



# Briefing paper

Date: 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021

No.32

Subject: Entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

## 1. Introduction

This report has been developed by the Chapter Secretary and provides its members with a briefing on the potential impacts of the formal 'entry into force' of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) on the 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2021. Over 150 events were held worldwide by a coalition of groups calling for a world free of nuclear weapons. The entry into force will have a significant impact on how the global discussion on nuclear weapons will take place into the future, particularly in relation to the other UN nuclear weapons treaty – the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). It also comes at the beginning of new US President Biden's term of office and at a time when there is significant instability in the world – the Covid-19 public health pandemic, challenges with Iran's and North Korea's nuclear programme, ongoing tensions between the United States, Russia and China, and continuing instability in the relationship between India and Pakistan in relation to the Kashmir region.

This report considers some of these matters in relation to the work of Mayors for Peace, the increasing number of municipalities passing resolutions to support the TPNW, and the ongoing development of the European Chapter of Mayors for Peace.

## 2. Entry into force of the TPNW at the United Nations and events held to celebrate it

In late October 2020 Honduras became the 50<sup>th</sup> state to formally ratify in their own Parliament the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). This commenced a 90-day legal process at the United Nations (UN) for this international disarmament treaty to become a core part of international law.

That process concluded on January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 and means the TPNW is now a constituent part of international disarmament law to be fully implemented by the UN. On the same day, Cambodia became the 52<sup>nd</sup> state to ratify the treaty, with a further 34 states in the process of ratifying it through their own legislatures. Entry into force at the United Nations means that the organisation must put into place structures for its ongoing implementation and organise an annual States Parties Conference. Austria has offered to host the first such conference.

Commenting on the entry into force, UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres said:

"Today, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons comes into force. This is a major step toward a world free of nuclear weapons. I call on all countries to work together to realise this vision, for our common security and collective security."

(UN News, 22<sup>nd</sup> January - <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/01/1082702>)

The UN Secretary General also argued it represents a "strong demonstration of support for multilateral approaches to nuclear disarmament". He commended the States that have ratified the Treaty and welcomed the "instrumental role of civil society in advancing the TPNW's negotiation and entry into force".

## THE UK & IRELAND CHAPTER OF MAYORS FOR PEACE

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He added: “The survivors of nuclear explosions and nuclear tests offered tragic testimonies and were a moral force behind the Treaty. Entry into force is a tribute to their enduring advocacy”, he said.

The UN Secretary General is accurate in his tribute to both the states that have led this initiative - such as Nigeria, South Africa, Mexico, Chile, New Zealand, Austria and Ireland – but also of the wider civil society movement. It was groups like the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), made up of just under 600 peace and interfaith groups around the world, that have played a pivotal role in campaigning first for UN conferences highlighting the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons and then for UN conferences that eventually put together a new disarmament treaty. In July 2017, 122 states agreed to support that draft treaty, which came into force this month. ICAN received the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize for its work in developing such support for the treaty.

Despite the difficult restrictions that the global Covid-19 pandemic has brought on public events, a large number of actions, webinars and joint statements were delivered across the world to welcome the entry into force of the TPNW.

ICAN commented:

“21 January 2021 is a critical milestone towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons. Around the world, ICAN campaigners are marking the historic day with at least 172 events, from commemorations to protests to educational events. There are protestors at institutions around the world including companies, banks, universities that are contributing to nuclear weapons to make clear this behaviour is now banned under international law. At nuclear weapon bases and laboratories activists are hanging banners. Diplomats and officials are rallying behind the treaty. Campaigners in countries that have joined the treaty are celebrating the leadership of their countries to bring the first international legal ban on nuclear weapons into force.

The entry into force of the TPNW is a day of paramount importance for ICAN and for international peace and security. It is the start of a new chapter: the end of nuclear weapons.”

