

Declaration of the Establishment of the Coalition for 3+3: Coalition for the Northeast Asia Nuclear Weapons Free Zone

The Berlin Wall fell at the end of the Cold War, but the 38th parallel is still separating the Koreas, becoming a symbol of the new cold war, and a serious nuclear threat.

The 3+3 is a proposed treaty between Japan, the Republic of Korea (ROK), and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) to create a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone (NWFZ), with Negative Security Assurances (NSAs) guaranteed by the US, China, and Russia, not to attack or threaten the area by nuclear weapons. It is based on the definition of the NWFZ set forth by the UN General Assembly in 1975.

The World Federalist Movement/Institute for Global Policy (WFM/IGP) has an established and successful history evidenced in our Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC), demonstrating that a coalition of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) can motivate governments, and forge political will.

The Coalition for the 3+3 (C3+3) is intended to assist the government(s) of Japan and/or the Republic of Korea to express formally its intention to work toward a NEA-NWFZ treaty.

Historically, it has taken 13-to-35 years to conclude the treaty after one or more governments of the region have officially proposed the idea. The 3+3 would serve to link up with the existing Asia-Pacific NWFZs; Rarotonga Treaty (1985 South Pacific NFZ), Bangkok Treaty (1995 Southeast Asian NWFZ), Semipalatinsk Treaty (2006 Central Asia NWFZ), and 1998 Mongol Single State NWFZ. It would also be a major inspiration for countries in the Middle East.

After 76 years since the nuclear bombings of both Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the current Japanese government has failed to ratify the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) and continues to heavily rely on the US nuclear umbrella for security. But security conditions based on a balance of power is fragile. For the nuclear deterrence to be credible, one must convince the opponent that nuclear weapons will be used when put to the test. The test is not on the capabilities of the weapons, but on the willingness to use them. The "low-yield" nuclear weapons, like the W76-2, which are deployed on the US submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs) in 2019, has a reported capacity of 5 kt (the Fat Man dropped in Nagasaki was 21 kt).

The use of low-yield, easier-to-use nuclear weapons would escalate to a nuclear war that will result in the annihilation of the planet. We, therefore, urgently need security cooperation in Northeast Asia.

Here, we formally declare to establish a Coalition for the 3+3 (C3+3), with belief that the issue requires collective action, it is beyond the scope of an individual organization, and requires extensive, pooled resources and capacity to raise political will of the related governments.

The undersigned firmly believe that governments' decisions to take steps toward NEA-NWFZ are possible, once the end pictures are shared, and the opportunities are widely understood.

The Coalition for the 3+3 will benefit everyone in the region. There are no substantial arguments opposing the idea, but the obstacle is a lack of interest, and lack of political will.

The C3+3 is determined to mobilize members of parliaments, and its governments, to better understand the opportunities, and to induce political will required to establish a NEA-NWFZ.

7 July 2021

Coalition for 3+3 Inaugural Conference