The great peace bike ride Paris - Moscow - Hiroshima/Nagasaki starts on May 7th 2020 in Paris 75 years after the Second World War: Never again war, never again fascism - making peace without weapons

"A Little Peace" was a song of the Eurovision Song Contest 1982. That this modest hope, which obviously hit a nerve at the time, has been fulfilled in the meantime, cannot be said. The singer Nicole, however, supports as patroness the peace bike ride 2020, which sets a clear sign for peace and international understanding, bringing together people from different countries and letting them experience and help them shape a journey through Europe and Asia together. "With renewable energies for peace - Never again war, never again fascism - making peace without weapons - Renewable energies instead of wars over oil - Peace politics instead of military force - No new missiles in Europe, abolition of all nuclear weapons, creating a sustainable and peaceful Europe", these are the demands. Dave Webb is also a patron: since 2010 he is chairman of the "Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament" in the United Kingdom. With the repeal of the INF Treaty last year, the danger of increased nuclear rearmament in particular has grown - and this just as the 75-year commemoration of the devastating atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki is coming up. Added to this: In a time in which the explosive nature of climate catastrophe is becoming increasingly apparent, it is important to set an example for environmental protection. The necessary measures at all levels - international, national, regional, local, and even each individual - must be accelerated. With Heinz Bierbaum, President of the European Left, a prominent political representative who is committed to these efforts is also a patron of the peace bike ride this year.

The idea of the peace bike ride has a long history. It is based on the more than 40-year-old tradition of peace cycling (Prague - Warsaw - Berlin), but the participants are not competitive athletes. Since 2006, hundreds of people from 15 nations have discovered the sport as a possibility for peaceful encounters between people of different cultures and countries from East and West with "Bike for Peace and New Energies". France, Luxembourg, Germany, Poland, Belarus, Russia and Japan are their hosts. In the years 2006 to 2010, the association has carried out five peace cycling tours from Paris to Moscow. The jubilee year 2020 is now the occasion to carry out the two-month tour of 4400 km again, and even to extend it: from Moscow, the Trans-Siberian Railway will take us to Lake Baikal and then to Vladivostok; from there, the ferry will take us to Sakaiminato in Japan, so that we can take part in events commemorating the atomic bombs dropped in Hiroshima and Nagasaki on August 6th and 9th.

The registration process for the tour is still ongoing, and of course many people who cannot free themselves for several months to travel from May onwards are also taking part. It is possible to participate on regional sections or just for individual daily stages; this can be noted accordingly on the registration form. The registration documents as well as information on the stage plan can be requested at <u>anmelden@bikeforpeace.net</u>.