



**Disarmament &
Security Centre**
AOTEAROA / NEW ZEALAND



ANNUAL REPORT 2025

Disarmament and Security Centre | Te Whare Maukāroko

Reporting Period: July 2024 – July 2025

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Executive Summary

As we reach the second half of 2025, the Disarmament and Security Centre | Te Whare Maukāroko reflects on a year of meaningful activity (July 2024-July 2025), growing challenges, and renewed purpose. It's been a busy year so far at the DSC as we work hard to secure funding for our projects and keep the day-to-day operations of our small but active NGO going. We need to reach young people with the message of peace and ensure the lessons of history—and the horrors of war—are never forgotten or repeated.

In an increasingly volatile global environment, our work to promote disarmament, peace education, and Aotearoa New Zealand's nuclear-free values remains as vital as ever. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the bombing of the Rainbow Warrior, and the 80th anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki—events that continue to shape global calls for nuclear disarmament. In January, the Doomsday Clock was set to just 89 seconds to midnight, a stark warning that the threat of nuclear conflict—either by accident, miscalculation, or direct order—remains dangerously high. In this context, the DSC has worked hard to uphold the lessons of the past while creating space for public dialogue, education, and action.

Our Disarm Kōrero series serves as our most widespread channel for educating the public. In July, we hosted our 23rd session, 'We All Bleed the Same', focusing on the Israel–Iran war. The event featured two compelling Aotearoa-based speakers—Dr Daniel Fridberg and Dr Zahra Emamzadeh (hailing from Israel and Iran, respectively)—who shared personal insights on the human cost of the conflict. Chaired by DSC Chair, Professor Treasa Dunworth (University of Auckland), the kōrero powerfully highlighted the importance of empathy and understanding in conflicts which are often portrayed with little nuance in the mainstream media.

We've also remained active in commemorative and educational work. In collaboration with students, community groups, and partner organisations, we:

- Supported UCDisarm in screening *Bombshell* to mark the 40th anniversary of the Rainbow Warrior bombing at the University of Canterbury;



- Celebrated and raised awareness of the Third Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW 3MSP) with an event at the University of Canterbury and connecting live to the United Nations via Zoom to speak with Dr Carolina Pantaliano;
- Held the Aotearoa New Zealand premiere of documentary JARA Radioactive Patriarchy - The Women of Kazakstan by up and coming film maker Aigorim Seitenova from Kazakstan. Seitenova joined via Zoom to take part in an indepth Q & A session;
- Promoted a public webinar by the Helen Clark Foundation on Aotearoa's nuclear-free journey, featuring our co-founder Dr Kate Dewes;
- Participated in the Christchurch Peace Symposium, celebrating 50 years of The Peace Foundation;
- Facilitated and promoted a national screening tour of the peace documentary *Tau Te Mauri: Breath of Peace* in August, coinciding with Hiroshima and Nagasaki commemorations;
- Coordinated an 80th anniversary ceremony at the World Peace Bell in Christchurch on August 10, with music, readings, and reflection;
- Curated a peace heritage exhibition for the Christchurch Heritage Festival, to be held this October at the University of Canterbury.

Our international work has also gained momentum. Research Fellow Dr Marcus Coll:

- Travelled to Japan in late 2024 to meet hibakusha from Nihon Hidankyo—who went on to receive the 2024 Nobel Peace Prize;
- Gave a guest lecture at Sōka University and served as interpreter for a hibakusha art project by New Zealand academic and artist Dr Fiona Amundsen;
- Developed and taught a nuclear disarmament course at the University of the Philippines Manila in early 2025, featuring survivor narratives and DSC materials;
- Presented at academic forums and peace conferences in Japan and the Philippines, engaging with experts from across the Indo-Pacific region.

In April, guardianship of the New Zealand World Peace Bell was formally entrusted to the DSC, following a ceremony in the Christchurch Botanic Gardens. We are honoured to continue the Bell's legacy and will mark its significance at our Hiroshima/Nagasaki remembrance this August.

We also celebrate the recognition of our long-time kuia, Whaea Pauline Tangiora (Rongomaiwahine), who received an honorary doctorate from the Home for Humanity Movement in February—acknowledging her global leadership in peace and indigenous rights.

