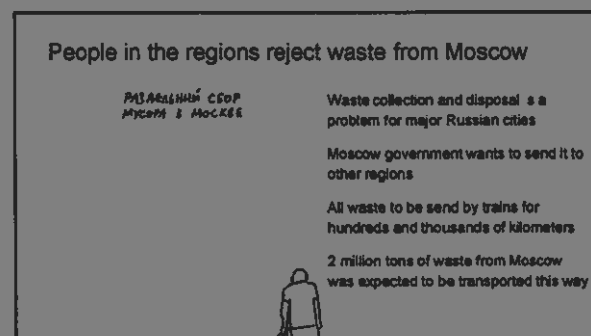
*"We no longer believe that our leaders will hear us and provide our constitutional right to live in a proper and safe conditions"*

Summer 2019

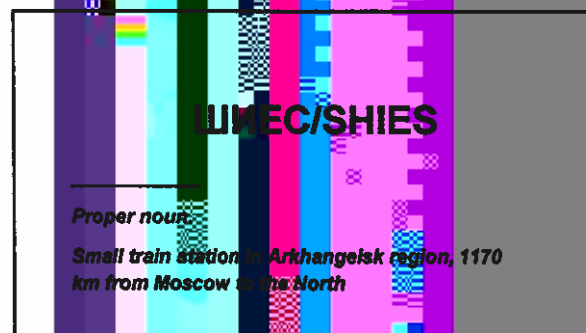
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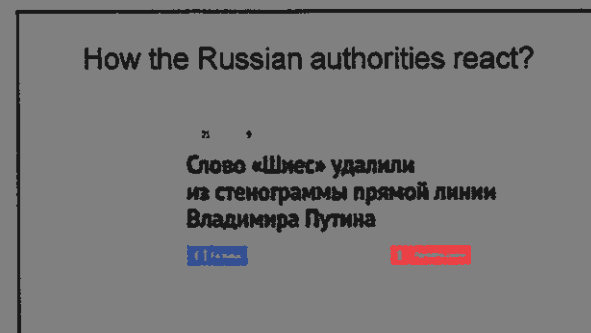
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### How the Russian authorities react?



- Police detained and arrested activists
- Several activists were beaten and injured by private guards
- Police has not investigated attacks on activists
- Arkhangelsk activist Andrey Borovikov faced criminal charges
- Activist Nikita Baryshnikov was accused of beating unnamed person at the future Shies waste facility

7

### The impact of these protests

July 2018 - first preliminary works at the station

August 2018 - the plan to bring the first train with waste to the area

August 2018 - first protest against those plans

January 2020 - the court rules out that new buildings built by investor at Shies are illegal

February 2020 - the investor doesn't want to stop the project of the giant landfill, protestors doesn't want to stop as well.

8



9



## **.Hjørdis Nielsen : NATO threatens Russia with war**

In the year of the 80th anniversary of the beginning of World War II and the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the liberation from fascism, NATO has picked out Germanys Bundeswehr to be the "führer" in a gigantic military exercise along the borders of Russia from north to west – from Finland to Georgia.

This military exercise is called DEFENDER EUROPE 2020.

During 2019, NATO has intensified its military activities in Poland, in the Baltics and in the Baltic Sea region. In 2019 50 NATO-vessels and 3.000 marine soldiers from 18 countries participated in the military maneuver Northern Coasts under German command in the western part of the Baltic Sea-

The scenario was a fictional Baltic Sea country – read Russia – which is making claims on Bornholm.

NATO now continues its preparations for war against Russia with the biggest buildup of military forces in Europe in 25 years.

Armed forces from 17 NATO-countries are going to accomplish a gigantic military exercise from February 2020 to June 2020 – named Defender Europe 2020.

37.000 soldiers are participation and around 20.000 of them will be brought across the Atlantic Ocean from USA with tanks and military equipment.

The logistic "brain" of the military exercise is the German Bundeswehr, where special units trained in coordinating NATO's troop transport and stock have been picked out.

The purpose is to train a speedy turn-out of larger units across the Atlantic and through Europe to the Russian border.

The American Military Command has in its publications compared this maneuver to the D-day Invasion of Europe during World War II.

The first movements of troops across Germany heading east have started.

Another 7 military exercises will be incorporated into Defender Europe 2020, where US-soldiers, accompanied by European military will rehearse "warm" war against Russia in Poland and the Baltics. The script of the "warm" war exercise is a comprehensive scenario of conflict, called the Battlefield Network.

