

Side Event

Victim Assistance and Environmental Remediation in States and Territories Affected by Nuclear Weapons Testing in the Pacific

Presentation of Research by Pace University's
International Disarmament Institute

1.15-2.30pm, Monday, 15 October 2018.
Conference Room 9.

The nuclear age has left an ongoing legacy of quiet violence on people and environments in many parts of the world. **Nuclear weapons use, testing, development and production have caused multigenerational human harm and persistent environmental damage** that pose a threat to sustainable development.

The 2017 **Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW)** includes “**positive obligations**” on **victim assistance, environmental remediation and international cooperation and assistance** (Articles 6 & 7) to address the ongoing humanitarian, human rights and environmental harms caused by nuclear weapons.

Pace University's International Disarmament Institute – in partnership with the Positive Obligations Team of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) and Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) New York Office – has launched a **major research project to gather and analyze the information necessary to ensure the rigorous implementation of the TPNW's obligations on victim assistance, environmental remediation and international cooperation and assistance.**

This side event – co-sponsored by the Permanent Missions of Kiribati and the Republic of Ireland to the UN, Pace University's International Disarmament Institute, FES New York, the World Council of Churches and ICAN – will present a **global overview of the harms of nuclear weapons** use, testing and related activities, as well as focused look at **in-depth case studies from the Pacific region**, including Australia, Fiji, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, New Zealand and the “downwind countries” that received concentrated radioactive fallout (including the Cook Islands, Niue, Samoa, Tonga and Tuvalu). In particular, panelists will **identify existing capacities and assess ongoing needs in affected communities and environments.**

Panelists

- Jamie Walshe, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation expert, Republic of Ireland
- Bonnie Docherty, Harvard Law School's International Human Rights Clinic
- Matthew Bolton, Pace University International Disarmament Institute
- Elizabeth Minor, Article 36