Looking ahead, we are preparing for our atomic bomb exhibition for the Christchurch Heritage Festival in October, and the International Peace Research Association (IPRA) Conference in Taranaki in November, where our team (Lucy Stewart, Dr Marcus Coll, and Dr Kate Dewes) will present a panel on disarmament education and engage with peace researchers and iwi, coinciding with the anniversary of the invasion of Parihaka.

Despite our achievements, serious challenges remain. In the current funding climate, government support for disarmament education is dwindling, with our core funding (DEUNIF) set to end in 2026. We are

working hard to adapt, diversify funding sources, and continue our mahi through innovative educational initiatives, exhibitions, and partnerships, but the headwinds are strong and the future uncertain.

Throughout it all, we have drawn strength from our community—students, educators, peacebuilders, and everyday people who believe that Aotearoa’s nuclear-free identity, independent foreign policy, and peace education is worth defending. Our work is driven by hope, by history, and by a vision of a more peaceful future. We are proud of what we’ve achieved together so far in 2024/2025, and we hope to continue in the years ahead.

Our Mission

1. Promote peace and disarmament education throughout the education system and the wider community.
2. Provide a resource centre for alternative thinking on disarmament and security issues both within Aotearoa New Zealand and internationally and to disseminate research through publications, websites, and conferences.

Our Vision

Promote a climate of peace in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Our Staff Team:

Lucy Stewart (Programme Manager)

Lucy holds a Masters of Professional Studies degree in International Relations and Human Rights (MPSIRHR) from the University of Auckland. She spent three years teaching children and adults in the Kurdish region of Northern Iraq. Since returning to Aotearoa New Zealand, Lucy has worked for over 10 years in the disarmament field in various not-for-profit organisations. Lucy was on the New Zealand civil society delegation to the United Nations for the negotiations on the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in 2017, and was awarded the Quaker Loxley Peace and Service Award in the same year for her work with the Disarmament and Security Centre. From 2022-2024, she served on the New Zealand Public Advisory Committee on Disarmament and Arms Control (PACDAC).



Dr Marcus Coll (Research Fellow | Project Lead)

Marcus spent seven years studying and working in Japan and holds a Bachelor of Arts in Japanese (Bunkyo University Tokyo), a Master of Diplomacy, and a Doctorate in International Relations (Canterbury). His doctoral research involved interviewing and researching survivors of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Indigenous rights activists, religious and military leaders, peace campaigners, and others who were instrumental in shaping New Zealand’s nuclear free identity. Read more about Marcus' research [here](#). He has recently completed a project titled '[Ōtautahi Christchurch: From Protest to Peace City](#)' documenting local peace and anti-nuclear history as part of the Christchurch City Council's Intangible Heritage Project. Marcus recently taught a semester-long disarmament course as an Adjunct Professor of International Relations in the Department of Social Sciences at the University of the Philippines Manila.



Interns:

Laura Knight, 4th year Law student from the University of Canterbury & Treasurer of UCDisarm undertook a internship with the DSC over her summer university break. Laura was engaged in learning more about peace and disarmament, how an small NGO operates and also engaged in a submission to Parliament on the Treaty Principles Bill.

Volunteer Advisors:

Commander Robert Green, Royal Navy (Ret'd)
Dr Kate Dewes

Kuia/Kaumātua:

Dr Pauline Tangiora (Rongomaiwahine)

Governance Council:

Earlier this year, our long-time Council member Angela Woodward stepped down from her governance role. Angela has recently been appointed to the Public Advisory Committee on Disarmament and Arms Control (PACDAC). We wish her all the best in this important new role, and thank her for her many years of commitment and support. She will always be part of the DSC whānau. With Angela's departure, we've welcomed two new members to the DSC Council: Kate Davidson and Patrick Kinney. Both Kate and Patrick have been involved with the Centre in various work and volunteer capacities over the years, and we're excited to have their voices and experience on Council.

