

Not "some," not "theirs," but every single one

NUCLEARBAN US

You and your faith community can put pressure on the US and other nuclear nations to sign, ratify and implement the Nobel Peace Prize-winning Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.





# NUCLEAR

Nuclear weapons are the most destructive, inhumane and indiscriminate weapons ever created. There has not been a nuclear war – yet. None of the world's 15,000 nuclear weapons have been detonated by accident – yet. But even a single detonation on purpose or by accident would be a humanitarian catastrophe of unparalleled proportions. A "limited" exchange of nuclear weapons, for example between India and Pakistan, could put enough soot into the atmosphere to cause climate disruption and global famine.

A full scale nuclear war between the US and Russia would be the end of human civilization as we know it, if not the end of all life on earth.

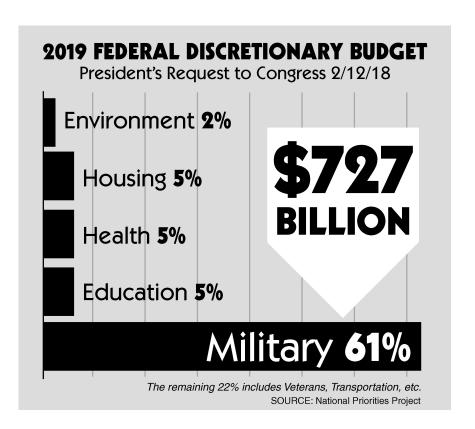
### **NUCLEAR WEAPONS QUICK FACTS**

- The modernization of the US nuclear arsenal is expected to cost taxpayers \$1.7 trillion in inflation-adjusted dollars over the next 30 years, in addition to the \$30-40 billion per year already being spent
- Most nuclear warheads today are many times larger than the bomb dropped on Hiroshima
- There are 15,000 nuclear warheads in the world today

# WEAPONS

Many of these weapons are kept on hair-trigger alert. Sooner or later, they will be used. There have been many close calls already. We are at more risk now than we have ever been. The money and effort that goes into nuclear weapons is a waste of precious human and financial resources needed to solve our most pressing problems. It's important to limit access to the nuclear "button," end hair-trigger alert, renounce the first use of nuclear weapons, and take other legislative steps towards reducing the risk of nuclear war by accident or by design. But the only way to reduce this risk to zero is to eliminate the weapons - all of them.

Fortunately, we now have a tool to make that happen.



#### THE TREATY

There is now an international Treaty making nuclear weapons *illegal*. It's known as the **Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons** (or 'Nuclear Ban Treaty'). Article 1, Section 1 makes it illegal to "develop, test, produce, manufacture...use or threaten to use nuclear weapons." The Treaty was negotiated at the United Nations and has the support of over 120 countries, the international Red Cross and Red Crescent movement, the Pope, the Dalai Lama, and millions of ordinary people across the globe.

The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) won the 2017 **Nobel Peace Prize** for their part in making this Treaty possible. This campaign was inspired by the successful international campaigns which led to the prohibition, under international law, of biological, chemical and other inhumane and indiscriminate weapons.

1972: 1993: 1997: 2008: 2017: CHEMICAL LAND **CLUSTER NUCLEAR** BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS **WEAPONS** MINES **MUNITIONS WEAPONS BANNED BANNED BANNED BANNED BANNED** 

#### THE PROBLEM

The US government is currently unwilling to sign the Treaty, and in fact, boycotted the negotiations. They are trying to prevent NATO, other allies, and other countries from signing it – even those countries whose people strongly favor it. And the other 8 nuclear nations won't sign it either: Russia, UK, France, China, Israel, India, Pakistan, N. Korea.

#### THE SOLUTION

The US and the other nuclear nations will sign this Treaty once there is sufficient pressure on them to do so. As citizens, we can call on our legislators to take immediate steps to pull us **back from the brink** of nuclear war.

