The 70th anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki on 6 and 9 August is a significant moment for our campaign and the work to ban and eliminate nuclear weapons. It will be a great opportunity to raise awareness on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons and the need to negotiate a treaty to prohibit and eliminate nuclear weapons.

The Chair’s summary of the Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons in Nayarit indicated the 70th anniversary as the appropriate milestone to negotiate such a treaty.

It is therefore important that ICAN’s partner organisations make this a key date in our calendar and organize events and actions all over the world.

Use the material and suggestions below to raise awareness on the need to negotiate a treaty banning nuclear weapons. Do not hesitate to contact us, should you have any question.

We have sent you a list of activities that you can develop to commemorate the anniversary. You can find the list here. This kit aims at providing you with additional resources and tips. Should you have any questions don’t hesitate to get in touch. Write to Daniela@icanw.org

We are preparing a media kit that you will be able to translate and send to your contacts. The media kit will also include a Press Release template and quotes that you can use to draft articles and more generally in your media work. The kit will be ready by the end of July.
Table of contents

Page #3 - A tale of two cities: What happened in Hiroshima and Nagasaki on August 6-9, 1945?

Page# 4 - Facts about the use of nuclear weapons

Page# 8 – What you can do

Page# 8 – Social media

Page# 9 – Traditional media

Page# 11 – Parliamentary outreach

Page# 14 – Resources – Photo albums

Page# 15 – Resources – Letter to the editor

Page# 13 – Resources – Tips for a successful event

Page# 15 – Resources – Video testimonies
A tale of two cities: What happened in Hiroshima and Nagasaki on August 6-9, 1945?

On August 6, 1945 the city of Hiroshima was attacked with an atom bomb. 90,000-166,000 people were killed or injured that day. Three days later, on August 9, 1945 a nuclear bomb was detonated on the city of Nagasaki killing or injuring 39,000–80,000 in Nagasaki; roughly half of the deaths in each city occurred on the first day.

Hiroshima

**Bombed on:** 6 August, 1945  
**Exact time:** 8:15AM  
**Name of the bomb:** Little Boy  
**Size of the core:** 64 kg of uranium

Nagasaki

**Bombed on:** 9 August, 1945  
**Exact time:** 11:01AM  
**Name of the bomb:** Fat Man  
**Size of the core:** 6.4 kg of plutonium

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<td><strong>Cause of Death</strong></td>
<td><strong>Percent of Total</strong></td>
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<td>Burns</td>
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<td>Falling debris</td>
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<td>Burns</td>
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<td>Other</td>
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(source: atomicarchives)
Facts about the use of nuclear weapons

Why the cities were chosen

Hiroshima was chosen as the primary target since it had remained largely untouched by bombing raids, and the bomb's effects could be clearly measured. While President Truman had hoped for a purely military target, some advisers believed that bombing an urban area might break the fighting will of the Japanese people. Hiroshima was a major port and a military headquarters, and therefore a strategic target. Also, visual bombing, rather than radar, would be used so that photographs of the damage could be taken. (source: atomicarchives)

Opposition to the use

Before Little Boy was dropped on Hiroshima, Leo Szilard at Met Lab in Chicago tried to stop its use. Ironically, Szilard had led atomic bomb research in 1939, but since the threat of a German bomb was over, he started a petition to President Truman against bombing Japan. With 88 signatures on the petition, Szilard circulated copies in Chicago and Oak Ridge, only to have the petition quashed at Los Alamos by theoretical physicist J. Robert Oppenheimer.

When General Leslie Groves learned of the petition, he polled the Met Lab scientists and learned that only 15 percent wanted the bomb used "in the most effective military manner." While 46 percent voted for "military demonstration in Japan to be followed by a new opportunity for surrender before full use of the weapon is employed," somehow the figures were manipulated to suggest that 87 percent of the Met Lab scientists favored some sort of military use. Ultimately, Groves sat on Szilard's petition and the poll until August 1, and then had them filed away. President Truman never saw them. (source: atomicarchives)
What were the humanitarian consequences?

