

Extracts from a motion

of the parliamentary parties: CDU/CSU, SPD, FDP and Bündnis 90/Die Grünen

Germany has to set an example for a world free of nuclear weapons

(...) The German parliament recognises:

(...) An opportunity to make substantial progress in nuclear disarmament has been made by U.S. President Obama in Prague on April 5th 2009 in his speech calling for a nuclear weapon-free world. (...)

Civil society's efforts for "Global Zero" or the Australian and Japanese "International Commission for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament" are equally welcome.

A nuclear weapon-free world is not a utopia but a concrete obligation of the signatories of the Non-Proliferation Treaty! Disarmament expectations cannot be allowed to be disappointed once again. Germany can afford an effective contribution to a world without nuclear weapons in many ways on both a national and international level.

The first challenge for this new policy will be the Review Conference of the Non-Proliferation Treaty in May 2010. This non-proliferation regime, largely successful since 1970, now stands at a crossroads. With the increasing spread of the civilian use of nuclear energy, the danger of the spread of military use is also growing. Many non-nuclear states criticise the discriminatory treatment encompassed in the treaty on the proliferation of nuclear weapons. They have long awaited concrete progress in the efforts of the nuclear weapons states for nuclear disarmament and legally binding negative security assurances in return for their renunciation of nuclear weapons.(...)

The federal parliament welcomes the federal government's intention to:

- Support new international treaties and to use the NPT Review Conference to initiate a new dynamic for arms control and disarmament accords;
- Against this background, and in the context of the talks on a new Strategic Concept for NATO, advocate within the alliance and towards the American allies a withdrawal of the remaining nuclear weapons in Germany.
- Work for a nuclear weapon-free world.

The federal parliament calls on the federal government:

(...) 2. in the context of the debate on a new Strategic Concept for NATO, to urge a reduction in the role of nuclear weapons in the NATO strategy and to contribute towards strengthening arms control and the promotion of nuclear and conventional disarmament;

(...) 4. after the successful completion of the treaty to replace START 1, to encourage negotiations between the US and Russia on verifiable and complete nuclear disarmament in the field of sub-strategic weapons;

5. within the context of developing a new Strategic Concept for NATO, within the alliance and towards the American allies, to actively pursue a withdrawal of the remaining nuclear weapons in Germany;

(...) 12. to continue to proactively participate in the discussion about various initiatives including from civil society for a complete nuclear disarmament, such as the “Global Zero” initiative or the discussion on the proposal for a nuclear weapons convention to proscribe nuclear weapons.

(...) 16. on the issue of missile defence, to seek common and cooperative solutions that do not lead to new tension and arms races, and to encourage debate on the global consequences of strategic missile defence systems for arms control;

(...) 19. to politically support the promotion of energy efficiency and renewable energy sources worldwide and to advocate the non-proliferation of dual-use nuclear technology, such as the multilateralisation of the nuclear fuel-cycle for civilian purposes.

This motion was passed on March 26 2010 by a majority vote in the German parliament.