Chair: Prof Treasa Dunworth (University of Auckland Law lecturer)

Treasurer: John Ruane

Secretary: Prue Stringer (WILPF)

Dr Kate Dewes (Former Co-director of the DSC)

Dr Peter Wills - (Former Physics Professor UoA)

Patrick Kinney (UCDisarm campus club president)

Kate Davidson (Department of Police, Fire and Emergency)



Key Highlights of the Reporting Period

Disarm Kōrero

We've hosted four very successful Disarm Kōrero sessions during the reporting period. These sessions have canvassed topical issues with expert speakers, and we've seen some of our biggest audiences. We're delighted to say that this particular initiative is becoming one of our flagship projects. The Disarm Kōrero sessions are designed as a discussion session, rather than your usual webinar. We have a guest speaker introduce the topic and speak for roughly 20 minutes on the topic. We then open the floor to questions and discussion. Due to the wealth of experience and expertise within the disarmament community here in Aotearoa, we always have a very lively and informative discussion. Below is a summary of the sessions that have been held during the reporting period:

AUKUS Kōrero Series

In November and December 2024, we co-hosted a three-part *Disarm Kōrero* series with World Beyond War Aotearoa exploring AUKUS Pillar Two and its potential implications for Aotearoa New Zealand.

Recognising the significance of this potential foreign policy shift, the series aimed to bring a diverse range of voices into public discourse and provide a platform for critical analysis and dialogue. Over three sessions, academic and policy experts unpacked the complexities of AUKUS and what it could mean for our region.

Session 1 – Joining AUKUS Pillar 2: In Aotearoa New Zealand's Interests?


Dr Sian Troath (Australian National University) and Dr Damien Rogers (University of Waikato) discussed the growing influence of the military-industrial-academic complex and the need for truly independent academic debate on AUKUS.

Session 2 – AUKUS Pillar Two: What Does it Involve and How Does it Affect Aotearoa New Zealand?

Dr Marco de Jong (Auckland University of Technology) gave a clear breakdown of the objectives and implications of Pillar Two, arguing it is a blunt and unstable tool that risks undermining regional peace.

Session 3 – AUKUS Agreement: How Are Our Neighbours Reacting?

Dr Marianne Hanson (University of Queensland) and Dr Iati Iati (Victoria University of Wellington) explored regional reactions, including concerns around nuclear militarisation, public resistance in Australia, and Pacific perspectives on security and climate change.



The poster is a vertical rectangle with a teal-to-green gradient background. At the top, it features the Disarmament & Security Centre logo and the World Beyond War logo. The main title 'DISARM KŌRERO #20 AUKUS 3-PART SERIES' is in large, bold, white capital letters. Below this, the details for Session 1 are listed in white text: 'Session 1: Friday November 22nd, 1pm', 'Title: Joining AUKUS Pillar 2 - In Aotearoa New Zealand's Interests?', 'Speakers: Dr Sian Troath, Australian National University', 'Dr Damien Rogers, Massey University'. Session 2 details follow: 'Session 2: Friday November 29th, 1pm', 'Title: AUKUS Pillar 2 - What does it involve? How does it affect Aotearoa / NZ?', 'Speakers: Dr Marco de Jong, Auckland Institute of Technology', 'Speaker 2 - TBC'. Session 3 details follow: 'Session 3: Friday December 6th, 1pm', 'Title: AUKUS agreement - how are our neighbours reacting?', 'Speakers: Dr Marianne Hanson, University of Queensland', 'Speaker 2 - TBC'. At the bottom, it states 'All sessions will be held on Zoom. Please register here: <https://tinyurl.com/yeyds6ua>'.

This timely series drew strong interest and engagement, with over 50 participants for each session, helping inform the public conversation about a critical potential strategic decision with long-term consequences. You can watch one of the kōrero [here](#).

Disarm Kōrero – We All Bleed the Same: Israel–Iran War

In July 2025, we hosted our 23rd Disarm Kōrero session, titled *"We All Bleed the Same"*, which addressed the conflict between Israel and Iran. The session attracted around 40 participants, reflecting strong interest in fostering understanding amid rising global tensions. Our speakers, Dr Daniel Fridberg and Dr Zahra Emamzadeh, brought powerful personal and analytical insights to the kōrero. Originally from Israel and Iran respectively—and now both living in Aotearoa New Zealand—they shared their perspectives on the human cost of war and the urgent need to resist the dehumanisation of both Israelis and Iranians. The discussion was chaired by DSC Chair Professor Treasa Dunworth from the University of Auckland's Faculty of Law. The speakers reflected on the role Aotearoa could play in promoting peace and dialogue, and feedback on this session was very positive.



