

**INITIATIVE  
GENBAKU NOHI  
INTERNATIONAL DAY  
FOR A NUCLEAR WEAPONS - FREE WORLD**

Inspired by the nuclear catastrophes of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, representatives of international NGOs want to look into a future world free of nuclear weapons.

This is an initiative to establish an official INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR A NUCLEAR-WEAPON – FREE WORLD “GEN BA KU NO HI” to be celebrated on August 8th, in order to commemorate the victims of Hiroshima (August 6th) and Nagasaki (August 9th, 1945) and to call for a prohibition of all nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction.

GENBAKU NOHI Celebrations on August 8<sup>th</sup> have already a tradition at UN Vienna. The idea comes from Austro-Japanese artist Ms. Yuko Gulda. She says:

**“Genbaku No Hi is meant to inspire people to take responsibility to create a better world for their children. On this day we renew our pledge that manmade catastrophes such as atomic wars and wars must be avoided unconditionally, and that atomic weapons and weapons of mass destruction should not exist. We have to do everything in our power to guarantee a sustainable future for our children. Let’s start now!”**

During the celebrations messages of UN Secretary General are presented on a screen and local UN representatives, diplomats, politicians and NGO representatives speak out about the necessity of a ban of nuclear weapons from their different perspectives. Artists present fringe events suited to the programme.

The NGO-Committee - on - Peace at UN Vienna invites all governments of states and their representations to the United Nations to support the establishment of GENBAKU NOHI INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR A NUCLEAR- WEAPON – FREE WORLD.

**This petition is signed by the following representatives of delegations, institutions and NGOs:**

Jiri Matousek, representing World Federation of Scientists

Otmar Höll, OIIP

Christian Pavlovski, Soka Gakkai International

Felix Bertram, Pax Christi International

Klaus Renoldner, International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War

Peter Haider, Universal Peace Federation in Austria

J. Reuben Silverbird, Ambassadors of Peace

Monika Fritsch, Austro-Japanese Association  
and Association for Austro-Indian Integration

Susanne Jalka, Konfliktkultur

Peter Stania, IIP

Maamoun Chawki, Multikulturelles Netzwerk

Pete Haemmerle, International Fellowship for Reconciliation

Verinika Nitsche, World University Service

Eleonore Hauer-Rona, International Council of Women

Frank E. Wright, UNESCO Club Vienna