

# From Peace Walks to Peace Talks

 **WOMENCROSSDMZ**  
Mobilizing Women for Peace in Korea





Dear Friends,

What a dramatic year it's been. One year ago, President Donald Trump threatened to unleash "fire and fury" on North Korea. Now, the prospect of permanent peace on the Korean Peninsula looms on the horizon, and Women Cross DMZ is poised to play a key role in the process.

How did we get here?

The reversal began with the Winter Olympics, when the two Koreas marched together carrying the One Korea flag. South Korean President Moon Jae-In and North Korean Chairman Kim Jong-Un held three inter-Korean summits and signed two declarations, agreeing to family reunions, joint athletic teams, civil society exchanges, and the reopening of joint economic ventures. South Korea opened a liaison office in Kaesong to facilitate year-round communications between Seoul and Pyongyang.

Then, in a landmark meeting in Singapore, President Trump and Chairman Kim committed to improving relations, establishing a peace process, and moving towards denuclearization. Although Trump administration officials soon returned to their rhetoric of "maximum pressure," imposing new sanctions, prolonging the U.S. travel ban to North Korea, and impeding U.S. NGOs' humanitarian operations, Korean leaders continue to advance the wishes of the Korean people to peacefully coexist. In September, the two Koreas signed a historic military agreement to turn the DMZ into a peace zone, end military exercises, and establish a no-fly zone along the military line dividing Korea. On October 1, engineers on both sides began to de-mine the DMZ.

The Korean War is the longest standing U.S. conflict. As a key party to the Korean War and a signatory to the Armistice Agreement, the United States must come to the table to negotiate a permanent settlement by signing a Korea Peace Treaty.

That's where we come in. In the past year, Women Cross DMZ was at the center of mobilizing opposition to Trump's war on North Korea.

Through talks, webinars, conferences, and the media, we reached millions with our calls for peace and diplomacy. We rallied our partners in South Korea and North Korea, women's, peace, faith-based, humanitarian, and Korean diaspora organizations around the world to call for an end to the Korean War. We deepened our partnerships with the South Korean women's peace movement, the Nobel Women's Initiative, and Women's International League for Peace and Freedom and strengthened the U.S.-based Korea Peace Network. We engaged government officials in the United States, South Korea, North Korea, Canada, other key countries, and the United Nations.

In just three years, Women Cross DMZ has become a formidable voice calling for peace. Our analysis is sought regularly by MSNBC, BBC, CNN, and Democracy Now! and publications such as The Wall Street Journal, Los Angeles Times, and TIME Magazine.

Whether protesting outside the Foreign Ministers meeting in Vancouver or the U.S. Embassy in Seoul, or breaking new ground walking in the DMZ, we continue to call for women's inclusion in the peace process because we know that when women are involved, not only does it lead to an actual agreement, but a far more durable one.

We have never been this close to ending the Korean War. Let's finish the job.

Thanks to the generous support from our committed donors and the NoVo Foundation's Radical Hope Fund, we will launch our 2020 Women-Led Korea Peace Treaty Campaign with our partners, mobilizing women worldwide to push towards a peace agreement by 2020.

We believe in the power of women to bring peace, justice, and healing to the Korean Peninsula and the world. Thanks for helping us end this war.

With gratitude and in peace,

**CHRISTINE AHN**  
International Coordinator

**2018 Steering Committee:**  
Christine Ahn,  
International Coordinator  
Kazue Akibayashi, Women's Int'l  
League for Peace & Freedom  
Aiyoun Choi,  
Nonprofit Management Consultant  
Ewa Eriksson-Fortier,  
Retired Humanitarian Aid Worker  
Meri Joyce, Peace Boat, Global  
Partnership for the Prevention of Armed  
Conflict Northeast Asia  
Regional Coordinator  
Gwyn Kirk, Women for Genuine Security  
Hye-Jung Park, Media Activist  
Ann Wright, Retired US Army  
Colonel, Diplomat  
Nan Kim, Associate Professor, University  
of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

