

6TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

#CYG6YEARS



REPORT



2022

AUTHORS



YESEUL WOO

Yeseul is a PhD candidate in the Department of War Studies, at King's College London. She is also a Developing Scholar at the Hudson Institute, and previously served as journalist for South Korean and US media outlets and as a Asia-Pacific leadership fellow at the East-West Center in Hawaii, a research fellow at the Pacific Forum and at the Harry S. Truman Institute.



NECER EDINE ZIOUANI

Necer holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Sciences and International Relations from the University of Algiers, Algeria and a Master's degree in Strategic and Arms Control Studies from Saint Petersburg State University, Russia. He was a trainee for the Arab League in Vienna and a trainee at the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in The Hague.



ANNA STEPANOVA

Anna studied Computer Science and Robotics in Ukraine. For almost a decade, she has been working in the Information Technology field at the UN. Anna finds inspiration for constant learning and self-development from her family and her passion for classical music and mathematics.



MILANA OZERINA

Milana is a fourth-year student at the National Research Nuclear University MEPhI in Moscow, Russia. Currently, she works at Rosatom Technical Academy which provides educational services for the nuclear industry personnel.

EDITORS



MARIA CHEPURINA

External Relations Officer, Legal and External Relations Division, CTBTO Youth Group Task Force Coordinator



MARIUS JANO

Programme Support and Outreach Consultant, Office of Executive Secretary, CTBTO Youth Group Task Force



KSENIIA PIRNAVSKAIA

Intern, Legal and External Relations Division, CTBTO Youth Group Task Force

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“WE HAVE TALENTED SCIENTISTS, DIPLOMATS, JOURNALISTS, AND ACADEMICS. YOU CLEARLY ARE THE NEXT GENERATION OF GLOBAL DECISION-MAKERS. I REALLY APPRECIATE THE ENERGY, THE OPTIMISM, THE INNOVATION OF YOUTH. CTBT’S ENTRY INTO FORCE IS A MULTIGENERATIONAL ACTIVITY”

Robert Floyd, Executive Secretary of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO)



ROBERT FLOYD

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In 2016, the CTBTO was one of the first international organizations to recognize that youth were largely absent from high-level discussions on issues that affected their future. By launching the CTBTO Youth Group (CYG), the CTBTO placed youth at the forefront of its outreach efforts – creating an initiative led by youth, for youth.

Since then, the CTBTO Youth Group has expanded to become a truly universal youth-led endeavour: promoting a ban on nuclear testing for a safer and more peaceful world. Our 1156 CYG members come from over 122 countries and share leadership skills, a desire for a better and safer world, and an interest in working at the intersection of science and diplomacy. These emerging voices are ready to engage in the issues that affect their future and invest their knowledge and energy to amplify the call for a world free of nuclear tests.

This anniversary edition of the CYG Report is an illustration of what the group has achieved over the past five years. It shows its diversity, ambition, and the impact that membership has had on our young experts. The structure of the report follows the main CYG objectives for 2020-2021, which include:

- Building a basis for knowledge transfer to the next generation
- Placing the CTBT on the agenda of the world’s most important nuclear-related events
- Revitalising the discussion around the CTBT
- Raising awareness of the importance of the nuclear-test-ban on a global level
- Innovation to advance the CTBT’s universalization and entry-into-force

Global CYG membership requires structured coordination, facilitated by our annually appointed CYG Coordination Team. Alongside their fellow CYGs, the CYG Coordination Team members serve as Youth Group ambassadors representing the programme at high-level events and among fellow youth activists. Their work and dedication have been outstanding. I would especially like to thank the authors of this report, Kseniia Pirnavskaia (Russia), Milana Ozerina (Russia), Anna Stepanova (Ukraine), Yeseul Woo (South Korea), and Necer Edine Ziouani (Algeria).

At the CTBTO Secretariat, the CYG Task Force is a small vibrant team dedicated to youth empowerment. I invite you to reach out to us at youthgroup@ctbto.org with your suggestions and to join the CTBTO Youth Group to begin your journey towards disarmament leadership today.

All the best,

CYG TASK FORCE

youthgroup@ctbto.org



STATEMENT ON THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CTBT

The Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) opened for signature 25 years ago on September 24, 1996, after years of tough negotiations. Since the beginning of the atomic age, the world has seen over 2000 nuclear tests, which encouraged destabilizing arms racing and militarism. The signing and entry into force of the CTBT ensure a more peaceful world for current and future generations.

