



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY  
WASHINGTON, DC

15 January 2021

To the Norwegian Nobel Institute:

I am writing to you to nominate David Swanson for the 2021 Nobel Peace Prize. Swanson serves as executive director of World Beyond War. In 2015, World Beyond War grew dramatically under Swanson's direction to include people in 129 nations. World Beyond War produced a book authored by Swanson titled *A Global Security System: An Alternative to War* that has had an impact on discussions of U.S. foreign policy. Swanson has been a consistent and determined advocate for change in U.S.

In 2015, Swanson published numerous articles and gave many speeches advocating peace and the abolition of war. His articles are collected at [DavidSwanson.org](http://DavidSwanson.org). He was an advocate of the nuclear agreement with Iran. Swanson visited Cuba in 2015, met with the staff of the not-yet U.S. embassy, and advocated for better and more just relations, including an end to the embargo and the return to Cuba of its land in Guantanamo. Also, in 2015, Swanson has been active in the community of activists who oppose the entire institution of war, as well as in the general public through writing and speaking for reducing militarism and rethinking the idea that war is inevitable.

It is also important to note Swanson's role with [RootsAction.org](http://RootsAction.org). In 2015, Swanson worked as campaign coordinator for the online activist site. Through a combination of online and "real world" activism, [RootsAction.org](http://RootsAction.org) has successfully brought pressure to achieve numerous steps toward peace, while building an online activist membership of 650,000 people for future action. In December 2015, a [RootsAction.org](http://RootsAction.org) and World Beyond War petition urged the Congressional Research Service to resume reporting on international weapons sales after a three year hiatus. Within weeks, the CRS released a new report. In September 2015, after long and intense efforts by [RootsAction](http://RootsAction.org) and coalition partners and many others, enough U.S. senators committed to supporting a nuclear agreement with Iran for the agreement to survive efforts to undo it. In August 2015, after hunger strikes by prisoners and petitioning by many groups, including [RootsAction](http://RootsAction.org), California ended indefinite solitary confinement and brought thousands of prisoners out of isolation. In January 2015, after a [RootsAction.org](http://RootsAction.org) petition pushed the United States to negotiate with North Korea rather than rejecting its offer to halt nuclear tests, the U.S. did begin negotiating.

Thank you for considering my nomination of David Swanson for the 2021 Nobel Peace Prize.

Sincerely,

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