

PROGRESS REPORT 2013



Our goal: a treaty banning nuclear weapons.



It has been another eventful and productive year for ICAN Australia, successful in many ways. Our goal of a global treaty banning nuclear weapons seems a little closer, with many national governments supporting the concept and strong relationships developing between governments, major international non-governmental organisations and rising interest within civil society.

We are an important part of a now global movement, with active campaigners in Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas, and we continue to make significant contributions to the worldwide effort. We in Australia are committed to supporting civil society representatives in our region – particularly in Southeast Asia and the South Pacific - where they are playing a vital role in education and advocacy.

At home we face many challenges in the evolving political scene. The new government provides us with a fresh set of personnel and policies to influence, while on the opposition benches a new array of politicians in a much-altered party offers the chance of revisiting and renewing past efforts to build momentum for a treaty.

To date Australia has not played a constructive role in furthering the cause of a ban on nuclear weapons. Both major political parties have preferred to emphasise their reservations about security implications whilst relying on pre-existing forums and processes, which have proven demonstrably ineffectual to date. Adherence to the doctrine of extended nuclear deterrence, effectively sheltering behind the threat of mass-murder-by-proxy, hamstringing any creative participation on the part of our government. This represents a great challenge for us in the next year as we build relationships with the new team in Canberra.

The challenge for the coming year for the Australian arm of ICAN will be to maintain our resolve to see governments forge a process for a ban, despite intransigence on the part of the nuclear-armed and nuclear-dependent states, whilst grappling with the domestic reality that aligns us and embroils us in preparedness for omnicide. A difficult but necessary task.

Bill Williams- Chair, ICAN Australia, December 2013.

The humanitarian pathway to a treaty banning nuclear weapons

Over the last year, the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons has become a dominant theme and a driving force in the international nuclear weapons debate.

The Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons in Oslo, March 2013, was attended by 128 nations, various United Nations agencies and the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. Significantly, civil society united in Oslo under the banner of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons. Hosted by the Norwegian government, it was the first major intergovernmental conference ever to address the threat of nuclear weapons from a purely humanitarian perspective.

The Mexican government has confirmed its hosting of a follow-up conference in Nayarit, in February 2014, at which we will have a strong and active team representing us again.

This conference gives ICAN a key opportunity to establish, once and for all, that it is impossible to mitigate the effects of nuclear weapons. The humanitarian path keeps our focus on what really matters.

The only logical way forward is to start a process of negotiations for a nuclear ban treaty.



At the Oslo Conference, March 2013

REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT



ICAN Australia continues to play a coordinating role for the campaign in Asia Pacific, which involves forging new partnerships with non-government organisations and facilitating advocacy to governments across the region. Six organisations in Asia Pacific were recipients of ICAN small grants in 2013, which have enabled them to build support in their countries for a global ban on nuclear weapons. They are based in Fiji, Indonesia, the Philippines, India, Nepal and Mongolia. To strengthen and expand the campaign in Asia Pacific, ICAN Australia staff and board members visited India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, the Philippines, Japan and New Zealand in 2013.

Together with the Norwegian-based International Law and Policy Institute and the Institute of International Studies at Gadjah Mada University in Indonesia, we organised a roundtable meeting in Yogyakarta in July for government officials and civil society representatives across Southeast Asia to discuss the humanitarian imperative to ban nuclear weapons. We hosted similar meetings in New York in October with diplomats and campaigners from Pacific Island and Central Asian states. All governments in the region have received ICAN materials to raise awareness about the catastrophic humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons and build support for a ban.

“A nuclear weapons ban would strengthen the moral and political ground for demanding that concrete time-bound steps be taken towards the total and complete elimination of nuclear weapons.”

Kumar Sundaram- ICAN India



It will take a broad and diverse cross-section of society to ban nuclear weapons. We've been building the important relationships with our existing and new partner organisations. ICAN Australia continues to strengthen public awareness and support for the campaign with events, creative actions, lectures and an ongoing presence in traditional and social media.