Ultimately, we are up against **the 26 companies** that profit from making nuclear weapons. These companies have significant control over the re-election budgets of many legislators. That's why the federal government has utterly failed to put an end to these weapons.

But these companies exist to make money, not just to make nuclear weapons. Boycotts, divestment campaigns, and bad publicity can persuade them to focus on other products. For example, a national consumer boycott of General Electric convinced them to move out of the nuclear weapons business.

Faith communities can help these companies to start making the inevitable shift toward legal, globally acceptable activities that address climate change and other social needs.

Once these 26 companies get the message, they will be the ones to pressure the US government. They will demand a shift in federal funding away from nuclear weapons. In the meantime, this campaign will encourage other countries to take the Treaty more seriously, and that will build momentum toward global abolition.



Airbus
BAE Systems
Bechtel
Boeing
BWX Technology
Charles Stark Draper Lab
Engility Holdings

Fluor General Dynamics Honeywell International Huntington Ingalls Industries Jacobs Engineering Larsen & Toubro Leonardo Finmeccanica Lockheed Martin Moog Northrop Grumman Orbital ATK Raytheon Safran Serco Textron Thales Walchandnagar Industries

# HOW YOUR FAITH COMMUNITY CAN BE PART OF THE SOLUTION

Remember when the federal government announced their intention to withdraw from the **Paris Climate Accords**? Cities, states, businesses, colleges and faith communities defiantly committed themselves to complying with the Accords anyway. That inspired us. As faith communities, cities, states, and other organizations, we can also comply – as far as we are able to – with the **Nuclear Ban Treaty**. We are calling this "Treaty Alignment" and it is how we can all play our part in ridding the world of nuclear weapons.

Many faith communities have **investments**, and some of these may be financially supporting the companies that make nuclear weapons. Many faith communities also own or rent buildings which may have **products** made by these companies (such as Honeywell thermostats).

Boycotting and divesting affects those companies directly, and it can also be a strong encouragement to local businesses, civic organizations, cities and states to do the same.

Likewise, it will be very powerful if your faith community, once it is "Treaty Aligned," encourages other faith communities to do the same.

HERE ARE THE STEPS TO TAKE:

## 1. DECIDE

The first step is to ask your faith community to prayerfully consider being part of this campaign. What information will they need to make this decision? Some faith communities may want a presentation or workshop to take in all the facts and concerns relating to the Treaty, nuclear weapons, and the campaign. Others may be happy to make the commitment right away.

### 2. DISCONNECT

"Treaty Alignment" for faith communities means:

Having no investments in any of the companies that make nuclear weapons. If your faith community has investments, you may need to go over these with a financial advisor to see if any mutual funds or other investments are directly financing any of the 26 companies that make nuclear weapons.

Not buying any products from any of these companies. Your faith community may, for instance, have thermostats or other products made by Honeywell. You might write to Honeywell to inform them that you will not buy their products in the future unless they remove themselves from the illegal and immoral nuclear weapons business.

#### 3. DECLARE

Once your faith community has taken the steps needed to be in alignment with the Nuclear Ban Treaty, it is important to make that public by posting it on www.nuclearban.us and by informing the world through newsletters, local newspapers, social media, public announcements, etc. The only ultimate protection against nuclear weapons is their total elimination.

--World Council of Churches

Weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, create nothing but a false sense of security...Nuclear deterrence cannot be the basis for an ethic of fraternity and peaceful coexistence.

--Pope Francis

We must say to ourselves first and then to the world that we want a total and universal ban on the possession and production of nuclear weapons.

--Imam Dr. Muzammil H. Siddiqi

I can imagine a world without nuclear weapons, and I support ICAN.

--His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama

At this crucial crossroads of history, we call on the world to recognize that violence begets violence, that nuclear proliferation benefits no one.

--Rabbi David Saperstein

Japan learned from the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki that the tragedy wrought by nuclear weapons must never be repeated, and that humanity and nuclear weapons cannot coexist.

--Daisaku Ikeda, President, Soka Gakkai International

