



Summit of the Future Action Days Side Event

Event ID: 077

Title: Reversing the Doomsday Clock: Nuclear Disarmament and the Need for SSOD-IV

**Saturday, 21 September - 17:30 - 20:00 EDT - Church of the Covenant,
310 East 42nd Street, New York, NY, 10017 and on Zoom**

Organized by: Kiribati, International Peace Bureau (IPB), SCRAP Weapons (SOAS University of London), Nuclear Age Peace Foundation (NAPF), Parliament of the World's Religions, Agora Mexico, Reverse the Trend (RTT), Justice for All, Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung NY (RLSNY), Episcopal Church, NGO Committee on Human Rights to the UN, NGO Committee on Disarmament, Peace, and Security, Committee of Religious NGOs to the UN

Background on the event (one paragraph)

This event brought together experts and advocates to emphasize the urgency of stronger disarmament commitments. In line with the Pact for the Future, participants discussed the pivotal role of a Fourth Special Session on Disarmament (SSOD-IV) in advancing global peace and security. The discussions highlighted the pressing need to avoid a sustained arms race and to promote a nuclear-weapon-free world and common, collective international security to ensure a safe and healthy future for all. Speakers shared insights on how SSOD-IV could accelerate disarmament efforts through trust-building and how both civil society and member states can and should contribute to this critical goal. The event concluded with a call to action, encouraging attendees to

support this essential cause by signing the [open letter advocating for SSOD-IV](#).

Key Issues discussed (5- 8 bullet points)

- The importance of an intergenerational approach to peace, security, and disarmament, ensuring (social, environmental, nuclear) justice for both current and future generations.
- The failure of nuclear deterrence as a viable strategy for fostering true security.
- The unprecedented rise in global military spending and arms trade, and its negative impact on peace and security.
- The need for comprehensive disarmament, from small arms and light weapons (micro disarmament) and extending to nuclear weapons.
- The recognition that peace begins at the personal level - including the provision of human security- is crucial to achieving all the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Ethical and religious perspectives, as well as gender and equality perspectives, on disarmament play a key role in their success.

Key recommendations for action (5 - 6 bullet points)

- Establish a concrete deadline for Member States to agree on convening the Fourth Special Session on Disarmament (SSOD-IV).
- Acknowledge that disarmament is a tool for building trust and fostering international cooperation; reject the notion that disarmament can only be achieved during times of relative peace.
- Deepen the study and understanding of the connections between disarmament and the Sustainable Development Goals - including but not limited to military expenditure, the arms trade, climate and environmental factors, gender equality, emerging technologies, and economic development. Highlight the opportunity cost of growing military expenditure to the SDGs.
- Integrate the peacebuilding knowledge, experiences, and practices of indigenous peoples, and draw inspiration from successful disarmament procedures and treaties.
- Emphasize the humanitarian and environmental consequences of the status quo.
- Facilitate the active participation of youth and civil society in disarmament discussions; avoid limiting disarmament processes to a strictly top-down state-led approach.

Webpage to find more information:

<https://ipb.org/summit-of-the-future-report-back-advocating-for-a-ssod-iv/>