

# **Joint Interfaith Statement on the Entry into Force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons**

*22 January 2021*

As a wide coalition of faith-based communities from around the world, we speak with one voice to reject the existential threat to humanity that nuclear weapons pose. We wholeheartedly welcome the entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), the first international treaty to comprehensively ban nuclear weapons. The Treaty addresses the disproportionate impact of nuclear weapons on women and indigenous peoples and the importance of victim assistance and healing environmental harms in a groundbreaking way. We congratulate, celebrate and appreciate the countries that have ratified and signed this important Treaty, as well as all who have worked for nuclear disarmament and abolition for many decades.

As people of faith, we believe that the possession, development and threat to use nuclear weapons is immoral. There are no safe hands for these weapons. The accidental or deliberate detonation of a nuclear weapon would cause severe, long-lasting and far-reaching harm on all aspects of our lives and our environment throughout the world. Further, these technologies are part of structures and systems that bring about great suffering and destruction. We commit, therefore, to the ethical and strategic necessity of working together for economic and social justice, right relationship with the Earth, and accountability and restoration where there is violence and harm. We rejoice at the possibilities of a new world that this Treaty ushers in. At a time when the world desperately needs fresh hope, the TPNW inspires us to continue to work to fully eliminate the threat of nuclear weapons, and to create conditions for peace, justice, and well-being.

We recognize the legacy of the global hibakusha, survivors whose courage and perseverance serve as our inspiration, guidance, and moral foundation in the quest for a world free from nuclear weapons. This quest will continue until all nuclear weapons are eliminated from our planet. We invite everyone, especially those in communities of faith, to join us in this work for peace, justice, and respect for life—against which nuclear weapons stand in complete opposition—in ways that are meaningful and authentic to your traditions and how you are inspired to participate. We urge all States to join the growing community of States which have rejected nuclear weapons and to sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, or work toward that end by joining the First Meeting of the States Parties planned to take place this year.

At this historic moment, we must act decisively to strengthen the power of the TPNW upon its entry into force, and to work for peace, cooperation, and common security.

## **Endorsing Organizations**

Act Church of Sweden  
All Africa Conference of Churches  
The All Souls Nuclear Disarmament Task Force  
Alliance of Baptists  
American Baptist Churches, USA  
American Friends Service Committee  
Arkport Catholic Worker  
Baltimore Nonviolence Center  
Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America  
Bruderhof  
The Buddhist Council of New York  
Casa Generalizia della Societa del Sacro Cuore  
Casa Maria Catholic Worker  
Catholic Committee of Appalachia  
Charter for Compassion  
Christian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament  
Christian Conference of Asia  
Christian Council of Sweden  
Christians for Peace Newcastle Australia  
Church and Peace  
Church Council of Greater Seattle  
Church of Norway Council on Ecumenical and International Relations  
The Church of Scotland  
Church of Sweden Archbishop Emeritus  
Church of Sweden Youth  
Columban Center for Advocacy and Outreach  
Comboni Missionary Sisters  
Comisión de Ecología y Cuidado de la Creación de la Diócesis de Lurín, Lima Perú  
Comisión General Justicia y Paz  
Community of Christ  
Community of Christ - British Isles  
Congregation de NDC du Bon Pasteur à Madagascar  
Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd (Global)  
Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, Latin America and the Caribbean  
Congregation of Our Lady of the Good Shepherd, US Provinces  
Congregation of St. Joseph  
Congregation of the Mission  
Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace  
Congregations of St. Joseph