On the 25th anniversary of the CTBT, the CYG pays tribute to the achievements of the Treaty, which has made remarkable progress in completely eliminating the scourge of nuclear testing. The treaty is a key part of the global non-proliferation and disarmament architecture. It inhibits more countries from developing nuclear weapons and represents a meaningful step toward a world free of nuclear weapons.

Over the past 25 years, the CTBTO has proven its capacity to act as a comprehensive global monitoring system. Through state-of-the-art science and technology, and with the oversight of international experts, the Organization ensures that no test of a nuclear device goes unnoticed by the international community. The CTBTO will continue to grow, innovate, and expand - the CYG represents the CTBTO's commitment to education, outreach, and development as a diverse international community of young people with a common goal: ending nuclear testing.

Our work is not done. Many CYG members are the same age as the CTBT, but the Treaty has yet to enter into force. This limits the capacity of the international community to detect and investigate nuclear tests and leaves the door open to a future where we are stuck in the past. We are grateful for the 170 countries who have already ratified the Treaty, and to the 185 that have signed it. We also call on the remaining eight Annex 2 countries to ratify at the earliest possible date.

The CYG is proud to work with the Group of Eminent Persons (GEM) to strengthen intergenerational dialogue and knowledge-sharing. We encourage senior leaders to include the perspectives and ideas of young people into their work and offer opportunities to the next generation of leaders to deal with the complex issues of today, in order to prepare for a better tomorrow.

We can only close the door to nuclear testing for good if we keep reminding our governments, communities, and leaders that this is one of the most urgent tasks before us. We wholeheartedly believe that a world without nuclear tests is a better world - the CTBT is our path to get there. Let's finish what we started.



**CTBTO YOUTH GROUP
24 SEPTEMBER 2021**





CYG IN NUMBERS

REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION



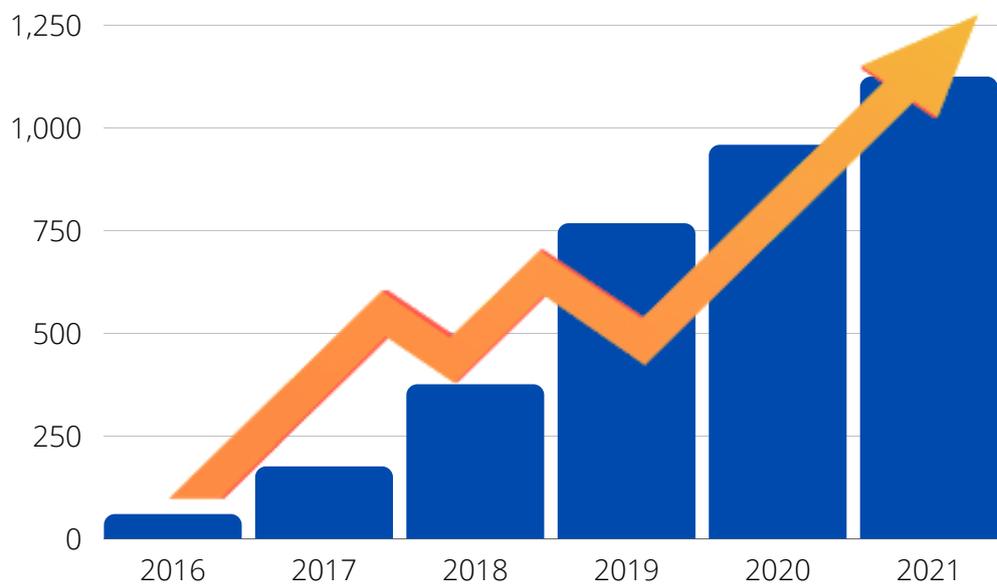
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- EASTERN EUROPE - 155
- LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN - 69
- MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA - 246
- NORTH AMERICA, WESTERN EUROPE - 386
- SOUTH EAST ASIA, PACIFIC, FAR EAST - 102

