



Women in Black
London

**UK: Sign UN
nuclear weapon
ban treaty**

UN Treaty bans nuclear weapons – now let's eliminate the arsenals

Over 70 years after nuclear bombs were first used on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the UN adopted the long-awaited **2017 Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons**. Already 59 governments have signed and 10 have ratified, so the Treaty is well on the way to entering into legal force.

This UN Treaty creates a new and important legal process that requires the total elimination of nuclear arsenals, and makes it illegal to use, threaten to use, develop, test, produce, manufacture, otherwise acquire, possess or stockpile nuclear weapons. It also reduces nuclear dangers by making it illegal to assist or encourage anyone to make, deploy or use such WMD.

Please write to the UK Prime Minister and urge her to sign the UN Treaty, which bans nuclear weapons to make it possible to end nuclear threats and dangers.

No safe hands for unsafe weapons

From the UK's Trident system to the arsenals of Russia, USA, China, France, Israel, India, Pakistan and North Korea, this Treaty outlaws all nuclear weapons. Made possible because a large majority of UN nations recognised that even one nuclear detonation would create unacceptable human suffering and environmental harm, the Treaty makes clear that nuclear war cannot be won and that no-one has the right to possess or use such inhumane weapons of mass destruction.

To the UK's shame, Theresa May boycotted the UN's multilateral disarmament negotiations last year, along with Trump and a handful of others. Nonetheless, this strong Treaty was successfully concluded, and now joins other important legal agreements aimed at preventing proliferation, nuclear testing and terrorism.

As with biological and chemical weapons, nuclear weapons have now been banned. Like those other WMD, anyone using nuclear weapons will have to answer for crimes against humanity.

To The Rt.Hon. Theresa May, Prime Minister, 10 Downing Street, London SW1.

I urge you to sign the 2017 Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons on behalf of the UK, and to take immediate steps to implement its obligations.

In view of the appalling humanitarian, environmental and health impacts of nuclear weapons and radiation, which especially harm women and girls, it is vital that you sign the UN Treaty and demonstrate responsible leadership by cancelling Dreadnought submarines and stopping Trident.

By signing the Treaty, you would enhance British and global security, free up resources and enable the UK to create much needed jobs in disarmament and verification.

Nuclear war cannot be won and must never be risked. For the sake of people in Britain and across the world, please join the UN Treaty to prohibit and eliminate these inhumane, abhorrent WMD. Help us to create a more secure world without nuclear weapons.

Signed.....Date.....

Name:

Address:

Women in Black hold vigils every Wednesday between 6-7 pm at the Edith Cavell Statue, opposite the door of the National Portrait Gallery, St.Martin's Place, London, WC2. Our vigils are silent, women-only and if possible we wear black. See our website at www.london.womeninblack.org Contact us at: wibinfo@gn.apc.org
www.facebook.com/womeninblack.london Twitter: @WIB_London
Donations for leaflets gratefully received. If you are a woman and agree with us, then do come and join us.