

2019

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# PROJECT PLOUGHSHARES **ANNUAL REPORT**

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PROJECT PLOUGHSHARES





Several overlapping international security challenges demanded the concerted attention of Project Ploughshares during 2019. And while much work remains to be done in 2020 and beyond, I am exceptionally proud of the work carried out by our capable and committed staff throughout the year.

With a troubling global security landscape as backdrop, we continued to produce evidence-based research and to communicate the policy implications of such research to a wide range of stakeholders—in Canada and abroad. With credible analysis, effective outreach, and strategic partnerships as key priorities for each of our program areas, we endeavoured to advance our core mission and long-term objective of a more just, peaceful, and secure world.

At the start of 2020, the diplomatic calendar for matters of international security, like so many facets of human activity, was severely upended

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# MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

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Cesar Jaramillo

as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, a situation that compelled us at Project Ploughshares to think creatively about the best ways to continue advancing our objectives during uncertain times.

We are prioritizing disarmament education and public engagement, including through the organization of a series of public webinars. We are sustaining and nurturing key partnerships with likeminded organizations around the world. We remain active participants in international coalitions, including the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, the International Network on Explosive Weapons, Control Arms, and the Campaign to Stop Killer Robots. And we will continue to pursue regular engagement with Canadian government officials.

I invite you to read through our Annual Report for details on the work we carried out during 2019.



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# PLOUGHSHARES AT A GLANCE

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Est. 1976

PROJECT PLOUGHSHARES is a Canadian peace research institute with a focus on disarmament efforts and international security, specifically related to the arms trade, emerging military and security technologies, nuclear weapons, and outer space.

**Project Ploughshares is the peace research institute of The Canadian Council of Churches.**

Project Ploughshares operates out of the Kindred Credit Union Centre for Peace Advancement (CPA) at Conrad Grebel University College on the University of Waterloo campus. The CPA is home to University of Waterloo faculty and graduate students, as well as peace-oriented entrepreneurs and established local peacebuilding organizations.

Policy work and program implementation are often carried out in collaboration with other nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), in Canada and internationally.



Project Ploughshares is a member of the following groups:

- ◆ International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons
- ◆ Campaign to Stop Killer Robots
- ◆ Control Arms
- ◆ Canadian Defence and Security Network
- ◆ Canadian Network to Abolish Nuclear Weapons
- ◆ International Action Network on Small Arms
- ◆ International Network on Explosive Weapons
- ◆ Canadian Council for International Co-operation
- ◆ Peacebuild.

## EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

Technological advancements continue to pose new challenges for global security. While some applications have clear societal benefits, others threaten to be destabilizing and dangerous. Ploughshares participated in UN discussions on autonomous weapons, conducted research and advocacy on the humanitarian implications of emerging technologies, and hosted public events on autonomous weapons systems.

In 2019 Ploughshares staff:

- ♦ attended Meetings of the Group of Governmental Experts on Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems at the United Nations in Geneva (March, August);
- ♦ participated in the 1st Global Meeting of the Campaign to Stop Killer Robots in Berlin, Germany (March);
- ♦ organized a workshop on digital literacy in Waterloo (May);
- ♦ presented at the True North Conference in Waterloo (June);
- ♦ attended the First Committee on Disarmament and International Security (October);
- ♦ hosted a discussion on Autonomous Weapons in Vancouver (August);
- ♦ Hosted 5 policy labs in Halifax, Montreal, Ottawa, Vancouver, and Waterloo (September-December).

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# PLOUGHSHARES RESEARCH

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## CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS CONTROL

The global trade in conventional weapons fuels armed conflict, props up tyrannical regimes, and contributes to the destruction of the lived and natural environment. For more than four decades, Project Ploughshares has been collecting and sharing data on the Canadian trade and transfer of conventional weapon systems. Ploughshares research and analysis aims to curb irresponsible arms sales, monitor Canada's adherence to export controls, and support multilateral efforts to reduce the humanitarian threats posed by the global arms trade.

