

To prevent the use of nuclear weapons and the waging of nuclear war we must support and implement all the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation treaties.

Britain should support all nuclear disarmament treaties

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**. But Donald Trump is now trying to trash all the nuclear disarmament and security treaties, from the 1987 Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty that kept Europe safe from nuclear war for over 30 years, to several more recent treaties to reduce nuclear threats and eliminate weapons around the world.

The UN's 2017 Nuclear Ban Treaty creates an important new legal process that requires the total elimination of nuclear arsenals, and makes it illegal to use, threaten to use, develop, test, produce, manufacture, 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.

To Britain's shame and embarrassment, Theresa May boycotted the UN's multilateral disarmament negotiations last year, along with Trump and a handful of others. Nonetheless, the United Nations successfully concluded this nuclear ban Treaty, which must be upheld and implemented now, along with the other important legal agreements aimed at preventing WMD testing, terrorism and use.

Nuclear weapons endanger us all. Please write to the Prime Minister and urge him to cancel Trident, join the UN Nuclear Ban Treaty and fully implement all nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation agreements. Demand an end to nuclear threats, and devote British resources to stop the US, Russia and other nuclear-armed governments risking our lives with their nuclear policies and rivalries.

Crimes against humanity

Nuclear weapons, like biological and chemical weapons, have been banned because they create unacceptable human suffering and environmental harm. These treaties mean that International law now enshrines our moral understanding that no-one has the right to possess or use such inhumane weapons. Threatening or using such weapons means facing charges of crimes against humanity.

To The 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 and promote full nuclear disarmament in the world.

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 demonstrate responsible leadership by cancelling Dreadnought submarines and ending the UK's Trident nuclear programme.

By signing the UN Nuclear Prohibition Treaty, you would enhance British and global security. Taking this step would enhance Britain's role and influence for peace and security, and create much needed jobs in disarmament and verification. You would also free up resources to tackle urgent security threats such as climate destruction, violence against women and girls, and the deadly arms trade.

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.