



Build Peace & Nuclear Abolition Protect our Climate



Prevent Mass Destruction

XR Peace mobilising for the Big One on April 21-24

London 2023 – Unite to Survive

Rebecca Johnson

Greenham+Aldermaston Women for Climate Protection

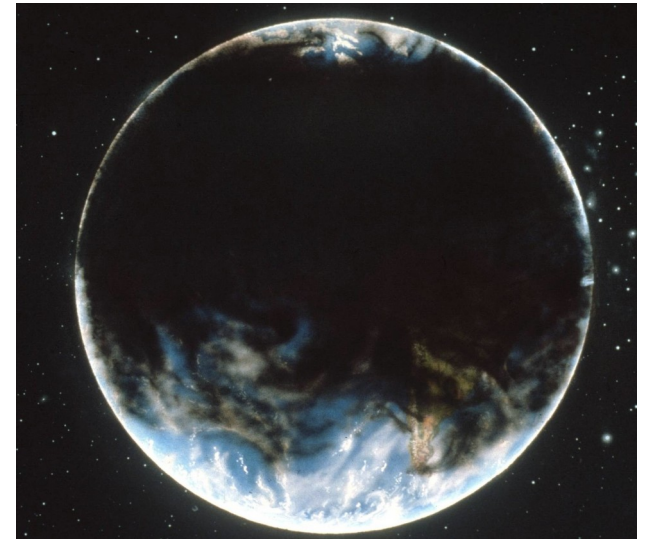
<https://xrpeace.org/>

Two routes to extinction: nuclear war and climate destruction



Through **fossil-fuelled greed** and **planetary overheating** we are being pushed into wars and driven to mass destruction... Nuclear War, Violent Winter, hunger and starvation...

... Humanity faces **extinction** if we do not pull back from the insane **military-industrial growth and dominance** of our lives and economies.



Graphic of Earth entombed by radioactive dustclouds after nuclear use (source IPPNW)

TO SAVE OUR LIVES & PLANET

STOP WARS & PROFITEERS

US-UK invasion of Iraq in 2003 caused:

- ➔ 655,000 Iraqi deaths in first 3 years
- ➔ Increases in conflict & insecurity across Middle East
- ➔ Destruction of Iraqi culture and environment
- ➔ More extremism, attacks and sex-based violence

Source Declassified UK

Consortium News Volume 28, Number 81 (March 23, 2023)

STOP WARS & PROFITEERS

TO SAVE OUR LIVES & PLANET

BP returned to Iraq in 2009 after a 35-year absence and was awarded a significant interest in the country's largest oil field near British-occupied Basra

- BP has pumped 262 million barrels of Iraqi oil since 2011
- Sir John Sawers, the UK's first special representative to Iraq after invasion, has banked £1.1m since joining BP's board in 2015
- Other UK oil "supermajor", Shell, also won Iraq contract in 2009 as lead operator developing "super-giant" Majnoon oil field

Source: Declassified UK, Consortium News 23.3.23

UK military contributions to climate destruction

According to Scientists for Global Responsibility (SGR):

➔ UK's 'production-based' military-industrial Greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) in 2018 were 6.5 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) – that is greater than the “direct CO₂ emissions of about 60 nations”

➔ If calculating GHG emissions of UK military spending in 2018 (the life-cycle 'consumption-based' approach), UK contributed approx 11 million tonnes CO₂ equivalent – this is the UK's military carbon 'bootprint' – comparable to annual average mileage of 6 million cars.
HIGHER MILITARY SPENDING MEANS HIGHER CLIMATE DAMAGE

➔ BAE Systems emissions in Britain \approx 30% of UK arms industry totals.

These figures do not include GCG EMISSIONS FROM USE OF WEAPONS IN CONFLICT, which depend on types and quantity of weaponry and targets, with high risks of error and uncertainty

Military operations and environmental destruction

- ➔ **Military spending is highly carbon intensive**
- ➔ **EVEN BEFORE BOMBS DROP** – our environment is being poisoned, harmed and put at risk by the nuclear fuel cycle, weapons production, operations + transports
- ➔ **War and military operations massively increase GCG and toxic emissions due to destruction and burning of buildings, forests, fields, soil + ecosystems**
- ➔ Carbon emissions of one military flight by F35 fighter jet/bomber (nuclear capable) = approx 28 tonnes of CO₂e ➔ the equivalent of one average UK-dwelling adult's emissions over 2 years.
- ➔ US Iraq war data showed military equipment was used 6 - 10 times 'peace-time' rate ➔ 6-10 more carbon emissions.
- ➔ **Military spending steals necessary resources away from providing health, education, social needs, and tackling climate chaos.**

(source: Scientists for Global Responsibility)

Climate + environmental DESTRUCTION are HIGH SECURITY RISKS – globally, nationally, locally

ROOT CAUSES The major climate destroyers in the 21st century are the military-industrial-nuclear governments.

