



Global Article 9 Conference to Abolish War Guests Profiles

Keynote Speakers



Mairead Corrigan Maguire

Mairead Corrigan Maguire won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1976 with Betty Williams for her work to end the violence in Northern Ireland. Mairead was the aunt of the three Maguire children who died as a result of being hit by an Irish Republican Army (IRA) getaway car after its driver was shot by a soldier. Mairead responded to the violence facing her family and community by organizing massive peace demonstrations appealing for an end to the bloodshed. Mairead is co-founder, along with Betty Williams and Ciaran McKeown, of Peace People, a protest movement committed to building a just and peaceful society through nonviolent social action. She currently serves as Honorary President.

Mairead is an active pacifist passionately committed to nonviolent social and political change. She believes, “When we reject nuclear weapons and war, when we uphold Human Rights and International Law, when we build nonkilling, nonviolent societies and world, refusing to kill each other but seeking nonviolent solutions to our problems, then we will have come of age as the human family.”



Cora Weiss

Well known as a peace activist since the early '60s, when she was a co-founder of Women Strike for Peace which played a major role in bringing about the end of nuclear testing in the atmosphere. She was a leader in the anti-Vietnam war movement. For ten years Ms Weiss was a volunteer teacher in the NY City public school system.

She has a long record of support for the United Nations, starting in the 1950's when she hosted colonized Africans who were petitioning for the independence of their countries. She has devoted most of her life to the peace movement, the movement for the advancement of women, and the civil rights movement.

She was President of the International Peace Bureau, (Nobel Laureate 1910) and remains IPB's Representative at the United Nations. As President of the Hague Appeal for Peace, she is leading a campaign dedicated to the abolition of war. It seeks to re-focus our minds on the vision of a world in which violent conflict is publicly acknowledged as illegitimate, illegal, and fundamentally unjust. To implement that vision, the Hague Appeal for Peace has launched a Global Peace Education Campaign.

Credit: Anna Schori

Guest Speakers



Akibayashi Kozue

Akibayashi Kozue is a feminist researcher/activist living in Japan. She has participated in action and conducted research on the feminist peace movement in Okinawa, including Okinawa Women Act Against Military Violence, and analyses gender-based violence by the military. Her research interests and activism are focused on the issue of demilitarization from a gender perspective.



Ronni Alexander

Ronni Alexander first came to Japan in 1977 and worked in Hiroshima. She entered graduate school in 1982, and holds degrees from International Christian University (MA) and Sophia University (Ph.D., International Relations). In 1989, she began work in the Faculty of Law, Kobe University as a research associate, and has served as Professor at the Graduate School of International Cooperation Studies (Transnational Relations, Peace Studies) since 1993. Ronni Alexander is not only a peace researcher, but is also a peace and human rights activist. In 2006, she began the Popoki Peace Project using her picture book *Popoki, What Color is Peace?* (Epic, 2007). The Project is actively engaged in peace education with people of all ages both within Japan and abroad.



Amamiya Karin

Amamiya Karin has been covering young individuals in Japan struggling to survive various anxieties in their lives. She has been actively involved in a wide range of social issues in Japan, including labor and social withdrawal issues.



Asai Motofumi

Asai Motofumi has been serving as the president of the Hiroshima Peace Institute of Hiroshima City University since April 2005, after spending 15 years as a professor at Faculty of Law, Nihon University (1990-1992) and at Faculty of International Studies, Meiji Gakuin University (1992-2005). He also served at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for 27 years (1963-1990). His major contributions in writing are; "State to go to war, or not to go to war" (Aoki Shoten, 2004), "The Right to Collective Defense and the Japanese Constitution" (Shueisha, 2002) and "Japanese Foreign Policy: Reflections and Turnaround" (Iwanami Shinsho, 1989).



Ban Zhong Yi

A journalist, filmmaker and activist, Ban Zhong Yi has been a strong advocate for the cause of Chinese former “comfort women”. He became involved with the issue of Japanese women left in China after World War II as an exchange student. Resolved to chronicle the lives of people in postwar China and bring their stories to Japan, he has documented the lives of women forced into sexual slavery. He won the 7th Asahi Journal Grand Prix for nonfiction in 1992 for *Auntie So’s Sea* and founded the Association to Support Former Chinese “Comfort Women” in 1995. He has written several books and produced documentaries on Sino-Japanese relations.



