

**Speech by Martial Passi on behalf of the Peace Movement in Nagasaki, August 9
2025 World Conference against A and H Bombs**

Ladies and gentlemen, dear friends and fellow pacifists,

By participating in the commemorations of the 80th anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, we are all experiencing an extraordinary moment of remembrance, solidarity, and pacifism.

We bow our heads in respect to the 210,000 people who perished in Hiroshima and Nagasaki on August 6 and 9, 1945, including nearly 38,000 children. We do not forget the hibakushas, who are the living memory of the nuclear horror, and we congratulate the Nihon Hidankyo organization for rightly receiving the Nobel Peace Prize.

“Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.” The leaders of the countries that hold the keys to 12,000 nuclear warheads, including so-called democratic states, have chosen to forget the abominable reality of nuclear horror and the suffering of the victims and their families. This observation is all the more worrying given that in 2025, three nuclear powers are engaged in wars:

On the one hand, Russia started aggression against Ukraine. And on the other hand, the US and Israel have massively bombed Iran and are guilty of genocide and famine in the Gaza Strip. Two other nuclear powers, India and Pakistan, did not hesitate to clash in May 2025. This is the sad reality of a world where the taboo surrounding the use of nuclear weapons is crumbling, fueled by rhetoric, threats, and actions that have made its use unfortunately possible.

This sad reality strikes at the very foundations of international law, contradicting the United Nations Charter and trampling on the principles of collective security, international cooperation, and sovereign equality among peoples. Yes, pacifists are absolutely right when they say that so-called nuclear deterrence guarantees neither peace nor security and does nothing to protect populations.

A majority of states, members or signatories of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, reject a worldview based on nuclear deterrence. They call for the strengthening of collective security, not the permanent threat of deliberate or accidental use of nuclear weapons. They argue that the myth of nuclear deterrence is an unverifiable theory and that it is by no means a solution, but rather the root of the problem. Faced with these worrying prospects for global security, pacifists and all progressives can and must act by mobilizing the people.

Let us mobilize our efforts during the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference in May

2026 and the Conference on the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in November 2026. We must call on governments and parliamentarians to abandon their blindness to nuclear weapons.

Finally, we must call on political leaders, trade unions, and associations to mobilize the people so that together we can take the path of peace.

Ladies and gentlemen, dear fellow pacifists,

On August 8, 1945, two days after the tragedy in Hiroshima, Albert Camus said: "Faced with the terrifying prospects opening up before humanity, we see even more clearly that peace is the only struggle worth fighting for. It is no longer a prayer, but an order that must rise from the people to their governments, the order to choose once and for all between hell and reason."

Eighty years later, in a world where the law of the strongest constantly attempts to crush international law, this appeal is more relevant than ever. Let us no longer accept the plundering of resources for nuclear weapons and demand that they be used for the well-being of humanity and the protection of our planet. Let us call on all the nations of the world to take action for the total elimination of these weapons of mass destruction, which threaten to wipe out all life on Earth.

Together, let us promote a global uprising of consciousness to make it clear that nuclear weapons are illegal, dangerous, costly, and immoral by signing the appeal of the International Trade Union Confederation, as well as the global appeal for the total elimination of nuclear weapons initiated by the peace movement and several hundred organizations from some 50 countries.

Dear friends,

We, the peoples of the world, no longer want to see the death of a Sadako in Japan. We no longer want the assassination of an Ibrahim in Gaza. We no longer want the mutilation of an Aboubakar in Sudan. We, the peoples, no longer want women to be martyred and raped in war zones and young men killed far from home.

On the contrary, we, the people, united and in solidarity, want to make the voice of peace heard, for it is the only voice of reason. And with all the strength of our pacifist values, let us build together a world of social justice, democracy, equality, solidarity, and freedom.

Ultimately, a world that is simply human.