These **military-industrial perpetrators** are also major contributors in undermining human rights, **escalating regional conflicts**, and arming and driving wars for territory and control over resources, including fossil fuels.

ALL WARS CAUSE HUMAN MISERY and CLIMATE DESTRUCTION ... AND FURTHER WARS

Just 1.5 deg climate heating greatly exacerbates **extreme weather impacts** (droughts, floods...), **food scarcity**, displacement and homelessness.

HUMANITY IS NOW FACING 3 – 5 degree HEATING

Building Peace & Climate Justice Require Challenging Power Structures

Militarism begins with cultures that equate masculinity with force, control, violence and power over others.

These cultures generally subjugate and oppress women and girls, limiting female access to education, freedom and human rights.

Such cultures also make men and boys vulnerable to cultures of violence militarized as well as women and girls become

Whether in wars between nations, intra-state conflicts, rural or urban violence, large numbers of young men die at the hands of other men.

Male on male violence, usually amplified by some kind of weapon, is the main killer of young men in many cultures – where both killer and killed are armed combatants.

THE LARGER THE MILITARY... THE BIGGER THE WARS

Big military-industrial establishments fund, fuel and profit from arming wars around the world

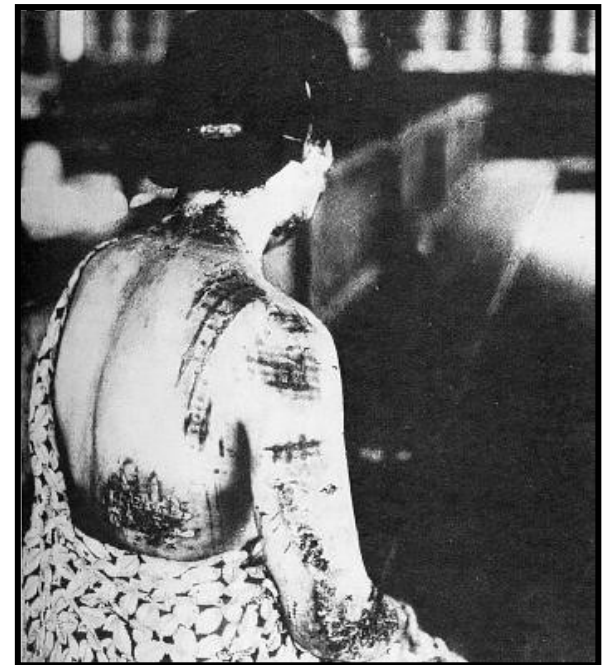
FOLLOW THE MONEY

**Beware the power of MIBAP warmongers
Military-Industrial-Bureaucratic-Academic-Political**

What do nuclear weapons mean for nuclear-armed leaders?

**→ status, power, domestic control, impunity,
power projection, freedom of action to launch wars...**

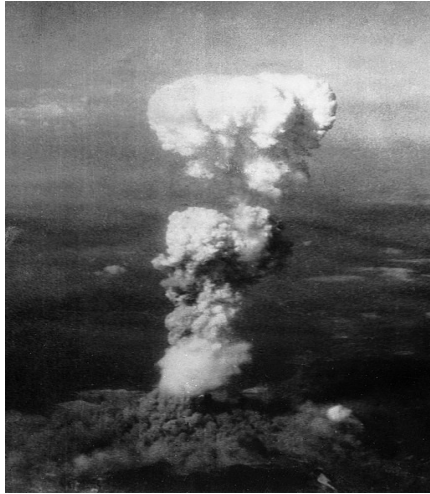
WHERE DOES THIS END?
Russia, United States, UK, France, China, India,
Pakistan, Israel, North Korea
THE 9 nuclear-armed countries (7 NATO) deploy
over 13,000 nuclear weapons,
costing over \$100 billion per year
WHAT FOR ?



What the presence of nuclear weapons in 'conventional conflicts' means for the rest of us.

