Proposal for a Working Group/Campaign on Nuclear Disarmament

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Risk of Nuclear War?

- Bulletin of Atomic Scientists Doomsday Clock set at 2 minutes to midnight. Closest to midnight EVER set.
- Survey: 46% of Republicans (16% of Democrats) support a PRE-EMPTIVE strike vs. North Korea
The Toxic Mix

• Buildup of Nuclear Arms (proposed $1 billion increase)
• Nuclear Proliferation
• Donald Trump
• Additional risk factors...
  • Proposed development of “flexible” nuclear weapons
  • Exaggerated claims of effective anti-missile defense systems

In shift from Obama policy, Trump plans flexible use of nuclear weapons, including low-yield arms
History of Scientists and Nuclear Disarmament Activism

• Early concerns (Einstein, Oppenheimer, Pauling, Urey, etc.)
• SESPA (SftP)
  • Anti-ABM march (Washington, 1969)
  • Dr. Strangelove award (AAAS, 1970)
  • Magazine articles
• 1982 – more than ½ million people rally in NYC for a “nuclear freeze”.
• Organizations: Union of Concerned Scientists, Physicians for Social Responsibility
Why a SftP Nuclear Disarmament Campaign?

• Moral imperative (our role in “saving the world”).
• Promote Science for the People values/politics…
  • Science used for the common good.
  • People before profits.
  • Peaceful non-dominating relations between nations (anti-imperialism).
• Organize scientific and technical workers.
• Forge links with other organizations.
Possible “Nuts and Bolts”

• SftP position paper
• Science and technical workers petition
• National conference?
• Local chapter actions
• Speakers bureau
• Collaboration with other groups
• ???