

# SUPPORT THE #NUCLEARBAN TREATY



Humanity now faces two inter-related threats: nuclear weapons and the climate crisis. The new reality of pandemics and cyber warfare intensify these threats, which disproportionately affect those least responsible for causing them.

The future of life on earth is in extraordinary danger.

**What is the climate impact of nuclear weapons use?**  
Any use of nuclear weapons, even in a 'small' nuclear war, would cause catastrophic climate disruption. "Radioactive fallout would contaminate food supplies and the atmosphere, impacting children and women disproportionately. Soot from burning cities would block sunlight and reduce precipitation over a prolonged period, resulting in widespread agricultural collapse and famine."

"The use of multiple nuclear weapons against large metropolitan areas today would have regional and even global consequences, causing millions of immediate casualties, as well as long-term damage to the environment, climate, health and well-being, socio-economic development, and the social order." International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Scan the QR code below to see a report on this by the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN)

#### What is the Nuclear Ban Treaty?

The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) was negotiated at the United Nations in 2017 by 122 countries. Survivors of the nuclear bombings in Japan in 1945, as well as indigenous people from regions where nuclear bombs have been tested, made significant contributions to the negotiations. This is reflected in the unprecedented nature of the treaty, which acknowledges the abuse of their human rights as well as the positive obligations of nuclear weapons states to provide them with victim assistance and environmental remediation.

#### NUCLEAR WEAPONS ARE BANNED!

The nuclear ban treaty (TPNW) entered into force in January 2021 and countries are lining up to ratify it. The security of citizens is at stake, and as the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has repeatedly warned, if nuclear weapons are used whether by design or accident, there is no effective response possible. The only way to prevent their use is to eliminate them.

**Cities around the world are supporting the Treaty**  
A nuclear attack on any city would decimate it and destroy local services. That is why over 20 councils in the UK, including Manchester, Glasgow, Brighton and Edinburgh, have all passed resolutions supporting the Treaty, joining hundreds of other cities around the world. Sean Morris, of Nuclear Free Local Authorities UK says:

"Under the Local Government Act all councils have a duty to look after the interests of their local population in terms of their health, safety and well-being. It is their ultimate responsibility to care for all residents in the face of existential threats. That is, for example, why 75% of all UK Councils have passed climate emergency resolutions. The nuclear weapons threat can be seen in the same light."

For information on how to get your city on board scan the Cities Appeal QR code below or visit [cities.icanw.org](http://cities.icanw.org)

To get a parliamentarian to sign the **Parliamentarians' Pledge** to work for the treaty scan the QR code or visit [pledge.icanw.org](http://pledge.icanw.org)

#### What is happening in the UK?

The UK Government, like other nuclear weapons states, has boycotted the TPNW and is in breach of its Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty obligations under international law to disarm 'in good faith'. In March 2021 the UK Government announced a 44% increase in the nuclear warheads it deploys, based in Scotland. Convoys transporting these weapons regularly travel by road from Faslane to Aldermaston at great risk to the public.

**Take action** to show the UK is breaking international law with its increase in nuclear warheads, sign the CND petition due to be handed in at the UN. Scan the QR code below or visit [cnduk.org/report-the-uk-to-the-un](http://cnduk.org/report-the-uk-to-the-un)

#### International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN)

WILPF is one of over 600 organisations worldwide that make up the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN). In December 2017 ICAN was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for drawing attention to the "catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons" and its "ground-breaking efforts to achieve a treaty-based prohibition of such weapons." Many global leaders, including the UN Secretary General and the Pope, urge for this treaty to be signed and ratified by all states.



On behalf of ICAN, Hiroshima survivor Setsuko Thurlow, and Beatrice Fihn receive the Nobel Peace Prize in 2017, presented by Mrs Berit Reiss-Andersen, Chair of the Norwegian Nobel Committee



ICAN REPORT



CITIES APPEAL

[wilpf.org.uk](http://wilpf.org.uk)



PARLIAMENTARIANS' PLEDGE



CND PETITION