In the 75<sup>th</sup> year of the liberation from fascism the armies of the imperialist powers march again in Eastern Europe.

To fend off the danger of a third World War the working classes must unite internationally in the struggle for peace against war and barbarism. The peace movement is everywhere in the world. No matter how fragile and suppressed it is, it is alive – and a human voice which must be fed more power and strength.

The rulers of the world, who look upon war and military buildup as the source of vast profits, seek to paralyze the international Peace Movement by concealments and anti-communist propaganda. It is the duty of every peace-loving human being to seek information and put the question of peace on the agenda, wherever it is possible – in assemblies and “in the streets”.

**Music as part of a culture of peace, by Birgitte Grimstad**



24.2.2020



# Hasse Schneidermann : Ministry of Peace, experiences and hopes





47.

**fredsministerium.dk**



## **How can a Ministry of Peace promote Danish policy of Peace?**

Fredsministerium.dk / The Danish Ministry of Peace is an umbrella organization or network of a growing number of Danish peace organizations and peace activists.

The leading wish of Fredsministerium.dk is the establishment of a Ministry of Peace for Denmark as an integral part of the national government, so we are trying to persuade the public and members of the Danish Parliament of the need of such a ministry.

We argue that a Peace Minister should be the cornerstone in changing Danish security policy from a policy of war to a policy of peace.

It should be a ministry of peace which encompasses all negotiations and all peaceful conflict resolution. Peace issues should have a parliamentary ministry just like defense and the environment.

We believe that the Peace organizations still should rally, protest and campaign, whenever our government chooses to go to war or decides to spend billions on armament and buying of offensive weapons, such as new combat aircrafts!

But most of all we believe, that during the long period of Danish warfare, the military systems, have gained lots of competences while our country has lost its former peace capacity: Nonmilitary conflict resolution, peacebuilding negotiation skills, diplomacy and mediation.

We think that peace researchers, peace organizations and peace activists should naturally be consulted on relevant issues, be initiators and a popular base for parliamentary peace initiatives and activities

We will participate in this by increasing the peace movements own capacity of peace by means of a yet closer corporation with peace-researchers and to use this capacity to build stronger bridges between the movement, the population and the politicians.

In the future we hope to be able to attract more organizations, and become more offensive by establishing of a "shadow cabinet", that will be able to advocate factual about realistic alternatives to the policy of war.

In our own annual and continual events; a small at the Folkemøde on the island of Bornholm in June and on our hearings and concerts on the UN Peace Day in September we gather peace researchers –organizations, –activist and –artist.

These days we advocate that climate policy is global security and strive for an alternative, comprehensive Danish and Nordic security policy and specific Baltic co-operation to keep the Baltic Sea as a Sea of Peace. We are launching a national campaign to persuade the Danish government to sign the UN ban on nuclear weapons.

The Danish branch of the Global Alliance for Ministries & Infrastructures for Peace, GAMIP.

**[www.gamip.org](http://www.gamip.org)**

849.



## **NORDIC-RUSSIAN SEMINAR “NEIGHBOURS AS FRIENDS”: SUMMING UP**

### **Marianne Laxen, Finland**

The seminar has covered a huge range of topics, and she hopes to bring them back to her own organizations. There has been a lot of talk about problems, not so much about solutions and actions.

- The Nordic WILPF will cooperate with NGOs in St Petersburg, and apply for financial support from the Nordic Council of Ministers.
- There's a need to look into the development on gender equality, social economy, peace and nonviolence across the countries.
- An important question is how we can work on the local level with the Nordic and Russian cooperation? Many cities have established friendship towns across the borders. This is a good method. We could encourage more cities to establish friendship-cities and to support NGO cooperation. The ICAN-city appeal could be used.
- A new seminar is planned for next year. There we should narrow the focus. We should also have politicians present, to ensure that they are informed about the peace movements goals and activities.

### **Oleg Bodrov, Russia**

There is no initiative from grassroot level for a Russian peace movement, with a program, strategy, and cooperation with colleagues from other countries. Therefore, it is important to promote the cooperation of the peace movement of the Baltic-Nordic countries with Russian socially active groups. The purpose of such cooperation can be the creation of new and preservation of common historical, cultural, and environmental values, like an alternative of the political confrontation.