Tertiary and Public Education

Over the reporting period the DSC team delivered several guest lectures on a range of disarmament related topics at universities and community spaces across the motu. These Universities included the University of Waikato, University of Canterbury, University of Otago, University of Auckland and Victoria University of Wellington. We tailor our presentations to fit the university course, and also the knowledge and level of the students. Further lectures are scheduled for later this year at the University of Victoria Wellington. Most of these



invitations to give guest lectures to university classes are repeated yearly and it is heartening to know that our DSC team are valued by academic staff at universities across the country for our expertise and experience in a range of disarmament topics. It also highlights that there is a need for further teaching and academic engagement in this field.

Peace City Work

Intangible Heritage Project

In February 2025, the DSC launched a major online exhibition titled [Ōtautahi Christchurch: From Protest to Peace City](#), as part of its ongoing *Intangible Heritage Project*. Developed in collaboration with the Christchurch City Libraries' Digital Content Team, the exhibition preserves and shares the rich legacy of Christchurch's peace and nuclear-free movements—from early activism in the 19th century to its designation as Aotearoa New Zealand's first Nuclear-Free City in 1982 and Peace City in 2002.



The project was led by Dr Kate Dewes and Dr Marcus Coll, drawing on materials from the Peace and Disarmament Collection at the Macmillan Brown Library. More than 170 documents, photographs, and artefacts were digitised and made publicly accessible online. The exhibition tells the story of Christchurch's long-standing peace activism, featuring key events such as:

- The 1982 nuclear-free declaration
- The 2002 Peace City designation
- Protest actions such as opposition to the USS *Truxtun* in the 1980s
- The city's involvement in the World Court Project
- Ongoing civil society efforts supporting the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW)

The stories were carefully researched and verified with the help of movement veterans, historians, and archivists, and the exhibition also links to public education resources such as the Christchurch City Council's Peace City website. Looking ahead, an expanded phase of the project is planned over the next year thanks to a Lotteries Heritage Grant. This next phase will build on the digital exhibition and mark upcoming anniversaries—including the 80th anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 2025, and the 40th anniversary of New Zealand's nuclear-free legislation in June 2027.



Depending on capacity, the expansion of the project aims to develop:

- More online exhibitions featuring newly digitised photos, documents, and oral histories
- In-person exhibitions and public events at key venues across Ōtautahi
- Continued digitisation of important photographs, stories, and artefacts published in digital heritage repositories in perpetuity.

This next stage will be carried out in collaboration with Christchurch City Libraries, Canterbury Museum, the University of Canterbury, and the Macmillan Brown Archives. Together, these partners aim to preserve and amplify Christchurch's proud contribution to the peace movement—making it accessible to educators, students, researchers, and communities across Aotearoa and beyond.

Kaitiakitanga of New Zealand World Peace Bell passes to DSC

In April 2025, the Disarmament and Security Centre formally became the kaitiaki (guardian) of the New Zealand World Peace Bell, following the dissolution of the Aotearoa New Zealand Chapter of the World Peace Bell Association. A small but significant ceremony was held on Monday, 28 April in the Christchurch Botanic Gardens to mark the official transfer of guardianship.



This peaceful and symbolic handover represents both an honour and a responsibility. The Bell—one of only 25 in the world—has long stood as a public reminder of the need for global cooperation and peace, especially in memory of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.



We extend our deep appreciation to those who have supported the Bell over the years, including

Members of the NZ Chapter of the World Peace Bell Association, Christchurch City Council and local iwi Kāi Tahu, who have upheld the kaupapa of peace alongside the city's residents.

Under DSC's stewardship, the Bell will remain a site of remembrance, reflection, and action. Planning is now underway for a special commemorative event in August 2025 to mark the 80th anniversary of the atomic bombings—a gathering that will include peace advocates, educators, and community members. The transfer of kaitiakitanga reaffirms DSC's ongoing commitment to peace heritage, public education, and intergenerational responsibility, ensuring the Bell continues to ring out for future generations.