In 2019 Ploughshares staff:

- ◆ welcomed Canada's accession to the Arms Trade Treaty, after years of data-driven advocacy to the Canadian government;
- ◆ attended the 5th Conference of States Parties on the Arms Trade Treaty (August), as well as related Preparatory Committee meetings;
- ◆ continued challenging Canada's ongoing multi-billion-dollar arms deal with Saudi Arabia, with analysis appearing in more than a dozen Canadian and foreign publications;
- ◆ deepened their involvement with the International Network on Explosive Weapons (INEW) and were directly involved in the multilateral process to develop a political declaration addressing the harm caused by the use of explosive weapons in populated areas.

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# PLOUGHSHARES RESEARCH

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## SPACE SECURITY

Earth is becoming more and more reliant on outer space for social, scientific, and economic benefits at a time when no clear regulations exist to prevent an arms race in outer space.

In 2019 Ploughshares staff:

- ◆ advocated against the establishment of space forces and warfighting in space to members of the Conference on Disarmament at the Space Security Conference hosted by the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (May);
- ◆ presented the findings of the Space Security Index at the plenary meeting of the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in Vienna (June);
- ◆ co-hosted a one-day workshop for diplomats on the linkages between security in outer space, and space safety and sustainability, alongside the meeting of the UN First Committee in New York (October);
- ◆ Managed and produced the 16th volume of the *Space Security Index* (SSI), the annual, comprehensive, and systematic assesment of international developments that have an impact on the security of outer space.

# NUCLEAR WEAPONS

As nearly 14,000 nuclear weapons remain in existence, arguments in favour of the purported benefits of possessing nuclear weapons are being challenged by a renewed emphasis on the humanitarian imperative for disarmament. Among key challenges, the breakdown in the strategic relationship between Russia and the United States, the pursuit of a Mideast zone free of weapons of mass destruction, the overt nuclear deterrence policy endorsed by all NATO members, and the growing impatience by non-nuclear-weapon states over the lack of credible progress toward nuclear abolition underscore the precariousness of the global nuclear disarmament regime.

In 2019 Ploughshares staff:

- ◆ attended the third Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) for the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) (May), as well as the UN General Assembly First Committee on Disarmament and International Security (November). Project Ploughshares met with the Canadian delegation to each of these meetings to discuss prospects for nuclear disarmament;
- ◆ collaborated with domestic and international networks working on nuclear disarmament, including the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, SEHLAC, Canadian Pugwash Group, Canadians for a Nuclear Weapons Convention and the Canadian Network to Abolish Nuclear Weapons;
- ◆ participated in the conference “Speeding towards the Abyss” at the University of Ottawa and presented on key challenges facing the multilateral disarmament regime (October);
- ◆ produced commentary and analysis, including on the Iran nuclear deal and on the impact of the Trump administration’s policies on nuclear disarmament efforts.



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1 Cesar Jaramillo, middle, on a panel discussing the protection of civilians in armed conflict at the UN in New York. 2 Jessica West on a livestream of the UNIDIR space security conference in Geneva. 3 Branka Marijan at a workshop on digital literacy in Waterloo. 4 Branka and Cesar at a Ploughshares Outreach event in Vancouver. 5 Branka onstage at the True North tech festival in Waterloo. 6 Kelsey Gallagher at the International Humanitarian Law in Action conference in Waterloo. 7 Jessica West, left, at the the Observer Research Foundation Kaplana Chowla Space Policy Dialogue in New Delhi. 8 Branka, far left, and Cesar, second from right, at a First Committee Side Event on Killer Robots in New York.

# PLOUGHSHARES ACTION



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9 Branka at the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons meeting on Autonomous Weapons in Geneva. 10 Cesar delivering statement to states parties to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty in New York. 11 Jessica on a panel at the Observer Research Foundation space crisis simulation in New Delhi. 12 Cesar at the Ploughshares office in Waterloo. 13 Jessica at the Canadian Space Summit in Ottawa. 14 Branka at the Civic Tech Toronto Presentation on Killer Robots. 15 Branka, second from right, at the Humanitarian Disarmament Forum in New York. 16 Cesar during an interview with France 24 on the fate of Iran nuclear deal.

