



APPEAL AGAINST THE RETURN OF THE “COWARDS’ WAR”

More than 70 public figures – including representatives from civil society organizations, artists, journalists, former high-ranking officials and political representatives – have joined our solemn appeal to governments to take action against landmines.

Humanity & Inclusion - Handicap International reminds us:

- that the suffering caused by landmines to civilian populations remains a harsh reality!
- that the Ottawa Treaty, born nearly 30 years ago and now signed by 165 states, has become a cornerstone of international humanitarian law, which has helped save hundreds of thousands of lives around the world.

This global norm is now seriously threatened both by the resurgence in the use of landmines and the previously unthinkable risk of states withdrawing from the Treaty.

On the "International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action" – Humanity & Inclusion - Handicap International has launched a call for civil society to mobilize again - just as it did in 1992 when the International Campaign to Ban Landmines was established – in order to denounce with one voice a devastating step backward in the protection of civilian populations.

As citizens we call on the international community and other parties to the Treaty:

- To reaffirm their commitment for its integrity and universalization.
- To unequivocally condemn the use of these weapons under any circumstances by any actor.
- To mobilize diplomatic efforts to convince states that are considering to withdraw from the Treaty to rescind their decision so that civilian populations continue to be protected.

[To sign the appeal of Humanity & Inclusion - Handicap International,](#)

[Click here](#)

Among the first signatories:

Lloyd Axworthy, former Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs; **Rony Brauman**, former President of Doctors without borders; **Barbara Hendricks**, singer; **Jan Egeland**, former UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Secretary General of the Norwegian Refugee Council; **François Morel**, actor ; **Nagui**, radio and television producer; **Erik Orsenna**, writer and member of the Académie française; **Marie and Jean-Baptiste Richardier**, co-founders of Humanity & Inclusion - Handicap International, treasurer of **United Against Inhumanity**; **Philippe Ryfman**, professor and honorary research associate at the Université Paris-I Panthéon-Sorbonne; **Gnep Amélie Smoeun**, mine explosion survivor...