

Appeal „No First Use“

Preliminary thoughts

Science4Peace

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Science for Peace

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Conflict and Geospatial Analysis for Peace and Stability

Science4Peace integrates expertise from three domains (risk modelling, remote sensing and open-source data) and applies it synergetically for conflict prevention, early warning, crisis monitoring and post-conflict assessment.

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Why appeal now?

- Many available initiatives for peace¹, but nuclear threat isn't present in most
- repeated mentioning of possibility to use nuclear weapons
- Steadfast Noon Manoeuvre (17. October 2022)
 - Danger of world war by accident
- Nato-Strategy is to weaken russia, a nuclear power, by prolonging the war on the cost of ukrainian civilians (hunger and death in global south, crisis of democracy and economy in global north)

¹Summary of peace concepts for the Ukraine crisis by IPPNW (German): https://www.ippnw.de/commonFiles/pdfs/Frieden/Waffenstillstand_und_Frieden_Ukrainekonflikt.pdf

Scientific background

Multiple crises:

1. Climate change
2. Hunger
3. Fresh water supply, Energy and resources
4. Loss of biodiversity, extinction of species
5. Crisis of democratic legitimacy
6. Economic crisis of growth (limits to growth, Club of Rome)
7. Geopolitical confrontation, economic war

What could be the content of an appeal?

More strictly scientific:

1. Dangers of nuclear war, especially “strategic nukes”, extinction of life
2. Demand of No-first-use-declarations
3. Loss of action on: climate change, loss of biodiversity, species’ extinction
4. Demand of the renewal of arms treaties
5. Nuclear disarmament
6. “Logic of peace” instead of “logic of war” (peace research term)

What could be the content of an appeal?

More political:

1. Call for civil diplomacy/deepening of institutional cooperations between Russia, China and Nato states
2. Problem of Nato
3. Disarmament of propaganda and rhetoric
4. Commitment to peace, trustbuilding measures, cooperation

Who is the recipient of the appeal, manifesto?

- Governments (no détente/peace without explicit consent from the US Administration?)
- International Organisations (UN, Nato, ...?)
- Scientific Institutions (Universities, Research Cooperations/Projects, .)
- Cultural Institutions (Theatres, Orchestras, ...)
- General public
- ...

Einstein-Russell-Manifest (1955)

- “We shall try to say **no single word which should appeal to one group rather than to another**. All, equally, are in peril, and, if the peril is understood, there is hope that they may collectively avert it.”
- “We have to learn to think in a new way. We have to learn to ask ourselves, **not what steps can be taken to give military victory to whatever group we prefer**, for there no longer are such steps; the question we have to ask ourselves is: **what steps can be taken to prevent a military contest of which the issue must be disastrous to all parties?**”

Which angles can we work as scientists?

- Bring in expertise and names/institutions with an appeal/manifesto
- Include students in protests, discussions within lectures
- Strike (difficult)
- Stop military-related research (difficult)
- Organise in a more (or less) institutionalised form

Resolution of the manifesto (1955)

- “In view of the fact that in any future world war nuclear weapons will certainly be employed, and that such weapons threaten the continued existence of mankind, **we urge the governments of the world to realize, and to acknowledge publicly, that their purpose cannot be furthered by a world war, and we urge them, consequently, to find peaceful means for the settlement of all matters of dispute between them.**”