The main global event held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> January by ICAN included contributions from senior politicians and diplomats from around the world. It also looked at the future development of the treaty. It can be watched at the following weblink: <https://www.icanw.org/entryintoforce> and is 90 minutes long. It can also be found on ICAN’s You Tube channel.

In the long campaign to abolish nuclear weapons, which began in the 1950s, the 22<sup>nd</sup> January is a welcome day for the peace movement, given the huge challenge in trying to bring about nuclear disarmament. It is a matter of some celebration, particularly with the current difficulties brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic. Mayors for Peace is thankful for all the dedicated campaigners, diplomats and politicians that have brought this milestone in the nuclear disarmament issue about. There remains much to still be done; but getting the TPNW entered into force at the UN remains an important achievement.

### **3. Mayors for Peace activity over entry into force and over 400 cities now support the TPNW**

During the 90-day period that the TPNW entered into force at the United Nations, the Mayors for Peace and its now 8,000+ supporting members were involved in a number of initiatives to support and celebrate it.

Briefing Number 31 included a detailed joint statement from the International Executive Committee of Mayors for Peace welcoming the entry into force.

A prominent webinar was held on December 5<sup>th</sup> by the Mayors for Peace, organised by its new European Chapter. It was coordinated by officers in Manchester City Council and Granollers City Council (Spain) with staff in ICAN. This involved an expansive webinar that was attended on the day by over 230 attendees from across the world. The webinar considered the impacts of entering into force of the TPNW and its interaction with the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). It also provided some case studies on why cities had passed resolutions supporting the TPNW, as part of an initiative called the ICAN Cities Appeal. The webinar also allowed some focus on the second

pillar of Mayors for Peace activity – how to promote safe, sustainable, resilient and above all more peaceful towns and cities.

Amongst the speakers were:

- Introductory comments welcoming cooperation on these matters from the Mayor of Hiroshima, the Mayor of Granollers (Chair of the European Chapter) and the Executive Director of ICAN, Beatrice Fihn.
- The keynote address was given from Dr Tytti Erasto from the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). Her talk emphasised that the TPNW was complimentary to the NPT. She noted the recent surge in nationalistic and unilateral actions by some of the nuclear weapon states and a lack of responsible international leadership when it comes to trying to deliver nuclear disarmament in recent years. Nuclear threats and nuclear deterrence remain a real long-term peace and security problem in Europe. She noted the real challenge comes in encouraging a change of security doctrine within the NATO alliance of states that could accommodate the TPNW. It remains unlikely in the short to medium-term that NATO states will radically change course.
- The Deputy Mayor of Barcelona, the Mayor of Oslo and the Mayor of Grigny (representing Mayors for Peace France) provided short presentations on why they had all led their own cities to pass resolutions supporting the TPNW. They all noted the importance of local government, particularly in countries whose national government had opposed the TPNW, in sending a collective voice that the multilateral disarmament approach of the new treaty should be engaged with.
- Daniel Hogsta, Campaigns Director of ICAN, highlighted that the welcome comments made by the Mayors were part of a growing movement of over 400 towns, cities, countries and even federal state legislatures (in the United States) who had now passed resolutions to support the TPNW. These resolutions are powerful grass-roots symbols calling for change in the nuclear disarmament debate and supporting the vision of a world free from nuclear weapons; and were to be warmly welcomed. Following the entry into force of the TPNW, ICAN encourage further municipalities to support this growing movement within local government where their national governments opposed to this new treaty.
- The former Lord Mayor of Manchester, Councillor Eddy Newman, moved the webinar into the area of how Mayors for Peace members can promote safe and more peaceful cities. He provided a moving overview of the May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 terrorist attack on the Manchester Arena, which had killed 22 people (and the suicide bomber) and injured over 800 others, many of whom were young children attending an Ariana Grande concert. Councillor Newman's presentation showed how the Council and its partners brought all parts of the community together to remember the tragedy and work for a more tolerant, peaceful city. Last week, formal planning permission was provided to a long-standing memorial to those who had died in the tragedy.
- The Mayor of Braga, representing the local government organisation the Global Parliament of Mayors, talked about its work and programmes seeking to reduce violence in cities by over a half in the next decade. This includes a series of educational and practical programmes and work at the international level through bodies like the UN. The Global Parliament of Mayors also has a 'Peaceful Cities' initiative as a central part of its work. It was encouraged to seek further cooperation with the Mayors for Peace.
- The Lord Mayor of Manchester (Vice Chair of the European Chapter) formally closed the webinar, welcoming the large and varied attendance to the meeting. The Lord Mayor noted that the European Chapter is also to be welcomed as a positive initiative and hoped further events will take place in 2021.