GENDER DISTRIBUTION



- FEMALE - 567
- MALE - 589

GROWTH OF CYG MEMBERSHIP



Data used in the report is as of February, 2022



MEMBERS FROM ANNEX II STATES



61



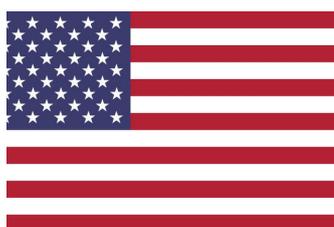
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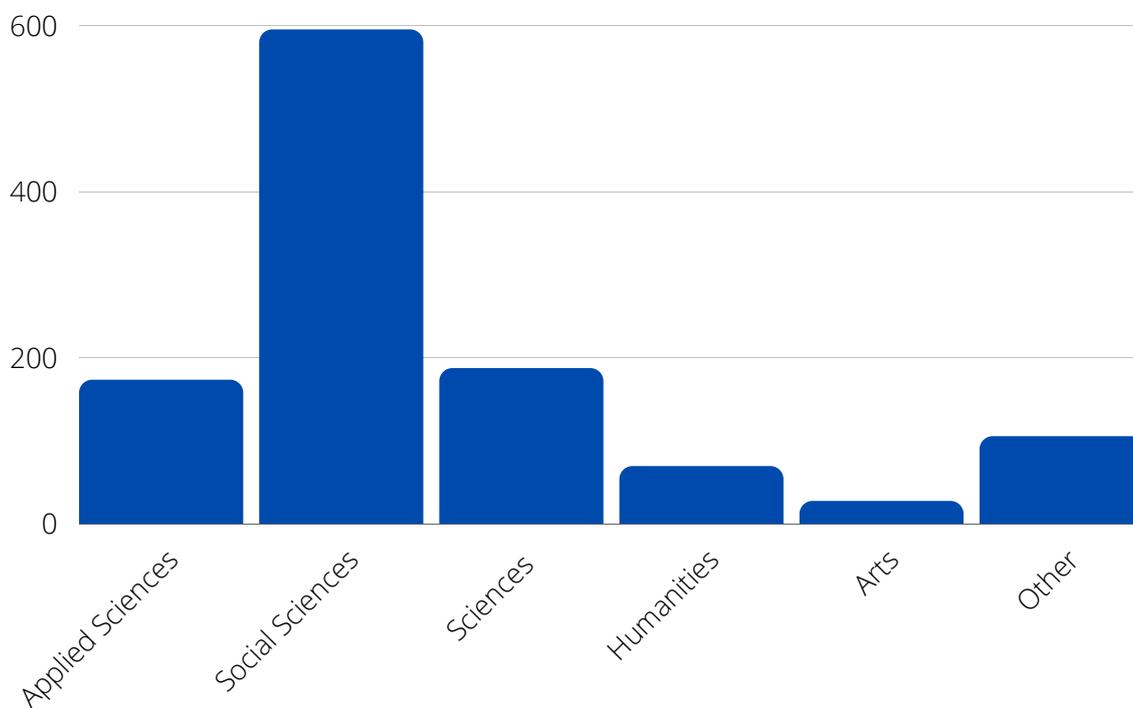
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7



ACADEMIC DISCIPLINE



Data used in the report is as of February, 2022



BUILD A BASIS FOR SCIENCE DIPLOMACY KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER TO THE NEXT GENERATION

CTBTO GEM - YOUTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, KAZAKHSTAN, 28 AUG - 2 SEP 2018

Members of the Group of Eminent Persons (GEM) and the CYG members attended an international conference in Kazakhstan to reflect on the role of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation in building global peace and finding ways to strengthen it in the future. CTBTO GEM and Youth Group members visited the former nuclear test site at Semipalatinsk, officially closed in 1991, where 456 nuclear explosions were conducted over the period of 1949 to 1989.



SCIENCE AND POLICY SEMINAR, ECUADOR, 2019

CYG member Luis Vazquez (Mexico), a PhD student at the University of Southern California's Department of Earth Sciences, participated in the panel "Science, diplomacy and the CTBT: Latin America as a champion of non-proliferation and disarmament" alongside prominent experts. The participants stressed the importance of involving young people in science and diplomacy discussions. On the margins of the seminar, Luis talked about the CYG, its objectives and activities geared towards promoting the CTBT's entry into force.

INTERGENERATIONAL DIALOGUE: BUILDING A NEW GENERATION OF AFRICAN NUCLEAR EXPERTS, GHANA, 2020

CYG members discussed how the African Youth can be involved in the nuclear field and serve as the driving force behind the progress toward a world free of nuclear testing. They stressed the importance of strengthening the nexus between science and policy and developing university curricula that foster deeper thinking in this sphere. They recommended to have a delegation of young Africans to the NPT RevCon and boost participation as part of AFCONE.