The first foreign doctor to arrive in Hiroshima after the nuclear bombing was ICRC delegate Dr. Marcel Junod, whose telegrams make chilling reading. On August 1945 he reported:

Visited Hiroshima 30th conditions appalling. City wiped out 80% all hospitals destroyed or seriously damaged inspected 2 emergency hospitals conditions beyond description. Effect of bomb mysteriously serious. Many victims apparently recovering suddenly suffer fatal relapse due to decomposition of while blood cells and other internal injuries now dying in great numbers. Estimated still over 100,000 wounded in emergency hospitals located surroundings sadly lacking bandaging materials medicines.

On 5 April 1950, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) called on all states to take “all steps to reach an agreement on the prohibition of atomic weapons”, noting “such arms will not spare hospitals, prisoners of war camps and civilians.” The inevitable consequence is extermination, pure and simple.

The nuclear bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki demonstrated the devastating multiple and synergistic health effects of nuclear explosions, and the persistent effects of ionizing radiations.

The effects of nuclear weapons are both qualitatively and quantitatively unique. It has been estimated that in World War II, all the explosives utilized by all sides amounted to 3 million tons (Mt) of high explosive equivalent, and that all explosives used in all previous wars amount to something over 10 Mt. In comparison, the largest nuclear test explosion ever conducted, on 30 October 1961 at Novaya Semlya was 50-Mt. The largest warheads currently deployed are on Chinese DF-5A land –based missiles, which are up to 5-Mt in size.

What happens during a nuclear explosion?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0UB7z9fC4u0

Nuclear weapons’ immediate direct effects include blast, heat causing burns and igniting massive fires, initial radiation, and induce radioactivity, radioactive fallout, and electromagnetic pulse.

Typically about half the energy released in a nuclear explosion is in a colossal blast wave, travelling at supersonic speed. Injuries are caused directly by the pressure wave but more indirectly, by objects, which have been turned into missiles, and by people being turned into missiles until they collide with other objects or collapse of structures.
The temperature of a nuclear fireball is in the range of 1 to 100 million °C, and about one third of a nuclear bomb’s energy is released as a pulse of heat travelling at the speed of light, causing both direct (flash) burns to any living thing exposed, and flame burns due to fires ignited over a wide area. Anyone who reflexively glanced at the fireball would be at risk of flash blindness and retinal burns.

After the Marshall Island nuclear explosions, small animals 555km away were found with retinal burns.

During the firestorm produced by a nuclear detonation a rising column of hot gases would stuck in air, creating hurricane force winds and large areas with ground temperatures of 800 °C, consuming all available oxygen. No one could survive in such a conflagration and underground shelters would become crematoria.

Away from the lethal area, the burned victims could be tens or hundreds of thousands. By comparison, the whole of the United States has about 1760 hospital beds dedicated to specialized care of burn victims, 580 of which are typically unoccupied on any day.

An initial pulse of neutrons and gamma rays emitted from a nuclear explosion irradiates all living things directly exposed, and neutrons also induce radioactivity in soil and in buildings and other material that are not normally radioactive.

**The reason why we should prohibit nuclear weapons**

Nuclear weapons have catastrophic humanitarian impacts; for as long as nuclear weapons to exist, humanity remains at risk of experiencing the devastating effects of these weapons. The reductions in global stockpiles that have been made since the end of the Cold War are not enough. 15,400 weapons remain in global stockpiles, thousands of them ready to be launched within minutes. States are not increasing their current stockpiles, but they are spending billions of dollars modernizing them, making them more advanced and lengthening their lifespan.

Nuclear weapons are also not immune to mistakes and errors in technology and human judgment. Dozens of incidents over the past 70 years have left us mere moments away from nuclear destruction, and we’ve narrowly avoided them with sheer luck. But luck eventually runs out, and the only way to avoid a catastrophic disaster is to ban and eliminate nuclear weapons.

