

Nagasaki Day Rally, August 9
2025 World Conference against A and H Bombs

KimMin Moon Jung
Standing Representative
Korea Women's Associations United
Republic of Korea

**Activities of the Korea Women's Associations United for
“Pro-active Peace”**

Hello, everyone.

I am KimMin Moon Jung from the Korean Women's Associations United (KWAU). The KWAU is a coalition of women's organizations established in 1987.

This was my first time participating in the World Conference against A and H Bombs. I was deeply moved by the vivid testimonies of atomic bomb survivors and the speeches on anti-war, anti-nuclear, and peace activities from various countries. I would like to convey my feelings of solidarity to all of you. I am truly grateful for the opportunity to speak here today. I also express my respect for the efforts of **Japan Gensuikyo** (Japan Council against A- and H- Bombs) and extend my congratulations to **Nihon Hidankyo** (Japan Confederation of A-and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations) for receiving the Nobel Peace Prize.

2025 marks the 80th anniversary of the liberation and division of the Korean Peninsula and the 72nd year since the ceasefire. Division, hostility, and military confrontation have become somewhat normalized, and particularly, the Yoon administration's rhetoric of “peace through strength” has heightened the risk of nuclear war.

In 2023, a nuclear-powered strategic submarine, which is one of the United States' three major nuclear forces, docked in South Korean port for the first time in 42 years. Additionally, the governments of South Korea and the United States established the Korea-U.S. Nuclear Consultative Group, and officially declared

to elevate their alliance to a “nuclear-based” one. North Korea has also declared to advance its nuclear capabilities, conducting dozens of missile launch tests, while maintaining its “power for power” policy.

The Lee Jae-myung administration, while emphasizing “peace-building on the Korean Peninsula through dialogue and cooperation,” simultaneously upholds “a strong deterrence based on the ROK-U.S. military alliance.” So, the risks still remain. However, these cannot stop our efforts for denuclearization of Korean Peninsula and the conclusion of a peace agreement.

War and hostility bring serious damages and sufferings in various ways, and the greatest victims are women and children, anywhere in the world.

You are probably aware of the crime committed by the Japanese military, which systematically established “military comfort stations” and mobilized women from occupied territories and colonies as sex slaves. The movement to expose this crime began with the courageous testimony of a single woman. We, KWAU, have been working together since the beginning. Unfortunately, the Japanese government has not yet reflected on its past conduct of war and aggression, nor made an official apology to the victims.

After the ceasefire in the Korean War, the South Korean government and the U.S. military established and operated “base villages” to maintain the U.S.-South Korea military alliance, subjecting women to forced medical examinations and detention under the pretext of “security” for U.S. troops. Many people died from overdose of penicillin.

However, despite prejudice and stigma, in 2014, 122 surviving victims filed a lawsuit holding the state accountable, and in 2022, the Supreme Court recognized the state’s violation of human rights against those women.

KWAU is working to expose and resolve human rights issues faced by women due to war and hostility through movements that highlight women's experiences

and voices, thereby spreading awareness of the necessity to reject wars and nuclear weapons and establish peace. Rejecting wars and nuclear weapons and achieving peace ensures women's human rights and a democracy based on gender equality. This is why young women in their 20s and 30s stood out in the "Revolution of Light" that confronted the state of emergency on December 3, 2024.

War and hostility are synonymous with imperialist domination, dictatorship, violence, discrimination, hatred, and the climate crisis. By incorporating diverse voices for democracy, gender equality, human rights, and climate justice into the anti-war, anti-nuclear, and peace movement, we can enrich the movement, and share with more citizens a vision of a peaceful world free from war and nuclear weapons, thereby bringing us closer to such future.

Women will unite and build a world without nuclear weapons.

No More HIROSHIMAS. No More NAGASAKIS.

No More War! No More MISOGYNY!

Thank you.