The webinar was recorded in full and it can be watched at the following weblink:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E-34yb-2C3E>

Following on from this successful webinar, its organisers joined again to develop a joint statement welcoming the entry into force of the TPNW.

The statement, which is attached as Appendix 1, also mentions deep instability in the world at the moment, and the real and urgent need for multilateral support and action. It was also expanded into a media release and can be found on the Mayors for Peace, ICAN and NFLA

websites. It has been signed by the Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, all European Chapter Mayors for Peace Lead Cities, as well as leading European Mayors who have supported the ICAN Cities Appeal, such as the Mayor of Barcelona and the Mayor of Brescia.

In addition, the Mayors of Hiroshima, Nagasaki, Barcelona, Granollers and Manchester recorded companion video messages to the statement that were issued on the European Mayors for Peace Chapter YouTube channel and across social media.

They can be found at the following weblinks:

Mayor Matsui of Hiroshima

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RMpAHJXmpJU>

Mayor Taue of Nagasaki

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8kHxCWUT3vc>

Mayor Colau of Barcelona

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kqRNkKK9MqA>

Mayor Mayoral of Granollers

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n3VxuloGFtw>

Lord Mayor Judge of Manchester

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pg3YYA06qZw&feature=youtu.be>

The European Chapter welcomes the support of these Mayors in putting together these video messages. Mayors for Peace also welcomes a wide range of joint statements that have been made across a range of civil society. One notable statement, which is attached as Appendix 2, is an interfaith joint statement agreed by a large range of faith organisations.

In terms of the ICAN Cities Appeal, the number of towns, cities and counties that have passed resolutions continues to grow. In the UK this includes Brighton and Hove City Council and Leeds City Council, who passed resolutions in December and January. The Dutch city of Arnhem and the US city of San Francisco are two notable international cities to pass resolutions over the past week.

The full list of towns, cities, counties and US federal states that have passed resolutions can be found at this weblink: [https://cities.icanw.org/list\\_of\\_cities](https://cities.icanw.org/list_of_cities)

A number of UK towns, cities and countries are expected to discuss the matter shortly, and the Chapter Secretary will send an updated briefing pack with this Policy Briefing to all UK and Irish members of the Chapter.

#### **4. The TPNW, NPT and a new US President**

The entry into force of the TPNW comes at the same time as the inauguration of a new US President, Joe Biden. President Biden has already indicated renewed support for a more multilateralist approach to core global challenges than his predecessor Donald Trump. This includes immediate and welcome returns to the Paris climate change agreement and the World Health Organisation.

In terms of the issues around peace and security, President Biden has indicated that he wishes to resume the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action on Iran's nuclear programme, which aims to ensure Iran does not seek to develop nuclear weapons. This agreement has been under severe pressure, and it will take a considerable amount of sensitive renegotiation to restore it to the status it had under the Obama administration.

It has also been reported that President Biden will seek to ensure a 5-year extension to the START nuclear weapons treaty with Russia. This is the remaining arms control treaty that was not abrogated by the United States and Russia during the Trump administration. A substantial gulf has grown in the past four years between the US and Russia, as well as between the US

and China on nuclear weapons policy. It will be an extensive challenge to encourage a new spirit of détente between these nations. Civil society groups and the Mayors for Peace will keep a close eye on progress on these matters.