University Club

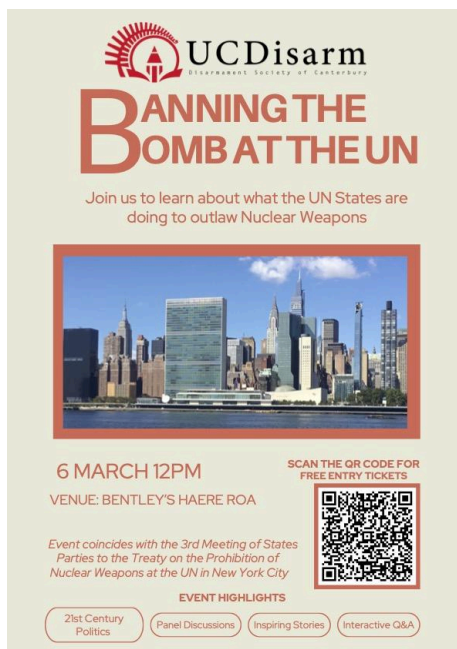
UCDisarm, the campus club which DSC staff established in 2021, has been having a steady year which has seen a growth in students to over 80 members. The DSC team has continued to nurture and support the club to maintain its steady presence on campus and to hold a number of events and initiatives. The Club Executive is running smoothly, with some keen and committed students, and Lucy Stewart, DSC Programme Manager, also stands on the Exec to provide long standing institutional support. The

UCDisarm team has held a stall at both Club Days which are held at the beginning of each semester. Clubs' Day is a great opportunity to network with other clubs, chat with fellow students and raise awareness about disarmament issues.

UCDisarm held an event on the 6th of March to coincide with the Third Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition

of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW 3MSP), which was being held at the United Nations in New York. We had a range of speakers, including Dr

Carolina Pantoliano who joined us live, via Zoom, from the United Nations to give the students a first hand account of the conference and the progress. The students had lots of questions for Dr Pantoliano and really enjoyed that insight into the UN. Olivia Shimasaki spoke about the importance of hearing the stories from hibakusha, the survivors of the atomic bombings.



UCDisarm presents,
the New Zealand
premiere of

JARA

Radioactive Patriarchy

Jara - Radioactive Patriarchy sheds light on the stories of six women from a nuclear-affected community in Kazakhstan. It explores topics such as technology-driven and state-sponsored gender-based violence, as well as the social stigma faced by nuclear-test survivors, particularly women.

April 4
5pm - 6pm
Undercroft 101,
Puaka James Height
Central Library
Snacks provided!



Featuring Q&A
with director,
Aigerim Seitenova

Register
for free!








A successful event was held on Friday April 4th. UCDisarm had the privilege to hold the New Zealand premiere of a new documentary by Aigerim Seitenova called [JARA Radioactive Patriarchy - the Women of Qazaqstan](#). This powerful documentary was produced, filmed and edited by Ms Seitenova and tells the story of multiple generations of women in her family who have been negatively affected by the nuclear testing that

happened in their region by the Soviet regime. Seitenova joined us via Zoom to introduce and film and then for a Q & A session afterwards. The students were incredibly moved by the film and this resulted in a very engaging discussion. We are very thankful to Ms Seitenova for generously allowing us to show her film and for sharing her story, and those of her family members. Check out the film website [here](#).


On Thursday July 31, 12-1pm a special campus event will be held to mark the 40th anniversary of the bombing of the Rainbow Warrior. We'll be holding an annotated film screening of this iconic story from the New Zealand production Bombshell, accompanied by commentary and contextual insights from guest speakers. The DSC continues to support UCDisarm to foster a vibrant and engaging culture of peace and disarmament on campus.

The UCDisarm Team:

President: Patrick Kinney
Secretary: Rebecca Inch
Treasurer: Laura Knight
General Exec: Lucy Stewart,
Mologadi Kekana



JUL 31 2025



BOMBING OF THE RAINBOW WARRIOR 40 YEARS ON

AN ANNOTATED FILM SCREENING
UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY
LOCATION TBC
12 - 1PM
FREE ENTRY - ALL WELCOME

International Mahi

Meeting Atomic Bomb Survivors in Japan

In November 2024, DSC's Marcus Coll travelled to Japan, where he had the privilege of meeting *hibakusha* (atomic bomb survivors) from *Nihon Hidankyo*—the Japanese Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers. Just one week later, the survivors he met travelled to Oslo to receive the 2024 Nobel Peace Prize, awarded in recognition of their decades-long struggle for the abolition of nuclear weapons. Their powerful testimonies have shaped global understanding of the catastrophic humanitarian impact of nuclear war, and we honour their legacy with deep gratitude and admiration.



