

BERTHA VON SUTTNER PEACE-INSTITUTE

Venue Humanity House, Prinsegracht 8, The Hague

The Hague Talks Event 18:30-19:50

Film documentary screening and discussion: 20:00-21:30

This Hague Talk will build on the inspiration of the past (The Hague Peace Conferences) and explore current legal initiatives to prevent war; especially nuclear war. Can our protest and the current laws protect future generations and the planet?

Last year, in 2017, the Nobel Committee, also in recognition of the threat from nuclear weapons, awarded the Nobel Peace Prize to ICAN, a grassroots organization that was involved in a treaty prohibiting nuclear weapons. Marzhan Nurzhan from Kazakhstan is part of this movement. She is a convener of the Youth Network of Abolition 2000, and informs about successful initiatives at the United Nations: the new Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and the UN conference on Nuclear Disarmament. She also will comment on the film documentary, *Where the Wind Blew*, about the trans-generational impact of nuclear test explosions in Kazakhstan and the USA. We will discuss how peoples across political divides can do to successfully prohibit nuclear tests and pave the way for a nuclear-weapon-free world, as well as protecting the environment. The Doomsday Clock stands on 2 Minutes to Midnight, indicating the increased risk of nuclear war and the growing threat to the planet by nuclear weapons.

112 years before now, in 1905, the Nobel Peace Prize was given to Bertha von Suttner, a European peace activist and lobbyist who organized the grassroots movement of her time into Peace Societies. Suttner already had warned people before the first World War of destructive weapons falling from the sky (*The Barbarization of the Skies*) but she could not imagine the horrors of Hiroshima and the destruction of the various nuclear and chemical weapons of our time.

This Hague Talks is organized on June 7, the occasion of Suttner's 175th birthday, and because she was so instrumental in The Hague Peace Conferences of 1907 creating The Hague Conventions on the laws of warfare and establishing the Permanent Court of Arbitration in the Peace Palace.



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Thursday, 7 June 2018

HOW DO I WORK FOR PEACE AND DISARMAMENT?

During this Hague Talks, two inspiring women explain what drives them to work for peace and disarmament organisations that won the Nobel Peace prize. What is their personal contribution to peace and disarmament? How is it to work for male dominated disarmament organisations?

19:00 – 20:00

To celebrate the 175th birthday of pacifist and political journalist Bertha von Suttner, the first woman to ever win the Nobel Peace Prize in 1905, we will talk with the women who have followed her footsteps. What can others do to follow the footsteps of Bertha von Suttner and her efforts for a peaceful world?

20:00 – 22:00

After the discussion and a short break, we will watch the documentary 'Where The Wind Blew' about nuclear disasters in Kazakhstan during the Cold War and talk with peace activist Marzhan Nurzhan, born in Kazakhstan, who will share her personal insights on the issue.

SPEAKERS

★ Deepti Choubey, Head of Public Affairs and OPCW Spokesperson, Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW). She has a track record of advancing global security by working across civil society and industry at the highest levels of government and media. Deepti is a widely quoted and published expert and speaker on nuclear materials security, non-proliferation, disarmament, the test ban, and international regimes. OPCW won the Nobel Peace prize in 2013.

★ Marzhan Nurzhan, Abolition 2000 Youth Network Convener. Marzhan is originally from Kazakhstan and is actively involved in campaigns for the abolition of nuclear weapons as an educator and lobbyist. In 2017, she was invited to address nuclear disarmaments to the United Nations General Assembly on the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons. 'My passion for nuclear disarmament arises from the nuclear legacy of Kazakhstan'.

Abolition 2000 is part of the coalition ICAN, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons. ICAN is a coalition of non-governmental organizations in one hundred countries promoting adherence to and implementation of the United Nations nuclear weapon ban treaty.

★ Moderator is Alyn Ware, Global Coordinator for Parliamentarians for Nuclear Nonproliferation and Disarmament (PNND) and director of the Basel Peace Office in Switzerland. He also serves as vice president of the International Peace Bureau, the organisation that won the Nobel Peace prize in 1910.