CYG-CENESS RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP, 2021

The Fellowship aims to help promising young scholars build their professional network by giving them access to top professionals and experts in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation not only in the form of lectures but through an engaging dialogue with the best experts and nuclear diplomats. Notably, around half of the fellows are from the states that have not yet signed and/or ratified the CTBT, among which are such remaining Annex 2 states as China, Egypt, India, Israel, Pakistan, and the US. The Fellowship concluded with a High-Level Session featuring CTBTO Executive Secretary Robert Floyd and United Nations Under-Secretary-General of Disarmament Affairs, Izumi Nakamitsu.

"I DIDN'T CONSIDER WORKING IN THE FIELD OF NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT AND NONPROLIFERATION, BUT THE MOMENT WHEN I PARTICIPATED IN THE CTBTO CONFERENCE FOR THE FIRST TIME, AS A MEMBER OF THE CYG, CHANGED MY LIFE FOREVER. THANKS TO THE CYG I AM WHO I AM NOW."



NATALIA ZHURINA
RUSSIA, OPANAL

PLACE THE CTBT ON THE AGENDA OF THE WORLD'S MOST IMPORTANT NUCLEAR-RELATED EVENTS

CYG MEMBERS PROMOTE THE CTBT AT THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, USA, 27 SEP 2018

CYG members Djaona Andriamampandry (Madagascar), Yeseul Woo (South Korea), and Ilya Kursenko (Russia) attended the UNGA session in 2018 to advocate for the CTBT and represent the Youth Group. Djaona was selected to deliver the message to the Ninth Ministerial Meeting of the Friends of the CTBT at UNGA after winning the Presentation Contest "My vision of the CTBT" held during the second Science Diplomacy Symposium in 2018, held in Vienna, Austria.



CYG MEMBERS ATTEND THE 2019 MOSCOW NONPROLIFERATION CONFERENCE (MNC), RUSSIA, 7-9 NOV 2019

Youth Group members participated in the MNC: one of the world's largest forums on nuclear issues organized by the Center for Energy and Security Studies. MNC 2019 focused on Russia-US arms control, uncertain prospects of the JCPOA, growing tensions in the Middle East, the lack of progress of the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. The large CYG delegation took part in high-level sessions and communicated with leading experts in nuclear issues from all over the world.



19TH REPUBLIC OF KOREA-UNITED NATIONS JOINT CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT AND NON-PROLIFERATION, WEBINAR, 3 DEC 2020

Upon invitation from the UNODA's Youth4Disarmament initiative, the CYGs contributed to the Conference's Youth Special Session focusing on New Technologies and its Impact on Disarmament and Non-proliferation Regime. The panel discussion started with the presentations of five international youth representatives who actively work on spreading awareness about non-proliferation and disarmament matters. CTBTO Youth Group was represented by Idriss Irakoze (Burundi), an international security specialist. He spoke about his advocacy work with the CYG and his efforts to raise awareness about security issues among African young generations.



UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING, 27 SEP 2021

CTBTO Youth Group Member and Education Coordinator, Magdalene Wangui Wanyaga (Kenya) addressed the United Nations Security Council and highlighted the important role of youth in advancing the Entry into Force of the CTBT: "Younger generations are the best advocates for international disarmament and non-proliferation... I, therefore, urge the organisations and entities at the national, regional, and global levels to provide the power and tools to the youth to promote and advocate for these noble values because our voice is worth hearing"



YESEUL WOO
SOUTH KOREA

“MY EXPERIENCE AT THE UNGA MADE ME THINK ABOUT WHAT ROLE OUR GENERATION SHOULD PLAY IN THE FUTURE. AS A CYG MEMBER, I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO THE FUTURE WE WILL CREATE TOGETHER, LET'S BUILD A BETTER FUTURE TOGETHER”



REVITALISE THE DISCUSSION AROUND THE CTBT

NEREC ONLINE SUMMER FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, 2020

CYG Members Marzhan Nurzhan (Kazakhstan), Natalia Zhurina (Russia), and Yunhwa Choi (South Korea) conducted research on the role of the CTBTO Youth Group that won them the nomination for Best Research Team (Graduate Fellows) as part of the NEREC Summer Fellows Program that brings together young policymakers and scientists to study nonproliferation. Another CYG member Ksenia Pirnavskaia (Russia) and her team won the Best Research Team nomination (Young Fellows) with their paper on the public acceptance level of nuclear energy in South Korea.



