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The Nobel peace prize – short list for 2013

(Who are QUALIFIED under the purpose of Nobel, as specified in his 1895 will?)

In 2012 the Swedish authorities ordered the Nobel Foundation to respect the purpose described by Alfred Nobel in his will, i.e. to support those working to replace global militarism with global co-operation to realize a global peace system based on global law and disarmament. (For details, see: <http://www.nobelwill.org>).

While Nobel had a plan for global peace and specified the kind of peace work he intended to support, the Norwegian awarders hand the their “Nobels” out in all directions without any idea or vision of how peace must be achieved. Few of the nominees for 2013 are qualified if the awarders would promote the peace vision of Nobel, instead of their own ideas.

As documented by Fredrik S. Heffermehl in *“The Nobel Peace Prize. What Nobel Really Wanted* (Praeger, 2010), Nobel did not use the word “peace prize,” he dedicated his prize to *“the champions of peace,”* further specified as *“... the one who shall have done the most or the best work to realize the brotherhood of nations and the abolition or reduction of standing armies as well as the organization and promotion of peace congresses”* (quotes from 1895 will).

Nominees qualified for the 2013 Nobel peace prize

dedicated his prize to “the champions of peace,” those working for global demilitarization. Very few of the nominees in 2013 are promoters of Nobel’s peace vision, but among known nominees the following seem to meet the fundamental qualification, working for global peace by global law and global disarmament:

Richard Falk Professor (em.) of Law and International Organization(Calif. USA)

”Falk, now nearing 84, continues his untiring work through a long life for a global legal order based on international law, not on use of military force, directly in line with the testament of Nobel.”

(Quote/s from nomination by: Ståle Eskeland, prof. of law, Oslo)

Gunnar Garbo, Ambassador, author (Oslo, Norway)

“Gunnar Garbo has been an untiring champion of a world based on international law, negotiations and justice, rather than use of military force, latest in the paper *Klassekampen* Jan. 29, 2013, p. 22. Here he demonstrates and explains his life-long commitment to a foreign policy based on peace and non-violent solutions between nations.”

(Quote/s from nomination by: Aslak Syse, Professor of law, Oslo)

International Peace Bureau, IPB, (Geneva)

“... IPB won its Nobel Peace Prize in 1910. ... during the last years it has made an outstanding contribution on themes particularly important to the achievement of Nobel’s vision of a global pact on general and complete demilitarization of international relations and make humanity’s resources benefit people instead of being wasted on military capability building. Since 2005 IPB has devoted the bulk of its time and effort to Disarmament for Sustainable Development, with a special focus on military spending vs spending on human and environmental needs. While other bodies, notably in the academic world, have devoted some resources to studying this topic, IPB has created a programme of civil society *action*.

In particular, IPB has managed – with very limited resources – to put together and to take on the coordination of a brand new worldwide grass-roots action platform, the Global Day of Action on Military Spending. This is in fact the only broad-based global citizens’ mobilization on this vital topic. In 2011, nearly 100 actions were organized”

(Quote/s from nomination by: Jan Öberg, Docent, Lund, Sweden)

Nuclear Age Peace Foundation, NAPF, and David Krieger (Calif, USA)

“Founded in 1982, NAPF works with peace minded individuals and organizations who are striving to eliminate the madness of the nuclear weapons threat while strongly supporting the global rule of law and education for human survival. ... NAPF is also a repository and source of data for a wide variety of key nuclear issues and nuclear disarmament education and public policy projects through its main website (www.wagingpeace.org) and its other website (www.nuclearfiles.org), which contains an up-to- date history of accidents and errors with nuclear weapons since the beginning of their development and deployment. More than one million individuals visit this compendium of research and educational information annually. In 2012, members of NAPF's Action Alert Network sent over 100,000 advocacy messages to key political leaders in the U.S. Its nine-member Speakers Bureau is composed of experts who are on call for public presentations of peace and nuclear disarmament issues to faith communities, educational institutions, and civic groups throughout the U.S.

NAPF staff and affiliates have also taken a very active role in opposition to the continued testing of intercontinental ballistic missiles at Vandenberg Air Force Base, California, and have also vigorously opposed nuclear weapon development and testing projects, other efforts to modernize the U.S. nuclear arsenal and infrastructure, and efforts to deploy missile defense systems that undermine strategic stability between the U.S. and Russian Federation.”

