

IPPNW Hamburg
International Physicians for the
Prevention of Nuclear War,
Ärzte in sozialer Verantwortung
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18. Oktober 1995

Hon. Boris Yeltsin,
President of the Russian Federation
c/o Ambassador Sergei Lavrov,
Head of the Russian Mission at the United Nations
New York

by fax: (212) 628-0252

Esteemed President Yeltsin:

Your upcoming visit to the United States to participate in the celebrations of the United Nations' 50th anniversary, provides an ideal opportunity to speed up the current negotiations for a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) in Geneva. Your country has sought a ban on nuclear weapons testing since late 1950s as part of global efforts to stop nuclear proliferation.

Now that the CTBT negotiations are gaining momentum, time is ripe to take concrete steps to assure that a future ban on nuclear testing is indeed comprehensive and does not allow low-yield test explosions. We strongly believe that nuclear explosions of any yield will encourage aspiring nuclear states to do such testing, and possibly, provide a camouflage for the conduct of more powerful explosions.

We hope that you will demonstrate your political will and commitment by announcing from the podium of the United Nations' General Assembly that Russia is ready to join other parties of the CTBT negotiations in working towards a truly comprehensive test ban with zero thresholds for nuclear test explosions.

On behalf of IPPNW Hamburg (Germany), we urge you to make an announcement in New York City committing Russia to advocate a truly COMPREHENSIVE test ban with no thresholds, zero yields of explosions in all environments, for all time. This will be a truly lasting contribution by the Russian Federation towards peace and nuclear disarmament.

Sincerely Yours,

Dr. Herbert Richter-Peill, IPPNW Hamburg, Germany

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*Pro nec omni
grava responsa
accusatione. Terborcha
Ruxnera-Tainca.*

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