Christophe Barbey

Christophe Barbey is the coordinator of APRED, the association for the non-militarization of countries and conflicts (www.demilitarisation.org), an independent institute established in 2001 in Switzerland and doing research and advocating on the following peace matters: countries without armies, peace zones, the human right to peace and peace policies. APRED also does peaceful conflict transformation. He has been studying and visiting countries without armies since 1989.



Jasna Bastic

From Sarajevo in the former Yugoslavia, Jasna Bastic fled from her hometown when it was surrounded during the Bosnian conflict and moved to Zurich, Switzerland as a refugee. A freelance journalist, Jasna Bastic is also active in peace conferences related to the former Yugoslavia held throughout Europe, and a participant in the anti-war movement. With her expertise in the media and conflicts, she is currently a staff member at Peace Boat's European office and Project Manager of the Peace Education programme.



Emmanuel Bombande

Emmanuel Bombande is Co-founder and Executive Director of WANEP, a Peacebuilding Practitioner and International Trainer in Conflict Mitigation and Prevention across Africa, with a strong background in conflict analysis. He has been a lead mediator in many community-based mediation efforts in West Africa and has advised in various capacities the Government of Ghana in intra and inter-communal mediation initiatives. He also teaches various peacebuilding courses in different institutions of high learning and peacebuilding practice.



Chen Jau-hwa

Chen Jau-hwa is Associate Professor at the Department of Philosophy, Soochow University, where she directs their Human Rights Program. Her areas of speciality include Philosophy of Human Rights, Human Rights Policy, Feminism and more. An accomplished researcher, she has published numerous works in Chinese, English and German. She also holds prominent positions in a variety of organizations, including board member of the Peace Time Foundation, commissioner of the cabinet's Taskforce for the Promotion of Human Rights Protection, board member of Taiwan Association for Truth and Reconciliation and member of the Gender Equality Education Committee at Soochow University.



Aidan Delgado

An Iraq War Veteran, Aidan Delgado applied for and received conscientious objector status on pacifist principles while on tour in Iraq, but not before witnessing abuses at Abu Ghraib prison. He returned home from Iraq with pictures and his account of atrocities committed at Abu Ghraib. He has participated in many anti-war events, including leading the 70 member "Florida for Peace" group to Washington D.C. in 2005, and has taken part in numerous interviews and films relating to the war. He published his first book, entitled *The Sutras of Abu Ghraib*, in August 2007.



Frederic Durant

Frederic Durand has graduated in Japanese language and civilization, focusing on the issue of pacifist movements in postwar Japan. He has worked for over three years as an assistant to the correspondent of the Japanese daily newspaper Asahi Shimbun at the UN in Geneva. Activist of the anti-militarist Group for a Switzerland without and Army (GSoA/GSsA) for ten years, he has recently joined the International Peace Bureau to liaise with member organizations and advocate for 'Disarmament for Development'.



Corazon Valdez Fabros

Corazon Valdez Fabros is a lawyer by profession and founding member of the National Union of Peoples' Lawyers and the Counsels for the Defense of Liberties. She has been with the anti-bases, anti-nuclear and peace movement for more than 30 years. She currently seats in the Coordinating Committee of the International Network for the Abolition of Foreign Military Bases (No Bases Network) and acts as the lead convenor of STOP the War! Coalition Philippines. She also chairs the Pacific Concerns Resource Centre (Secretariat of the Nuclear Free and Independent Pacific Movement) and the Nuclear Free Philippines Coalition.



Joseph Gerson

Joseph Gerson has served on the American Friends Service Committee since 1976 and is currently Director of Programs and Director of the Peace and Economic Security Program in New England. His work focuses on challenging U.S. global hegemony: its preparations for and threats to initiate nuclear war, and its military domination of the Asia-Pacific and the Middle East. His work has included helping to launch the nuclear freeze movement and build the anti-bases and nuclear weapons abolition movements. His most recent book is "Empire and the Bomb: How the US Uses Nuclear Weapons to Dominate the World," published in the U.S., Britain and Japan.