- ➔ The presence of nuclear weapons in war zones or times of crisis means **shortened decision times**, with heightened risks of mistakes, **miscalculations**, proliferation and nuclear war
- ➔ Any possessor of nuclear weapons can escalate a war into nuclear war, with devastating consequences
- ➔ No 'tactical' nuke exists - Regardless of size, any nuclear attack would be **strategic in intent** with horrific and inhumane impacts
- ➔ Nuclear bombs turn incinerated cities **into ash clouds** that can entomb the planet, causing **freezing temperatures** & **nuclear winter**
- ➔ **Global famine and billions of deaths** could be caused by less than 1% of today's 13,000 nuclear weapons – or just the 40 bombs carried on one UK nuclear submarine armed with Trident

**Mushroom cloud,
minutes after first
atomic bomb is used**



**Smoke and dust plume
grows into big
pyrocumulonimbus
cloud more than 3
hours after 'Little Boy'
uranium bomb attack
over Hiroshima, 6
August 1945**



**August 1945
When WAR
led to
NUCLEAR WAR**



**After the 'Fat Man' plutonium
bomb explodes on Nagasaki,
9 August 1945**

What happens when nuclear weapons explode?

● Blast

- direct
- Indirect - percussive

● Heat/flash

- Burns, blindness
- fires, massive firestorms

● Radiation

- Initial
 - Direct
 - Induction of radioactivity
- Fallout
 - Local (mostly external)
 - Intermediate (mostly external)
 - Global (mostly internal)

● Electromagnetic pulse

- communication breakdown

● Environmental effects

- on Biota (living things)
- on Climate and Agriculture

● Complex synergistic effects

> blast lethal area of 150 km² would have fire conflagration area 350 km²

> Radiation would weaken immune systems

> Persistent high mortality years later, genetic effects harming future generations

>NUCLEAR WINTER

Source: IPPNW

...AND WHAT DO NUCLEAR WEAPONS MEAN FOR HUMANITY?

"The extermination of biological diversity and of indigenous cultures that know how to live in peace with Mother Earth is part of one extinction, one interconnected war against life."



Ecocide and genocide are one indivisible process, and they began with the idea of the colonization of the Earth as the 'civilizing mission' of a 'superior race'."

Vandana Shiva, Foreword to *This is not a drill*, Extinction Rebellion (XR) Handbook, 2019

Human Security Imperative to ban and eliminate nuclear weapons:

"Cognizant that the catastrophic consequences of nuclear weapons cannot be adequately addressed, transcend national borders, pose grave implications for human survival, the environment, socioeconomic development, the global economy, food security and the health of current and future generations, and have a disproportionate impact on women and girls, including as a result of ionizing radiation..."

Preambular paragraph 4, Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons,
<https://undocs.org/A/CONF.229/2017/8>]

The UN TREATY ON THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS (TPNW aka Nuclear Ban Treaty)

was adopted on 7 July 2017 after UN multilateral negotiations

with the purpose of preventing nuclear use
by banning and eliminating nuclear weapons





The UN Nuclear Ban Treaty (TPNW) entered into international legal force on 22 January 2021

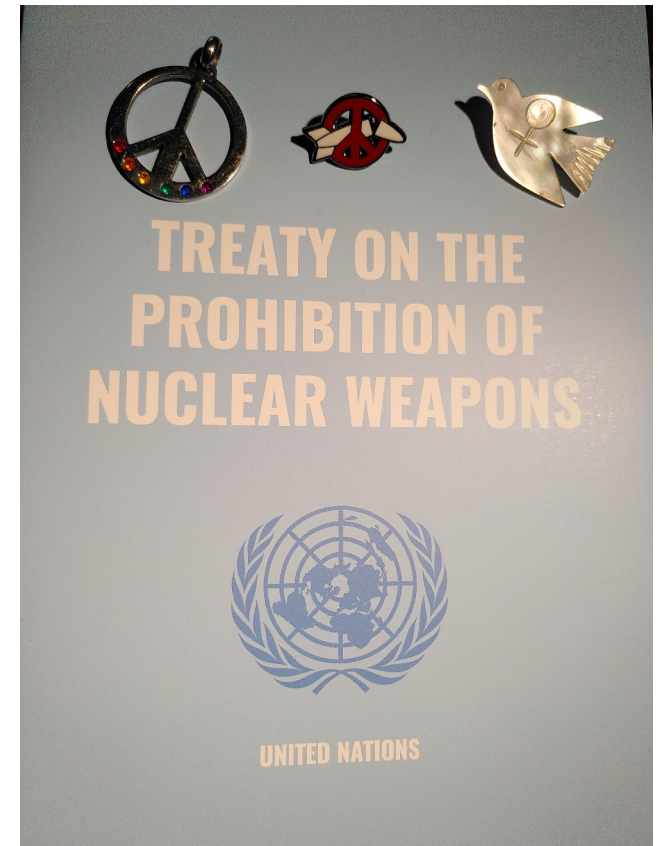
**92 Signatories
68 States Parties
(as at 31.3.2023)**

