



# Open Letter to Pope Francis From Political and Social Leaders: We Support Your Call for Immediate Peace Negotiations

His Holiness, Pope Francis  
Apostolic Palace  
00120 Vatican City

Your Holiness,

Greetings from the grouping of Political and Social Leaders of the World to Stop the Danger of Nuclear War, initiated by the Schiller Institute in Germany.

We have met on three occasions to discuss the impending danger of nuclear war and global Armageddon resulting from the war between Ukraine and Russia, with a view to taking whatever action necessary to stop the war and to bring peace. On 17 November 2022, our group issued a Declaration to Stop the Threat of Nuclear War, signed by legislators and former legislators from Latin America, the United States, Europe, the Caribbean, and Africa.

In that declaration, we highlighted Your Holiness's call for a negotiated, peaceful solution. We further welcome Your Holiness's offer of the Vatican as a possible neutral ground for peace talks – without any preconditions – between Russia and Ukraine. Our group wishes to support this initiative in any way we can, including gathering together all who wish for peace and the prevention of nuclear war.

We note that others in Europe and the United States have also offered venues for the Russian and Ukrainian leadership to negotiate peace. We believe it is urgent to unify all such efforts into a globe-spanning movement to bring resolution to this conflict, taking into consideration the valid security interests of all parties.

In that spirit, we hereby sign this letter to indicate that support, and call on other political and social leaders around the world, regardless of differences in ideology or religious faith, to add their signatures as well.

We intend to convene a Fourth Seminar of Political and Social Leaders of the World to Stop the Danger of Nuclear War in early 2023 to further this push for peace and to stop the danger of nuclear war, and we extend an invitation to a representative from the Vatican to attend.

## INITIATING SIGNERS

Donald Ramotar, Guyana, Former President  
Dr. Kirk Meighoo, Trinidad & Tobago, Former Senator  
Helga Zepp-LaRouche, Germany, Founder, Schiller Institute  
Diane Sare, United States, Candidate for U.S. Senate from New York State  
Karl Kroekel, Germany, Founder, "Craftsmen for Peace"  
Dr. Rodolfo Ondarza Rovira, Mexico, Former member, Mexico City Legislative Assembly  
Nick Brana, United States, Chair, People's Party  
Maria de los Angeles Huerta, Mexico, Former Congresswoman

## ADDITIONAL SIGNERS

### Africa

Tse Anye Kevin, Vice President, State55, Afrika

### Algeria

Dr. Smaïne Djella, Ph.D. in International Studies; Assistant Professor, University of Algeria; researcher, translator

### Argentina

Enrique Juan Box, Social communicator

Roberto Fritzsche, Professor, Dep't of Economic Science, University of Belgrano

Rubén Darío Guzzetti, Professor, Argentine Institute of Geopolitical Studies

Carlos Pérez Galino, Lawyer

Juan Francisco Numa Soto, Legal counsel to Yaciretá Binational Entity; former professor of Constitutional Law, University of Buenos Aires  
Gustavo Russo, Lawyer; Professor of Juridical Sciences

### Australia

Clive Ettia, Premium Science Trade

### Austria

Erich Fankhauser, International Associate, Peace through Culture Association

### Belgium

Christian Dierick, Engineer, International Science and Technology Collaboration

### Belize

Clinton Canul Luna, Columnist, Amandola newspaper

### Bolivia

Edwin de la Fuente Jeria, Former Commander in Chief, Bolivian Armed Forces

Osman Vladimir Escobar Torrez, Human Rights Secretary, Bolivian Labor Confederation (COB)

Max Yecid Ibañez, Former Secretary of Grievance Resolution, National Federation of Electrical and Telephone Workers of Bolivia

Sandra Marca Uscamayta, Consultant, specialist in Family Agriculture

### Brazil

Jairo Dias Carvalho, Professor of Philosophy of Technology, Federal University of Uberlândia

Lucas Leiroz de Almeida, Journalist; Researcher in Social Sciences at the Rural Federal University of Rio de Janeiro; geopolitical consultant.