**2015 Delegation Members:**  
Gloria Steinem, Author and Activist  
Janis Alton, Canadian Voice of  
Women for Peace  
Medea Benjamin, Code Pink  
Deann Borshay Liem, Filmmaker  
Hyun-Kyung Chung, Union  
Theological Seminary  
Jean Chung, Action for One Korea  
Gay Dillingham, Filmmaker  
Abigail Disney, Filmmaker and  
Philanthropist  
Jodie Evans, Code Pink  
Leymah Gbowee, 2011  
Nobel Peace Laureate  
Erika Guevara Rosas,  
Amnesty International  
Patricia Guerrero, Liga  
de Mujeres Desplazadas  
Jane Jin Kaisen, Artist and Filmmaker  
Vana Kim Hansen, Spiritual Teacher  
Suzy Kim, Rutgers University  
M. Brinton Lykes, Boston University  
Liza Maza, Gabriela Women's Alliance  
Mairaed Maguire, 1976  
Nobel Peace Laureate  
Netsai Mushonga, Women's  
Coalition of Zimbabwe  
Lisa Natwidad, Gushan Coalition  
For Peace & Justice  
Ann Patterson, Peace People,  
Northern Ireland  
Suzuyo Takazato, Okinawa Women  
Act Against Military Violence

**Advisors:**  
Charles Armstrong, Columbia University  
Coleen Baik, Consultant  
Marie Berry, University of Denver  
Bruce Cummings, University of Chicago  
Wendi Deetz, Global Fund for Women  
Cynthia Enloe, Clark University  
Eve Ensler, Playwright and  
Founder of V-Day  
Henri Féron, Columbia Law School  
Kevin Gray, University of Sussex  
Peter Hayes, Nautilus Institute  
Lois Herman, Women's UN  
Report Network  
Victor Hsu, Presbyterian Church, Taiwan  
Eleana Kim, University of  
California, Irvine  
Nam-Hee Lee, University of  
California, Los Angeles  
Sung-ok Lee, United Methodist Women  
Tim Shorrock, Journalist, The Nation  
Jay Song, University of Melbourne  
Alice Walker, Author and Activist  
Cora Weiss, International Peace Bureau  
Ji-Yeon Yuh, Northwestern University  
Charissa Zehr, Mennonite  
Central Committee

**Staff:**  
Christine Ahn, International Coordinator  
Hyun Lee, U.S. National Organizer  
Jacquelyn Wells,  
Communications Coordinator  
Margaret Gerhart, Designer

**Volunteers:**  
Heng Liu, Wellesley College  
Tae Lim, University of Michigan  
Deborah Kim, Rutgers University  
Erin VanMeter, Auburn University

# 2020 Women-Led Korea Peace Treaty Campaign

“In 2015 when 30 women leaders from around the world formed Women Cross DMZ—and actually got permission from North Korea, South Korea and the US to cross that land-mined and desolate strip dividing Korea—it was a radical act of the imagination. Now, the NoVo Radical Hope Fund has contributed \$2 million to this peace effort, and leaders on all sides are running to catch up with their followers.”

— Gloria Steinem

**W**omen Cross DMZ has emerged as a leading voice in calling for a Korea Peace Treaty. With the formal declaration to end the Korean War on the horizon, we have an unprecedented opportunity to mobilize women around the world to educate, organize, and advocate together for a Korea Peace Treaty.

Our dream of launching a 2020 Women-Led Korea Peace Treaty Campaign was realized when the NoVo Foundation awarded a \$2 million, two-year grant to Women Cross DMZ and our campaign partners: South

Korean women’s peace groups, the Nobel Women’s Initiative, and Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom.



## OUR GOALS BY 2020:

1. **Peace-building process** including a formal ending of the Korean War, a Korea Peace Treaty, and normalized relations.

2. **Tangible de-militarization:** denuclearization, removal of landmines, and reduction of bases/troops.
3. **Women’s leadership** and gender-based analysis (government & civil society) in peace processes.
4. **Lift broad-based sanctions** against North Korea, especially those impacting humanitarian conditions.
5. **Redefine security** from national security based on war and militarism to a feminist understanding of security centered on basic human needs and ecological sustainability.



