

BANg – Ban All Nukes generation

Or: the challenge to create a colourful, creative and effective youth network for nuclear disarmament

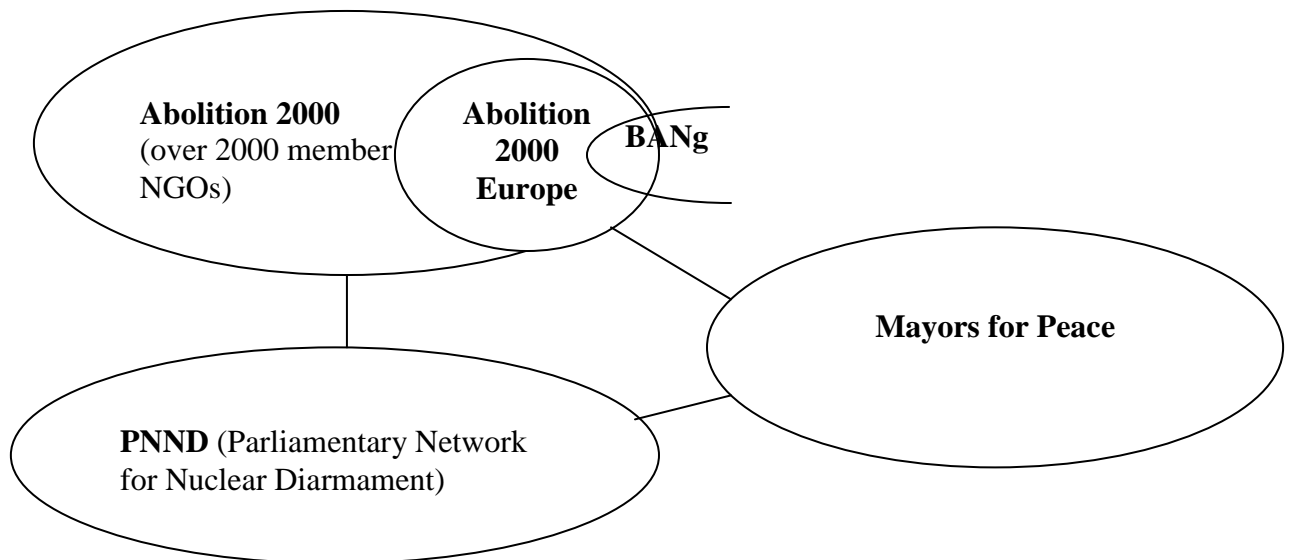
Workshop at the European IPPNW Students Conference in Naples, on 14th May 2006
Facilitators: Giorgio Alba, Italy, and Julia Kramer, Germany, from BANg

BANg Introduction

BANg (Ban All Nukes generation), the European Youth Network for Nuclear Disarmament

- ...is a loose network of young people from all over Europe who work on the issue of nuclear disarmament.
- ...was founded by European youth from 7 countries in Milano, as a reaction to the failure of the NPT Review Conference 2005.
- ...wants to create synergies between young people and initiatives who campaign for nuclear disarmament by an email listserve, a website and an annual meeting for exchange.
- We also occasionally do actions & lobbying together and try to support each other by sharing, producing and linking up tools for outreach and campaigning activities.
- Once we have a logo, we'll have an open use policy for it, for those who are part of our listserve (exception: political parties are not to use our logo).
- For more info, visit the website: www.BANg-europe.org and come to our 2006 meeting on 24th-26th November in Brussels, Belgium.

International movement for nuclear disarmament – an overview



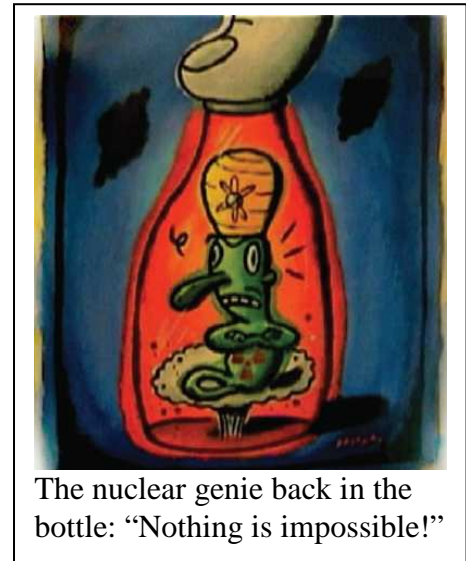
Campaigning Tools:

- Outreach & awareness raising
- Media work
- Lobbying / dialog with decision-makers
- Legal approaches (filing of law suits...)
- Non-violent action, non-violent direct action
- Networking & fundraising

As nuclear disarmament is an issue where not many people are informed about it or feel its urgency, the conclusion was that for the movement to gain momentum at this point we need to focus much energy on outreach work.

Tools for outreach: sharing of ideas

- Movie “Genie in a Bottle - unleashed”: 16min movie DVD by two 13 year old boys from the US, on the issue of nuclear weapons and the Manhattan Project. Available in English and Italian, soon also in German and French with BANg.
- “Firepower Demonstration” at workshops: a tool to demonstrate the sound of all the explosive power of all weapons used in WWI and WWII including the two nuclear bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, compared to the explosive power of all nuclear weapons that exist in the world today (1 ⇔ 2667 bullets dropped into a container).
- International Law Campaign (more at www.a-vr.org) and Hiroshima exhibitions at city halls of Mayors for Peace cities (<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/>).
- Creative action like the “99 red balloons”, to attract attention and send a positive message
- Making nuclear disarmament a side issue of popular events (like concerts, sports etc.), by making stalls, organising fundraising concerts or co-sponsor events...



Networking in Europe: IPPNW students & BANg

In the discussion following the presentation, several participants shared their experiences with different activities (workshops, concerts, questionnaires etc.) and some were saying that they want to reach out to school students in the future, in which cooperation and sharing of tools and ideas would be helpful.

It was agreed that it would make sense to link up the websites of the NWIP and BANg, particularly those of tools for workshops and action (like NWIP workshops, the questionnaire “Learn About Nuclear Weapons”, and the Target Project on the side of IPPNW and the tool kit on the BANg website on the other hand).



As time was up quickly, the discussion about how to deal with the issue of Iran in our campaigning activities was cut off. However, some IPPNW students showed interest to be contact persons between IPPNW students and BANg for further cooperation. Additionally, several students asked for a copy of the DVD “Genie in a Bottle – unleashed”.