

**Comment regarding the 50th anniversary of
the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons**

MATSUI Kazumi
Mayor of Hiroshima

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Today, we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the entry into force of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT).

With self-centered nationalism on the rise around the world, we see nuclear-armed states proclaiming that they cannot advance nuclear disarmament unless tensions, heightened by international exclusivity and rivalry, improve. We fear that such a situation could result in the denial of the framework of the NPT, which limits nuclear weapon states to the so-called P5 in exchange for their promise to pursue negotiations in good faith toward global nuclear disarmament. This could, in turn, lead to the regression of the global nuclear weapons climate against the will of the *hibakusha*.

These are the circumstances under which the NPT Review Conference will be convened. I would like to ask all NPT parties to hold the will of the *hibakusha* steadfast in their hearts: the will for nuclear abolition now, as symbolized by their message that “no one else should ever suffer as we have.” It is my sincere hope that the NPT parties will be mindful of the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, and begin to engage in earnest dialogue, combining their wisdom in order to agree on innovative solutions to advance concrete nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation measures.