Raphael Machado, Political analyst; president, Nova Resistência

Pedro Augusto Pinho, President, Association of Petrobras Engineers (AEPET)

Gabriel Tincani Ramos, President, Union of Socialist Youth - Campinas

Renata Welinski Da Silva Seabra, Former UNDP Executive Director, UN Global Compact Brazil; Ph.D. candidate in international environmental law - Belt and Road Initiative

### Burkina Faso/Ireland

Lassane Ouedraogo, Former Chairman, Board of Directors, Africa Solidarity Center, Ireland

## Canada

Julian Fell, Ph.D., Biologist; Co-Director Area F, Nanaimo Regional Government, British Columbia  
Sherri Lange, CEO, NA-PAW (North American Platform Against Wind Power); Vice President Canada, Save the Eagles International  
Dr. Wayne Smith, Regional Emergency Medical Director  
Dr. Ronnie de Camino,

## Costa Rica

Enrique García Dubón, Economist  
Enrique Ramírez Guier, Biologist; consultant  
Martha Rollins, International Projects Consultant

## Croatia

Alex Krainer, Author, "Grand Deception: The Truth about Bill Browder, the Magnitsky Act, and Anti-Russian Sanctions"

## Dominican Republic

Gregory Caimares, Communicator, "Hora 22" TV program  
Ramón Emilio Concepción, Attorney at Law; Presidential Pre-candidate for PRM party (2020)  
Dr. Roque Espaillat, Physician, social activist  
Reinaldo Olivo, Bishop, El Shaddai Pentacostal Christian Church  
Dante Ortiz Nuñez, Historian  
Msgr. Norberto Polanco Pérez, Missionary Archbishop, Fidelitas Vetero-Catholic Apostolic Church  
Rafael Reyes Jerez, Journalist  
Eddy Rafael Ruiz Peña, Certified Public Accountant  
Enrique Antonio Sánchez Liranzo, Lawyer, writer, poet  
Caonabo Suárez, Lawyer; social activist

## Ecuador

Mario Brito, Journalist, author; former minister  
Ernesto Pazmiño Granizo, Human Rights Defender; Former Minister of Justice of Ecuador  
Alexis Ponce, Rights advocate, National Association of Patients and Vulnerable Families of Ecuador  
Napoleón Saltos Galarza, University professor; former Legislator (Diputado)

## Eritrea/United States

Mardokai Russom, Founder, Eritrean-American Public Affairs Committee (EAPAC)

## France

Jacques Cheminade, President, Solidarite et Progrès; former presidential candidate  
Col. Alain Corvez (ret.), Consultant, International Strategic Affairs  
Gen. Dominique Delawarde (ret.), Former French Liaison Officer with U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, KS

## Germany

Uwe Behrens, Logistics expert, author  
Dr. jur. Wolfgang Bittner, Author  
Joachim Bonatz, Vice President, East German Board of Trustees of Associations (Ostdeutschen Kuratoriums e.V.), Berlin  
Isabelle Casel, Speaker, Federal Working Group on Peace and International Politics, Die Linke  
Dr. Ole Doering, Professor of Philosophy, Culture and Ethics  
Jochen Gueniker, Spokesman, parish team of St. Aegidius, Mannheim-Seckenheim  
Holger Huettel, Chairman, Die Linke, Sangerhausen  
Prof. Dr. Karin Kulow, Professor Emeritus of Middle East Political Sciences; conflict researcher, peace activist  
Fokko Muenck, Psychologist; peace researcher  
Maj. Florian D. Pfaff (ret.), Spokesman, working group "Darmstaedter Signal"  
Rainer Sandau, Technical Director, Satellites and Space Applications,

International Academy of Aeronautics (IAA)  
Prof. Wilfried Schreiber, Oberst a.d., Prof Dr. Phil et sc.oec.; Senior Research Fellow, World Trends Institute for International Policy, Potsdam  
Michael von der Schulenburg, Former Deputy General Secretary of the United Nations for UN Peace Missions

## Ghana

Bartholomew Chirapanga, Legal advisor; language interpreter

## Greece

Dr. Panagiotis Ioannides, Member, International Academy of Letters, Arts and Sciences, Athens  
Leonidas Chrysanthopoulos, Ambassador ad honorem; Secretary General, Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization (2006-2010)