Marcus visited Japan to assist New Zealand artist and academic Dr Fiona Amundsen as an interpreter for her project centred on *hibakusha* memory. Read more about his meetings with *hibakusha* [here](#). While there, Marcus also gave a guest lecture at Sōka University in Tokyo on Aotearoa New Zealand's nuclear-free journey, receiving thoughtful questions and strong engagement from students.

Teaching Disarmament in the Philippines

From January to May 2025, Marcus also served as an Adjunct Professor of International Relations at the University of the Philippines Manila. He developed and delivered a third-year course titled *Nuclear Disarmament and Activism in the Asia-Pacific Region*, exploring issues such as nuclear deterrence, Pacific testing legacies, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, and humanitarian disarmament efforts.

The course made extensive use of survivor testimonies and visual materials, culminating in a powerful live conversation with Hiroshima survivor Bun Hashizume. The students' written



reflections from the course will directly inform the upcoming *Preserving Aotearoa New Zealand's Anti-Nuclear Heritage* exhibitions, and the teaching resources are being adapted for wider public and online education in Aotearoa, building on the DSC's Tertiary Scoping Project findings.

Public Forums and Regional Dialogue

Marcus also participated in a number of public and academic engagements on disarmament and security issues across the Philippines, including:

- Build Up International Peace Conference, Antipolo City (Nov 2024)
Theme: *Pushing Frontiers, From the Ground Up*
- University of the Philippines Manila Political Science Forum (Mar 2025)
Talk: *Trump 2.0 and the Indo-Pacific* – addressing nuclear risks, AUKUS, the Iran nuclear deal, and China-US tensions.
- UP Manila Area Studies Week (Apr 2025)
Talk: *Nuclear Disarmament and Activism in Southeast Asia*
- PPSA International Conference, Baguio City (May 2025)
Panel: *Militarisation of the Pacific and the Strategic Implications of AUKUS*

These connections are strengthening the DSC's regional networks, supporting mutual learning, and grounding our work in real-world contexts. Staying engaged with our neighbours—many facing immediate nuclear or military threats—is a powerful reminder of the urgency and solidarity that this work requires.

Events and Initiatives

Public Webinar: Reflecting on the Origins and Future of New Zealand's Nuclear Policy

On 21 July 2025, DSC co-founder and former Director Dr Kate Dewes participated in a special public webinar hosted by The Helen Clark Foundation to mark the 40th anniversary of the bombing of



the *Rainbow Warrior*. The webinar, titled “*New Zealand's Nuclear-Free Legacy: Origins and Future Directions*,” brought together key figures in Aotearoa's anti-nuclear movement and policy space. It was facilitated by former Prime Minister Helen Clark and featured a panel including: Dr Kate Dewes, DSC Co-founder and former Director; Dr Kennedy Graham, former diplomat and Green Party MP; Dr Russell Norman, Executive Director of Greenpeace Aotearoa; Kevin Hackwell, former Greenpeace campaigner and environmental advocate. Together, the speakers reflected on the *Rainbow Warrior* bombing's lasting impact, New Zealand's pioneering role in global nuclear disarmament, and the urgent need to protect and renew that legacy amid current geopolitical tensions. You can watch the webinar [here](#).

Christchurch Peace Symposium – 50 Years of The Peace Foundation

On Sunday, 20 July 2025, DSC Programme Manager Lucy Stewart and Patrick Kinney, President of UCDisarm, were invited guest speakers at *The Peace Foundation's Christchurch Peace Symposium*. Held at the SGI Centre in central Ōtautahi Christchurch, this event marked 50 years of The Peace Foundation's dedication to promoting peace education and nonviolence in Aotearoa. The gathering featured networking activities, kai, and inspiring talks that reflected on past achievements and the continuing need to support peacebuilding initiatives across the motu. Lucy and Patrick spoke about the work of DSC and UCDisarm in engaging youth, building intergenerational momentum, and carrying forward Aotearoa New Zealand's anti-nuclear legacy.