Verena Graf

Since 1980, Verena Graf is the Permanent Representative and Secretary General of the International League for the Rights and Liberation of Peoples. She closely follows the work of human rights bodies at the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). She monitored elections in the Philippines, Eritrea and Nagorni Karabakh and participated in inquiry missions in Kosovo, Palestine and Iraq.



Marte Hellema

Marte Hellema acts within the European Centre for Conflict Prevention as the Regional Coordinator for Asia Pacific and Latin America & the Caribbean. She also works with awareness raising, focusing primarily on the UN International Day of Peace, 21 September. She was one of the editors of the People Building Peace II: Successful Stories of Civil Society and worked on the preparations of the GPPAC Global Conference in New York in 2005. She has a background in Political Science, International Relations from the University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands and Granada, Spain where she focused on conflict studies, specifically disarmament of small arms and light weapons.



Sister Filo Shizue Hirota

Sister Filo Shizue Hirota is a Mercedarian Missionaries of Berriz. She served in the Office for Human Development (OHD) of the Federation of Catholic Bishops Conferences based in Manila. The OHD is a coordinating office of the Catholic Justice and Peace network in Asia. She also served in a rural area of Nicaragua. At present, she is an executive committee member in charge of international relations of the Catholic Council for Justice and Peace and a board member of the Women's Fund for Peace and Human Rights.



Hoshikawa Jun

Executive Director of Greenpeace Japan. A prominent writer and translator in Japan, his fields of expertise range from the environment and peace to indigenous cultures. His recent publications include "Why Japan is the Top Whale Killer of the World" (Gentosha Shinsho, 2007), "Democracy of Spirit" (Tsukiji Shokan, 2005), "HISEN -No War-" (Ryuichi Sakamoto et al., Gentosha, 2002), and "A Short History of Progress" by Ronald Right (NHK Publications, 2005). His co-editorial work, "An Anthology for Posterity" (Nanatsumori Shokan, 2004) with TUP (Translators United for Peace), received the Citizens' Media Award from the Japan Congress of Journalists in 2004.



Syed Rifaat Hussain

Syed Rifaat Hussain is the Executive Director of the Regional Centre for Strategic Studies (RCSS), Colombo, Sri Lanka. Before taking up his current position, he headed the National Defence College in Islamabad, Pakistan, taught in and chaired the Department of Defence and Strategic Studies at Quaid-i-Azam University in Islamabad, Pakistan and was a visiting Professor of Political Science at Stanford University in California, USA. He served as minister for information in the Pakistan Embassy in Washington, D.C.



Ikeda Kayoko

Ikeda Kayoko's best-seller "If the world were a village of 100 people" was published after the September 11 attacks and the subsequent reprisal attack against Afghanistan. With the royalties received from the sales of the book, she founded the 100 People Trust Fund, which assists NGOs and asylum-seekers in Japan. She also participates in an organization assisting a girls' school in an Afghan refugee camp in Pakistan. She is a member of The Committee of Seven for World Peace.



Isezaki Kenji

Isezaki Kenji is the Head of Peace & Conflict Studies at the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, and lecturer at the United Nations University, Tokyo. He served as Japan's Representative for Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration in Afghanistan where he directed the political process of disarming factional forces. He has also served in the UN Mission in Sierra Leone as Chief of DDR, and as Governor in the Indonesia border area for the UN Transitional Administration in East Timor in 2000-01. He has published many books and articles on UN peacekeeping operations and NGO management.



Ito Makoto

Ito Makoto was born in Tokyo in 1958. After successfully passing the bar exam in 1981, he has been committed to mentoring and coaching law students in passing their bar exams. In 1995, he launched Itojuku, a prep-school for bar exams. Since the opening of Itojuku, he has been concentrating on mentoring, and suspended his private practice. However, he re-registered as a lawyer in December 2007. His principle of emphasizing a post-bar exam vision has garnered wide support. In addition to his classes at Itojuku, Ito travels widely and lectures on the Japanese Constitution. His publications include “The Strength of the Constitution” (Shueishashinsho Publishers).