A number of civil society groups have also raised the real concerns around a new generation of high-tech weapons, which includes nuclear weapons, that are being developed by a number of states. These 'hypersonic' weapons could be delivered in a far speedier fashion than existing nuclear weapons, and the opportunity for an accidental attack or comprehensive retaliation could increase to an alarming level.

Mayors for Peace has seen this alarming film narrated by the actor Stephen Fry on this issue, and encourages its members to watch it: <https://youtu.be/oOU2ci31b5M>.

In terms of the TPNW, it remains to be seen what the new US Government's view will be, but it is likely to continue with the view that the NPT is the more appropriate (and much slower and gradual) process it wants to remain engaged with. It was notable that NATO has been particularly vocal recently in its public opposition to the TPNW. Debates in the Spanish and Belgian Parliaments suggest though there remains support for the TPNW within parts of both governments, but it would be difficult at present to get such support through their respective Parliaments. There is likely to be a keen debate in Germany this year as federal elections are planned for the autumn, whilst it may remain an issue in the upcoming Scottish Parliamentary elections, where opinion polls now suggest a small majority for independence, which remains the long-term aim of the Scottish National Party (who run the Scottish Government) and the Scottish Greens. Both parties are opposed to the Trident nuclear weapons programme.

In terms of public opinion, ICAN has commissioned a series of opinion polls on public support for the TPNW in a number of NATO states. You Gov polls in Belgium, Denmark, Iceland, Italy, Netherlands and Spain on the question "Do you think your country should join the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons?" found between 77% and 89% support of the sample surveyed supporting the Treaty. (See [https://www.icanw.org/nato\\_poll\\_2021](https://www.icanw.org/nato_poll_2021))

A similar poll organised by Survation for CND UK asked a similar question of UK voters. Its key findings of the poll survey of over 1,000 people on January 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> were:

- 59% of the public support the UK government signing up to the TPNW, including 50% of Conservative voters and 68% of Labour voters.
- 77% support a 'total ban on all nuclear weapons globally', including 71% of Conservative voters and 83% of Labour voters.
- Both the UK signing the TPNW and a total global nuclear ban have majority support across every single demographic (age, regions and nations, education level, income bracket, 2019 General Election vote, and 2016 EU referendum vote).

(See <https://cnduk.org/77-of-uk-public-back-global-nuclear-weapons-ban/>)

The challenge for civil society groups remains translating such public support through to the political process when both the Conservative, Labour and Liberal Democrat parties support, to different extents, retaining a nuclear weapons programme.

The NPT Review Conference is supposed to take place this year before August 2021, but whether it can go ahead with the ongoing restrictions created by Covid-19 remains a question. Mayors for Peace will continue to work with states and civil society groups through the year to try and build on the momentum that the entry into force of the TPNW provides.

## 5. **Peace education projects and International Holocaust Memorial Day**

A core part of the activity of the UK and Ireland Chapter has been to promote peace education projects and best practice. This has included regularly showcasing the works of organisations promoting peace education like the Peace Foundation, Peace Jam, Peace Education Scotland, CRESST, Peace Partners and Peace One Day. The Chapter will continue to engage with such groups in future meetings, and it remains interested in promoting the work of the Global Parliament of Mayors noted in the European Chapter webinar above.

One practical example of promoting a peace education programme is taking, growing and promoting peace gingko trees that originate from a tree damaged in the Hiroshima atomic bomb attack that regrew in spring 1946. As noted in Briefing 31, seeds have recently been provided and are being grown by Calderdale / Hebden Royd Councils and Rochdale Council. The Chapter Secretary is engaged with other Councils that are interested in growing some seeds and using the trees as a powerful symbol of peace and environmental renewal.

