

TREATY ON THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

TPNW bans the development, testing, production, manufacture, acquisition, possession or stockpiling, transfer, control or receipt, use or threats to use, stationing or deployment of all nuclear weapons.

Nuclear Weapons Are Illegal Under International Law

In 2017, 122 nations approved the treaty. On January 22, 2021, the treaty went into effect after 50 nations ratified it. Today 92 nations have signed and 68 have ratified the treaty. *The world community has declared nuclear weapons, their use, or threats to use, a crime against humanity.*

BUT...The treaty only applies to nations that have signed and ratified the treaty. The nine nuclear weapons powers have not joined the treaty and are not bound by its provisions. Our government has opposed the treaty and is actively pressuring our allies to not join.

What Does TPNW Do? Why is it important?

TPNW provides a path to total nuclear disarmament. It is a framework and a next step to the comprehensive, irreversible, verifiable elimination of all nuclear weapons.

TPNW creates international norms against nuclear weapons. It builds a legal and moral consensus making nukes illegitimate. It stigmatizes nations who possess them.

TPNW fosters “collective defense.” A nuclear-weapons free world serves both national and collective security. The risk of nuclear weapon detonation by accident, miscalculation or design concerns the security of all humanity. No nation or its people are “secure” as long as nukes exist.

TPNW pressures nuclear weapons nations to live up their current obligations to disarm. Under the Non-Proliferation Treaty of 1968 the U.S., England, France, China, Russia are obligated to pursue disarmament “in good faith.” In the past, progress was made and the arsenals were reduced but there are still about 13,500 warheads in the world.

TPNW puts pressure on nuclear “umbrella states.” Nations who have other country's nuclear weapons are pushed to deny permission for nukes on their soil. None of the “umbrella states” have signed the treaty.

TPNW treats nuclear weapons the same as other weapons of mass destruction. Nuclear Weapons are now illegal as are landmines, cluster munitions, chemical and biological weapons, and poison gas.

Will the U.S lead for a safer, nuclear free world?

Or will we continue being *the major obstacle* to abolishing these weapons of mass destruction?

Nuclear Weapons ARE NOT necessary for our defense. U.S. conventional military forces are adequate to defend our country. We would be more secure by eliminating all nuclear weapons which are the only weapons that can destroy our country.

TPNW is NOT unilateral disarmament. It does not endanger U.S national security. Negotiations for bilateral, time-bound, verifiable disarmament would be needed to actually reduce nuclear arsenals.

Twin Ports Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons

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