Nuclear weapons are the only weapon of mass destruction not yet prohibited under international law. Nuclear weapon states have already committed to nuclear disarmament through the NPT, but they are unwilling to make significant reductions in their stockpiles. The only way to face this intransigence is to ban nuclear weapons, paving the way for their total elimination.
A historic opportunity to ban nuclear weapons

For the majority of time nuclear weapons have existed, states have been engaged in proliferation and arms races, trying to outdo one another with destructive nuclear power. In the last five years, a global movement has grown and is changing the way we think and talk about nuclear weapons. Where nuclear weapons were once thought of as cornerstones of state and international security, humanitarian initiative has brought the catastrophic humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons to the forefront of discussions and revealed how unacceptable and inhumane these weapons truly are. In order to make a nuclear weapon-free world a reality, non-nuclear weapons states have to show courage to forge ahead and negotiation a ban treaty, with or without the nuclear weapon states. The failure of the states parties to the NPT to agree on an outcome document at the 2015 Review Conference only highlights the lack of progress being made in nuclear disarmament, and the unwillingness of nuclear-armed states to consider a new way forward.

Non-nuclear weapons states have joined the humanitarian initiative and taken the lead in working towards a nuclear weapon-free world. The Austrian government issued a pledge to “fill the legal gap for the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons.” In only six months, more than 100 states have committed to the Humanitarian Pledge, and are eager and willing to begin a process to prohibit nuclear weapons.
What you can do

The 70th anniversary is a good opportunity for ICAN to ensure that people outside our usual audience hear about the campaign and understand that there is a process to ban nuclear weapons happening.

Whatever you do for the 70th anniversary, make sure that the people you meet/talk to/reach online are provided with a simple way to find out more, keep engaged, and ultimately become a part of the campaign.

We will revamp our campaign website, www.goodbyenuk.es, to act as a platform where you can direct people that are interested in our campaign and nuclear weapons. The new website will be launched on July 7. It is intended to provide simple facts and arguments for a ban on nuclear weapons for the general public, and makes it easy to sign up to receive more information about the campaign.

We therefore encourage you to include the www.goodbyenuk.es address in all your material, social media updates, videos, presentations and outreach for the 70th Anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Social Media

Paper cranes action

We are organising a public outreach action using a symbol of peace and nuclear disarmament. This action has two target groups, your followers on social media accounts and people in your hometown.

We will ask our campaigners to fold paper cranes, write www.goodbyenuk.es on them and leave them in random public places (e.g. on trains/buses, cafes/restaurants, park benches, bicycle seats, doorways, steps). Hopefully people will find them, and perhaps get curious enough to visit our website.

But we also want you to take a picture of it and then publish it on social media. Check out the photos from ICAN Australia here: https://www.facebook.com/icanw.au/posts/428365794003160. Don't forget to explain to your followers about the 70th anniversary and the need for a ban, and feel free to encourage them to visit www.goodbyenuk.es as well.

If you use the hashtag #goodbyenukes on instagram, the pictures will be automatically sent to our goodbyenukes.tumblr.com page. But you can also upload it on other social media accounts, such as Facebook and Twitter.
If you don’t know how to fold a paper crane, refer to this video for more info:

https://vimeo.com/130843123

If you aren’t so talented at origami, you can instead print some stickers with a paper crane and the website address on it (two templates provided in resources section) and put them up on lamp posts, notice boards and other places all over your home town. Take some photos of this too and share online, using #goodbyenukes.

**Facebook and Twitter**

From August 1 to August 9 replace your cover picture on Facebook with the one commemorating the 70th anniversary (provided in the resources section).

Follow us on Twitter and Facebook and share the material we are going to circulate.

**Traditional Media**

The 70th anniversary provides us with a great opportunity for outreaching to media. The chair’s summary of the Nayarit conference identifies the 70th anniversary as the milestone to launch negotiations for a treaty banning nuclear weapons. The Humanitarian Pledge launched in Vienna to ‘fill the legal gap for the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons received an overwhelming support of 110 states (and growing). We expect that a government will announce a new conference by the 70th anniversary and we expect this to be the beginning of negotiations for a treaty banning nuclear weapons.