Jung Gyunglan

Jung Gyunglan is the Co-Executive Director, Women’s Division, South Korean Committee for the Implementation of 6.15th South- North Joint Declaration. Prior to taking this position, she was the Chairperson of the Women Making Peace International Solidarity Committee. She has also been Policy Director at the organization, making policy on issues relating to reunification and gender perspectives. Her work focuses on peace building and achieving unification of Korean peninsula. She co-authored “The Present Situation of Northern and Southern Women” in The Structure and Reality of 50 Years of Division of Korea.



Kayama Rika

Kayama Rika, born in Sapporo, Hokkaido on July 1st 1960, graduated from Tokyo Medical University. She has contributed to magazines since her university days. After graduating, she used her clinical experience to write reviews about society and culture, as well as publications for newspapers and magazines in which she shares her insights about the “diseases of the mind” of modern human beings. Her specialist field is psychopathology, but she is also interested in subcultures, for example video game related issues.



Keibo Oiwa

Oiwa Keibo (also known under the pen name of Tsuji Shin'ichi) is a cultural anthropologist, author, environmentalist and public speaker. Founder of the Sloth Club, Japan's leading "Slow Life" environmental group, he regularly gives lectures throughout Japan, and hosts a monthly interview series in Sotokoto (Japan's leading ecology and lifestyle magazine). He has written or co-authored numerous books in English and Japanese. His influential book “Slow Is Beautiful” (2001) has been acclaimed by Japan's Slow Movement, which advocates an eco-cultural sustainable lifestyle. He also teaches International Studies at Meiji Gakuin University.



Kwon Heok Tae

An historian, Kwon Heok Tae received a doctor's degree in economics from Hitotsubashi University, and taught as associate professor at the Yamaguchi University Department of Economics before becoming professor at the Department of Japanese Studies at South Korea's Sungkonghoe University. He is a researcher on the historical process of the development of peace principles in post-war Japan, and is vocal about Japan's role in East Asia. He has brought together researchers, lawyers and CSOs to create the Heiwa Kempo Renraku Kai (Peace Constitution Network), a group that works on the significance of Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution in Northeast Asia.



Lee Junkyu

Lee Junkyu is the Policy Director and a Steering Committee Member of Peace Network, South Korea. He previously served as a policy researcher for the Korean Democratic Labor Party. He co-authored 'Northeast Asia Nuclear Weapon Free Zone' (2005), jointly published by Korean and Japanese NGOs in 2005, and writes regularly in the monthly magazine 'Reunified Korea(Tongil Hankuk)'. Involved in the peace movement as an activist and a researcher, he has been especially interested in Korea-Japan civil society efforts to build a peaceful Eastasia. He created a network calling for a Korean Peace Constitution in 2006.



Lee Suk-tae

A lawyer for more than 25 years, Lee Suk-tae has been working extensively on human rights as well as on environmental issues in South Korea. He served as a member of the Executive Committee of the Korean Environmental Movement Federation and was also involved in the National Environmental Dispute Resolution Commission. He is also the president of MINBYUN, Lawyers for a Democratic Society, and has been working as an ambassador-at-large for human rights.



Lim Jae-sung

Lim Jae-sung is a conscientious objector. He was imprisoned for 16 months for refusing military service. He came out of jail in May 2006 and has since been involved in the peace movement through 'World without War', an organization that defends the right of conscientious objectors. His Masters studies focus on sociology, militarism and the Korean peace movement.



Nicola Liscutin

Nicola Liscutin is Program Director of Japanese Studies at Birkbeck College, London. Her research and teaching focuses on the construction and representation of historical consciousness, memory, gender and national identity in modern Japan. In particular, she has worked on 'comfort women', the various history textbook controversies, and representations of the Asia-Pacific War in museums and popular culture such as film and manga. She is currently finishing a book (in German) on the discourses on the 'comfort women' issue, due to be published in winter 2008/09. She is a member of VAWW-Net Japan, and has contributed to Peace Boat's Global University Program.



