



**Peace Studies**  
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January 20, 2015

Norwegian Nobel Committee  
HenrikIbsen Gate 51, N-o255  
Oslo, Norway

Dear Nobel Committee Members,

I am writing to nominate Dr. David Krieger, co-founder and President of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation (NAPF), jointly with NAPF, for the 2015 Nobel Peace Prize.

Dr. Krieger was twenty-one years old when he first visited Hiroshima. The year was 1963. It was a visit that would change the course of his life. It was there, while at the Hiroshima and Nagasaki Peace Memorial Museums, that he learned of a very different version of the atomic bombings. The U.S. version, which he had learned as a child, was a perspective from above the bombs and focused on technological achievement. The survivors' version was from beneath the bombs and focused on the death and utter devastation. At the Museums, he also saw images of innocent men, women and children, slaughtered indiscriminately, many burned alive. These images painted a horrific past and bore testimony to an intolerable future that would never leave Dr. Krieger. From then on, he would devote his life to avoiding the tragedy of nuclear war and seeking the abolition of nuclear weapons.

In his early career, Dr. Krieger worked with two important think tanks: The Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions (CSDI) and the Foundation for Reshaping International Order (RIO). At the CSDI, he worked on developing a World Disarmament Community. At the RIO Foundation, he led an international project studying dual-purpose technologies and their relationship to disarmament, development and the environment.

Dr. Krieger went on to co-found the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation in 1982 with the understanding that peace is an imperative of the nuclear age. For thirty-two years NAPF has conducted innovative programs related to building peace and the abolition of nuclear weapons. Since the Foundation's inception, Dr. Krieger has led the quest to bring a world free of nuclear weapons from a vision to a reality. He has done so with gentle humility, deep compassion and unwavering perseverance.

NAPF has consultative status to the United Nations Economic and Social Council and is recognized by the U.N. as a Peace Messenger Organization. It also has a world-renowned Advisory Council that has, over the years, included many Nobel Laureates. Currently there are five Advisors who are Nobel Laureates: Archbishop Desmond Tutu; His Holiness the XIVth Dalai Lama; Shirin Ebadi, J.D.; Mairead Corrigan Maguire; and John Polanyi.

While NAPF is the heart of Dr. Krieger's work, he has also championed peace and nuclear disarmament in many other organizations. He is a co-founder of Abolition 2000 and a principal drafter of Abolition 2000's Founding Statement. He is a founder

of the International Network of Engineers and Scientists for Global Responsibility (INES) and has served as the Chair of its Executive Committee. He is a founder of the Middle Powers Initiative and has served as the Chair of its Executive Committee. He is a Councilor on the World Future Council and serves as Co-Chair of its Peace and Disarmament Commission.

Dr. Krieger has authored and edited more than twenty books and hundreds of articles on peace, justice and nuclear weapon abolition. He is also an accomplished poet for peace and justice. He continues to travel the world, inspiring the next generation of peace leaders to take up the mantle for achieving nuclear zero. Always, he is a teacher.

He will tell you in his soft-spoken manner of the shameless idealism that guides NAPF in its organized advocacy. He will tell you there are still over 16,000 nuclear weapons in the world and we must not waste time merely imagining a distant future without them. It is his belief that the only way to keep our world and our loved ones safe is to relentlessly strive for the total elimination of nuclear weapons, standing steadfast in NAPF's goals to educate, engage and mobilize all peoples until nuclear weapons no longer threaten the sanctity of our world. He would tell you that we must be bold and also persevering. Nothing happens overnight, and giving up will never be an option.

To that end, I must mention that NAPF has grown to over 70,000 members. It works with many organizations throughout the world whose goals include not only the elimination of nuclear weapons, but also the fostering of the global rule of law. In 2012, these two objectives came together when the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) and NAPF began planning the Nuclear Zero lawsuits, landmark cases brought against the nine nuclear-armed states in the International Court of Justice (ICJ) and in U.S. Federal District Court.