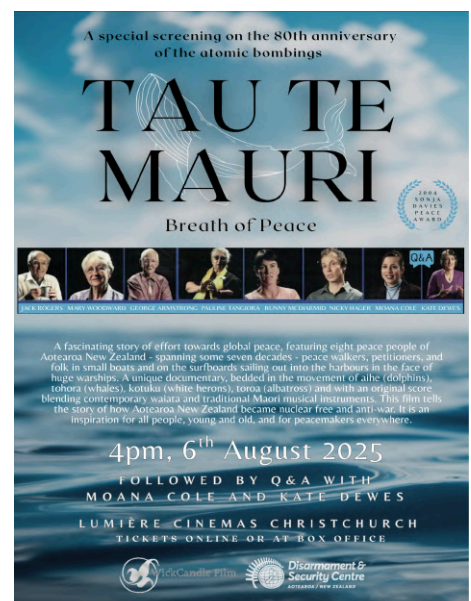
The Day the Sun Fell: 80 Years On: Hiroshima & Nagasaki

This year marks 80 years since the atomic bombings of Hiroshima (6 August) and Nagasaki (9 August). The DSC is proud to support a series of commemorative events across Aotearoa that honour the victims and survivors (*hibakusha*) and reaffirm our collective commitment to a nuclear-free world. On Sunday, 10 August, 11am, we will be holding our annual remembrance and reflection on Sunday, 10 August, at the World Peace Bell in the Christchurch Botanic Gardens. The ceremony will include readings, music, and the ceremonial ringing of New Zealand's only World Peace Bell. Speakers and attendees will include the Japanese Consul General, local MPs, City Councillors, and members of the local peace and anti-nuclear movement. In a time of rising nuclear risks and regional tensions, it is more important than ever to reflect on the horrors of nuclear war and uphold Aotearoa's long-standing nuclear-free stance, and this event is an ample opportunity to educate the community on this.



Special Film Screening: Tau Te Mauri – Breath of Peace

To mark the 80th anniversary of the bombings, the DSC is supporting a special screening series of *Tau Te Mauri – Breath of Peace*, the first of which will be held at Lumière Cinemas in Christchurch on 6 August, 4pm at Lumiere Cinemas in Christchurch. This documentary tells the story of eight inspiring Aotearoa peace advocates, including DSC Co-founder Dr Kate Dewes, and kuia Dr Pauline Tangiora. Following the screening, a Q+A session will be held with Moana Cole and Dr Kate Dewes, both of whom feature in the film. Screenings will also be held in other centres: Auckland – 4pm, 10 August, The Vic Devonport, and Wellington – 8pm, 6 August, Light House Cuba.



Exhibition: Remembering Hiroshima, Nagasaki, and Local Peace Heritage

As part of the Christchurch Heritage Festival, we are curating a special exhibition on the impact of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and the rich legacy of anti-nuclear activism in Ōtautahi Christchurch and Waitaha Canterbury. Featuring materials from the Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation, the Macmillan Brown Archives, and Christchurch City Libraries' digital heritage platform, the exhibition will weave together survivor testimony, archival images, and artefacts from Aotearoa's peace movement. The exhibition will be held from 11–26 October 2025 on: Level 2, Central Library, University of Canterbury. This is part of a national series, with similar displays to be held in Dunedin, Wellington, and Palmerston North thanks to support from the Embassy of Japan and Japanese Consular Offices.

DSC Kuia Whaea Pauline Tangiora awarded Honorary Doctorate

The Disarmament and Security Centre | Te Whare Maukāroko proudly congratulates our long-time kuia and kaumatua, Whaea Pauline Tangiora (Ngāti Rongomaiwahine), on receiving an honorary 'Planetary Healing Doctorate' (PhD) from the Home for Humanity Movement for Planetary Regeneration - the first such award to any indigenous elder in the world. This recognition was conferred on February 13, 2025, at her home in Māhia. Dr Pauline Tangiora (Honoris Causa) is a highly respected Māori elder of Ngāti Rongomaiwahine, known internationally for her lifelong dedication to peace, indigenous rights, and global disarmament efforts. This honorary doctorate acknowledges her immense contributions to fostering understanding and reconciliation, both in Aotearoa New Zealand and around the world. Read more about it [here](#).



Public Outreach

Over the 2024/25 year we continued to build on our relationships with other non-government organisations working in peace and disarmament in Aotearoa New Zealand and abroad for example, we are a long term member of the Peace and Disarmament Collective Aotearoa (Formerly the Peace Foundation International Affairs and Disarmament Committee), and we actively participate in their bimonthly meetings. We also assisted students, educators, academics, researchers, and the public who were interested in our resources and disarmament materials. We maintained our social media, website and newsletter giving updates on disarmament and peace and in promoting our resources and materials and new materials and content from our partners in disarmaments.

