

*Open Letter to the United Nations:*

**It should be a crime to initiate a war of aggression - and to attack in a war.**

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November 20, 2015 it will be 90 years since Robert F. Kennedy was born. When he was assassinated 42-year-old in 1968, we have included his name in the purpose of the Kennedy Society of Denmark: **“Keeping alive John F. and Robert F. Kennedy’s inspiration and philosophy of life, so that their good words can be translated into good deeds.”** Site: [www.kennedysociety.dk](http://www.kennedysociety.dk) When President Johnson declared war against North Vietnam in 1964 after the fictional Tonkin Bay-violation, their ways parted. July 9, 1965, Robert F. Kennedy stated: "Guns and bombs cannot fill empty stomachs or educate children, cannot build homes or heal the sick." This he repeated, 1967 in his book *To seek a newer world*. To the end of his life, he spoke against war and for peace. On June 1, 1968, he did appeal "to win the greatest victory of all: The victory over war."

November 20, 2015 is too the 70th anniversary of the opening of the Nuremberg Trials against the leaders of Nazi Germany. An accusation against them was that they had instigated "aggressive wars" and committed other serious war crimes. The Allied Powers did not believe that one could let those crimes go unpunished. The legal basis was not clearly present on November 20, 1945. John F. Kennedy's book *Profiles in Courage*, quotes Senator Robert A. Taft for his courage to state about the Nuremberg tribunal: "By our standards that crimes arose during an *ex post facto* law. Goering and all deserved severe punishment. But their guilt did not justify us in substituting power for principle. "Robert A. Taft had the Constitution of his country on his side, but not the mood of his people. His courageous defense for "Equal justice under the law", as written on the front of the US Supreme Court, reduced his chance to become President. Now that the Allied powers as victors condemned "war of aggression" as a crime, we must hold them to the position that wars of aggression shall be brought to justice. It can be difficult to define international law, but the same Allied did define the United Nations Charter very well, where its Articles 2, part 3, 25 and 39 commit the UN member states to solve their problems by peaceful means and to respect the decisions of its Security Council. In my opinion it will always be a violation of the UN-charter to initiate a war of aggression – without approval by the Security Council, and such cases shall therefore be brought to the International Court of Justice in the Hague, now dealing with war-crimes and crimes against humanity. It is possible for the UN member States to decide a date for this. The late President Kennedy stated September 25, 1961 in his address to the UN General Assembly: "For in the development of this organization rests the only true alternative to war, and war appeals no longer as a rational alternative." He also said in the same speech:" "Let us call a truce to terror. "" When terror after 9/11 2001 was defined as war by President George W. Bush, war is terror. Then by criminalizing aggressive attacks in war can lead to a ceasefire in all ongoing wars, so people no longer becomes forced to flee. The date for such a clarifying of the Charter of the United Nations to come into force, are here proposed to be adopted by the UN as soon as possible – for then being set in force at November 20, 2015 - as an honor to President John F. and Senator Robert F. Kennedy.