PARLIAMENTARY APPEAL

ICAN's global Parliamentary Appeal was launched in June 2013 with the aim of building global support for a treaty banning nuclear weapons. Parliamentarians have a vital role to play in advancing the peace and security of a world without nuclear weapons. As at December 2013, 330 parliamentarians in 14 countries have signed on, including 80 in Australia. The signatories will be presented at the 2014 Mexico Conference.

PAPER CRANE PROJECT

The Paper Crane Project, launched by ICAN campaigners in Hiroshima, has sent over 190,000 paper cranes to the president or prime minister of every UN member state. Students from Gisborne, Victoria, delivered 2,000 paper cranes to the then Australian Prime Minister Julia Gillard in February. In return for the gift they requested the Australian Government begin negotiations on a global treaty banning nuclear weapons.

FUTURE FUND

The Federal Government's Future Fund currently invests \$227m in companies involved in developing, producing and maintaining nuclear weapons. We've held several meetings and creative actions at the Future Fund HQ in Melbourne. We've recently distributed 20,000 postcards nationally to build awareness and public pressure for the Fund to divest from nuclear weapons companies, just as they have divested from landmines, cluster munitions and tobacco companies.

NUCLEAR SCORECARD

In preparation for the Australian Federal Election 2013, ICAN collaborated with environmental and medical organisations to produce a nuclear scorecard, which was distributed nationally. The scorecard ranked the three major parties on their support for various aspects of the nuclear industry and the role of nuclear weapons in Australia's defence.

“Australia cannot credibly advocate nuclear disarmament while claiming that US nuclear weapons guarantee our security and prosperity. Not only is this a ludicrous notion; it is also a dangerous one because it signals to other nations that nuclear weapons are useful and necessary.”

Tim Wright- ICAN Australia director,
The Age, 2 October 2013

ICAN Australia occupies a regular place in online, print and social media. We have had stories published in the *Age*, the *Sydney Morning Herald*, the *Australian Strategic Policy Institute*, *Right Now*, *Crikey*, *New Matilda* and many more.

ALP nuclear backflip

Documents obtained by ICAN Australia through freedom-of-information laws revealed that the Australian government refused to endorse the 80-nation humanitarian statement delivered at the 2013 Non-Proliferation Treaty meeting in Geneva because it referred to a Red Cross resolution with which the government fundamentally disagrees, and because it had concerns that the statement was designed to build support for a ban on nuclear weapons.

The ALP backflip story was published in major Fairfax papers in Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra in October.

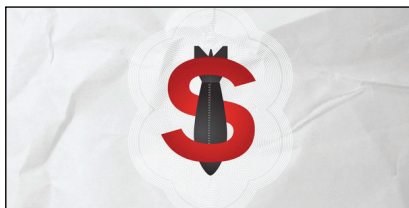
ICAN AUSTRALIA AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

- UN Conference on Disarmament Issues*, Shizuoka, January-February 2013
- Conference of Indian Doctors for Peace and Development*, Ludhiana, February 2013
- ICAN Civil Society Forum*, Oslo, March 2013
- Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons*, Oslo, March 2013
- Non-Proliferation Treaty Preparatory Committee*, Geneva, April-May 2013
- UN General Assembly First Committee (Disarmament)*, New York, October 2013
- Humanitarian Disarmament Campaign Summit*, New York, October 2013



NPT Preparatory Committee, UN, Geneva

PUBLICATIONS



BAN NUCLEAR WEAPONS NOW

Nuclear weapons are the only weapons of mass destruction not yet prohibited by an international convention, even though they have the greatest destructive capacity of all weapons. Isn't it time for a ban? In *Ban Nuclear Weapons Now* we argue that – with enough public pressure and political leadership – a treaty banning nuclear weapons can be achieved in the near future. *Ban Nuclear Weapons Now* is available in six languages.