NEREC
Nuclear
Nonproliferation
Education and
Research Center
KAIST

GEM-CYG MENTORING SESSION AT SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE, WEBINAR, 29 JUN - 2 JUL 2021



Building on the successful practice of the #CYGWebinars, the virtual format of SnT 2021 provided CTBTO Youth Group (CYG) members with the unique opportunity to interact with Group of Eminent Persons (GEM) members and further their knowledge of the nuclear non-proliferation sphere. During the session, GEM acted as mentors and engaged in a series of short, focused conversations in breakout rooms.

EMERGING POWER: WOMEN IN DISARMAMENT & NON-PROLIFERATION, WEBINAR, 2021

The joint webinar is co-organized by the CTBTO Youth Group and the Ban Ki-moon Centre for Global Citizens. The webinar was carried out as a part of the "Building Bridges" project. The webinar concentrated on the connection between the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) - particularly SDG 5, "Gender Equality" - and nuclear security, shedding light on the challenges as well as illuminating the opportunities. It will seek to raise awareness and offer recommendations for how increased gender equality can further the disarmament agenda.



Kim Won-soo
Board member Ban Ki-moon
Centre for Global Citizens,
GEM member and Former
UN HR for Disarmament
Affairs



Moderator
Julia Zimmerman
Programme Officer of Ban
Ki-moon Centre for Global
Citizens



Deniz Iskandarova
Coordinator of International
Gender Champions in Vienna
at CTBTO



Yesul Woo
CTBTO Youth Group member



Sylvia Mishra
New Tech Nuclear Officer at the
European Leadership Network and
Doctoral Researcher at the
College London, CYG

STRENGTHENING THE CTBT AND ITS VERIFICATION REGIME, VCDNP WEBINAR, 2021



In early 2021, CYGs Sylvia Mishra (India) and Yeseul Woo (South Korea) participated in a high-level webinar hosted by VCDNP about the future of the CTBT in promoting nuclear verification and disarmament. A line-up of distinguished speakers included Dr Lassina Zerbo, former CTBTO Executive Secretary, Ambassador Gustavo Zlauvinen, former UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and member of the CTBTO Group of Eminent Persons (GEM) Angela Kane, Permanent Representative of Germany Ambassador Gerhard Kuntzle, Permanent Representative of Algeria Ambassador Faouzia Mebarki, and others.

“VISITING THE TEST AREAS IN KAZAKHSTAN, IT REALLY HAD AN IMPACT ON UNDERSTANDING THE EFFECTS OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS TESTING AND THE ADVERSE IMPLICATIONS IT HAS ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND HUMAN LIFE.”



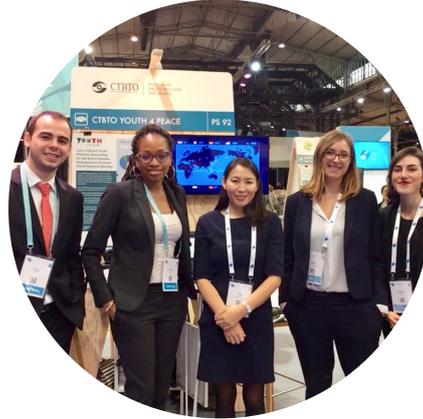
MAGGIE WANYAGA
KENYA

RAISE AWARENESS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN ON A GLOBAL LEVEL



PARIS PEACE FORUM, FRANCE, 11-13 NOV 2018

The CTBTO Youth for Peace project was selected as one of the 100 global solutions at the first edition of the Paris Peace Forum. Pitched by an international group of CYG members Marius Jano (Albania), Setou Ouattara (Burkina Faso), Yumei Sang (China), Oceane Tranchez (France), Marie Pavageau (France) and Maria Chepurina of the CYG Task Force, the project was presented to heads of state and government. It secured broad interest, helped build new partnerships with youth-led initiatives and has emphasised the prominence of the CTBT.



CYG MEETING OF THE AMERICAS, MEXICO, 2019

This CYG regional meeting took place during the Annual Meeting of the Mexican Geophysical Union in 2019. Participating CYG members presented their research and work related to the CTBT, the IMS and IDC, and relevant CYG activities. During this meeting, they also had a booth sponsored by the CTBTO that showcased the scientific and civil applications of the treaty's verification regime.