The organization of cycling Russian-Nordic conferences can be a tool to engage the new generation in the peace movement in our countries.

### **Ingrid Eide, Norway**

We have to expand the people in the peace-movement, not forgetting that we are the people. At this meeting we have been informed by each other, and we need to work towards a common understanding, to use Lodgaard's terminology, to have arguments for multiple dialogues.

There's a good tradition in Norway to have a strong loyalty with the UN. A fear is that new generations don't have the same commitment.

We have a lot of divisions in spite of our traditionally homogeneous country, it is becoming more heterogeneous. We must act globally. Our disgust for war must remain. But I see we have a problem that many from the younger generation now see war as entertainment. We must show what effects wars really have.

### **Artem Filatov, Russia, comment to Oleg's input**

There might not be a peace-movement in Russia, but there was a big opposition against the invasion of Ukrain and there were successful demonstrations in Moscow. Later there were demonstrations in front of the President's palace and the Human Rights Commission to free arrested people in Ukrain, both Russians and Ukrainian people.

**Ingeborg Breines and Irene Hamborg, Norway, closed the meeting by underlining the importance of learning from each other.**

## Statement

### *Neighbours as friends, not enemies*

**Nordic-Russian seminar, PRIO, Oslo, 3.- 4. February 2020**

A Nordic-Russian civil society seminar was organized in Oslo 3. - 4. February 2020 by the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Norway, and the Norwegian Peace Association. The theme of the seminar was "Neighbours as friends, not enemies". The seminar, which gathered some 45 participants from Denmark, Finland, Norway, Russia and Sweden was a follow up to a Nordic peace and dialogue trip to Russia in May 2018. The seminar was held at the Peace Research Institute Oslo, PRIO, and was funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The organisers are already planning a follow up seminar in Norway in 2021.

The main intention with the seminar was to strengthen relations between peace activists in the North, discuss common challenges and visions and contribute to mutual understanding and perhaps even help reduce the present tension. The tension between the West and Russia is one of the drivers behind the present militarization and arms' race, involving both conventional and nuclear weapons.

Participants had open discussions on how to promote peace, disarmament and a sound environment, and agreed to seek ways to continue with practical and strategic forward-looking initiatives and solution-oriented dialogues. Many echoed the words of the Mayor of the border city of Kirkenes that our security lies in the strengthening of people to people cooperation across borders.

The use of enemy images and the demonization of leaders both in mainstream political discourse and media is dangerous as it installs fear and also is meant to influence peoples acceptance of rising military budgets.

Participants agreed that we should not accept that the world's resources, natural, financial and intellectual, are being misused for military purposes, and that we need to prove that this thinking is dangerous, naive and obsolete. The military actually makes us less safe, both economically and ecologically, by taking so much of the resources that are needed for other purposes and by the enormous greenhouse gas emissions, the radiation and pollution it provides. We cannot allow the military to be an exception to international climate agreements. Instead we must move the money to be able to tackle the real security issues such as the threat to the very survival of humanity and the planet, be it by climate change, environmental degradation, excessive inequality or nuclear weapons.

Different alternatives were discussed of how we can contribute to changing attitudes in order to reverse the nuclear and space-arms race, reduce defence spending and get us out of the dominant growth oriented, militarized, confrontational and competitive patterns. In short, how can we build common security, human security, a culture of peace, and non-violence.

Among the concrete suggestions were to:

- . continue the sharing of knowledge and ideas,
- . get inspiration from each other's culture and art,
- . work for the strengthening of civil society and democratic practices,
- . seek ways of producing and consuming which ensures the well being of all and the integrity of the biosphere.
- . establish permanent structures for peace, such as ministries and departments for peace to promote peace at all levels,
- . cherish and use the UN, diplomacy and multilateral cooperation,
- . help implement the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement on climate,
- . strive for a non militarized and nuclear free Arctic and Baltic Sea basin,
- . maintain the Arctic Council non-militarized and operational,
- . gather individual signatures and cities in support of the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons,
- . continue to warn against nuclear and other hazardous waste and make waste management safer,
- . seek closer cooperation between the peace movement and environmental organizations,
- . actively learn to work across generations and share knowledge and priorities,
- . cross borders and seek new partnerships with "sister" groups and organisations.

Finally, it was considered most vital to build trust between peoples, so essential for real cooperation, and for our survival.