

BEYOND TREATIES

WILPF's Vision of a Feminist Peace supports International Treaties as a diplomatic tool to fairly address conflict, prevent war, and conclude hostilities that punish innocent civilians.

Women must be involved

To be effective the peace process must be an inclusive process that invites input and mediation between all stakeholders. History and experience has shown that treaties hold and are more successful when women are at the peace table. WILPF insists that women have a critical role to play in planning for peace and putting plans into action.

In successful treaties no side gets everything they want, but treaties are an opportunity for the moderate voices of any nation to seek peace, a prevention or cessation of hostilities and violence, and forge alliances that keep the world safer.

In the most aggressive treaty concluded in modern history, the Treaty of Versailles at the end of WWI, ally nations exacted punishing vengeance against Germany in both financial reparations and land transfers. As a result the "War to end all Wars" created economic disaster in Germany and laid the foundation for the rise of nationalism that led to the Hitler regime and WWII.

The roots of war

More than 100 years have passed since the birth of our League in 1915, and still the world is haunted by the spectre of war. WILPF's feminist analysis cites **patriarchy, militarism, and neoliberalism** as three inter-related causes that push us all towards more conflict. It does not have to be this way.

The antidote is feminism

At its core, feminism includes the beliefs that women matter, that equality matters, and that race and gender are merely constructs: the product of unequal power structures. When those structures have been changed and patriarchy ended, then we can have real equality and the possibility of sustainable peace: a feminist peace that does not stand on the concept of competition and dominance, but of collaboration and cooperation. What would this look like? How would we move towards it?

Be part of the VISION FOR PEACE

Join Women's International League for Peace & Freedom.

For \$35 a year you can join the oldest international women's peace organization in the world with branches across the US and connections to peace women around the globe. We've been connecting economic justice and human rights to the roots of war for over 100 years. Find out more, then join us. www.wilpfus.org

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When we break faith with treaty partners we make the world a more dangerous place and we weaken our position as valued partners for peace.

4 TREATIES THAT MATTER

among many others that hold importance.

1. THE IRAN NUCLEAR "DEAL"

(officially called Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action JCPOA)

In this 2015 plan Iran would not enrich any further uranium, that could be used in nuclear bombs, in return for a lessening of economic sanctions on Iran.

2. THE INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES TREATY

This bilateral treaty, signed by the USA and USSR in 1987, prohibits both parties from possessing, producing, or flight-testing ground-launched ballistic and cruise missiles, which could carry nuclear bombs, with ranges of 500–5,000 km.

3. THE KOREAN WAR PEACE TREATY—The "Treaty that never was"

The "war" ended in July 1953, but to date no formal peace treaty has been signed, despite every Korean President since then requesting a formalized peace settlement.

4. THE VIENNA CONVENTION OF 1961

This is an international treaty that defines a framework for diplomatic relations between independent countries. It specifies the basis of diplomatic immunity and the privileges of an embassy on foreign soil.

These are not the only peace treaties that should be known and understood by the American people. But their timeliness today makes them the focus for the Women's International League for Peace & Freedom - US Section (WILPF US).

For more information about how to join your local WILPF branch and work for Peace and empowering women as peacemakers **in your community and across the globe, contact us at: info@wilpfus.org**

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Women's International League for
Peace and Freedom - US

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TALKING POINTS & ACTIONS

to support these important diplomatic efforts.

1. THE IRAN NUCLEAR “DEAL”

(officially called Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action JCPOA)

In May 2019 Trump abandoned this 2015 plan and has increased the US economic sanctions on Iran and is bullying other countries into not buying oil from Iran for example. These punishing sanctions have caused Iran to restart enriching uranium with the apparent goal of using it to make a nuclear bomb. The others nations that signed this deal are trying deescalate tensions. We have to prevent Iran making a nu-clear weapon; such a possibility might make it easier for Israel and Saudi Arabia to target Iran. The United Nations has declared that severe sanctions that affect the ability of the general population to buy food and medicine are immoral and illegal, under international human rights law, forms of coercion.

Action:

Write to your congressional representatives to tell them that the intensity of US sanctions against Iran is illegal under international human rights law and they have caused Iran to restart its uranium enrichment program. Your reps must get these sanctions reduced and the US back into the JCPOA.

2. THE INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES TREATY

This 1987 bilateral treaty prohibits both the US and Russia from possessing ground-launched missiles with ranges of 500-5,000km. Trump pulled us out of this peace-keeping treaty on August 2nd and US proudly test-ed a similar, but sea-launched, missile 17 days later. Russian President Vladimir Putin suspended his country’s own obligations to the treaty shortly after August 2nd. Thus a new nuclear arms race is starting.

Action:

We need to stop our taxes being spent on nuclear weapons by telling our congressional reps to pass House BILL 2419 which would stop any further money being spent on modernizing our nuclear weapons and their delivery methods.

3. THE KOREAN WAR PEACE TREATY The “Treaty that Never Was”

On 13 March 2019, WILPF, together with leaders from the Korean Women’s Movement for Peace, Women Cross DMZ, and the Nobel Women’s Initiative, launched our global campaign “**Korea Peace Now! Women Mobilizing to End the War**”. The campaign mobilizes for the negotiation and ratification of a peace treaty between the Koreas by 2020 and a disarmed Korean peninsula.

Action:

Write to your congressional representative and urge them to co-sponsor House Resolution 152 which calls for a formal end of the Korean War.

4. THE VIENNA CONVENTION on Diplomatic Relations of 1961

This treaty guarantees the independence and sovereignty of embassies in foreign lands. The US was in violation of this treaty in 2019 when it expelled the “embassy protection group” who had occupied the Venezuelan Embassy in DC to protect it from illegal occupation by representatives of the non-elected US puppet Juan Guaido after democratically elected President Maduro had called his diplomats home. The repercussions of this violation could be dramatic since the US has demonstrated that national sovereignty need not be honored. It places embassies of all nations at risk.

Action:

Ask any political candidate in the 2020 elections if they support the possibility of a US-led coup in Venezuela. Sign the Petition to drop charges against Embassy Protectors and make a donation for their legal defense: <https://defendembassyprotectors.org/>

LEARN MORE

About the Iran Nuclear Deal:
[Tiny.cc/IranDealHangingByAThread](https://tiny.cc/IranDealHangingByAThread)

[Tiny.cc/Banning_Nuclear_Weapons](https://tiny.cc/Banning_Nuclear_Weapons)

About the INF Treaty Withdrawal:

[Tiny.cc/INF_Treaty-Withdrawal](https://tiny.cc/INF_Treaty-Withdrawal)

[Tiny.cc/Mistake2Withdraw-INF](https://tiny.cc/Mistake2Withdraw-INF)

About the Korean War Peace Treaty:
<https://koreapeacenow.org/>

<https://truthout.org/articles/democrats-must-stop-dismissing-diplomacy-with-north-korea/>

About the Vienna Convention of 1961:
[Tiny.cc/US_Targets_Venezuela](https://tiny.cc/US_Targets_Venezuela)

[Tiny.cc/VZ_Embassy_Protectors](https://tiny.cc/VZ_Embassy_Protectors)