L to R Top: 2015 DMZ Crossing, Paju, South Korea (Photo, Stephen Wunrow); Campaign partners retreat, Sonoma, CA, July 2018.  
L to R Bottom: 2020 Campaign meeting, New York City, September 2018; Washington, D.C. Working Group meeting, September 2018.

# Women Cross DMZ

**mobilizes women globally for peace in Korea through education, advocacy & organizing**

## EDUCATION

Women Cross DMZ has educated millions worldwide through our talks, webinars, conferences, and appearances in the media about the urgency to resolve the Korean War through peace and diplomacy.

We led national efforts to challenge President Trump's threats to "totally destroy" North Korea by organizing online teach-ins that provided historical context and analysis to understand how the U.S. and North Korea were on the brink of war.

We held webinars with global experts on a range of topics, including how sanctions harm innocent lives and how

to transform the ceasefire to a peace treaty.

Christine Ahn joined Senator Bernie Sanders for a Move On teach-in commemorating the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the U.S. war on Iraq, with 80,000 online viewers. We seized every opportunity to open people's minds and hearts that peace is the only solution for resolving the Korean conflict.

## ADVOCACY

In the past year, Women Cross DMZ met with senior officials from the U.S., South Korea, North Korea, Canada, and other countries to advocate for diplomacy and a peace agreement to permanently end the Korean War.

In Ottawa and Vancouver, with our Canadian sister organizations, we urged the Trudeau administration to pursue a more constructive approach that aligned with its feminist foreign policy.

In Seoul, our delegation met with diplomats at the U.S., U.K., Japanese, Swedish, and Canadian embassies to discuss women's critical role in supporting the Korea peace process.

With the Korea Peace Network, six WCDMZ members gathered in Washington, D.C. on June 13, a day after the Trump-Kim Summit in Singapore, to urge members of Congress to support the peace process. Over 75 Korea Peace



L to R Top: Bernie Sanders & Christine Ahn w/ Moveon.org; Miran Jang, Mairead Maguire, Christine Ahn & Jeong-Ae Ahn-Kim, Press Conference, Seoul, May 2018.  
L to R Bottom: Jang-Lee Jing-Soo, Katherine Ronderos, Yifat Susskind, Int'l Women's Peace Symposium, ROK National Assembly, Seoul, May 2018; Kozue Akibayashi, Vancouver Women's Forum, Vancouver, January 2018.



L to R Top: Canadian Parliamentary Secretary Matt DeCoursey w/ Vancouver Women's Forum; Int'l. Women's Peace Symposium, ROK National Assembly, Seoul, May 2018; Dan Jasper, Christine Ahn, Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard (HI), Ann Wright, Washington, DC, June 2018.  
L to R Bottom: Women Peace Korea Delegates at U.S. Embassy, Seoul, May 2018; Christine Ahn w/ Canadian Foreign Minister Freeland, Vancouver, January 2018; Candlelight Vigil at Comfort Woman Statue, Seoul, May 2018. (Photos: Chelsea Brooke Roisum & Jeehyun Kwon).

Network delegates traveled from 22 states across the country to meet with their representatives and key Members of the House and Senate.

### ORGANIZING

Over the past 12 months, Women Cross DMZ successfully created new partnerships and increased our capacity to press for peace, diplomacy, and women's inclusion in peacebuilding.

From January 16-18, as the U.S. and Canada convened a high-level Korea summit in Vancouver, WCDMZ mobilized women peacemakers to urge the foreign ministers to prepare the table for peace talks with North Korea.

We organized a three-day program of strategic discussion, engagement with ministers and media, and events, including a candlelight vigil and a teach-in. Several of our delegates were invited to

share our views with Foreign Minister Chrystia Freeland at a civil society roundtable the Canadian government established as a result of pressure from us.

From May 22-28, we held several events, including an international women's peace symposium at the ROK National Assembly and a women's DMZ peace walk with over 1,200 South Koreans. We were the first civilians to walk across the Unification Bridge in the DMZ.

Our trip coincided with President Trump canceling his meeting with Kim Jong-Un, so we held protests outside the U.S. Embassy urging President Moon to "Pick up the phone!" and call Chairman Kim. The next day, as we were walking in the DMZ, Moon and Kim were meeting just miles away to get Washington and Pyongyang back on track.