**Setsuko Thurlow,
Hiroshima Hibakusha (aged 13 in
August 1945), speaking for ICAN
during the 2017 negotiations in the
UN General Assembly**



TPNW Toolbox for humanitarian disarmament

As well as establishing obligations and responsibilities for States that join the Treaty, the TPNW's prohibitions and provisions apply to non-state entities and provide a more effective disarmament toolbox for people all over the world, in the nuclear-armed and nuclear-free countries, to exert ethical, financial, political, normative, humanitarian and practical pressures.



Framing TPNW obligations to implement nuclear disarmament, note these key parts of the TPNW preamble:

- Catastrophic **humanitarian consequences** of nuclear use and war
- The experience, rights and needs of **survivors** of nuclear use, testing (and production)
- Disproportionate impacts on **women, girls and indigenous peoples**
- Recognising women's rights and abilities and ensuring equal participation to attain **nuclear disarmament, sustainable peace and security**
- Role of **international organisations and civil society**
- **Peace, human security and disarmament education**

Article 1 Prohibitions

1. Each State Party undertakes never under any circumstances to:

(a) Develop, test, produce, manufacture, otherwise acquire, possess or stockpile nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices;

(b) Transfer to any recipient whatsoever nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices or control over such weapons or explosive devices directly or indirectly;



Article 1 Prohibitions [continued]

- (c) Receive the transfer of or control over nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices directly or indirectly;
- (d) Use or threaten to use nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices;
- (e) Assist, encourage or induce, in any way, anyone to engage in any activity prohibited to a State Party under this Treaty;
- (f) Seek or receive any assistance, in any way, from anyone to engage in any activity prohibited to a State Party under this Treaty;
- (g) Allow any stationing, installation or deployment of any nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices in its territory or at any place under its jurisdiction or control.

TPNW Articles 2-5: Towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons

- a) **Sign and eliminate** by negotiating with TPNW states parties a timetable, requirements and conditions for elimination; or
- b) **Eliminate and then join** (as S Africa 1992)
 - => remove weapons from operational deployment
 - => implement safeguards requirements (as S Africa did)

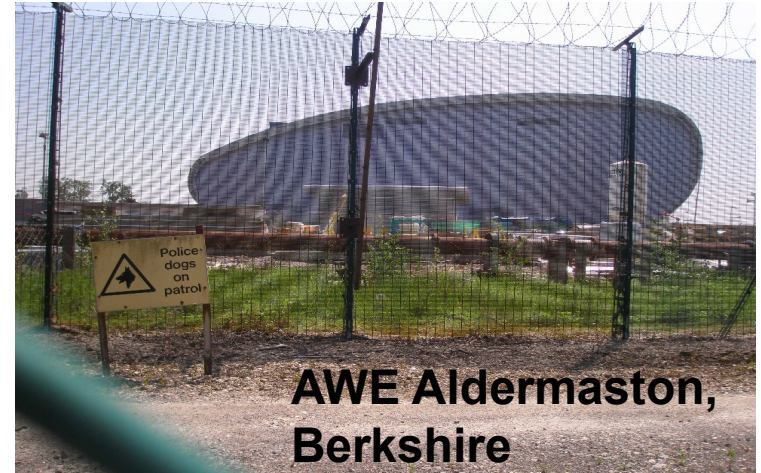
Meetings of states parties and responsibilities
=> decide/establish **rules and institutions**, such as competent international authority, verification and enforcement mechanisms, reviews etc...