## Guatemala

Raúl Anibal Marroquín Casasola, "Pupil of Heaven" Citizens for Peace Observatory  
Beatriz Solórzano León, Lawyer; Parliamentary staff, Congress of Guatemala  
Otto René Quiñones Carías, Former Congressman

## Haiti

Jhonny Estor, Founder, Renaissance Haiti

## Hungary

Andrea Szego, Former Professor of Economics

## India

Koushik Das, Journalist  
Dr. A. K. Merchant, Joint Secretary, Shanti Sahyog - Centre for Nonviolence & Peace  
Sundeep Waslekar, President, Strategic Foresight Group

## India/United States

Sam Pitroda, Telecom/IT Innovator

## Iraq

Zahra M. Ali, Member, Iraqi Council of Representatives (Parliament)  
Saud Al-Saedi, Member, Iraqi Council of Representatives (Parliament)  
Mustafa Jabbar Sanad, Member, Iraqi Council of Representatives (Parliament)

## Italy

Mario Agostinelli, Trade unionist; Chairman, Fondazione Energia Felice; former General Secretary of CGIL, Sesto San Giovanni  
Alberto Arecchi, Architect; Art historian; Founder and President, Liutprand (a Northern Italian Cultural Association)  
Pino Arlacchi, Former Director, United Nations Drug Control Program; Professor of Sociology, University of Sassari  
Francesco Battaglia, Professor of Physical Chemistry, University of Modena  
Prof. Bruno Brandimarte, Professor (ret.), Applied Biophysics, Univ. of Rome, Tor Vergata  
Liliana Gorini, Chairwoman of Movisol  
Giancarlo Guaitani, Former mayor, Fara Gera d'Adda  
Maria Elena Lacquaniti, Coordinator, GLAM Globalization and Environment Commission  
Federica Mancini, Nuclear engineer, Atoms for Peace, Italy  
Pierangelo Monti, President, Movimento Internazionale della Riconciliazione (MIR), Italian branch of International Fellowship of Reconciliation  
Carlo Pettirossi, Nuclear engineer, Atoms for Peace, Italy  
Alessia Ruggeri, Comitato per la Repubblica  
Antonella Visintin, Member, Commission on Globalization and Environment, Protestant Federation  
Vincenzo Romanello, Ph.D, Senior Nuclear Researcher and Project Manager, National Radiation Protection Institute (SURO)

## **Japan**

Sutou Shizuyo, Ph.D, Professor emeritus, School of Pharmacy, Shujitsu University

## **Malaysia**

Mohammed Peter Davis, Ph.D., Biochemist; biotechnologist; architect; Consultant, deep tropical agriculture

## **Mali**

Adam Ouologuem, Washington D.C.-based journalist

## **Mexico**

Celeste Sáenz de Miera, Secretary General, Mexican Journalists Club  
Mouris Salloum, Director General, Mexican Journalists Club

## **Mozambique**

Samo Fernando Soares da Manhiça, Executive Director, International Alliance for Development - Mozambique

## **Nepal**

Prof. Bishnu Pathak, Professor of Peace, Justice and Security Studies, TRANSCEND Peace University

## **Netherlands**

C. (Kees) le Pair, Ph.D, Physicist, Univ. of Leiden; Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences

## **New Zealand**

Fletcher Glass, Property development

## **Nicaragua**

Bolívar Tellez Castellón, Lawyer; university professor

## **Niger**

Mahamadou Habou, Focal point, Lake Chad Basin youth network; young entrepreneur

## **Nigeria**

David Ajetunmobi, Trade union leader, auto sector  
Adeshola Kukoyi, Founder, Equilibrium Perspectives/University of Lagos  
Zubair Zubair, Human rights and youth advocate; radio host

## **Norway**

Thore Vestby, Former Member of Parliament

## **Pakistan**

Hassan Daud, Former Project Director, China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)  
Shakeel Ahmad Ramay, CEO, Asian Institute of Eco-Civilization Research and Development

## **Panama**

Iván Alexander Muñoz Maestre, Businessman; "Citizen of the World"