### PUBLIC SPEAKING VENUES

- Beyond the Bomb*, Los Angeles, CA
- Center for Political Education*, Oakland, CA
- First Unitarian Universalist Society of Albany*, NY
- First Universalist Church of Southold*, NY
- Friends Quaker House*, Honolulu, HI
- Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church*, Atlanta, GA
- Human Rights Council at the UN Palais de Nations*, Geneva, Switzerland
- Immanuel Presbyterian Church*, Los Angeles, CA
- Korea Peace Network Summit*, Washington, D.C.
- Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue*, *Simon Fraser Univ.*, Vancouver, Canada
- Nuclear Age Peace Foundation*, Santa Barbara, CA
- Pacific Command, U.S. Department of Defense*, Hawaii
- Ploughshares Fund Annual Conference*, Washington, DC
- Republic of Korea National Assembly*, Seoul, South Korea
- State University of New York*, Albany, NY
- United Methodist Church Conference*, Washington, D.C.
- UN DPA Northeast Asia Women, Peace and Security Forum*, Beijing, China
- UN Commission on the Status of Women*, New York, NY
- University of California*, Irvine
- University of Denver Inclusive Global Leadership Initiative*, Denver, CO
- University of Minnesota Law School in St. Paul*, MN
- Veterans for Peace Annual Convention*, Minneapolis, MN
- Women's Action for New Direction Mother's Day Conference*, Atlanta, GA
- World Beyond War Conference*, Toronto, Canada



L to R Top: Democracy Now!; AM Joy on MSNBC.  
L to R Bottom: Full Frontal with Samantha Bee; BBC World News.

AM Joy w/Joy Reid  
@CHRISTINEAHN: This is about the Korean people. This is about a conflict that has lasted for seven decades... Let the Korean people see peace on the #KoreanPeninsula. That's what they want. And the international community supports it #AMJoy #KoreaSummit #Korea



- Al Jazeera Int'l
- Al Jazeera The Stream
- AM Joy, MSNBC
- The Associated Press
- BBC World News
- Bustle
- Canadian Broadcasting Corporation
- CBS News
- Citations Needed Podcast
- Common Dreams
- CNN
- CTV News
- The Current, CBC
- Democracy Now!
- The Fact
- Fairness in Accuracy in Reporting
- Foreign Policy In Focus
- Fortune Magazine
- Full Frontal with Samantha Bee
- The Globe & Mail
- The Guardian
- The Hill
- Historians.org
- In Depth News
- Inkstick
- The Intercept
- In These Times
- The Katie Halper Show
- KPFA Flashpoints
- Kyodo News
- The Los Angeles Times
- Loud and Clear
- Mainichi Japan
- Ms. Magazine
- National Observer
- The Nation
- Suddeutsche Zeitung
- Sputnik Int'l News
- Ottawa Citizen
- Open Democracy
- Peace Insight
- PRIs The World
- The Real News Network
- Rising Up with Sonali
- RT America
- South China Morning Post
- TIME Magazine
- Times Colonist
- The Washington Post
- Truthout
- TRT News
- Winnipeg Free Press
- YES Magazine
- World Focus, KPFK
- Wider View Radio
- Times Union
- Trump Watch Podcast
- Social Justice Journal
- Wall Street Journal
- Zoom in Korea

**WOMEN CROSS DMZ**

# In The News:

“Trump’s State of the Union sought to build the moral case for a U.S. preventive war to ‘liberate’ North Koreans,” says Christine Ahn, founder of Women Cross DMZ, a group that mobilizes women for Korean peace. The speech, she says, was “highly reminiscent of George W. Bush’s ‘Axis of Evil’ speech in 2002 before the U.S. went to war with Iraq.”

– TIME Magazine, January 31, 2018

“Yet if there were ever a U.S. president capable of striking an impossible deal, it is Trump. But first, he must educate himself about North Korea’s long-held demand for a peace treaty, or at least nonaggression pact, to replace the 1953 armistice agreement, which would normalize relations and allow North

Korea’s economy to grow and develop.”