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# PROJECT PLOUGHSHARES GOVERNING COMMITTEE

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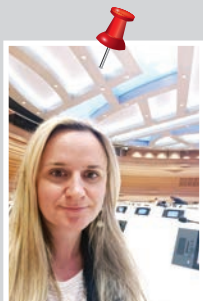
Bruce Adema **Christian Reformed Church in North America** (started Dec. 2019)  
Stephanie Brubacher **Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada**  
Paula Butler **The United Church of Canada** (ended May 2019)  
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Kathryn Hare **Treasurer, The Presbyterian Church in Canada**  
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Reina Neufeldt **Member-at-large**  
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Polly Avern **McGill University** ♦ Alissa Bishop-Thorpe **University of Adelaide**  
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## PLOUGHSHARES STAFF

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Julia Bandura **Administrative Assistant**  
 Kenneth Epps **Policy Advisor on the Arms Trade Treaty**  
 Kelsey Gallagher **Research Assistant (August 2019)**  
 Tasneem Jamal **Communications Officer**  
 Cesar Jaramillo **Executive Director**  
 Branka Marijan **Senior Researcher**  
 Matthew Pupic **Director of Operations**  
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 Jessica West **Senior Researcher**

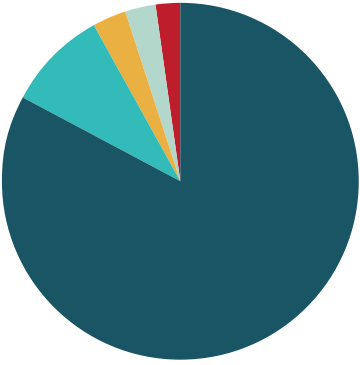
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# FINANCIAL REPORT

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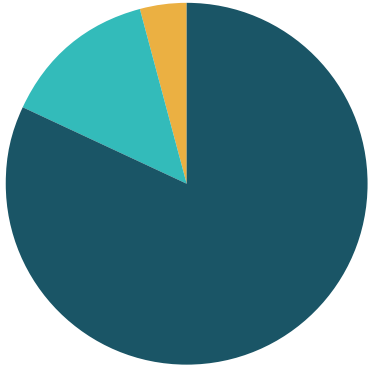
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- 83% Donations
- 9% Non-Government Grants
- 3% Government Grants
- 3% Sponsors' Grants
- 2% Other

USE  
OF FUNDS



- 82% Program
- 14% Administration
- 4% Fundraising

TOTAL

\$848,432

TOTAL

\$843,379

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*Project Ploughshares is audited each year by an independent accounting firm and accounts are maintained in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The audited financial statements are available on request.*

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# THANK YOU

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In 2019, thousands of individuals, organizations, and churches, including those listed in the following pages, generously provided over **three-quarters of our funding.**

We are also grateful to our sponsoring churches and to The Simons Foundation Canada in Vancouver for its generous financial support.

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# Give a legacy gift

...and plant the seeds of a more peaceful world.



“

We have been retired from Project Ploughshares for some time, but we continue to follow closely its persistent work for disarmament, security, and human rights. We are enormously pleased to see it play increasingly important roles in Canada and internationally. Its carefully researched, evidence-based advocacy must absolutely continue, and so we take comfort in knowing that our legacy gift will help to make that happen – will help to support Ploughshares’s ongoing efforts to bequeath to our wonderful grandchildren (and children everywhere) a safer, kinder, and more peaceful world.

– ERNIE AND NANCY REGEHR –

”

If you would like to discuss planned giving options please contact:

Matthew Pupic, Director of Operations  
mpupic@ploughshares.ca



## **WHAT IS PROJECT PLOUGHSHARES?**

Established in 1976, Project Ploughshares is a Canadian peace research institute with a focus on disarmament efforts and international security, specifically related to the arms trade, emerging military and security technologies, nuclear weapons, and outer space.

## **WHAT DOES PROJECT PLOUGHSHARES DO?**

Project Ploughshares promotes informed debate, both in policymaking circles and among the general public, through high-quality research that is then presented to government; before international bodies such as the United Nations; and at roundtables, conferences, and in publications.

## **CAN MY DONATION MAKE A DIFFERENCE?**

Yes! Your donation allows Project Ploughshares to fund research and advance policies that ensure resources and energy are spent on resolving conflict and reducing armed conflict, not feeding it.

## **PROJECT PLOUGHSHARES**

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