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Leader of New Mexico Disarmament Group to Address Members of European Parliament

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As part of a worldwide call for nuclear disarmament, Greg Mello, Executive Director of the Los Alamos Study Group, has accepted an invitation by the European Parliament to speak in London and Brussels later this month (March 11-17). The London portion of the trip is also being sponsored by the British-American Security Information Council.

Mello will give presentations to Members of the European Parliament on current U.S. nuclear weapons programs and policies, including work being done in New Mexico at Los Alamos National Laboratory and Sandia National Labs. Mello will also talk about the close collaboration between Britain's nuclear weapons factory at Aldermaston and the U.S. labs.

In London, Mello will speak to a U.K. – wide network of NGOs, with elected Green Party officials in the greater London area, and will also address the new Greenpeace U.K. disarmament program leaders, among other appointments.

Mr. Mello is also scheduled to meet individually with Members of the European Parliament, who will be conveying their concerns about U.S. nuclear programs back to U.S. and New Mexico officials through Mr. Mello.

These European meetings are a small part of a worldwide groundswell urging solutions to the proliferation and disarmament problems resulting from nuclear weapons states' non-compliance with the disarmament requirements of the Nuclear Proliferation Treaty (NPT). In late April, Mexico is hosting representatives from more than 100 member nations of the world's four nuclear weapon-free zones, which is expected adopt a resolution urging compliance with disarmament requirements of the NPT. This follows intensive meetings in Europe – including a recent conference in Sweden with Hans Blix and a recent meeting of 33 key countries here in the U.S. at the Carter Center in Atlanta. Another example of this groundswell is the growing membership – now more than 700 – of Mayors for Peace, an international nuclear weapons abolition organization founded by the Mayor of Hiroshima.

All these meetings are in anticipation of the 5-year NPT Review Conference scheduled for the entire month of May at the United Nations in New York City, to which the Los Alamos Study Group will be bringing a delegation (including student interns).

Mr. Mello's trip will benefit the "Call for Nuclear Disarmament," which more than 200 New Mexico businesses and nonprofits have joined, as well as the Study Group's planned 60th commemoration of the August 6 and 9 atomic bombings of Japan.

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