HOW BUSINESSES CAN HELP GET RID OF ALL 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

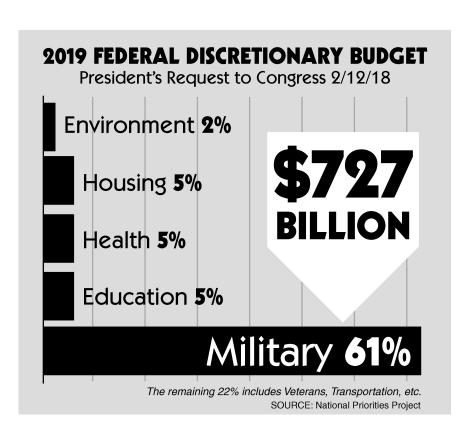
- The modernization of the US nuclear arsenal is expected to cost taxpayers \$1.7 trillion in inflation-adjusted dollars over the next 30 years, in addition to the \$30-40 billion per year already being spent
- Most nuclear warheads today are many times larger than the bomb dropped on Hiroshima
- There 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: BIOLOGICAL CHEMICAL LAND **CLUSTER NUCLEAR WEAPONS** WEAPONS **WEAPONS** MINES MUNITIONS **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. Businesses are key players in this, since some businesses continue to profit, directly or indirectly, from nuclear weapons. These businesses can choose to comply, as far as possible, with the Treaty instead. We are calling this being "Treaty Aligned."

There are currently **26 companies** that directly profit from making nuclear weapons. But these companies depend on thousands of other businesses across the country for their supplies, their markets, and the financing of their activities.

Boycotts, divestment campaigns, and bad publicity can persuade these companies to focus on other products. For example, a national consumer boycott of General Electric convinced them to move out of the nuclear weapons business in 1993.

Socially-responsible businesses can help these 26 companies make 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.

AECOM Aerojet 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 <u>YOUR BUSINESS</u> CAN ALIGN ITSELF WITH THE TREATY

If your business is directly involved in producing or maintaining the US nuclear weapons arsenal, complying with the Treaty means **conversion of jobs, factories and technologies** to address climate change and other needs.

If your business **supplies goods or services** to any of those companies, it means no longer supplying those companies and finding other customers instead.

If your business **purchases products or services** from those companies, it means no longer purchasing from those companies and finding other suppliers instead.

If your business has any **investments** in those companies, it means divesting and putting your money instead into companies that address climate change or other needs.

If your business has no business of any kind with nuclear weapons companies, Treaty Alignment means having a **clear policy commitment** not to engage in, or to support, any nuclear weapons-related work in the future.

HERE ARE THE STEPS TO TAKE:

1. DECIDE

Who is empowered to make your business "Treaty Aligned" and what information will they need to make this decision? Some businesses 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 a commitment right away.

2. DISCONNECT

If you need to disconnect from any of the 26 companies, you may want to start by creating a team who will work on making your business Treaty Aligned. "Treaty Alignment" means your business does not:

- Have any direct involvement in research, manufacturing, handling, transport or deployment of nuclear weapons;
- Supply or contract with any of the companies which are involved in the nuclear weapons business;
- Purchase goods or services from those companies;
- Have any money directly invested in any of those companies.

3. DECLARE

Treaty Alignment for businesses means approving, publishing and enforcing a policy statement that clearly commits the business to adhering, as far as it is able, to the provisions of the Nuclear Ban Treaty. For small businesses with no connections to the nuclear weapons industry, signing the Business Pledge is simple and straightforward.

TAKING IT TO THE NEXT LEVEL

Countries that sign the Treaty are expected to encourage other countries to sign it too. Likewise, Treaty Alignment by a business includes a commitment to encourage other businesses – as well as your town, city and state – to become "Treaty Aligned."

Your customers will thank you!

In response to climate change many companies have divested from the fossil industry. Businesses can bring about significant change by disconnecting from companies that they can no longer support.

One company in Germany, Deutsche Bank, recently made the decision that it will not invest in companies involved in the manufacture, distribution or maintenance and service of (key components of) nuclear weapons and will terminate existing relations with these companies. Deutsche Bank acknowledges that nuclear weapons "cause undue suffering and have a disproportionate humanitarian impact on civilian populations."

Businesses can play a crucial role in ridding the world of nuclear weapons. If you care about a sustainable nuclear-free future, we need your help!