Maeda Akira

Maeda Akira is professor of law at the University of Tokyo, as well as Director of the Japanese Association of Democratic Lawyers, Secretary General of the Association of Human Rights for Korean residents in Japan, and coinitiator of the People's International Criminal Tribunals for Afghanistan and Iraq. He is one of the initiators of the Non Defended Localities Movement Network. He is the author of "War Crimes in International Law" (2000), "Genocide Theories" (2002) and "People's Power of Peace" (2006). His most recent book is "Countries without Armies" (2008).



Kathy Matsui

Kathy R. Matsui is Professor at the Department of Global Citizenship Studies, Seisen University (Tokyo, Japan) and has taught courses on conflict resolution, peace education, cross-cultural understanding and English communication skills. Her research focuses on the role of leadership in peace education, development of capacities for conflict resolution and reconciliation, and fostering communication skills to build inner peace and cooperative relationships. She has worked with peace researchers and educators internationally in International Institute on Peace Education and the Global Partnership for Prevention of Armed Conflict. She is currently an advisory board member for the Hague Appeal for Peace, the Global Campaign for Peace Education and Oxfam International, Japan.



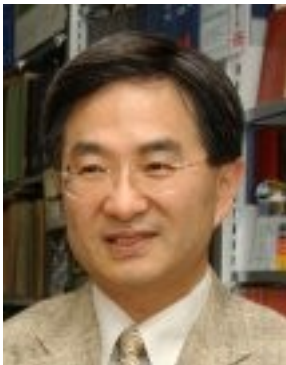
El Hadji Mbodj

El Hadj Mbodj is a Professor of Public Law and Political Science at the University of Cheikh Anta Diop of Dakar, Senegal. He has just completed his mission as an expert lawyer in the Parliament of the Democratic Republic of Congo, where he took part in the drafting of laws on decentralization and the Congolese judicial system. He is a former member of Senegal's Human Rights Committee and the former director of the University of Cheikh Anta Diop's Institute for Human Rights and Peace.



Gus Miclat

Gus Miclat is the Executive Director and Co-Founder of the Initiatives for International Dialogue, an advocacy and solidarity organization based in the Philippines. He was deeply involved in the broad anti-dictatorship front against Marcos, and has been involved in people's diplomacy or international solidarity work since 1985. Former journalist, editor, university lecturer, theater artist, and organizer, he now serves as Regional Coordinator of the Asia Pacific Solidarity Coalition (APSOC) and is also the Southeast Asia Regional Initiator of the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflicts (GPPAC).



Mizushima Asaho

Mizushima Asaho is Law Professor at Waseda University, specialising in constitutional law and legal policies. His publications include: "Study of the Modern Military Legislation"; "Peace without Military Power"; "Hiroshima and the Peace Constitution."; "Okinawa and the Constitution"; "Emergency Legislation in the World" etc. He often appears on NHK Radio's "Reading the newspaper".



Florence Mpaayei

Florence Mpaayei is the Executive Director of the Nairobi Peace Initiative-Africa. She served with a number of non-governmental, church-affiliated humanitarian agencies working in the areas of development and refugee resettlement focusing in East Africa, the Great Lakes Region, the Horn of Africa, and the Indian Ocean . She has extensive experience in conflict transformation training and facilitation, and in relief work. She is currently leads the Regional Secretariat for Eastern and Central Africa for the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflicts. Her interest focuses how conflict-affected women can be involved in community and national peacebuilding.



Nakamura Keiko

Nakamura Keiko has been working since 2001 for Peace Depot, an NGO which carries out research and makes policy recommendations towards building a security framework that does not depend on the military. She became the secretary general of the organization in 2005. She is one of the main writers and editors of the "Nuclear Weapon & Nuclear Test Monitor" and "Nuclear Disarmament and Peace" yearbooks (Kobunken). She also lectures at Kanto Gakuin University. She graduated from California State University, Hayward in 1999 (International Studies), and from the Graduate School of Monterey Institute of International Studies in 2001 (Gender and Development).