Our online platforms are:

- Website <https://www.disarmsecure.org/>
- Legacy Website <http://legacy.disarmsecure.org/>
- Mighty Network <https://disarmsecure-online.mn.co/>

Our active and vibrant social media channels continue to grow and gain followers. We write regular blogs on topical disarmament issues and events, these are posted on our [website under 'News'](#).

- Twitter <https://twitter.com/DisarmSecureNZ>
- Facebook <https://facebook.com/DisarmSecureNZ>
- Instagram https://www.instagram.com/dsc_nz/
- LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/company/disarmament-and-security-centre/>

What's Ahead? Significant Challenges to our Mahi

In Budget 2025, the government announced it will halve—and then fully cut—funding for the Disarmament Education UN Implementation Fund (DEUNIF) by July 2025. This decision threatens the future of consistent, long-term disarmament education in Aotearoa New Zealand.

In response, the DSC wrote a letter with support from over 80 signatories—including former Prime Ministers, Ministers for Disarmament, MPs, academics, and civil society leaders—urging Minister Louise Upston and other relevant ministers to reverse the decision. While PADET funding for small projects remains intact, DEUNIF has been the only consistent government support for public-facing disarmament education since 2004, and has aided the running of the DSC since that time. The letter highlights the risks of this cut:

- Undermining New Zealand's international disarmament leadership
- Weakening our nuclear-free identity and education sector
- Limiting public engagement amid rising global nuclear threats

Despite its modest \$200,000 annual budget, DEUNIF has enabled impactful initiatives—such as youth outreach, exhibitions, academic research, and survivor testimony preservation—that bring our peace and disarmament heritage to life.

This loss comes as we mark key anniversaries:

- 40 years since the Rainbow Warrior bombing (July 2025)
- 80 years since Hiroshima and Nagasaki (August 2025)
- 5 years since the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear weapons came into force (January 2026)
- 30 years since the ICJ nuclear weapons ruling (2026)
- 40 years of our nuclear-free legislation (June 2027)

We believe most New Zealanders value our nuclear-free stance and support educating the next generation about peace and disarmament, and we will continue to do our best to carry this legacy forward. Even with DEUNIF, however, funding has always been a perennial challenge. The financial burden this places on our small team is significant and increasingly unsustainable—especially in the current climate of rising costs and reduced public funding. Without greater support, the ability to retain staff, let alone maintain high-impact work, is at real risk, and reliance on volunteer time is untenable to continue the mahi going forward in the short to medium term.

Thank You

Thank you to all those who support us on a voluntary basis and who come to us to seek advice and resources about peace and disarmament. We also want to acknowledge those who participate in our events, education delivery, and to our resources.

Thank you also to the Disarmament Education UN Implementation Fund Grant, the Peace and Disarmament Trust, the Intangible Heritage Fund and those in the community who have made donations to our work. Now more than ever the need for civil society and governments to continue pushing for disarmament is critical and we could not do our education work without your support.

The DSC is an incorporated society [registered](#) on the Charities Register. The registration number is CC11049

Supporting Our Work

If you would like to make a donation to support our work, you can either go to our website here:

<https://www.disarmsecure.org/donate>

Any donation to the DSC is tax-deductible and can be made online to our bank account:

Disarmament and Security Centre
38-9024-0189494-02 Kiwibank

BEQUEST

A bequest or legacy included in your will is a simple and effective way to support the DSC in our work. It is an investment in the future of disarmament research and education in Aotearoa New Zealand. If you already have a will it can be amended by adding a codicil.

Here are the details you will need:

- **Name:** Disarmament and Security Centre
- **Registered Charity No:** CC11049
- **Incorporated Society Number:** 224264
- **Postal Address:** PO Box 8390, Riccarton, Christchurch 8440
- **Physical Address:** 39 Stanbury Avenue, Somerfield, Christchurch 8040.

Here are some sample texts that you could consider to include in your will or codicil:

"I give to the Disarmament and Security Centre ____% of my estateOR the rest and residue of my estateOR the sum of \$_____ for its general purposes free of probate and estate duties payable upon or in consequence of my death. I declare that the receipt of its Executive Director, Treasurer or other authorised officer shall be sufficient discharge to my executors."