Council of Churches in the Netherlands  
Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul USA  
Disciples Peace Fellowship  
Dominican Leadership Conference  
Dominican Sisters of Hope  
Dominican Sisters of Houston  
Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa  
ECAR JUSTICE ET PAIX MADAGASCAR  
Ecumenical Peace Institute  
Episcopal Peace Fellowship  
Fachgruppe Gerechtigkeit, Frieden und Bewahrung der Schöpfung der Evangelisch-  
methodistischen Kirche in Deutschland  
Fellowship of Reconciliation - USA  
Franciscan Peace Center  
Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart  
Friends Committee on National Legislation  
Friends World Committee for Consultation (Quakers)  
Global Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Christ  
Gonzaga Nuclear Peace Club  
Good Shepherd Sisters  
Green Hope Foundation  
Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart  
Heiwa Peace and Reconciliation Foundation of New York  
Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters, JPIC-USA  
House of Peace  
Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Loreto Generalate  
International Academy for Multicultural Cooperation  
International Gurukula Community  
International Presentation Association  
InterReligious Task Force on Central America  
Islamic Society of North America  
Justice and Peace Scotland  
Katarina församling in Svenska kyrkan  
Kvekersamfunnet i Norge/the Religious Society of Friends in Norway  
Lake City Catholic Worker Farm  
Leadership Conference of Women Religious  
Leadership Council of the IHM Sisters  
The London Catholic Worker  
Loretto Community  
Loretto Peace Committee

Martha Justice Ministry  
Mary's House  
Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers  
Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic  
Mennonite World Conference  
Multifaith Voices for Peace & Justice  
National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd  
National Council of Churches  
Nevada Desert Experience  
Newman Hall Non Violent Committee  
North Carolina Council of Churches  
North Shore Coalition for Peace & Justice  
Office of Peace, Justice, and Ecological Integrity/Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth  
On Earth Peace  
The Open Door Community  
Oregon Fellowship of Reconciliation  
Pace e Bene and Campaign Nonviolence  
Pacific Conference of Churches  
Passionists International  
Parliament of the World's Religions  
PAX  
Pax Christi Aotearoa New Zealand  
Pax Christi Castro Valley  
Pax Christi Flanders  
Pax Christi France  
Pax Christi International  
Pax Christi Ireland  
Pax Christi Metro New York  
Pax Christi Northern California  
Pax Christi - Perú  
Pax Christi USA  
Peace Economy Project  
PMU  
Pooha-Bah Traditional Native American Healing Center  
Precious Blood Missionaries Kansas City Province  
Presbyterian Church (USA)  
Presbyterian Peace Fellowship  
Religious Genootschap der Vrienden (Quakers)  
The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Sweden  
Saint Peter Claver Catholic Worker

School Sisters of Notre Dame  
School Sisters of Notre Dame, Central Pacific Province  
Sisters of Bon Secours, USA  
Sisters of Charity Federation  
Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Congregational Leadership  
Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Western Province Leadership  
Sisters of Charity of Our Lady of Mercy  
Sisters of Mercy of the Americas Justice Team  
Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur  
Sisters of Saint Anne, St. Marie Province  
Sisters of Saint Francis  
Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi  
Sisters of St. Francis, Clinton, Iowa  
Sisters of St. Francis, Sylvania OH  
Sisters of St. Joseph of Baden, PA  
Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange  
Sisters of the Holy Cross  
Sisters of the Humility of Mary  
Sisters of the Presentation, Dubuque, IA  
Sisters, Home Visitors of Mary  
Social Justice Office Srs of St. Joseph-TOSF  
Soka Gakkai International  
SS. Francis and Therese Catholic Worker  
Swedish Fellowship of Reconciliation  
Thomas Berry Forum for Ecological Dialogue at Iona College  
Tikkun/Network of Spiritual Progressives  
United Church of Christ, Justice and Witness Ministries  
The United Methodist Church - General Board of Church and Society  
The United Reformed Church, United Kingdom  
United Religions Initiative  
The Uniting Church in Sweden / Equmeniakyrkan  
Vereniging Kerk en Vrede  
Veterans for Peace, Ch. 45  
Viva House, Baltimore Catholic Worker  
VIVAT International  
Voices for a World Free of Nuclear Weapons  
World Council of Churches  
World Yoga Community