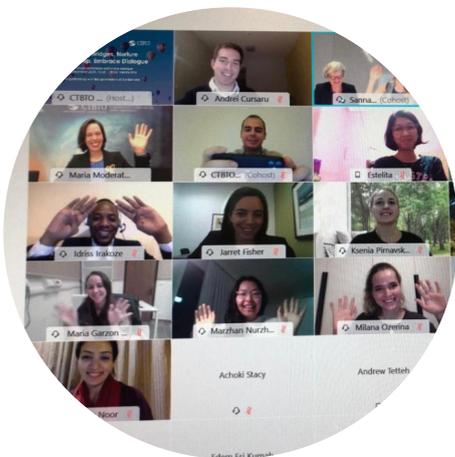
CONFERENCE ON FACILITATING THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE CTBT, 23-24 SEP 2021

Jarret Fisher (US) delivered a statement on behalf of the CTBTO Youth Group dedicated to the 25th anniversary of the CTBT. Jarret paid tribute to the achievements of the Treaty, which has made remarkable progress in completely eliminating the scourge of nuclear testing, highlighting that the CTBT is a key part of the global non-proliferation and disarmament architecture.



BUILDING BRIDGES, NURTURE PARTNERSHIP, EMBRACE DIALOGUE, WEBINAR, 2020-2021

In partnership with the Government of Switzerland, the CTBTO launched "Building Bridges, Nurture Partnership, Embrace Dialogue," a first of its kind initiative that aimed to connect the CYG to other youth movements focusing on climate, international peace and security, and the SDGs. This initiative provides a framework for CYGs to build sustainable partnerships and interdisciplinary joint projects with participating organizations including YOUNGO, SDSN, Global Young Academy, BKMC, RNS-NG and Africa YGN.



WILFREDO CANO MAMANI
BOLIVIA

“ ONLY BY INTEGRATING ALL COUNTRIES, CULTURES AND DIFFERENT AREAS OF STUDY IN THE SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES WILL WE BE ABLE TO FORESEE CATASTROPHE SITUATIONS CARRIED OUT ARTIFICIALLY, ONLY THE COMMITMENT TO PREVENTION WILL HELP US TO HAVE A BETTER VISION OF HUMANITY THAT WE WILL LEAVE TO FUTURE GENERATIONS. THANK YOU CYG - CTBTO FOR THIS SPACE.”

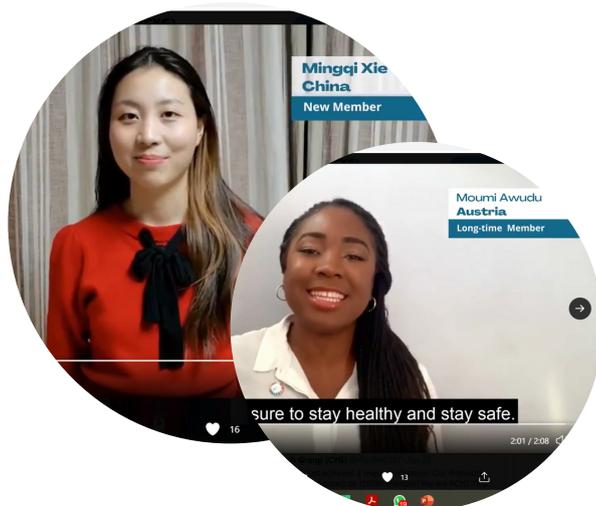




INNOVATION TO ADVANCE THE CTBT'S ENTRY-INTO-FORCE

VIRTUAL TABLE TOP EXERCISE, WEBINAR, 2020

The CTBTO's On-Site Inspection division partnered with the CYG to create a Virtual Tabletop Exercise to walk Youth Group members through the "launch phase" of an inspection using fictitious states. Participants were given asynchronous online resources to review ahead of the interactive live event where they got to actively participate in simulated briefings, discussions, and negotiations to understand how the CTBT will be enforced.