– Christine Ahn Op-ed, **Fortune Magazine**, March 9, 2018

“The two moves indicate women are playing a more important role in the country’s diplomacy” says Christine Ahn, International Coordinator of Women Cross DMZ, which advocates for peace on the Korean peninsula.

“We at Women Cross DMZ feel very heartened and hopeful about the diplomatic and peace gestures coming from all sides – Seoul, Pyongyang, Washington and Beijing -- and welcome the participation of women, including from the DPRK, at all levels.”

– CNN, April 18, 2018

“[President Moon’s] job is to connect the rails between Washington and Pyongyang, as relations have clearly gotten off track,” said Christine Ahn, the founder of Women Cross DMZ, a group that seeks inter-Korean peace.

– Los Angeles Times, May 21, 2018

“Respect and reciprocity are key elements in Korean culture. During our recent trip to South Korea as part of an international women’s peace delegation, South Korean women complained that Donald Trump’s erratic conduct showed disrespect for the mediating role of their president, Moon Jae-in.”

– Medea Benjamin & Ann Wright Op-ed in **The Guardian**, June 4, 2018

# Growing Community

## INVESTING IN WOMEN'S PEACEBUILDING

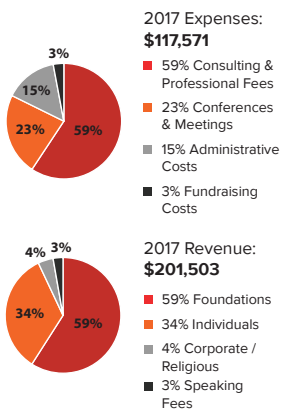
*"We have been proud of the ways that WCDMZ has been on the frontlines of disrupting the Trump administration's war agenda through high-profile letter campaigns, conferences, media, education, advocacy and organizing. They are one of the leanest and most strategic organizations we know!"*

— Katrin Wilde, Executive Director, Channel Foundation

### 2017 REVENUE & EXPENSES

Thanks to our generous community of donors, WCDMZ raised over \$200,000 in 2017. We organized conferences and walks and reached millions worldwide through talks, webinars, and media on a shoestring budget of \$118,000.

That's because we partner with other organizations and steward carefully every donation we receive. Our work is possible only because of the strong movement of supporters like you who believe in women's vital work in building lasting peace in Korea and the world.



### 2018 - 2019 FISCAL YEAR

As the fiscal sponsor for the 2020 Campaign, the Peace Development Fund is providing WCDMZ critical



Gloria Steinem, Anne Delaney, Aiyoung Choi, Christine Ahn, and Women Cross DMZ Members, Spring Benefit, March 2018 (Photos, Coleen Baik).

administrative and finance support. To better align with their accounting systems, we shifted from a calendar year (January 1 to December 31) to a fiscal year (July 1 to June 30).

Our FY 2018/2019 budget (July 1-June 30) is \$482,000. A surplus of \$88,000 from 2017 gave us a strong start this year, as did the generous NoVo Foundation grant for our peace treaty campaign. As of October 1, 2018, we raised \$364,000 and spent \$138,000.

### SPRING BENEFIT

On March 9, 2018, WCDMZ held a sold-out Spring Benefit in New York City. Hosted by a formidable committee led by Aiyoung Choi and Jacquelyn Wells, the evening included inspiring words from Gloria Steinem, Anne Delaney, and Christine Ahn and

uplifting performances from local artists.

Our growing community of supporters enabled us to raise over \$30,000 to support our efforts to mobilize women for peace in Korea.

### 2020 & BEYOND

We still need to raise \$118,000 by March 1, 2019 to implement our core work of mobilizing women through education, advocacy and organizing.

We also have ambitious plans to mobilize key U.S. cities to press for a peace treaty, establish a Northeast Asia regional network of women's groups, and bring South Korean women Parliamentarians to Washington, D.C. to dialogue with U.S. Congresswomen to advance a Peace Treaty.