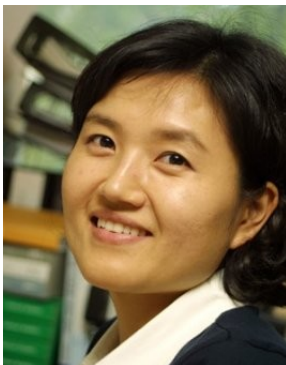
Nishino Rumiko

Nishino Rumiko is Co-chairperson of the Violence Against Women in War -Network Japan (VAWW-NET) and Director of the Women's Active Museum on War and Peace (WAM). She is also a freelance journalist. Working together with like-minded women, she has long been committed to resolving the issue of "comfort women," initiating the Women's International War Crimes Tribunal on Japan's Military Sexual Slavery in 2000 and opening a resource center for documenting the issue in 2005. She also stood as plaintiff in the lawsuit concerning the alternation of the NHK (Japan's national broadcaster) program on the Women's Tribunal under government pressure. She is author of many books, including "Comfort Women in the Battlefield" and "Comfort Women and the 15 Year War."



Onodera Ai

Onodera Ai has been a member of Peace Boat's Executive Committee since 2003. She also serves as a board member of the Global Call to Action Against Poverty-Japan and a founding member of "9LOVE", an action network that promotes Japan's peace constitution from a cultural and lifestyle perspective. She participated in six global and two Asian voyages as coordinator of Peace Boat's peace and environmental educational programs. She has contributed a chapter in "30 Ways to Eradicate Poverty in the World"(Godo Shuppan, 2005), and written numerous articles in environmental free papers and magazines such as "SOTOKOTO" and "Blue."



Park Jung-eun

Park Jung-eun is Chief Coordinator of the Center for Peace and Disarmament and has monitored and made policy suggestions on the North Korea-US conflict and North Korean nuclear issues. She has worked in the areas of diplomacy and security including on the South Korea-US military alliance, dispatching of troops to Iraq and human rights issues in North Korea. She has participated in numerous international meetings, including the World Peace Forum in 2006 and an ASPBAE peace education workshop in Thailand in 2007.



Betty A. Reardon, Ed.D.

Betty A. Reardon is the Founding Director Emeritus of the Peace Education Center at Teachers College Columbia University, and founder of the International Institutes on Peace Education. She is also the initiator of the Hague Appeal for Peace Global Campaign for Peace Education. She was awarded an Honorable Mention UNESCO at the 2000 Peace Education Prize Ceremonies and has received various other honors. Her peace education work is noted for its integration of human rights principles and feminist perspectives on global issues. She has over 40 years of experience in the international peace education movement and 25 years in the international movement for the human rights of women.



Hans-Peter Richter

Hans-Peter Richter has long been involved in trade union activities and the peace movement, as a member of the board of the "Peace Museum" in Berlin (1982-1989) and a founding member of the German-Japanese Peace Forum (1987). He is also a member of the German Peace Council, serving as editor of the newsletter "PAX REPORT", while working for the German umbrella organization "Axis of Peace". An expert on military bases, Hans-Peter Richter has attended many international conferences and participated in hearings of the European Parliament. Since March 2007, he is a member of the coordinating committee of the "World Conference for Abolishing Foreign Military Bases."



Paul Saoko

Paul Saoko is a public health specialist and the Executive Director of Physicians for Social Responsibility in Kenya and Vice President of the International Society of Doctors for the Environment (ISDE Africa region). He participated actively in the negotiations of the Stockholm Convention and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management. He was also a member of the task-force on the Healthy Environments for Children's Alliance. He is currently the Vice-Chair of the National Steering Committee for the implementation of Stockholm Convention in Kenya, and chairs the DDT (pesticides) expert committee. He oversaw the development of Kenya's national action plan on DDT.



Jitendra Sharma

Jitendra Sharma is a Senior Advocate in the Supreme Court of India. Since 2000, he is President of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers. He previously served as Secretary General, Vice-President and Secretary of IADL. He also is Vice-President of the International Centre for Trade Union Right. He has been actively involved in the peace and disarmament movements, against nuclear weapons and for sustainable development. He actively participated in the activities of IALANA, and was the Secretary General of the Indian Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms.



