

NuclearBan.US - City Alignment Checklist

NuclearBan.US defines “Treaty Alignment” as doing all that one can to comply with the 2017 Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

City Alignment is about passing a legally binding ordinance, bylaw, or executive policy order that will publicly put the city in compliance with the 2017 Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, to the extent possible within their given jurisdiction and control, within a specified timeline. This includes...

❶ issuing a general prohibition in line with Article 1 of the Treaty, prohibiting within the city limits, as far as legally allowed, all nuclear weapons-related activities, including development, testing, production, manufacture, possession, stockpiling, transfer, control, stationing, installation or deployment of nuclear weapons.

❷ making it city policy to reject contracts with [nuclear weapons companies](#), to the extent legally possible, and to refuse to procure goods or services from them by a certain date. This could include, for instance:

establishing a protocol for determining whether a potential contractor is a nuclear weapons company, for instance with an official form or affidavit that all contractors must sign before being contracted by the city.

designing a waiver system or other protocol for allowing exceptions to these rules for special circumstances.

❸ making it city policy to divest the city’s money from those companies, to the extent legally possible, by a certain date. This includes:

identifying whether any funds under the control of the city are directly invested in any of the [nuclear weapons companies](#).

deciding to ask the state and/or other intermediaries, for instance banks and fund managers, to take the necessary steps to allow the city to implement its divestment policy.

communicating with the companies to inform them of these actions and to demand that they remove themselves from the nuclear weapons business.

To make sure these policies are actually implemented and maintained, there are additional clauses which should to be included in any binding legislation:

establishing sanctions or penalties for violating these regulations, for instance a fine and/or prison sentence for each day of violation.

getting legal advice to incorporate the necessary safeguards and exception clauses to avoid being challenged in court.

creating a committee or an annual process to monitor the above, to consider exceptions and to make regular reports to the Mayor and/or City Council and to the public.

City Alignment – Additional Options

- putting up signs at entrances to the city which declare the City to be in alignment with the TPNW
- writing as a city to other nearby cities, the state governor, local members of Congress and the President urging them to follow the example and become Treaty Aligned
- developing educational materials and/or suggestions for curriculum to be added to local schools
- having civic leaders write to local newspapers, produce public service announcements for local radio or TV, produce materials for Chamber of Commerce and/or Tourist Bureaus to make people aware of the city's position on nuclear weapons.
- declare an annual day for nuclear weapons abolition and use this for public education about the Treaty and the dangers of nuclear weapons
- assigning a liaison (a city official or an NGO campaigner) to network with other cities, states, and countries working on implementing the Treaty in their respective locales
- signing up the City with NuclearBan.US **Treaty Aligned Cities Network**, taking part in periodic phone meetings and producing reports of progress to the Secretary-General of the United Nations
- attending the annual meetings of the State Parties to the Treaty to report to them on progress at the city level in the United States.