



**Congressman Dennis J. Kucinich**

# *A Call for Peace*

**U.S. Congressman Dennis J. Kucinich calls for a common sense, peaceful and non-violent citizens' action to protect our precious world from stumbling into a nuclear catastrophe.**

**By CONGRESSMAN DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

**T**he climate for conflict has intensified, with the struggle between Pakistan and India, the China-Taiwan tug of war, and the increased bloodshed between Israel and the Palestinians. United States' troop deployments in the Philippines, Yemen, Georgia, Columbia and Indonesia, create new possibilities for expanded war. An invasion of Iraq is planned. The recent disclosure that Russia, China, Iraq, Iran, Syria, North Korea, and Libya are considered by the United States as possible targets for nuclear attack catalyses potential conflicts everywhere.

These crucial political decisions promoting increased military actions, plus a new nuclear first-use policy, are occurring without the consent of the American people, without public debate, without public hearings, without public votes. The President is taking Congress' approval of responding to the September 11 terrorists as a license to flirt with nuclear war.

We must speak out now to protect this planet and challenge those who believe in a nuclear right. Challenge those who would build new nuclear weapons. Challenge those who seek nuclear re-armament. Challenge those who seek nuclear escalation. Challenge those who would make of any nation a nuclear target. Challenge those who would threaten to use nuclear weapons against civilian populations. Challenge those who would break nuclear treaties. Challenge those who think and think about nuclear weapons, to think about peace.

People worldwide need to be meeting with like-minded people, about peace and nuclear disarmament, now. People worldwide need to gather in peace, now. People worldwide need to march and to pray for peace, now. People worldwide need to be connecting with each other on the web, for peace, now.

Now is the time to think, to take action and use our talents and abilities to create peace: in our families, in our block clubs, in our neighbourhoods, in our places of worship, in our schools and universities, in our labour halls and in our parent-teacher organizations.

Now is the time to think, speak, write, organize and take action to create peace as a social imperative, as an economic imperative, and as a political imperative. Now is the time to think, speak, write, organize, march, rally, hold vigils and take other non-violent action to create peace in our cities, in our nation and in the world. And as the hymn says, "Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me."

This is the work of the human family, of people all over the world, demanding that governments and non-governmental actors alike put down their nuclear weapons. This is the work of the human family, responding in this moment of crisis to protect our nation, this planet and all life within it. We can achieve both nuclear disarmament and peace. As we understand that all people of the world are interconnected, we can achieve both nuclear disarmament and peace. We can accomplish this through upholding a holistic vision where the claims of all living beings to the right of survival are recognized. We can achieve both nuclear disarmament and peace through being a living testament to a Human Rights Covenant where each person on this planet is entitled to a life where he or she may consciously evolve in mind, body and spirit.

Nuclear disarmament and peace are the signposts toward the uplift path of an even brighter human condition wherein we can, through our conscious efforts, evolve and reestablish the context of our existence from peril to peace, from revolution to evolution.

Think peace. Speak peace. Act peace. Peace.

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*The above text are excerpts from A Call for Action, by Congressman Dan Kucinich, U.S. House of Representatives, Congressional Record, 20 March 2002. The complete text can be consulted at the web page of the Centre for Research on Globalisation (CRG), <http://www.globalresearch.ca/articles/KUC204A.html>. All Rights Reserved. Copyright Dennis J. Kucinich 2002. ■*