## **Peru**

José Antonio Benllochpiquer Castro, Vice President, Christian Democratic Party of Peru  
Dr. Carlos Francisco Gallardo Neyra, President, Christian Democratic Party of Peru

## **Poland**

Dr. W. Julian Korab-Karpowicz, Philosopher; professor, University of Opole; former deputy mayor of Gdansk  
Andrzej Strupczewski, Ph.D, Professor; vice chairman, Environmentalists for Nuclear Power

## **Russia**

Vladimir Onoprienko, Member, Noosphere Public Academy of Sciences  
Mira Terada, Chairwoman, Foundation to Battle Injustice

## **Serbia**

Prof. Blagoje Babić, Member, Serbian Academy of Economic Science  
Natasa Milojevic, Political scientist; former Member of Parliament

## **Slovakia**

Jozef Miklosko, Former Deputy Prime Minister, Czech and Slovak Federative Republic; former Slovak Ambassador to Italy

## **South Africa**

Meshack Maxongo, Leader, LaRouche South Africa  
Yim Sungbin, President, FAVORS, Seoul

## **Spain**

Juan José Torres Núñez, Author, poet, free-lance journalist

## **Sweden**

Amir Kamaly, Ph.D. in Fourier Analysis, Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm  
Thomas Pettersson, Senior Advisor, Civil and Human Rights

## **Sweden/Iraq**

Hussein Askary, Southwest Asia Coordinator, Schiller Institute

## **Switzerland**

Georg Koch, Retired social pedagogue; co-editor, "Schweizer Standpunkt"  
Lt. Col. (ret.) Ralph Bosshard, Swiss Armed Forces; consultant, military/strategic affairs

## **Turkey**

Eyup Topkaya, Political activist

## **Uganda**

Bishop Lubega Geoffrey Bob, Minister, Born Again Faith

## **Ukraine**

Dr. Yurii Sheliashenko, Ph.D. in Law; Executive Secretary, Ukrainian Pacifist Movement

## **United Kingdom**

Prof. Koku Adomdza, Researcher  
Joseph Ali, Engineer  
Jenifer Chambers, Social Activist  
Renato Corsetti, Psycholinguist, esperantist  
Timothy Hardacre, International lawyer  
Bernie Holland, Head of Value Creation Collective  
Mike Robinson, Editor, UK Column

## **United States**

Dr. Athar Abassi, Major, U.S. Army (Ret)  
David Andersson, Co-Director, Pressenza IPA  
Rev. John C. Beal, Orthodox Church of America, California  
Tim Begalka, State Senator, South Dakota  
Archbishop Benjamin, Orthodox Church in America, San Francisco  
Pastor Hugo Berger, Evangelical Church of the Good Shepherd, Brooklyn, NY  
Rev. Lawrence Bernard, Chaplain, Poor Clare Monastery, Roswell, NM  
Victoria Bingham, Retired Intelligence Analyst; Russian linguist  
Meg Bowerman, Pax Christi, Norther California chapter  
Lt. (ret.) Robert E. Branca, U.S. Naval Reserve  
Lisa Bryce, Opera singer; Ph.D., Music Education; Reverend  
Harry J. Bury Ph.D., Twin Cities Non-Violent Association of U.S. Catholic Priests  
Leslee Coady, Pax Christi, Norther California chapter  
Father Ray Chase, Pastor, St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, Baltimore, MD  
Marjorie Cohn, Former president, National Lawyers Guild; Veterans for Peace Advisory Board  
Ronald M. Converse, Retired Correctional Counselor; established pioneering Drug & Alcohol Recovery Program  
Arthur Dawes, President of the Board, Pax Christi, Texas  
Bishop Demetrios of Mokissos, Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of

