

PRAEGER PERSPECTIVES



The New

Humanitarians

[INSPIRATION, INNOVATIONS,
AND BLUEPRINTS FOR VISIONARIES]

Edited by Chris E. Stout, PsyD • Foreword by Mehmet Oz, MD



*Changing Sustainable Development
and Social Justice*

become secure while neglecting the actual daily life needs of the vast majority of people. Nuclear weapons have no place in a road map to human security.

GSI is unique in working to affect change at multiple levels. It operates through four integrated programs, each targeting a different constituency of decision makers and influencers: governments, parliaments, and civil society leaders.

Through the Middle Powers Initiative (MPI), seven international NGOs—including two Nobel laureate organizations—are able to work primarily with the foreign ministries and, at times, the executive branches of key “middle-power” governments: politically and economically significant, internationally respected countries that have renounced the nuclear arms race, a standing that gives them significant political credibility. This type of “track 1½ diplomacy” is especially effective with middle-power countries—such as Canada, Japan, European non-nuclear states, South Korea, Australia, New Zealand, and Brazil—that then encourage and educate the nuclear weapon states to take immediate, practical steps to reduce nuclear dangers, and commence negotiations to eliminate nuclear weapons. MPI convenes top-level diplomats in off-the-record meetings, offering a noncombative atmosphere for the divergent players to work out the legal, political, and technical solutions to eliminating nuclear weapons, thereby building bridges between governments and constructing a global consensus.

MPI is composed of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW), the International Association of Lawyers against Nuclear Arms (IALANA), the International Network of Engineers and Scientists for Global Responsibility (INES), the International Peace Bureau (IPB), the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation (NAPF), and the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF).

In Washington, D.C., GSI’s efforts are executed through the Bipartisan Security Group (BSG), a group of experts with experience in diplomacy, law, intelligence, and military affairs. Many BSG members are former high-level governmental officials, able to use their contacts and credibility to advance the consensus agenda promoted by MPI. Through regular briefings on the Hill, BSG provides reliable information and analysis of arms control and nonproliferation issues to members of Congress and their staffs.

Outside of Washington, the policies advocated by GSI are advanced through a program called the Parliamentarians for Nuclear Nonproliferation and Disarmament (PNND), a nonpartisan forum for parliamentarians, nationally and internationally, to share resources and information; develop cooperative strategies; and engage in nuclear disarmament issues, initiatives, and arenas. Through PNND, GSI helps parliamentarians become engaged in nuclear nonproliferation and disarmament initiatives, and to turn the ideas of MPI into national legislation. Parliamentarians, because of their close relationship to constituents and their connections with parliamentary colleagues worldwide, have a crucial role to play in crafting policies that meet the security needs of the citizens of their countries, regions, and the world. As former UN Under-Secretary-General Jayantha Dhanapala recognized, “The parliaments of the world are the bridges between

government and civil society. They provide the funds to pay for national initiatives. Through their deliberations, they help to shape policy, and through their investigative and oversight powers they build public accountability. They provide a bulwark to ensure that governments comply with their international commitments and pledges—a role that at times requires the enactment of domestic legislation. These functions are absolutely vital to the future of nuclear disarmament. They help to give disarmament not only vision, but also some backbone, muscle, and teeth.”¹³

Through the Disarmament and Peace Education (DPE) program, GSI encourages new leadership and promotes new thinking on nuclear weapons elimination through innovative educational activities. GSI collaborates with prominent leaders in other fields, including Nobel peace laureates, religious leaders, military experts, students, scientists, and environmentalists. Through special events, reports, and educational materials, GSI encourages others to incorporate nuclear abolition advocacy into their own important activities. GSI has successfully built a community of common purpose across a diverse spectrum of leadership by positioning global security as a collective human imperative.

Each of these programs reinforces its respective approaches. For example, the international perspective gained through working with significant middle-power countries is a unique approach, highly valuable in advocacy and education in Washington, which often lacks perspective beyond national interest. It is the firm belief of GSI that only a global approach to protecting the climate, addressing poverty, and eliminating nuclear weapons will be successful.

The coordinated efforts of the exceptionally dynamic leaders of each program are noteworthy. MPI has a steering committee with such outstanding figures as Kim Campbell, former prime minister of Canada and the first female head of government in North America; and Ambassador Miguel Marin-Bosch, former deputy foreign minister of Mexico. MPI’s driving force is the visionary world leader Senator Douglas Roche, O.C., former Canadian disarmament ambassador, who is the author of nineteen books on peace and disarmament. PNND Global Coordinator Alyn Ware nearly single-handedly traveled the world to create the PNND network. Lastly, the Bipartisan Security Group’s chairman and director are two of America’s most distinguished former ambassadors, Thomas Graham and Robert Grey. The members of the BSG ensure exceptionally high-level access to decision makers in Washington, a formidable reinforcement to PNND’s direct link to parliaments the world over. This networked, multidimensional approach allows the advancing of strategic policies in great depth, while concomitantly ensuring broad outreach. Each program makes efforts to circulate the advocacy materials produced by the others, thus enriching the international dialogue with varying perspectives and approaches to achieving the same results.

Although GSI’s programs stretch across the globe, the organization itself remains relatively small. Each of the four offices—in New York, Washington, D.C., Wellington, New Zealand, and Philadelphia, PA—has a small staff. A great deal of