As a consultant to the RMI, NAPF has helped to strategize and organize, and has given its full support to the RMI in these unprecedented efforts that call upon the nine nuclear-armed nations to fulfill their legal and moral obligations under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and customary international law, to begin negotiations in good faith for nuclear zero. It is a bold and courageous initiative from this small island nation. The Marshallese have taken this stand not for compensation, but so that no one else in the world will ever have to suffer nuclear devastation as they have. NAPF has built a significant consortium of over 70 civil society organizations supporting the Marshallese and the lawsuits. Six individual Nobel Laureates have also officially given their support: Oscar Arias, Shirin Ebadi, J.D.; Adolfo Perez Esquivel; Mairead Corrigan Maguire; Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Jody Williams.

Critical to the cause of nuclear abolition is the education and involvement of the next generation. NAPF's vital internship program exposes participants to the fields of peace and security, non-profit management, and careers with conscience. Interns gain hands-on experience working with a non-profit educational and advocacy organization. Many find they have tools and technological skills that foster important global interconnectedness in the arena of nuclear abolition. Countless interns learn from their time at NAPF that their path in life will involve making the world a more peaceful place.

Under Dr. Krieger's guidance, NAPF's Peace Leadership Program has grown into a recognized international program for peace. Directed by Paul K. Chappell, a West Point graduate, former U.S. Army Captain and Iraq war veteran, peace leaders are given the tools and training needed to lead in effecting positive social change in order to achieve peace.

Finally, I leave you with some of Dr. Krieger's thoughts on the immorality of nuclear weapons as well as a recent poem by him entitled "A Poem For The Crossroads." A collection of his poems on the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki can be found in *God's Tears: Reflections on the Atomic Bombs Dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki*, published by Coal Sack Publishing Company (Tokyo: 2010).

#### FIFTEEN MORAL REASONS TO ABOLISH NUCLEAR WEAPONS

1. Thou shalt not kill.
2. Thou shalt not threaten to slaughter the innocent.
3. Thou shalt not cause unnecessary suffering.
4. Thou shalt not poison the future.
5. Thou shalt not hold hostage cities and their inhabitants.
6. Thou shalt not threaten to destroy civilization.
7. Thou shalt not abandon stewardship of fish and fowl, birds and beasts.
8. Thou shalt not put all of Creation at risk of annihilation.
9. Thou shalt not use weapons that cannot be contained in space or time.
10. Thou shalt not waste resources on weapons – resources that could be far better used for meeting basic human needs of the poor and downtrodden.
11. Thou shalt not fail to fulfill one's obligations to negotiate in good faith for nuclear disarmament.
12. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's missiles.
13. Thou shalt not worship false idols.
14. Thou shalt not keep silent in the face of the nuclear threat to all we love and treasure.
15. Thou shalt live by the Golden Rule, doing unto others as you would have them do unto you.

#### A POEM FOR THE CROSSROADS by David Krieger

I would like to write a poem and nail it  
to a stake at humanity's crossroads.  
It would say: choose your path wisely.

It would say: this path we are on is far  
too treacherous, a trap for the unwary  
and complacent.

It would say: take down the gun pointed at humanity's heart – enough of war, enough of nuclear weapons, enough of stumbling toward collective suicide.

It would say: enough homage to death – choose life and be a citizen of the world.  
It would say: be kinder than necessary.

It would certainly say: when it rains, the water sinks into the Earth and the grass grows toward the sun.

It would say: when the winds blow, the leaves will flutter from the trees like butterflies.  
It would remind us to stop and look at the beauty around us.

It would say: this is Eden, but it needs care.  
It would say: before you choose a path, think about the people of the future.

It would say: make each moment of your time on Earth matter.

It would say: choose the path of peace.

It is for Dr. Krieger's unswerving devotion to the cause of nuclear abolition, and for its many manifestations in the work of the Foundation, that I respectfully nominate Dr. David Krieger and the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation, jointly, for the 2015 Nobel Peace Prize. Because of their impact on a world threatened by the corrupting power of nuclear weapons, they are worthy candidates for this coveted and cherished prize. Together they represent an enduring hope for nuclear zero, perhaps the most urgent cause of our time, if we are to continue what we know as life on Earth.

Sincerely,



Bill Wickersham

Adjunct Professor of Peace Studies, University of Missouri-Columbia  
Founding Director of the Missouri Peace Study Institute