UK TRIDENT PROGRAMME

4 more nuclear-armed subs => £205 billions for 30 yrs



**Nuclear warheads storage
Coulport, Scotland**



**AWE Aldermaston,
Berkshire**

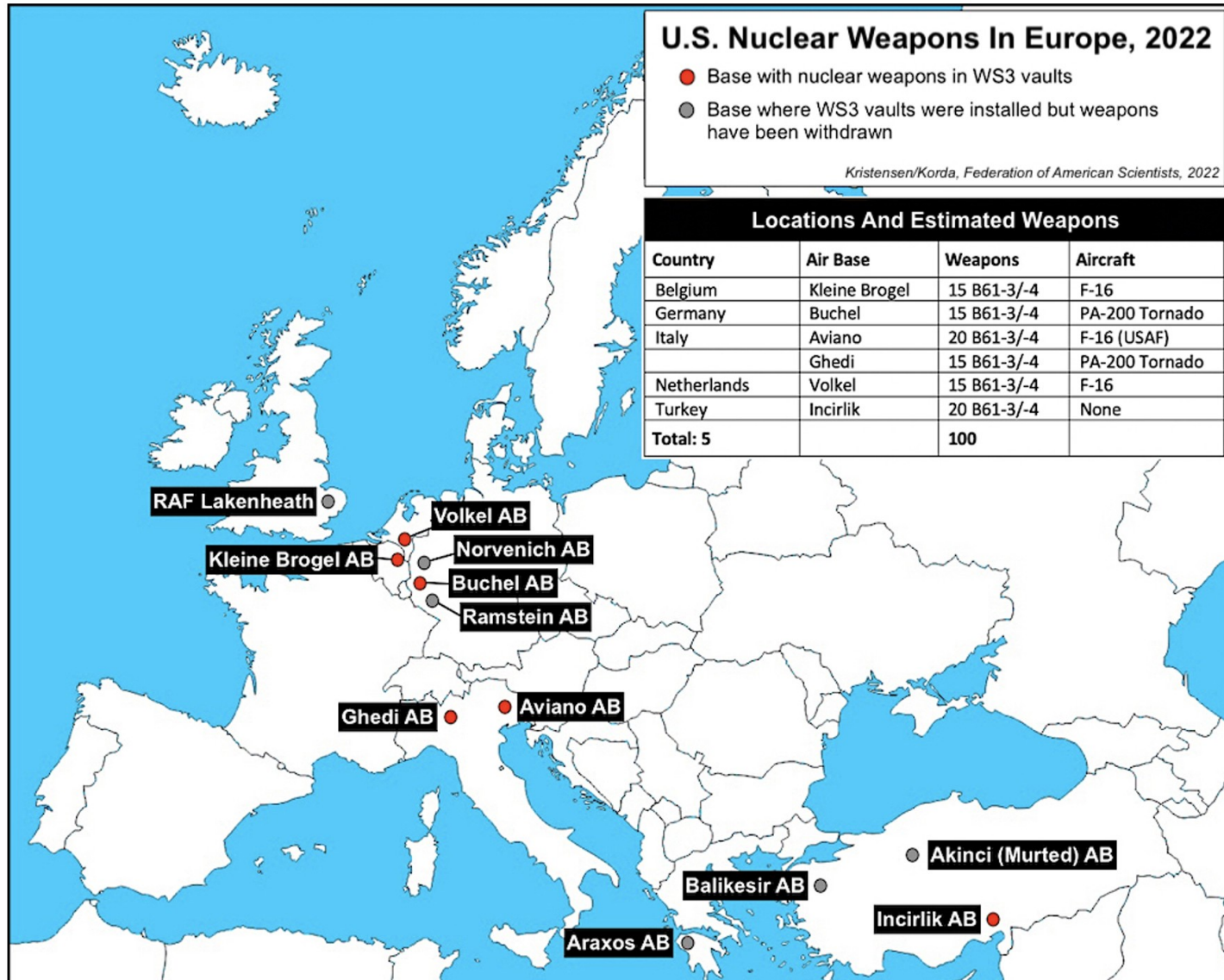
**Nuclear submarines
at Faslane, Scotland**



**Nuclear warhead convoy on M40
fm AWE Burghfield (Berks)
to Coulport in Scotland**



NATO nuclear deployments in Europe



Source Kristensen FAS

What is known about new bombers and plans for Lakenheath?

