



Remember Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Abolish Nuclear Weapons

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

78 years after nuclear bombs were first used on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, nuclear weapons still threaten the world. The war between Russia and Ukraine reminds us of the dangers of nuclear war. NATO and Russia between them possess 12,000 nuclear weapons.

However, great progress has been made to abolish nuclear weapons. In 2021, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons entered into force. It prohibits nations who have signed the treaty from developing, testing, producing, manufacturing, transferring, possessing, stockpiling, using or threatening to use nuclear weapons, or allowing nuclear weapons to be stationed on their territory. It also prohibits them from assisting, encouraging or inducing anyone to engage in any of these activities. To date there are 93 signatories and 70 states parties to the Treaty.

Sadly, the UK government has consistently voted against the Treaty at UN General Assembly gatherings and has refused to sign the Treaty. It supports the replacement of Trident, the UK's own nuclear weapon system. The Labour leader has said he would match the Tory aim of raising defence spending to 2.5% of GDP and stated that he believes in the nuclear deterrent and would be prepared to press the button.

Nuclear weapons endanger people and planet. Please write to the Prime Minister to urge the government to cancel the Trident nuclear weapon programme, join the UN Nuclear Ban Treaty and fully implement all nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation agreements which we are a part of. Demand an end to nuclear threats, and devote British resources to stop the US, NATO and Russia and other nuclear states risking our lives with their nuclear policies and rivalries.

To the Prime Minister, 10 Downing Street, London SW1

I urge you to think again and sign the 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 ending the UK's Trident nuclear programme.

By signing the UN Nuclear Prohibition Treaty, you would enhance global security at this volatile time. 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 resources to tackle urgent security threats such as climate and biodiversity 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 National Portrait Gallery, St.Martin's Place, London WC2. Our vigils are silent, women-only and if possible we wear black. We welcome all women who support our call for an end to militarism and war.

Contact us: *Twitter @WIB_London* *FB @womeninblack.london* <http://london.womeninblack.org/>



Donations for leaflets most welcome (Aug 2024)