

## Statements/Actions by Government Leaders

In 2005 the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Australia, Chile, Indonesia, Norway, Romania, South Africa and the United Kingdom created the [Seven Nation Initiative](#) stating that: "We must continue practical, systematic and progressive efforts to advance nuclear disarmament globally and reduce nuclear weapons towards a world free of nuclear weapons."

In 2006, German Foreign Minister Steinmeier and Norwegian Foreign Minister Store [called](#) for new momentum toward nuclear disarmament.

In 2007, Norway, the UK and VERTIC agreed to fund a project to examine procedures to be followed for the verified disassembling of nuclear weapons. (Gordon Corera, "How to dismantle a nuclear bomb," BBC News, July 16, 2009, <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/8154029.stm>)

On Dec. 8, 2008, British Foreign Secretary David Milliband calls for "[A world without nuclear weapons](#)" then on February 4th, 2009 [laid out a plan](#) for achieving a vision of a world free of nuclear weapons. (Feb. 4, 2009)

On April 24, 2009, the European Parliament [approved an amendment](#) introducing the "Model Nuclear Weapons Convention" and the "Hiroshima-Nagasaki Protocol" as concrete tools to achieve a nuclear weapons free world by 2020.

In August, 2009, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon wrote "[My Plan is to Stop the Bomb](#)" reminding readers of his [Five Steps to a Nuclear Free World](#) released Oct. 24, 2008.

On April 27, 2009, German foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier confirmed in a [speech](#) that he shared Pres. Obama's vision of a nuclear weapons-free world.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Norway has made statements concerning the need for nuclear disarmament repeatedly, including on [March 4, 2008](#) [November, 2008](#), [September, 2009](#) , and [February 1, 2010](#)

On Feb. 1, 2010, Polish Foreign Minister Radek Sikorski and Swedish Foreign Minister Carl Bildt called on the United States and Russia to achieve "early progress on steep reductions in sub-strategic nuclear weapons" in a [joint op-ed](#) in [The New York Times](#).

On Feb. 21, 2010, a [joint statement](#) "Toward a World Without Nuclear Weapons" was issued by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Japan and Australia.

On February 26, 2010, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs Belgium, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Norway wrote [a letter](#) to the Secretary General of NATO calling for a discussion of the role of nuclear weapons within NATO.

## Statements by Former High-Level Officials

George Shultz, William Perry, Henry Kissinger and Sam Nunn, "A World Free of Nuclear Weapons", *The Wall Street Journal*, 4 January 2007; George P. Shultz, William J. Perry, Henry A. Kissinger and Sam Nunn, "[A World Free of Nuclear Weapons](#)," *Wall Street Journal*, January 4, 2007.

Mikhail Gorbachev, "The Nuclear Threat," *Wall Street Journal*, January 31, 2007, <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB117021711101593402.html>.

Former UK Secretaries of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and for Defence Douglas Hurd, Malcom Rifkind, David Owen and George Robertson (who was also NATO Secretary-General), "[Start Worrying and Learn to Ditch the Bomb](#), but a World Free of Nuclear Weapons is Possible", *Times* of London (Times Online), June 30, 2008.

"[A World Free of Nuclear Weapons](#)" by Italian statesmen former Prime Minister Italy Massimo D'Alema, Speaker of the Italian Chamber of Deputies Gianfranco Fini, former Minister of European Affairs Giorgio La Malfa, former Minister of Defence Arturo Parisi, and Secretary-General of the Pugwash Conference Professor Francesco Calogero, *Corriere Della Sera*, 24 July 2008

"[Toward a Nuclear-Free World: a German View](#)" by German statesmen former Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, former President Richard von Weizsäcker, former Federal Minister for Special Affairs Egon Bahr, and former Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, *New York Times*, 9 January 2009;

"[A Nuclear Weapon Free World](#)", by former Norwegian Prime Ministers Kjell Magne Bondevik, Gro Harlem Brundtland, Odvar Nordli and Kåre Willoch, and former Foreign Minister Thorvald Stoltenberg, *Oslo Aftenposten*, 4 June 2009.

"[Pour un désarmement nucléaire mondial](#), seule réponse à la prolifération anarchique" by French former Prime Ministers Alain Juppé and Michel Rocard, former Defence Minister Alain Richard, and former Commander of the French Air Combat Force Bernard Norlain, in *Le Monde*, 15 October 2009.

Australian former statesmen, scientists, senior military officers and NGO campaigners, respectively Malcolm Fraser, Gustav Nossal, Barry Jones, Peter Gration and John Sanderson, and Tilman Ruff, "[It's time to get serious about ridding the world of nuclear weapons](#)", *Sydney Morning Herald*, 8 April 2009.

"[The Unthinkable Becomes Thinkable: Towards Elimination of Nuclear Weapons](#)" - by former Polish President Aleksander Kwa\_niewski, former Polish prime minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki and former polish president Lech Wa\_\_sa.

On February 19, 2010, an [op-ed](#) (De Standaard) was published written by four Belgian statesmen Willy Claes, former minister of Foreign Affairs, former NATO secretary

general; Jean-Luc Dehaene, former prime minister of Belgium, member of the European Parliament; Louis Michel, former minister of Foreign Affairs, former member of EU Commission, member of the European Parliament; and, Guy Verhofstadt, former prime minister of Belgium, chairman liberal fraction European Parliament, who joined other Europeans calling for a world free of nuclear weapons, and all notably called for the removal of U.S. tactical nuclear weapons from Europe in an effort to support the vision.

In December 2008, in Paris, more than 100 world leaders endorsed the goal of abolishing nuclear weapons through the [Global Zero Declaration](#).

On April 14th, 40 former high level European statesmen and women released a Statement entitled "[Nuclear progress but dangers ahead](#)."