

**FOUNDERS:**

Betty Williams, Ireland - 1976
Máiread Maguire, Ireland - 1976
Rigoberta Menchú Tum, Guatemala - 1992
Prof. Jody Williams, USA - 1997
Dr. Shirin Ebadi, Iran - 2003
Prof. Wangari Maathai, Kenya - 2004

united for peace with justice and equality

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November 19, 2010

~RE: Release of Mordechai Vanunu~

Dear President Peres and Prime Minister Netanyahu,

We are writing to request that you grant the total and unconditional release of Mordechai Vanunu and lift all restrictions placed on his freedom of movement.

Mr. Vanunu has already spent 18 years in prison for alerting the international community and the people of Israel to the Israeli government's nuclear weapons capabilities. Since his release in 2006, he has been denied many of his fundamental rights, including freedom of movement, expression and association. In October of this year, the Israeli Supreme Court justified these ongoing restrictions on the basis that his knowledge of nuclear research from over 25 years ago continues to threaten the state of Israel.

Yet Mr. Vanunu is not an enemy of Israel. He is a courageous individual whose dedication to human rights and non-proliferation is internationally recognized. A few weeks ago, Mr. Vanunu was chosen by the International League for Human Rights as the 2010 recipient of the prestigious Carl von Ossietzky Medal. The award is given each year in honour of Carl von Ossietzky—a German pacifist who was arrested and confined in a concentration camp for his principled opposition to the Nazi regime.

As we gather in Japan for the Summit of Peace Laureates, we remember the inhumane devastation caused by the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. We also pay tribute to the commitment of individuals such as Mordechai Vanunu who are devoted to freeing the world from the threat of nuclear weapons so that such devastation will never again occur.

As such, we urge you to ensure that the restrictions placed on Mr. Vanunu are lifted immediately so that he is able to leave Israel to receive his award in Berlin on December 12th.

Sincerely,

Betty Williams



Maureen Maguire

Shirin Ebrahimi



Wangari