- ➔ Lakenheath is preparing to be first US/RAF Airforce base in Europe with nuclear-capable F35A Lightning bombers.
- ➔ US DoD FY2023 budget docs showed UK added to Belgium, Germany, Italy, Netherlands and Turkey, in \$384 million for NATO infrastructure investment to upgrade 'special' (ie nuclear) weapons storage in 'secure sites and facilities'.
- ➔ According UK to US budget surprised FAS analysts who tracked removal of US B61 air-dropped nuclear bombs from Lakenheath in 2000 (where previously stored in 33 underground vaults)
(Hans Kristensen, Federation of American Scientists (FAS, April 2022))

RAF/USAF Lakenheath



Source NIS

Lakenheath updates so far

- ➔ 24 F35A bombers are scheduled for the 495th Fighter Squadron of USAF 48th Fighter Wing at Lakenheath. This predates the Russian-Ukraine war.
 - ➔ No B61 bombs in Lakenheath yet (storage upgrades not completed). Could be B61-12 (newest B61 version – other NATO in Europe have approx 100 B61-3 + 4, variable yield 50-170 kt)
 - ➔ Estimates from satellites suggest 6 (-12?) F35A bombers may be at Lakenheath.
 - ➔ The F35A bombers not explicitly involved in Steadfast Noon NATO exercises, but Lakenheath F15E bombers were.
- (Hans Kristensen, FAS (Federation of American Scientists April 2022 & NIS 2022)

TPNW Article 6: positive obligations on victim assistance and environmental remediation

The TPNW is the first nuclear treaty to put victim assistance and environmental remediation into its obligations

Article 6 requires states that have been affected by the use or testing of nuclear weapons to **assist the survivors**, recognising the importance of 'age- and gender-sensitive assistance, without discrimination, including medical care, rehabilitation and psychological support'.

Article 6 also addresses **environmental remediation**, and requires that states parties that have been contaminated by nuclear testing or use must take "necessary and appropriate measures" to remediate – i.e. clean up and restore – the environment.



21 UK nuclear tests exploded in the PACIFIC

24 more nuclear tests on WESTERN SHOSHONE Land

The UK conducted 21 'atmospheric' nuclear explosive tests that contaminated parts of Australia and Pacific islands, including Monte Bello and Kiritimati. Seven major nuclear test explosions were conducted on the Aboriginal lands of Maralinga in South Australia. In addition, Maralinga was used from 1955-63 for 'secret' activities, described as 'minor' or 'safety' tests.



These included exploding warheads below levels of criticality to mimic nuclear accidents that might occur while transporting warheads. The Maralinga tests caused a wide dispersal of plutonium and other radioactive and toxic materials, which heavily contaminated land, water and communities in Maralinga.



Sue Coleman-Haseldine
Kokotha downwinder Maralinga
Testifying to UN GA 2017

TPNW Article 7: International Cooperation and Assistance

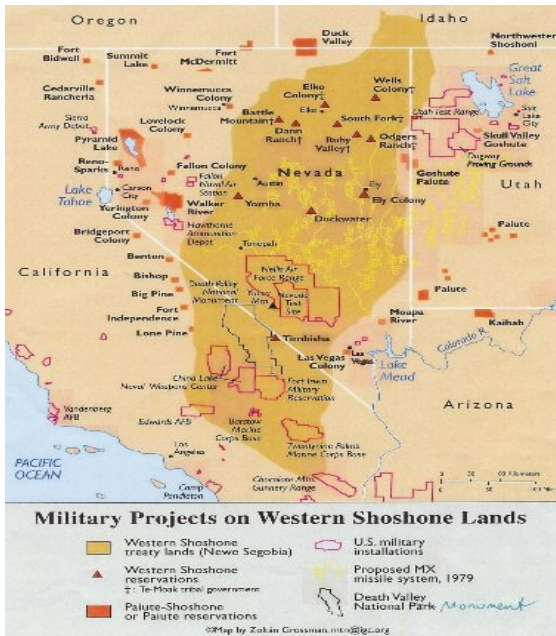
Article 7 enshrines the **right to seek and receive assistance** from others, plus

➔ **legal obligation on states parties that used or tested nuclear weapons/devices to provide 'adequate assistance' to take forward assisting victims and remediating affected environments**

➔ **legal obligation on all states parties to cooperate with each other in facilitating the implementation of the TPNW.**

Assistance may be technical, material, humanitarian and financial, and shall be provided by states parties 'in a position to do so', bilaterally and/or through the UN system and/or various international organisations or NGOs.

900 US + UK nuclear tests on Western Shoshone land & nuclear dumping at sacred Yucca mountain



“We need environmental regulations to protect our already vulnerable people. We need collaborative baseline health assessments of radiation exposure. We need health registries, surveillance and monitoring over time...”