Shinagawa Masaji

Shinagawa Masaji was born in Hyogo in 1924. Shinagawa graduated from Tokyo University with a bachelor's degree in law. He has served as the President and Chairman of Nipponkoa Insurance (former Nihonkasai), as well as the Vice Chairperson and President of the Japan Association of Corporate Executives (Keizai Doyukai).



Beate Sirota Gordon

Beate Sirota played a central role in the drafting of the Japanese constitution, in particular the dispositions that grant equality between men and women in Japan. During the war, she worked for the US Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service, the Office of War Information and Time magazine, and served as a translator for Supreme Commander of the Allied Powers, General Douglas MacArthur. She returned to the US in 1947 and has continued to play a large part in Japanese-American cultural relations.



Alice Slater

Alice Slater is the New York Director of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation. She is a founder of Abolition 2000, a global network calling for the elimination of nuclear weapons, and serves on its International Coordinating Committee and as the Convener of its Sustainable Energy Working Group. An attorney, she is a member of the NYC Bar Association's Energy Committee. She is on the NGO Executive Committee of the UN Department of Public Information and has organized numerous conferences, panels, and roundtables at the U.N. on nuclear and environmental issues.



Kathleen Sullivan

A disarmament educator, author, activist and producer, Kathleen Sullivan has been engaged in the nuclear issue for over 20 years, during which time she has worked with youth, community organizers, academics, government representatives and nuclear industry officials in many countries. Formerly the coordinator of the Nuclear Weapons Education and Action Project of Educators for Social Responsibility, she is an education consultant to the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs. With veteran filmmaker Robert Richter, she produced *The Last Atomic Bomb*, a film about survivors from Nagasaki. She was also consultant producer for Steven Okazaki's film *White Light Black Rain: the Destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki*.



Takada Kimiko

After working for the New Japan Women's Association Osaka, Takada Kimiko became involved in parents' and parent-teacher associations of day care centers in Saitama from 1978. After serving as Secretary General, and Vice-President of the New Japan Women's Association Head Office, she became its President in 2003. In her 2005 visit to China, South Korea and the Philippines, as well as at the 2006 International Symposium of Women, Takada spoke about Japanese women protecting Article 9 and improved networking of women's organisations. She is active in the "Article 9 Association", the "Women's Article 9 Association", is vice-chair of the Japan Mother's Association Organization committee and representative of the National Center for Children's Rights, Education and Culture.



Takasato Suzuyo

Takasato Suzuyo, born in 1940, worked as women's consultant of Naha, capital city of Okinawa, Japan. At the World Conference on Women in Beijing and the Hague Peace Conference, she represented Japan on an international level. In Okinawa, she co-founded and represents the women's initiatives "Rape Crisis Center Okinawa Reiko"(since 1995), and "Okinawa Women Act Against Military Violence" (since 1995). In 1997, she co-founded the "International Women's Network Against Militarism" and is working on expanding the network. She has worked for 4 terms (15 years) on the Naha city council and published "Women of Okinawa" (Akashi Shoten, 1996).



Takato Nahoko

After working as a volunteer in India, Thailand and Cambodia in orphanages and AIDS hospices, Takato Nahoko became involved in emergency relief actions for Iraqi people from April 2003. Upon entering Iraq for the fourth time, she was taken hostage by an armed group. She now works with Iraqi Rebuild Youth Group carrying out reconstruction projects.



Taniyama Hiroshi

Since he started field work in refugee camps on the border between Thailand and Cambodia in 1986, Taniyama Hiroshi has worked in various countries including Laos, Cambodia and Afghanistan carrying out emergency relief, rural development and advocacy projects. He became President of JVC at the end of 2006. He has been involved in forming various networks and organizations, such as People's Forum on Cambodia, Community Development Initiative Japan and the No War NGO Network. He has served as Vice President of the Japan NGO Center for International Cooperation (JANIC) since 2007.