In Manchester, the first UK city to receive seeds, one of its gingko trees will be planted on a site on the Manchester University campus (which is known for Sir Ernest Rutherford's experiments on splitting the atom, a core milestone in developing the atomic age) in February. The development of Manchester's new peace garden in Lincoln Square in the city centre is also expected to start shortly and be completed later this year. The garden will include at least one of the gingko peace trees.

The Chapter is also keen to support and promote other important peace events and anniversaries. Each year, the world remembers International Holocaust Memorial Day. This remembers the holocaust including the murder of millions of Jews and thousands of gypsies, political opponents, disabled people and homosexuals by the Nazi regime in the Second World War. It also remembers other acts of genocide, such as the Rwanda genocide in 1994, or the genocide of the Yazidi community in Iraq in 2014.

Events for the day are being held across the world, with a global UNESCO led event taking place online on January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Further details on global events can be found at the UNESCO website - <https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/holocaustremembranceday>.

A National UK ceremony will also take place on the 27<sup>th</sup> January, along with many other regional events. For further details see the website - <https://www.hmd.org.uk/>. In Ireland, events are being organised by the Holocaust Education Trust and further details of a national event at the Mansion House in Dublin (co-organised by Mayors for Peace member, Dublin City Council) and other regional events can be found at: <https://hetireland.org/programmes/holocaust-memorial-day-2021-commemoration/>.

The Chapter Secretariat welcomes all of these events and encourages Chapter members to actively engage with their local event or a national event.

#### **5. Plans for next UK and Ireland Mayors, Provosts and Leaders for Peace Chapter**

The Chapter Secretariat is planning to organise an online Chapter meeting in late March or early April, depending a little on whether local elections planned in England in May are held.

This will include discussing progress with the European Chapter and Mayors for Peace in general, peace education initiatives and plans for the rest of the year. Further details will be emailed to Chapter members shortly.

#### **6. Conclusion and recommendations**

The entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons is an important milestone in the disarmament debate and has been very much worth celebrating. It starts 2021 in a positive way, and helps to focus discussions on peace, security and disarmament in what could be a transformative year.

Chapter members are recommended to continue to look at passing resolutions to support the TPNW. Other actions around areas like divestment and peace education should also be considered. Further information on this will be provided in the next Chapter Policy Briefing.

**Mayors for Peace, ICAN and NFLA joint statement and media release on the entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons**

**Leading global cities welcome entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and call on their own governments to engage with this positive disarmament process**

Leading global cities, with the Mayors for Peace European Chapter and International Secretariat, the UK & Ireland Nuclear Free Local Authorities (NFLA) and the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) issue the following joint statement as the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) enters into force at the United Nations on the 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2021:

In the year of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, we, as some of the over 380 cities, towns and counties and federal states (1) that have passed resolutions supporting the TPNW, call on all nuclear weapon states, NATO members and states with nuclear defence agreements to engage with this important disarmament process.

With over 50 states having ratified the TPNW, and a further 38 in the process of doing so, it is clear that a growing number of UN member states believe the stalemate in the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) regime needs to be unlocked, and the TPNW does that by creating a sensible process for the multilateral disarmament of all nuclear weapons.

There are over 13,000 nuclear weapons in the world, and they are targeted on urban areas. We declare that 'Cities are not targets' and we passed resolutions supporting the TPNW as it would be our towns and cities that would be the targets of such weapons, being completely destroyed like the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki were in August 1945.

With Mayors for Peace and ICAN, and other civil society groups that advocate a nuclear weapons free world, we see the entry into force of the TPNW as a historic day that formally begins the process towards multilateral nuclear disarmament. We welcome the courage and fortitude of the countries that have ratified and supported the TPNW, and we pledge to work with them to encourage those states who oppose this process to actively engage in its instruments.