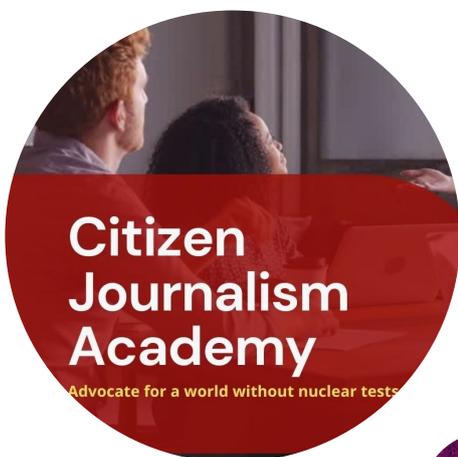


MEMBER-TO-MEMBER VIDEO SERIES DEDICATED TO THE CYG 5TH ANNIVERSARY, 2020

The CYG Coordination Team initiated a digital media project where both long-time members and newcomers shared their impressions about their participation in the CYG. While new members expressed their expectations, the long-time members shared a piece of advice on how to make the most out of their CYG experience

INDEPENDENT WOMEN -CYG HOSTS TRACK 2 DIALOGUE, WEBINAR, 2020

Two CYG members, Jarret Fisher (USA) and Yeseul Woo (South Korea), joined a third researcher, Ms Han Wei (China), to create their own Track 2 Dialogue between the United States of America, People's Republic of China, and the Republic of Korea. This dialogue is part of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Education and Research Center (NEREC) Summer fellowship program at KAIST.



CITIZEN JOURNALISM ACADEMY, 2021

Atomic Reporters organised four online workshops for the CJA with a variety of media practitioners sharing their work experience. After each event, there was an open mic meeting serving as mentoring opportunities for individual CJA participants who needed additional guidance and feedback. From among CYG members taking part in the CJA training programme – on average each workshop attracted between 35 to 60 participants - 25 were then selected to report on events at the SnT2021.



DAMAYANTI PRBASARI
INDONESIA

“I JOINED THE FIRST BUILDING BRIDGES WEBINAR IN 2020. THERE IS TREMENDOUS POTENTIAL TO DEVELOP MORE INITIATIVES AND BUILD CROSS-DOMAIN CONNECTIONS.”

MEMORY BOX



CTBT Science Diplomacy Symposium, Austria, 2016
CYG Founding Members



Moscow CTBTO Youth Group Conference, Russia
2017



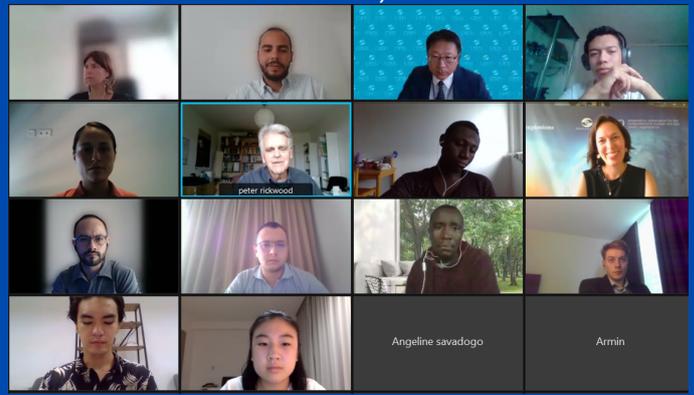
Paris Peace Forum, France, 2018



CTBTO GEM-Youth Group International Conference,
Kazakhstan, 2018



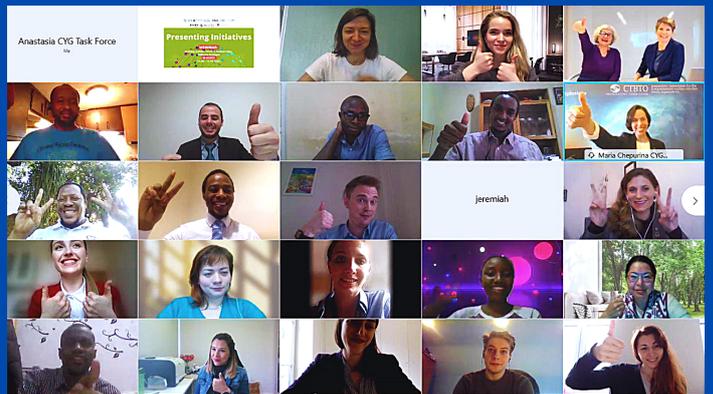
Science and Technology Conference, Austria, 2019



Citizen Journalism Academy Closing Ceremony, 2021



CTBTO Youth Group Dialogue with
Executive Secretary Dr Robert Floyd, 2021



Building Bridges, Webinar, 2020 - 2021