Auki Tituana

Since 1996, Auki Tituana has been the first elected indigenous mayor of Cotacachi, and is currently serving his third term. He is a founder of the All Citizen's Assembly, promoting participatory democracy. He received the International Dubai Award for improving people's quality of life socially, culturally and economically, and the UNESCO Peace City Award for implementing the Declaration for Conservation of Ecosystem. He has consistently opposed mining projects that violate Ecuador's mining laws, leading the country's government to revoke mining concessions in the area. He was among the 100 people nominated for their environmental efforts at the Aichi International Expo in Japan in March 2005.



Kasim Turki

Working as a humanitarian aid worker with the Iraq Hope Network, a Japan-based consortium of NGOs, Kasim Turki carries out reconstruction and human rights projects in Iraq. He has released a collection of writings in Japanese entitled Letters from Iraq: My Lost Hometown, Ramadi.



Carlos Vargas Pizarro

Carlos Vargas is a lawyer and university professor. He directed the Legal Division of the Costa Rica Ministry of Foreign Affairs, represented his country as ambassador on several missions, and served in the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and International Court of Justice, where he was involved in the Advisory Opinion related to the Legality of Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons (1995). He also led the negotiations in the UN Human Rights Commission on the Draft Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture. He currently is IALANA's Vice-President.

Mosese Waqa

Mosese Waqa is currently the Chair of the Pacific network of GPPAC in the Pacific region, Pacific People Building Peace. While also contracted by Victoria University in Melbourne to set up the Pacific Islands Research & Development Programme, he studies the role of military companies in the Pacific, and the impact of the privatization of security and defense, with special focus on small island states like the Republic of the Fiji Islands. He is also working on developing the GPPAC Australian platform, and in the long term helps to coalesce and consolidate GPPAC's initiatives in Asia and the Pacific.



Christopher Gregory Weeramantry

His Excellency Judge C.G. Weeramantry is the President of the International Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms (IALANA). He was a Judge of the International Court of Justice, and served as Vice-President. He presided over important cases, including the case on the illegality of the use and threat of use of nuclear weapons. He was a Justice of the Supreme Court of Sri Lanka, and is Founder and Chairman of the Weeramantry International Centre for Peace Education and Research (WICPER). He received the UNESCO prize for Peace Education in 2006. In 2007, he was awarded the Right Livelihood (Alternative Nobel Prize) Award in Sweden.



Ellen Woodsworth

Ellen Woodsworth is a community organizer working for social justice, economic equality and environmentally sound planning. She was a Vancouver City Councillor from 2002 to 2005. Since then she has been organizing Climate Change and Harm Reduction forums and was the Secretary and Cities Coordinator of the World Peace Forum Board. She operated a travelling women's bookmobile and founded a women's newspaper "The Other Woman" in Canada. She worked in the UK with the International Wages for Housework Campaign. She was part of a national coalition that forced the government to include unpaid work in the 1996 census and chaired the BC Action Canada Network.



Ann Wright

Ann Wright served 29 years in the U.S. Army and as a State Department official. As a foreign service employee she received an award for heroism for helping evacuating 2,500 people from the civil war in Sierra Leone in 1997. She publicly resigned in 2003 in direct opposition to the Iraq War. Since resigning, Ann Wright has been heavily involved in the peace movement in the United States.



Yoshioka Tatsuya

Yoshioka Tatsuya co-founded the Japan-based international organisation Peace Boat in 1983, to promote peace education and grassroots citizens' diplomacy. Over the last 25 years he has been engaged in peacebuilding activities in countries including Cambodia, Palestine, Yugoslavia and Iraq. He is a member of the International Steering Group for the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC), and a Global Coordinator of the informal network UN-NGO-IRENE.



Yukawa Reiko

Yukawa Reiko is a pillar of the music industry in Japan. She has worked as a music journalist and a writer for over 45 years, interviewing many musicians and artists from all over the world. She also has been a lyricist for over 40 years. Her works include big hits such as "Runaway", "A Lover's Suicide In Roppongi", and "Fallin' In Love".