Ian Zabarte, Western Shoshone Principal Man, 2022

The Native Community Action Council in Nevada maintains the Western Shoshone Nation's traditions and highlights their land, treaty, environmental and social justice demands. <https://www.nativecommunityactioncouncil.org/>

The University of Nevada in Reno maintains a repository dedicated to maintain the Shoshone tradition of respect for life and for living in harmony with Mother Earth. <https://www.unr.edu/nevada-today/news/2021/libraries-western-shoshone-mining-exhibit>

Additional Legal Issues

- The TPNW outlaws nuclear weapons under International Law and creates political-normative pressures
- But as with all treaties, States that do not sign are not legally bound to comply (but normative pressures build over time, increasing incentives to sign)

TPNW prohibitions and provisions bind all states parties and extend to their citizens and companies via national implementation measures and Article 1.1 (e) **not to “assist, encourage or induce... *anyone* to engage in any activity prohibited to a State Party...”** (This applies to individuals and companies.)



TPNW First Meeting of States Parties (1MSP)

DECISIONS from Vienna, June 2022

1) Declaration on ‘Our Commitment to a World Free of Nuclear Weapons’

2) 50-point Action Plan

3) **Key decisions on:**

→ **10 year deadline** for nuclear weapons destruction

→ **90 day deadline** for ‘host’ countries to remove weapons

→ Establishment of a **Scientific Advisory Group**

→ **Cooperation initiatives** for mutually strengthening the TPNW, the NPT and other relevant agreements (coord by Ireland and Thailand)



TPNW 1MSP also agreed Intersessional Working Groups

- i) Treaty universalisation (coord by Malaysia and South Africa)
- ii) Victim assistance, environmental remediation, international cooperation and assistance (coord by Kazakhstan and Kiribati)
- iii) Implementation of Article 4 on eliminating nuclear arsenals and ensuring competent, effective verification and compliance mechanisms...

The Declaration unequivocally condemned “any and all nuclear threats, whether they be explicit or implicit and irrespective of the circumstances” and affirmed the importance of further delegitimising nuclear weapons, implementing the TPNW, and **“building a robust global peremptory norm against them”**.

Entry into force → Implementing Starts Now

- **Use TPNW** to increase pressures on nuclear armed and nuclear endorsing states to eliminate NWs from bases and policies and build non-nuclear security, peace and sustainable climate
- **Build on different initiatives with elected and civic entities** to adopt motions to support the TPNW and then to IMPLEMENT
- Increase practical engagement with **parliamentarians**, not just to sign ICAN pledges for the TPNW but to push for Treaty up-take and implementation at all levels
- Persuade **banks, universities, companies, religious funds, unions** etc... to divest and distance themselves from nuclear weapons production, funding e.g. Don't bank on the Bomb & **Investing in Change** (UK Nuclear Weapons Financing Research Group, Churches Together)



Use the TPNW to push for disarmament

- The TPNW makes nuclear weapons illegal under International Humanitarian Law
- TPNW prohibitions and provisions bind all states parties and extend to citizens, militaries, companies + financial institutions
- Nuclear armed leaders and governments that don't join will face increasing restrictions + be held accountable
- Mandates victim assistance and environmental remediation, as well as international assistance and cooperation
- No more excuses – **any use of nuclear weapons is a war crime and crime against all humanity**

BANNED BECAUSE:

- Indiscriminate mass annihilation, mostly civilian
- Shortened decision time, heightened risk of mistakes leading to nuclear war
- Large numbers of lives incinerated instantly near the targets – cities – massive environmental damage
- Radiation as a silent contaminator, torturer and killer, damaging genes and future generations,
- Environmental catastrophe + nuclear winter and famine after multiple NW use, climate disruption, starvation

Campaign for NW elimination

- **Use TPNW** to increase pressures on nuclear armed and nuclear endorsing states to eliminate NWs from bases and policies and build non-nuclear security, peace and sustainable climate
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WHAT CAN WE DO HERE?

- ➔ Actively engage in diplomacy to end all wars, mediate conflicts, reduce all countries' military expenditures, and reconfigure economies towards sustainable security, development and shared use of resources to mitigate emissions and help the most vulnerable countries to adapt to the impacts of climate change;
- ➔ End funding and support for arms production & trade;
- ➔ Decarbonise military-industrial activities;
- ➔ Address the human security impacts arising from weapons, wars and climate-related disasters and conflicts
- ➔ End UK financial, governmental and military support for fossil fuel and nuclear industries.

