

With Prayers for a “Nuclear-Free World”¹

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On July 7, 2020—six months after Pope Francis visited the two atomic-bombed cities, Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and only about one month before the 75th anniversary of the bombings—the “Nuclear-Free World Foundation” was established with the hope of promoting, from Hiroshima and Nagasaki, civic activities aiming for the abolition of nuclear weapons.

Established exactly three years after the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) was adopted at the United Nations, the Nuclear-Free World Foundation pursues three objectives:

- 1: Support activities for increasing ratifications of the TPNW
- 2: Support people and places around the world harmed by radiation related to nuclear weapons
- 3: Support activities for promoting the abolition of nuclear weapons

The TPNW entered into force on January 22, 2021, and a variety of actors are preparing for the first meeting of states parties to the treaty scheduled on 21 to 23 June 2022 (as of this writing).

In relation to the foundation’s second objective, I hope this collection of articles, organized by Professor Noriyuki Kawano and Professor Seiichiro Takemine, will provide valuable information to stimulate discussions for promoting victim assistance and international cooperation stipulated by Articles 6 and 7 of the TPNW.

¹This article was translated from Japanese by Yuichi Yokoyama and proofread by Annelise Giseburt.