We have real concerns that the existing state of global politics is so unstable that a nuclear weapon attack, either deliberate or accidental, remains a real and present danger. By supporting the TPNW we advocate a peaceful and practical way for states to move away from dangerous, unilateral actions and embrace a multilateral approach.

We look forward to the first States Parties Conference on the TPNW, as well as the Review Conference of the NPT, as effective ways to reset global talks on nuclear disarmament. With other weapons of mass destruction now banned, the anomaly has always been nuclear weapons. The TPNW plugs that gap and we welcome that the United Nations will have another useful instrument to promote a peaceful and nuclear weapons free world.

This statement is supported by the Japanese global and European Chapter President, Vice Presidents and Executive Mayors of Mayors for Peace, as well as other European Mayors who have passed a resolution to support the Treaty of the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, including:

- The Mayor of Hiroshima, Japan and President of Mayors for Peace, Kazumi Matsui
- The Mayor of Nagasaki, Japan and Vice President of Mayors for Peace, Tomihisa Taue
- The Mayor of Granollers, Spain, Vice President of Mayors for Peace and Chair of the European Chapter of Mayors for Peace, Josep Mayoral Antigas
- The Lord Mayor of Manchester, UK and Vice President of Mayors for Peace, Tommy Judge
- The Lord Mayor of Hannover, Germany and Vice President of Mayors for Peace, Belit Onay
- The Mayor of Barcelona, Spain, Ada Colau
- The Mayor of Ypres / Ieper, Belgium and Vice President of Mayors for Peace, Emmily Talpe
- The Mayor of Biograd na Moru, Croatia and Vice President of Mayors for Peace, Ivan Knez

- The Mayor of Malakoff and Vice President of Mayors for Peace, Jacqueline Belhomme
- The Mayor of Grigny, France and Executive City of Mayors for Peace, Philippe Rio
- The Mayor of Cervia, Italy and Executive City of Mayors for Peace, Massimo Medri
- The Mayor of Brescia, Italy, Emilio del Bono

Commenting on the statement, Mayor Mayoral, President of the European Chapter of Mayors for Peace said:

"The entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons is a historic milestone. I am convinced that, in the same way as occurred with chemical and biological weapons, anti-personnel landmines or cluster bombs, the nuclear-armed states and their allies will eventually reconsider their position because these are weapons contrary to international law and international public opinion. Citizenship has the right to live in a world free from the threat of nuclear weapons. Ban them is the only possible way."

The Chair of the UK and Ireland Nuclear Free Local Authorities (NFLA), Councillor David Blackburn said:

"Around 400 municipalities from across the world have given their formal support by passing resolutions in favour of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and urging their governments to actively engage in this process. Other towns and cities are in the process of passing resolutions shortly. NFLA strongly support the entry into force of the treaty as a hugely positive move forward in the ongoing campaign for realising a world free of nuclear weapons."

The Campaign Coordinator for ICAN, Daniel Hogsta said:

"On January 22nd, nuclear weapons become illegal under international law. It is the culmination of decades of work to save the human race from annihilation that began as soon as the first atomic bombs were developed in the 1940s. Cities and towns across the world are taking a stand against nuclear weapons, many in defiance of their own national governments who still cling onto the outdated, immoral and outright dangerous logic of nuclear deterrence. The support of almost 400 municipalities for ICAN Cities Appeal shows that local governments recognise the threat that these weapons pose to their populations and are demanding change."

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Notes:

- (1) A list of Local Authorities and Federal States that have passed resolutions to support the TPNW go to - <https://cities.icanw.org/>

## Multi-faith Leaders Statement on the entry into force of the TPNW

### Joint Interfaith Statement on the Entry into Force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

*22 January 2021*

As a wide coalition of faith-based communities from around the world, we speak with one voice to reject the existential threat to humanity that nuclear weapons pose. We wholeheartedly welcome the entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), the first international treaty to comprehensively ban nuclear weapons. The Treaty addresses the disproportionate impact of nuclear weapons on women and indigenous peoples and the importance of victim assistance and healing environmental harms in a ground-breaking way. We congratulate, celebrate and appreciate the countries that have ratified and signed this important Treaty, as well as all who have worked for nuclear disarmament and abolition for many decades.