LOOKING FORWARD – NEED to BUILD CLIMATE JUSTICE with PEACE and SECURITY

- Prevent nuclear use and tackle climate chaos – using international law and activism by civil society + govts
- Prioritise cooperative humanitarian and environmental security for all (not militarised ‘national defence’)
- Make deep cuts in production, trade and use of all explosive weapons pending prohibition + elimination
- Prevent conflicts escalating into humanitarian catastrophes
- Teach human security, environmental protection and peace studies
- Redirect resources: from military-industrial ‘growth’ to real, sustainable human and planetary needs

Climate Justice, Peace and Security: Practical steps forward

- ➔ End funding and support for arms production & trade;
- ➔ **Decarbonise military-industrial activities**
- ➔ Address the human security impacts arising from climate-related disasters and conflicts in Britain and abroad
- ➔ **End UK financial, governmental and military support for fossil fuel and nuclear industries**
- ➔ Active engagement in multilateral efforts at the UN and European levels to reduce all countries' military expenditures, and reconfigure economies towards sustainable security, development and shared use of resources to mitigate emissions and help the most vulnerable countries to adapt to the impacts of climate change

Women, Peace & Security Priorities

- Put **love, caring, human security and environmental respect** at the centre of thought and action **at all levels of decision-making**
- **Recognise and prevent the real and foreseeable impacts** of weapons and policies
- **Prioritise sustainability**, people, planet, diversity, climate, biodiversity, future, hopes and fears...
- **Support and value the needs and security** of vulnerable people 'victimised' by patriarchal, military-industrial, colonial-extractivist systems
- **Uphold human security** and ethical choices to refuse to weaponise conflicts and to share the world and its resources
- Recognise militarism as systemic problem in many countries, but **do not privilege or prioritise the military-industrial interests** of producers and countries that make, deploy and use the weapons

Highlight Broader consequences of militarism in our lives and societies

- **Increased violence against women and children at all levels**
- **Undermines development, education, employment**
- **Injury, trauma, long term disabilities**
- **Displacement, economic impacts, homelessness and refugees**
- **Undermines mental health and confidence**
- **Burdens health and community services**
- **Erodes democracy and human rights**
- **Legitimises use of force at all levels – and increases all patriarchal violence and abuse**

**JOIN US AT PARLIAMENT SQUARE
and the MoD on 21 – 24 APRIL**



**FOR FURTHER INFO:
<https://xrpeace.org/>**

EXTINCTION REBELLION

UNITE TO SURVIVE (London April 2023)

Friday 21 Day 1 People's Picket

Gather Parliament Sq surround government departments in the area, flooding Westminster in a wave of flags and banners.

Saturday 22 Day 2 Earth Day

March for nature, biodiversity and the planet. This will be a colourful, creative and family-friendly day.



extinction
rebellion

PEACE

EXTINCTION REBELLION

Use your Voice

Sunday 23 – The London Marathon will pass by Parliament Square, providing an exciting opportunity to engage with the crowds of spectators. This will be a great day for outreach, and internal communication and deliberation.



Monday 24 – Parliament returns. Contact your MP in advance and arrange a meeting during Monday. We want to connect with our elected representatives and deliver the people's demands for climate action now

Some resources, references and links

- ✓ International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons <https://www.icanw.org/>
- ✓ Scientists for Global Responsibility (SGR) <https://www.sgr.org.uk/>
- ✓ Vandana Shiva books on practical ecofeminist, anti-colonialist actions to save Mother Earth <https://www.thriftbooks.com/a/vandana-shiva/220873/>
- ✓ Western Shoshone info: <https://www.nativecommunityactioncouncil.org/>
- ✓ CNDuk <https://cnduk.org/> CND Cymru <https://www.cndcymru.org/en/>
- ✓ International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War <https://www.ippnw.org/>
- ✓ LABRATS (test ban veterans) <https://www.labrats.international/>
- ✓ SIPRI Yearbook 2022: Trends in world military expenditure https://www.sipri.org/sites/default/files/2022-06/yb22_summary_en_v2_0.pdf
- ✓ NIS Nuclear Information Service @nuclearinfo <https://www.nuclearinfo.org>
- ✓ Rebecca Johnson's report on TPNW and UK nuclear policies, available on SCND website <https://www.banthebomb.org/> at:
<https://www.nuclearban.scot/nuclear-weapons-are-banned-what-does-this-mean-for-britain-report-by-dr-rebecca-johnson-published/>
- ✓ XR Peace <https://xrpeace.org/>



NUCLEAR WEAPONS ARE BANNED! WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR BRITAIN?

Rebecca Eleanor Johnson

Available via SCND + CND website

<https://www.nuclearban.scot/nuclear-weapons-are-banned-what-does-this-mean-for-britain-report-by-dr-rebecca-johnson-published/>