(Quote/s from nomination by: [Bill Wickersham, Professor of Peace Studies, Uni of Missouri \(US\)](#))

Betty Reardon, Professor, peace studies focused on peace education, (USA)

“Betty Reardon’s contribution to peace education and to the wider peace movement is unique. Peace education is unfortunately less taught in schools than we would like to think. If we compare the resources used on a worldwide basis for peace education throughout the school system, it will be a drop compared to the ocean used for military training and “prestigious” military academies. If we want to build understanding between peoples and nations and to reduce the threat of what could be called the present generalized culture of war and violence, more attention must be given to peace education and to the importance of teachers who have learned and trained in using the tools of non-violent conflict resolution and who have acquired insights in basic humanistic values”

(Quote/s from nomination by: Tomas Magnusson, IPB Co-president)

Transnational Foundation for Peace and Future Studies, TFF, and Jan Öberg, (Lund, Sweden)

“Dr. Oberg has shown extraordinary talent, perseverance and determination in his struggle for peace. Since the foundation's establishment in 1985 he has organized a co-operation of over 60 TFF Associates and built an impressive, dynamic network for peace studies, dissemination and the practice of conflict mitigation on the ground in the world's hotspots - such as Somalia, former Yugoslavia, Georgia, Burundi, Iraq and Iran. One example of the innovative talents of Dr. Oberg is his discussion of “human security” 25 years before this became a household concept in international discussions.”

(Quote/s from nomination by: Christian Juhl, MP Folketinget (Denmark))

UNESCO (Paris) and Federico Mayor (Spain)

“[Mayor] wanted the culture of peace initiative to help clarify and strengthen the conditions for peace, and actively confront the culture of war and violence and its root-causes: poverty, deprivation, inequality, injustice and ignorance. He was firmly convinced that quality education, the learning to live together, is an indispensable tool for a culture of peace, fully in line with the preamble to UNESCO's Constitution which reads: “Since war begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defenses for peace must be constructed”.

(Quote/s from nomination by: Ingeborg Breines, IPB Co-president)

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, WILPF, (Geneva)

“Since 1945, WILPF continued its efforts for disarmament and peace, with particular emphasis on strengthening the United Nations. Today WILPF has international offices in Geneva and New York and follows in particular the work of the UN Conference on Disarmament, the Non-Proliferation Treaty, the UNGA/UNSC and the Human Rights bodies. In recent years WILPF has developed special expertise in three main programme areas: [Disarmament](#) (Reaching Critical Will), [Human Rights](#) and [PeaceWomen](#).

(Quote/s from nomination by: IPB, The International Peace Bureau)

NB: There may be **qualified nominees I am unaware of** – please send your information or comments to: fredpax@online.no

IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO PEACE, BUT RELATION TO A GLOBAL,
GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT AS THE OVERALL GOAL UNCLEAR:

(Many nominees do excellent peace work, but limited to certain weapons, territories, methods. Nobel intended to support the “champions of peace” working with global disarmament as the ultimate goal.)

Abolition 2000 Global Network to Eliminate Nuclear Weapons

“ ... was established in 1995 as an open network of civil society organisations calling for negotiations to commence on a global treaty to eliminate nuclear weapons in conjunction with the achievement of short-term goals such as the end of nuclear tests, reductions in nuclear stockpiles, taking nuclear weapons systems off alert, establishment of regional nuclear weapons-free zones, encouraging non-nuclear energy sources (due to the proliferation risk of nuclear energy) and affirmation of the illegality of nuclear weapons under international humanitarian law. Abolition 2000 is a fully inclusive, non-hierarchical and democratic network – modeling the type of non-violent, egalitarian world which would support the abolition of nuclear weapons. Your committee has justifiably awarded the Nobel Peace Prize to a number of individuals and organisations for their actions and leadership for nuclear disarmament – including Linus Pauling (1962), Alva Myrdal and Alfonso García Robles (1982), the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (1985), Joseph Rotblat and the PUGWASH conferences (1995) and President Obama (2009).

Perhaps now is the time to make the award to a network which is bringing over 2000 civil society organisations around the world together to collaborate effectively on this goal.”