DON'T BANK ON THE BOMB

ICAN has identified more than 300 banks, pension funds, insurance companies and asset managers in 30 countries with substantial investments in nuclear arms producers. Produced in partnership with IKV Pax Christi, *Don't Bank on the Bomb* provides details of financial transactions with 20 companies that are heavily involved in the manufacture, maintenance and modernization of US, British, French and Indian nuclear forces.

DISARMAMENT DOUBLE-SPEAK

Australian governments have generally been strong proponents of horizontal nuclear non-proliferation, but skilled at avoiding the issue of nuclear disarmament. Rhetoric has centred on what other nations must do or not do and has ignored the enormous responsibility Australia has by virtue of its ties with nuclear-armed states. *Disarmament Double-Speak* assesses Australia's record on nuclear weapons. It summarises Australia's mixed history in the field of disarmament, its continuing support for US extended nuclear deterrence, its resistance to a global ban on nuclear weapons, the inadequacy of safeguards on uranium exports and investments in nuclear arms companies.

ABOUT ICAN AUSTRALIA

The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) Australia is at the forefront of global efforts to outlaw and eliminate nuclear weapons. With more than 60 diverse partner organisations nationwide, we are working to raise public awareness about nuclear dangers and put disarmament squarely on the Australian political agenda. Through our outreach and education activities, we are highlighting the catastrophic humanitarian harm caused by nuclear weapons and the feasibility – and urgency – of achieving a universal, comprehensive ban.

Special thanks to our donors in 2013

Major donor

Dara Foundation

Donors over \$1000

Anne Udy
John Wilson
Prof Frederick Mendelsohn AO
Owen Loneragan
Elizabeth Morrison
Dr Jennifer Allen Simons
Uniting Church in Australia
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ICAN Australia ICAN International

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Dr Bill Williams	A/Prof Tilman Ruff AM – <i>Australia</i>
A/Prof Tilman Ruff AM	Akira Kawasaki – <i>Japan</i>
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STAFF TEAM

Tim Wright – *Campaign Director*
Gem Romuld – *Outreach Coordinator*
Chrys Gardener – *Bookkeeping/ Administration*

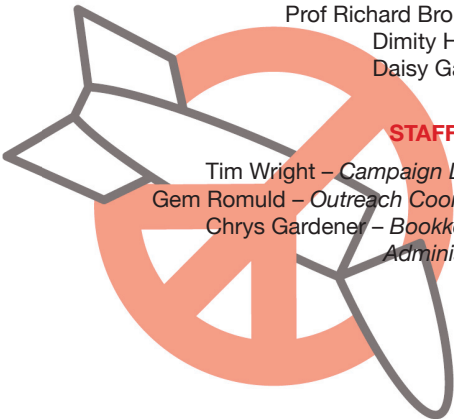
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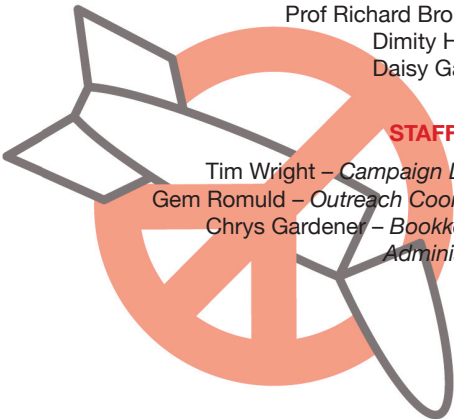
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International Day of Peace post-it mural in Fitzroy, Melbourne



Human Rights Day vigil



NPT Preparatory Committee, UN



Students in Indore, India



AUSMIN toying with nuclear weapons

BAN NUCLEAR WEAPONS



Nagasaki Day protest at the Future Fund



Hiroshima and Nagasaki Peace Concert 2013



Medical students at the University of Philippines



Bikes Not Bombs - Nuclear Abolition Week



FUTURE FUND:
STOP
BANKROLLING
NUCLEAR WEAPONS