

# HOW SCHOOLS CAN HELP GET RID OF ALL NUCLEAR WEAPONS



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



You and your school 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.**

**JOIN THE  
CAMPAIGN!**



**NUCLEARBAN.US**  
THE TREATY COMPLIANCE CAMPAIGN

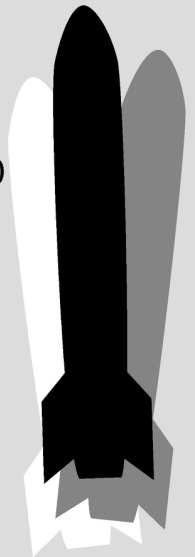
# NUCLEAR

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



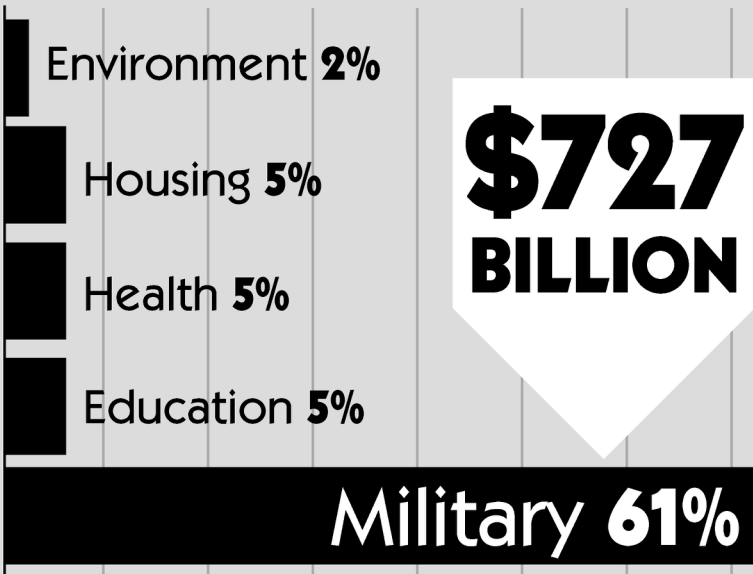
# WEAPONS

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.

## 2019 FEDERAL DISCRETIONARY BUDGET

President's Request to Congress 2/12/18



*The remaining 22% includes Veterans, Transportation, etc.*

SOURCE: National Priorities Project

# 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.



# 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. Your school can become part of the international movement to hold these companies accountable.

**Schools especially can help compel these companies to shift toward legal, globally acceptable activities that address climate change and other social needs that today's youth demand and deserve.**

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.



AECOM  
Aerofjet Rocketdyne  
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 SCHOOL CAN BE PART OF THE SOLUTION**

**In response to school shootings**, students, teachers, parents and schools are boycotting and divesting from companies that make and sell guns. They are demanding change from politicians who depend on the NRA for campaign funding and they've already been successful in helping reform legislation and public opinion.

**In response to the federal government announcing their intention to withdraw from the Paris Climate Accords**, cities, states, organizations and schools are defiantly committing themselves to complying with the Accords anyway.

**And in response to the federal government's boycott of the Nuclear Ban Treaty**, schools can comply – as far as they are able to – with the Treaty *themselves*. We are calling this "Treaty Alignment" and it sends a powerful message to the government, to corporations, and to the public: Nuclear weapons are inhumane, and they are now illegal under international law.

That's how schools can play a crucial role in ridding the world of nuclear weapons. As students, teachers, parents and administrators who care about a sustainable nuclear-free future, we need your help!



**HERE ARE THE STEPS TO TAKE:**

# 1. DECIDE

Who is empowered to make your school “Treaty Aligned,” and what information will they need to make this decision? A principal or superintendent may take the lead on this in some cases. In others, it may be the school board or the student government.

Sign up at [NuclearBan.US](https://NuclearBan.US) and we'll provide you with everything you need to help your school decide if they want to commit to Treaty Alignment.

# 2. DISCONNECT

A “Treaty Aligned” school does not purchase or accept any products or services from any of the 26 companies that make nuclear weapons, and has no investments or other relationships with these companies. For example:

*Honeywell makes air conditioning equipment to keep students comfortable – and they make nuclear weapons too. There's no need to rip thermostats out of the walls, but you'd need to:*

- *Adopt a policy not to buy any more Honeywell products until they stop making nuclear weapons*
- *Inform Honeywell of your decision*
- *Make your decision public (school website, school newsletter, social media, local newspapers, mass media)*

# 3. DECLARE

Countries that sign the Treaty are expected to encourage other countries to sign it too. Likewise, treaty alignment by a school includes a commitment to encourage other schools – as well as your town/city and state – to become Treaty Aligned.

# TREATY ALIGNMENT CAN BE AN EMPOWERING EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Your school community will learn about the United Nations, the Nobel Peace Prize, and how citizens can participate in policymaking. Your school will be part of the global youth-led movement that is getting rid of nuclear weapons once and for all.

## Student voices matter. Schools can change the world.

Your school is preparing the next generation for healthy, engaged, fulfilling lives. Is your school also unintentionally supporting any of the 26 companies that make nuclear weapons? It's an educational adventure to discover if your school is connected through...

- *Corporate sponsorships for sports teams or other activities*
- *Companies that provide IT services*
- *Companies that build facilities*
- *Companies that provide security, HVAC, or other equipment*
- *Investments, banking, insurance*

Once you're sure your school is free from any connections with this industry, you can declare your school to be "Aligned" with the 2017 Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. You'll be joining the growing movement to free the entire world from this expensive, unnecessary, man-made danger.



**NUCLEARBAN.US**  
THE TREATY COMPLIANCE CAMPAIGN

www.NuclearBan.US  
59 Gleason Road, Northampton, MA 01060 USA  
(413) 727-3704 | info@NuclearBan.US

@NuclearBan.US   

The Resistance Center for Peace and Justice  
is a proud partner of NuclearBan.US in Western Massachusetts  
<http://theresistancecenter.org>, 413-584-8975, [contact@theresistancecenter.org](mailto:contact@theresistancecenter.org)