As people of faith, we believe that the possession, development and threat to use nuclear weapons is immoral. There are no safe hands for these weapons. The accidental or deliberate detonation of a nuclear weapon would cause severe, long-lasting and far-reaching harm on all aspects of our lives and our environment throughout the world. Further, these technologies are part of structures and systems that bring about great suffering and destruction. We commit, therefore, to the ethical and strategic necessity of working together for economic and social justice, right relationship with the Earth, and accountability and restoration where there is violence and harm. We rejoice at the possibilities of a new world that this Treaty ushers in. At a time when the world desperately needs fresh hope, the TPNW inspires us to continue to work to fully eliminate the threat of nuclear weapons, and to create conditions for peace, justice, and well-being.

We recognize the legacy of the global hibakusha, survivors whose courage and perseverance serve as our inspiration, guidance, and moral foundation in the quest for a world free from nuclear weapons. This quest will continue until all nuclear weapons are eliminated from our planet. We invite everyone, especially those in communities of faith, to join us in this work for peace, justice, and respect for life—against which nuclear weapons stand in complete opposition—in ways that are meaningful and authentic to your traditions and how you are inspired to participate. We urge all States to join the growing community of States which have rejected nuclear weapons and to sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, or work toward that end by joining the First Meeting of the States Parties planned to take place this year.

At this historic moment, we must act decisively to strengthen the power of the TPNW upon its entry into force, and to work for peace, cooperation, and common security.

#### **Endorsing Organizations**

Act Church of Sweden  
 All Africa Conference of Churches  
 The All Souls Nuclear Disarmament Task Force  
 Alliance of Baptists  
 American Baptist Churches, USA  
 American Friends Service Committee  
 Arkport Catholic Worker  
 Baltimore Nonviolence Centre  
 Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America  
 Bruderhof  
 The Buddhist Council of New York  
 Casa Generalizia della Societa del Sacro Cuore  
 Casa Maria Catholic Worker

Catholic Committee of Appalachia  
 Charter for Compassion  
 Christian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament  
 Christian Conference of Asia  
 Christian Council of Sweden  
 Christians for Peace Newcastle Australia  
 Church and Peace  
 Church Council of Greater Seattle  
 Church of Norway Council on Ecumenical and International Relations  
 The Church of Scotland  
 Church of Sweden Archbishop Emeritus  
 Church of Sweden Youth  
 Columban Centre for Advocacy and Outreach  
 Comboni Missionary Sisters  
 Comisión de Ecología y Cuidado de la Creación de la Diócesis de Lurín, Lima Perú  
 Comisión General Justicia y Paz  
 Community of Christ  
 Community of Christ - British Isles  
 Congregation de NDC du Bon Pasteur à Madagascar  
 Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd (Global)  
 Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, Latin America and the Caribbean  
 Congregation of Our Lady of the Good Shepherd, US Provinces  
 Congregation of St. Joseph  
 Congregation of the Mission  
 Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace  
 Congregations of St. Joseph  
 Council of Churches in the Netherlands  
 Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul USA  
 Disciples Peace Fellowship  
 Dominican Leadership Conference  
 Dominican Sisters of Hope  
 Dominican Sisters of Houston  
 Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa  
 ECAR Justice et Paix Madagascar  
 Ecumenical Peace Institute  
 Episcopal Peace Fellowship  
 Fachgruppe Gerechtigkeit, Frieden und Bewahrung der Schöpfung der  
 Evangelischmethodistischen Kirche in Deutschland  
 Fellowship of Reconciliation - USA  
 Franciscan Peace Centre  
 Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart  
 Friends Committee on National Legislation  
 Friends World Committee for Consultation (Quakers)  
 Global Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Christ  
 Gonzaga Nuclear Peace Club  
 Good Shepherd Sisters  
 Green Hope Foundation  
 Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart  
 Heiwa Peace and Reconciliation Foundation of New York  
 Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters, JPIC-USA  
 House of Peace  
 Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Loreto Generalate  
 International Academy for Multicultural Cooperation  
 International Gurukula Community  
 International Presentation Association  
 Inter-Religious Task Force on Central America  
 Islamic Society of North America  
 Justice and Peace Scotland  
 Katarina församling in Svenska kyrkan