The accounts of the Hibakusha and the stories of the bombing must be accompanied by a call for negotiations.

What you should do:

- Reach out to your national/local media, inform them about the 70th anniversary of the bombing and enquire if they are planning to cover the issue. Offer to put them in touch with experts and victims of the bombing. If you want, you can also refer them to Daniela Varano, Campaign Communications Coordinator of ICAN (Daniela@icanw.org) for any further requests.
- Contact bloggers and journalists writing for online outlets to provide them with a short pitch, Include the video we will produce for the 70th anniversary and a link to the goodbyenukes website.
- Op-eds are a powerful way to convey the humanitarian catastrophe that happened in Hiroshima and Nagasaki and our call for a ban on nuclear weapons.
To increase chances of being published, draft or encourage a friendly parliamentarian or the national Red Cross to draft an op-ed to commemorate the anniversary and call for a prohibition of nuclear weapons.

- Submit a letter to the editor of your local or national newspaper (or both). We have provided you with a template in the resources section. Letters to the editor have higher chances of being published if they refer to an article that has appeared on the newspaper. Research before submitting and feel free to modify accordingly.

- We are going to send you a press release on August 4, 2015 that will be about the commemoration of the 70th anniversary. This will give you the time to translate it into your language and circulate it among your contacts. We are also going to produce a media kit; feel free to use it to complement the PR.
ICAN parliamentary outreach

70th anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki

More than 700 parliamentarians around the world have joined ICAN's call for a treaty to outlaw nuclear weapons. Working with elected representatives is an important way for us to ensure that nuclear disarmament is high up the political agenda. Even in countries where the governing party or parties oppose a ban on nuclear weapons, there will likely be some parliamentarians and political parties willing to support our call.

The 70th anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki (6 and 9 August 2015) is a prime opportunity for us to reach out to our elected representatives. This document provides some ideas for campaign actions. Parliamentary systems differ significantly from one country to another, so we have tried to keep these suggestions as general as possible. Feel free to contact us if you want further guidance (info@icanw.org).

1. Resolutions

In many parliaments, members are able to propose resolutions or motions to be adopted. These typically do not have legal weight but are nonetheless an important way to draw attention to a particular issue and demonstrate support for a certain course of action. A resolution could be adopted that:

- Draws attention to the 70th anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki;
- Expresses deep concern at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons;
- Acknowledges the victims and survivors of the use and testing of nuclear weapons;
- Endorses the Humanitarian Pledge to fill the legal gap for the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons;
- Calls on the government to join negotiations in 2015 for a treaty prohibiting nuclear weapons.
2. Questions

Members of parliament are typically able to ask questions of government ministers or departmental officials. Here are some suggested questions for the foreign ministry:

- Does the government support the Humanitarian Pledge to fill the legal gap for the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons?
- Does the government agree that nuclear weapons should be prohibited just as all other weapons of mass destruction have been prohibited?
- What is the government doing to implement Article VI (the disarmament provision) of the NPT, which applies equally to all nations, whether they possess nuclear weapons or not?
- Does the government oppose the use of nuclear weapons under all circumstances?
- What is the government doing to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic bombings?

3. Speeches

A member of parliament could deliver a speech in parliament commemorating the atomic bombings. This could also be published in the parliamentarian’s newsletter to constituents or a local newspaper. Here are some points he or she might consider including:

- More than 100 nations have endorsed the Humanitarian Pledge to stigmatise, prohibit and eliminate nuclear weapons.
- Nuclear weapons are the only weapons of mass destruction not yet outlawed; we must urgently address this legal anomaly.
- It is time to launch negotiations for a treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons and establish a framework for their elimination.