(Quote/s from nomination by: Uta Zapf, Germany, Chair of the Bundestag Subcommittee on Arms Control and Disarmament)

Steinar Bryn and Nansen Dialogue (Lillehammer, Norway)

”Bryn and Nansen Dialogue have created a model showing that reconciliation and peace building are possible, even where there are huge and fresh wounds from war. These are essential experiences and thoughts of the greatest value in the work to build the peaceful global order that Nobel wished to achieve by the prize, it is new insight that deserves to become known and get the attention that a Nobel prize will offer. ... In the wake of the conflict in the Balkans Bryn and the Nansen Dialogue have developed innovative methods and experiences on how to heal wounds and leave conflicts behind. They have chosen to work in the most difficult and traumatized societies with the highest death toll during the Balkan war; Vukovar, Prijedor, Srebrenica”

(Quote/s from nomination by: Nils Christie, Professor of law, Oslo)

Bradley Manning (USA)

"I have chosen to nominate U.S. Army Pfc Bradley Manning, for I can think of no one more deserving. ... the world has changed in the years since Manning's whistleblowing -- the Middle East especially. In Bahrain, Tunisia, Egypt, and now Turkey, advocates of democracy have joined together to fight against their own governments' control of information, and used the free-flowing data of social media to help build enormously successful non-violent movements. Some activists of what has come to be known as the Arab Spring have even directly credited Bradley Manning, and the information he disclosed, as an inspiration for their struggles. . . . If not for whistleblower Bradley Manning, the world still might not know of how U.S. forces committed covert crimes in the name of spreading democracy in Iraq . . . Now, those who would support foreign intervention in the Middle East know that every action would be scrutinized under international human rights law. Clearly, this is for the best.

International peacekeepers, as well as experts and civilians inside Syria, are nearly unanimous in their view that United States involvement would only worsen this conflict."
(quotes from nomination by Nobel Peace Laureate Mairead Maguire)

Edward Snowden (USA) (Not nominated in time for 2013)

“Edward Snowden has – in a heroic effort at great personal cost – revealed the existence and extent of the surveillance, the U.S. government devotes electronic communications worldwide. By putting light on this monitoring program – conducted in contravention of national laws and international agreements – Edward Snowden has helped to make the world a little bit better and safer.

Through his personal efforts, he has also shown that individuals can stand up for fundamental rights and freedoms. This example is important because since the Nuremberg trials in 1945 has been clear that the slogan “I was just following orders” is never claimed as an excuse for acts contrary to human rights and freedoms. Despite this, it is very rare that individual citizens having the insight of their personal responsibility and courage Edward Snowden shown in his revelation of the American surveillance program. For this reason, he is a highly affordable candidate.

The decision to award the 2013 prize to Edward Snowden would – in addition to being well justified in itself – also help to save the Nobel Peace Prize from the disrepute that incurred by the hasty and ill-conceived decision to award U.S. President Barack Obama 2009 award. It would show its willingness to stand up in defense of civil liberties and human rights, even when such a defense be viewed with disfavour by the world’s dominant military power.”

(Nomination letter, Stefan Svallfors, Professor, Umeå, Sweden)

Mordechai Vanunu (Jerusalem, Israel, nuclear whistleblower)

“Verdensfreden avhenger, mer enn av noen annen gruppe mennesker, av behjertede varslere som Vanunu, som avslører hemmeligholdte folkerettstridige forberedelser til ulovlige forbrytelser mot menneskeheten og verdensfreden. Atomvåpen-opprustning er den klart farligste blant disse trusler.

(World peace depends, more than of any other group, of dedicated whistleblowers like Vanunu, people who uncover secretive preparations to violate international law by crimes against mankind and world peace. Nuclear armaments are clearly the most dangerous among such threats).”

(Quote/s from nomination by Edvard Vogt, Professor of law, Bergen, Norway)

The inhabitants of Gangjeong Village on Jeju-Island, South-Korea,

who have “been peacefully resisting the building of a military base situated only 300 miles from China. Women, men, children, priests of all kinds of beliefs, the mayor, divers and so on have been active in peaceful and creative resistance against the building of a base which will cause not only pollution and destruction of biological diversity, but also culture. This base will risk a military conflict with the neighbouring country China.”

(Quote/s from nomination by: Agneta Norberg, IPB Board member)

PS: PRIO Nobel list 2013 again supports official Norway's misconduct:

The PRIO Director annual speculations on known nominees support Norway's official line of ignoring the specific purpose Nobel described in his will. Their lists recognize clearly unqualified and irrelevant nominees. In the PRIO short list of leading contenders for the 2013 prize all five are obviously disqualified if Nobel's intention had counted.