Kvekersamfunnet i Norge/the Religious Society of Friends in Norway  
 Lake City Catholic Worker Farm  
 Leadership Conference of Women Religious  
 Leadership Council of the IHM Sisters  
 The London Catholic Worker  
 Loretto Community  
 Loretto Peace Committee  
 Martha Justice Ministry  
 Mary's House  
 Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers  
 Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic  
 Mennonite World Conference  
 Multifaith Voices for Peace & Justice  
 National Advocacy Centre of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd  
 National Council of Churches  
 Nevada Desert Experience  
 Newman Hall Non-Violent Committee  
 North Carolina Council of Churches  
 North Shore Coalition for Peace & Justice  
 Office of Peace, Justice, and Ecological Integrity/Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth  
 On Earth Peace  
 The Open-Door Community  
 Oregon Fellowship of Reconciliation  
 Pace e Bene and Campaign Nonviolence  
 Pacific Conference of Churches  
 Passionists International  
 Parliament of the World's Religions  
 PAX  
 Pax Christi Aotearoa New Zealand  
 Pax Christi Castro Valley  
 Pax Christi Flanders  
 Pax Christi France  
 Pax Christi International  
 Pax Christi Ireland  
 Pax Christi Metro New York  
 Pax Christi Northern California  
 Pax Christi - Perú  
 Pax Christi USA  
 Peace Economy Project  
 PMU  
 Pooha-Bah Traditional Native American Healing Centre  
 Precious Blood Missionaries Kansas City Province  
 Presbyterian Church (USA)  
 Presbyterian Peace Fellowship  
 Religious Genootschap der Vrienden (Quakers)  
 The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Sweden  
 Saint Peter Claver Catholic Worker  
 School Sisters of Notre Dame  
 School Sisters of Notre Dame, Central Pacific Province  
 Sisters of Bon Secours, USA  
 Sisters of Charity Federation  
 Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Congregational Leadership  
 Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Western Province Leadership  
 Sisters of Charity of Our Lady of Mercy  
 Sisters of Mercy of the Americas Justice Team  
 Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur  
 Sisters of Saint Anne, St. Marie Province  
 Sisters of Saint Francis  
 Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi

Sisters of St. Francis, Clinton, Iowa  
Sisters of St. Francis, Sylvania OH  
Sisters of St. Joseph of Baden, PA  
Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange  
Sisters of the Holy Cross  
Sisters of the Humility of Mary  
Sisters of the Presentation, Dubuque, IA  
Sisters, Home Visitors of Mary  
Social Justice Office Srs of St. Joseph-TOSF  
Soka Gakkai International  
SS. Francis and Therese Catholic Worker  
Swedish Fellowship of Reconciliation  
Thomas Berry Forum for Ecological Dialogue at Iona College  
Tikkun/Network of Spiritual Progressives  
United Church of Christ, Justice and Witness Ministries  
The United Methodist Church - General Board of Church and Society  
The United Reformed Church, United Kingdom  
United Religions Initiative  
The Uniting Church in Sweden / Equmeniakyrkan  
Vereniging Kerk en Vrede  
Veterans for Peace, Ch. 45  
Viva House, Baltimore Catholic Worker  
VIVAT International  
Voices for a World Free of Nuclear Weapons  
World Council of Churches  
World Yoga Community