## America

Vinnie De Stefano, National Organizing Director, Assange Defense  
Daniel Donnelly, Member, Libertarian Party of NY State Committee 9  
(Hudson Valley district)  
John Droz, Physicist  
Brian A. Earley, Captain (ret.), U.S. Army  
Ed Ehmke, Pax Christi, Northern California chapter  
Imam Mohammad Ali Elahi, Islamic House of Wisdom, Dearborn Heights,  
MI  
John Farrell, Civil Engineer; Millwright  
Mike Ferner, Former National President, Veterans for Peace  
John Flynn, U.S. Senate candidate from Connecticut, 2022; newly  
announced candidate 2024  
Christopher and Mary Fogarty, Irish Support Group (Chicago)  
Graham Fuller, Former Vice Chair, National Intelligence Council of the CIA  
for Long Term Forecasting; writer, political commentator  
Hector E. Garcia, Twin Cities Nonviolent, MN  
Larry Gauthier, Journalist; former member, Nebraska Democratic State  
Central Cttee; owner, Westphalian Publishing  
Laurent "Larry" Gilbert, Veterans for Peace, Chapter 136, Florida; Former  
Mayor, Lewiston, Maine  
Jack Gilroy, Pax Christi, Upstate New York  
Dr. Bennett Greenspan, Past President of SNMMI (Society of Nuclear  
Medicine and Molecular Imaging), American College of Radiology  
Rev. John Gregory-Davis, Meriden Congregational Church, UCC, Meriden,  
NH  
Ephraim Haile, Eritrean Cultural & Development Center (ECDC); Eritrean  
Diaspora, Boston  
Joyce Hall, Member, Board of Directors, Texas Pax Christi  
Stephen P. Hanley, Retired school principal, Framingham, MA  
Cathy Helgason, Professor of Neurology  
Jim Hogue, Republican candidate for Lt. Governor, Vermont, 2020  
Albert W. Holt, Marine Corporal (ret.); former electrician  
Milla Ismailova, Retired Russian Linguist  
Appo Jabarian, Publisher, USA Armenian Life magazine  
Claudio Jaffe, Cellist  
Ivan I. Jones, Former Board Member and Shop Steward, Local 783,  
AFSCME, Boston MA  
John S. Jones, Ward 14 Democratic Committee, Boston, MA  
Frank Kartheiser, Organizer, The Mustard Seed Catholic Community,  
Worcester, MA  
Dan Kennedy, Author, "Res Publica; The Nation of Space"  
Robert Flash Kingsley, Pastor, author  
Dr. George Koo, Chairman, Burlingame Foundation; retired business  
consultant, U.S.-China relations  
Gerald W. Kopp, Founding member, North Dakota Natural Farmers  
Association; former U.S. Congressional candidate  
Janice Kortkamp, Citizen Journalist, "American Housewife in Syria"  
Jeremy Kuzmarov, Journalist, author  
Jack Lau, Oblates of Mary Immaculate (OMI); Pax Christi, Northern  
California  
Nebojsa Malic, Serbian-American journalist  
Joseph Marcinkowski, Chair, Military & Foreign Policy Workgroup, Houston  
Peace and Justice Center  
Imam Radwan Mardini, American Muslim Center, Dearborn, MI  
David R. Meiswinkle, Esq., Former President and Executive Director,  
Lawyers' Committee for 9/11 Inquiry  
Kevin Menne, Podcast host, "Ask the Politician", Cincinnati, OH  
Suzanne Monk, Chair, Patriot Action PAC  
James Moore, Past president, Alaska Trollers Association; Executive  
committee for NSRAA and AKI (aquaculture)  
Al Mytty, Florida coordinator, World BEYOND War  
Darrell Nichols, Former President, NE Ohio NAACP; Former Vice-President,  
Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Toledo, OH; Captain (ret.),  
U.S. Army  
Jeff Norman, Founder, U.S. Tour of Duty; podcast host of "Ask the Inspector"  
and "Scenes from the Evolution"  
Tim O'Conner, Broadcast journalist; Chairman, Otsego County, NY,  
Libertarian Party  
Nestor Oginar, Representative, World Macedonian Congress at the UN;  
Member, Macedonian Orthodox Church - Ohrid Archbishopry  
John OLoughlin, author of "McDuff Lives!: The Life and Untimely Death of

