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Máiread Maguire (N. Ireland)
Nobel Peace Laureate (1976)

Óscar Arias (Costa Rica)
Nobel Peace Laureate (1987)

J. E. Aristizábal "Juanes" (Colombia)
Grammy-winning singer and activist

Federico Mayor Zaragoza (Spain)
Former Director-General, UNESCO

Neelakanta Radhakrishnan (India)
Founder, Council of Gandhian Studies

Bernard Lafayette, Jr. (USA)
Activist leader, Civil Rights Movement

Ilya Prigogine, in memoriam (Russia)
Nobel Chemistry Laureate (1977)

Robert Muller, in memoriam
(Belgium)
Co-Founder, UN University for Peace

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Chaiwat Satha-Anand (Thailand)

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Human Rights Council
49th session. Item 4.
General debate.
Geneva, 21st of March 2022

Dear Human Beings,
Mister President,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Dear friends,

“We the people ...”

We peacefully claim and proclaim our right to peace.

It is a dismay to see some countries vote the right to peace and now wage war, to see others who did not vote it now crying for peace¹. It shows all the more that the progress of peace remains essential, including in our Council.

The right to peace improves sovereignty and prevents the use of force, or of self-defense means. It gives to the people the means needed to assure peace in their own lives, thus helping their governments to uphold peace locally and throughout the world.

Education for peace and non-violence is in SDG 4.7.

Prevention is the goal of the United Nations: it is done by fulfilling and granting values, including peace, so people will live and uphold, protect them if need be. Peaceful settlements of disputes shall become the universal norm. Use of force shall be avoided or restrained, be non-violent, nonkilling and subject to strict control. Civil defense should be promoted and we need more peace zones and peace departments and ministries.

The end of all wars and conflicts, of violence may not seem near, but as some are listed here, we do have the tools needed to see peace prevail. Now and always.

This why we proclaim and claim our right to peace.

“We the people ...”

Thank you !

¹ A/RES/71/189