**OUR SUPPORTERS**

**INDIVIDUAL DONORS**

Aditi Davray  
 Aiyoung Choi  
 Alan Nayer  
 Alexander K. Choi  
 Andrew J. Seigner  
 Ann Kittredge  
 Ann Wright  
 Anne Liske  
 Anonymous  
 Arla S. Ertz  
 Arnold Kawano  
 Art Chang  
 Barbara Benanti  
 Barbara Nielsen  
 Burton R. Kassell  
 Camille Scribner  
 Carol P. Murphy  
 Chia W. Hamilton  
 Christine Ahn  
 Cora Weiss  
 Cynda C. Arsenault  
 Cynthia H. Enloe  
 David Guerrero  
 David Knutten  
 David W. Silver  
 Devi Leiper  
 Dr. Byungchul Kang  
 Elaine I. Ko  
 Elizabeth J. Young  
 Elizabeth L. Colton

Erica Wilken  
 Eugene Schwanke  
 Eunhee Kauwelo  
 Ewa Eriksson-Fortier  
 Frank Baldwin  
 Gayle Wells  
 Glenda Paige  
 Gloria Steinem  
 Greg Chou  
 Greta Schiller  
 Gwyneth Kirk  
 Helen Song  
 Hye-Jung Park  
 In-sook Koo  
 Jackie Quan  
 Jacqueline Huey  
 Jacquelyn Wells  
 Jae McGuire  
 Chia W. Hamilton  
 James E. Best  
 Jane Han  
 Jane Hirschmann  
 Janis Alton  
 Jennifer Kim  
 John P. Foz  
 John Wells  
 John Yoo  
 Joseph Han  
 Joan Hadden  
 Joy Lieberthal  
 J.T. Takagi  
 Judy Gorman  
 Julie A. Chi

Jung Ha  
 Kathleen Marra  
 Kern Eccles  
 Ki-Bun Koo  
 Kwan Nam  
 Lap W. Chan  
 Lauren U. Lee  
 Linda Gore  
 Margaret Gerhart  
 Margaret Ness  
 Matthew Brock  
 Matthew Viscuse  
 Melissa G. Reinberg  
 Michael Covey  
 Michael M Yi  
 Miriam Louie  
 Myung S. Chung  
 Namhee Lee  
 Nan Kim-Paik  
 Pamela Albers  
 Patricia Koza

Peter M. Gerhart  
 Regina Clancy  
 Peter Rasmussen  
 Regina Gray  
 Richard Crierie  
 Robert H. Stiver  
 Rune Horneland  
 Sarah Haubner  
 Shari Brink  
 Sunny Xiang  
 Susan Alt  
 Susan Davidoff  
 Suzy Kim  
 T. Walter Herbert  
 Theresa Kim  
 Thomas Layton  
 Thomas I. Miller  
 Thomas Robinson  
 Vera Khan  
 Wei Zhang  
 Wendi Deetz

**INSTITUTIONAL DONORS**

ARCA Foundation  
 Benjamin Fund Inc.  
 Channel Foundation  
 CODEPINK  
 Compton Foundation  
 Don and Lore Rasmussen Fund  
 Georgia W.A.N.D. Education Fund  
 Janelia Foundation  
 Morgan Stanley Smith Barney  
 Global Impact Funding Trust Inc.  
 NoVo Foundation  
 Nuclear Age Peace Foundation

Peace Action Fund of New York State  
 Ploughshares Fund  
 Samuel Rubin Foundation  
 Starr Night Fund  
 Stewart R. Mott Foundation  
 Trinity United Methodist Church  
 United Methodist Women  
 WILPF  
 World Beyond War

Special thanks to Edward Krauland, Elizabeth Arkell & Steptoe Johnson, LLP for providing pro bono legal services.



May 2018 Korea Peace Walk  
 (Photo, Jeehyun Kwon).

Send checks to:  
 Peace Development Fund & Women Cross DMZ  
 P.O. Box 40250  
 San Francisco, CA 94140-0250  
 Donate online [www.womencrossdmz.org](http://www.womencrossdmz.org)

Support Women Cross DMZ to educate, organize, and advocate for a peace agreement to end the Korean War. Your donation will help us amplify calls for peace and diplomacy and build a strong organization to ensure women's leadership in the Korea peace process. We will press for a seat at the table, while setting our own.