Thomas F. OLoughlin, Jr."  
Andy Olson, Farmer; former LaRouche Democrat candidate for Governor of  
Minnesota; and for U.S. Congress (2nd CD - MN)  
Daniel B. Ostrowski, U.S. Army Captain (ret.); member, Polish Legion of  
American Vets, Post 169  
Sue and Bud Ozar, Retired educators; Co-founders, Friends of Kenyan  
Orphans; Lay Missioners, Samoa Islands and Kenya  
Lorin Peters, Moderator, Northern California Pax Christi  
Jeffrey S. Philbin, Ph.D., Nuclear Engineer, nuclear weapon response,  
Albuquerque, NM  
Cynthia Pooler, Broadcast journalist; peace activist, NY  
David T. Pyne, Former U.S. Army HQ Staff Officer  
Earl Rasmussen, Executive Vice President, Eurasia Center, Washington D.C.  
Tara Reade, Author; Producer; former U.S. Senate Aide  
Derotha Ann Reynolds, former Democratic candidate for Nevada House of  
Representatives  
Scott Ritter, Former UN Weapons Inspector in Iraq; whistleblower; author  
David Rothaus, Filmmaker, Veterans for Peace USA - Smedley Butler  
Brigade, Boston  
Karl Schmidt, Broadcast journalist, NY  
Peter M. Schuller, Professor of Philosophy, Emeritus  
Abbot Paul Mark Schwan, OCSO, Abbey of Our Lady of Clairvaux, Vina, CA.  
John Shanahan, Civil engineer; editor of website AllAboutEnergy.net  
John Calvin Smith, Senior Project Engineer, Dams and Levees; Earthquake  
Geotechnical Engineer  
Marcia Sprinkle, Member, Pax Christi; Deacon, Seventh Avenue  
Presbyterian, San Francisco, CA  
Steven Starr, MPH, MT(ASCP)BB; Assistant Clinical Professor, University of  
Missouri  
Barbara Suhrstedt, International concert pianist, retired; President,  
Board of Directors, Framingham Lomonosov Association for Mutual  
Exchange (F.L.A.M.E.)  
Stan Taylor, Treasurer, Northern California Pax Christi  
Kathleen Temple, Former pastor, Mennonite Church USA  
Bruce Todd, Millwright Local 715 (ret.); former Independent candidate for  
Lt. Governor, New Jersey  
Archpriest John Tomasi, Rector, Joy of All Who Sorrow Orthodox Church  
(Orthodox Church of America), Marina del Rey, CA  
Dr. Mohammad A. Toor, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Pakistani  
American Congress  
Bob Van Hee, Commissioner, Redwood County, Minnesota  
Therese Mughannam-Walrath, California member, NorCal Sabeel (North  
Coast Coalition for Palestine)  
Dr. Zaher Wahab, Professor of Education, Emeritus; Former Advisor,  
Afghanistan Ministry of Higher Education  
Mary Ellen Waite, Maryknoll Affiliate, California  
Alan Waltar, Past President, American Nuclear Society (ANS)  
Michael Wharton, Pax Christi, Northern California chapter  
Ron Wiczorek, Rancher; former LaRouche Independent Congressional  
and Gubernatorial candidate, South Dakota; food for Peace leader  
Tom Zawistowski, President, We the People Convention  
Vivian Zelaya, Pax Christi, Northern California chapter

## Venezuela

Luisa Báez Catarí, President, Diocesan Union of Confraternities of the Most  
Blessed Sacrament of the Altar, Guarenas  
Andrés Ramón Giuseppe Avalo, Former member, Latin American  
Parliament  
Emil Guevara Muñoz, Former member, Latin American Parliament  
Alberto Mendoza Urbina, Fundamaraisa Foundation  
César Mogollón, National Coordinator, Central Alliance of Venezuela  
Román Rojas Cabot, Former Ambassador of Venezuela to the European  
Community  
Piero Trepiccione, Coordinator, Network of Jesuit Social Centers in Latin  
America and the Caribbean  
Manuel Felipe Sierra, Journalist, political analyst, author, radio and  
television presenter  
Edgar Rodríguez Martínez, Coordinator, Commission for the Study of  
Comprehensive Human Development, Alberto Adriani Foundation

## Zambia

Munashe Chiwanza, Civil Engineer