



LE MOUVEMENT DE LA PAIX

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# LE MOUVEMENT DE LA PAIX

## FROM 1948 TO 2018: SEVENTY YEARS OF STRUGGLE FOR PEACE

Seventy years ago, a group of resistance fighters, among whom Yves Farge and Raymond Aubrac met in Paris on February 22, 1948 at the Hotel des Deux Mondes to create the association:« *" The freedom fighters " , a National movement for the defense of the principles and rights of the French Resistance"* which was later to become Le Mouvement de la Paix. This movement has kept fighting to bring together all those who believe that peace cannot be achieved through a logic of power which fuels the arms race but through the realization of human rights while respecting the goals and the principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations and its preamble.

The list of the armed and unarmed violent conflicts during the last 70 years, and the number of victims, shows this evidence shared by the vast majority of the peoples: **war is always a failure.**

For over seven decades, even confronted with tragedies and disturbances of all kinds, Le Mouvement de la Paix has been active and has gathered followers to put forward its demand of a world of peace, justice, brotherhood, solidarity and shared progress.

Beyond the fight against the atomic bomb, the peace movement has accompanied peoples in their struggles against colonialism and for self-determination, and helped win treaties prohibiting all weapons of mass destruction and lately, in July 2017, the adoption by the United Nations the Treaty to ban nuclear weapons.

At its last Congress, Le Mouvement de la Paix has set 4 priorities:

- Get France to sign and ratify the Treaty banning nuclear weapons and call for the immediate freezing of the planned spending for the modernization of nuclear weapons, with the transfer of these funds toward civilian research and the satisfaction of social needs.
- Reach a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, including the recognition of the State of Palestine.
- Work for the construction of a security system, common to the whole of Europe, and based on fair economic and cultural cooperation, including a new relationship with Africa, not on a logic of militarization.
- Develop everywhere in France educational activities enhancing the culture of peace and non-violence.

On the occasion of its 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Le Mouvement de la Paix solemnly calls the people living in France to mobilize in order to achieve these four goals.

A rally is currently being organized in support of the struggle for the elimination of nuclear weapons, for the realization of sustainable development goals (SDG), for sustainable solutions to climate change, for the promotion of a culture of peace and nonviolence, for a world of justice, peace and shared progress.

Everyone can take part.

Le Mouvement de la Paix sees itself as a tool at the service of all those who believe that there is no other way for the future of mankind than that of peace, all those who want to continue the fight of the freedom fighters.

The 2017 Nobel Peace Prize awarded to the International Campaign for the Abolition of the Nuclear weapons (ICAN), of which Le Mouvement de la Paix is a member, is an encouragement for everyone to take its share in the construction of peace.

***Happy anniversary to all pacifists!***

Le Mouvement de la Paix

February 22, 2018