4. Events

Holding an event at your parliament house is a good way to draw attention to the issue of nuclear disarmament and build support for a ban. This could be anything from the launch of a photographic exhibition on Hiroshima and Nagasaki to a roundtable discussion with parliamentarians from different political parties.
5. Lobby meetings

One-on-one meetings with parliamentarians from different political parties are useful for explaining why we need a treaty banning nuclear weapons and how parliamentarians can work with ICAN to achieve this objective. It is an effective way to bring them up to speed with the latest campaign developments. If they are unavailable to meet you in person, ask to speak by phone or meet one of their advisers.

6. Appeal

For the past two years, ICAN has been collecting signatures for the Global Parliamentary Appeal for a Nuclear Weapons Ban. Here is the full list of signatories so far: [http://www.icanw.org/projects/appeal](http://www.icanw.org/projects/appeal). It is not too late to encourage your parliamentarians to sign it and ask them to promote it among their colleagues. This is a useful way to demonstrate the strength and breadth of political support for a ban.

7. Additional ideas and reporting

If you have additional action ideas aimed at building parliamentary support for a ban, please share them with the ICAN campaigners’ e-list ([ican-campaigners@googlegroups.com](mailto:ican-campaigners@googlegroups.com)). Please also share reports on your progress in reaching out to parliamentarians.
Resources

Photo albums

Please use these pictures to complement your activities and show them to illustrate the destruction that the use of nuclear weapons produced.

https://ia600406.us.archive.org/16/items/Hiroshime_Easthampton_Library_Photographs_/hiroshima_easthampton_library.pdf

Below you can find some photo galleries created by the Google Cultural Institute. Feel free to use the pictures by crediting the Google Cultural Institute.

Nagasaki bombing


Hiroshima bombing

https://www.google.com/culturalinstitute/exhibit/hiroshima/ARUIJ1Nh?projectId=historic-moments&hl=en

A collection of diaries and memories of the victims of the Hiroshima bombing

https://www.google.com/culturalinstitute/exhibit/last-words/ARWCz4B5?projectId=historic-moments&position=7%2C0&hl=en

Letter to the editor template

To the Editor

On August 6 and August 9, 1945 the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki were destroyed by atomic bombs. More than 240,000 children, women and men died in the blasts. The overwhelming majority of the victims were civilians.

Today the world’s nuclear arsenals count more than 15,000 nuclear weapons, many of which are on high-trigger alert.

70 years after the humanitarian catastrophes of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, governments have a historic opportunity to prohibit nuclear weapons — the only weapon of mass destruction yet to be explicitly banned by an international treaty.

More than 100 nations have signed on to an initiative to begin negotiations to fill the gap in international law and prohibit the possession and use of nuclear weapons. This “Humanitarian Pledge” reflects the deep frustration of non-nuclear weapon states with the failure of the nuclear weapons states to recognise the unacceptable threat posed by the continued existence of nuclear weapons as well as to honor their disarmament obligations.

{If your government signed the humanitarian pledge}

The XXX government signed onto this pledge, showing vision and leadership. It’s time to turn this commitment into action, embrace this historic opportunity, and negotiate a treaty banning nuclear weapons.

{If your government did not sign the humanitarian pledge}

Incredibly, the XXX government did not sign onto this pledge. It should do so now, embrace this historic opportunity, and negotiate a treaty banning nuclear weapons.
Tips for a successful event

Before the event

❑ **INVITE RELEVANT ACTORS!**

When organizing your event it is important to try and involve key actors. Get in touch with your national Red Cross, invite Parliamentarians that you know or believe are supportive of an international prohibition, extend an invitation to a religious leader or your local church.

❑ **INVOLVE THE MEDIA**

If you organize an action or an event don’t forget to invite journalists. We are going to provide you with a media kit in the days running up to the 70th Anniversary. Use it to inform your media contacts about the importance of this day and the historic opportunity to prohibit nuclear weapons. If journalists show up, don’t forget to get their contacts and ask them if they want to be added to ICAN’s media list.

❑ **INCLUDE GOODBYENUK.ES**

We have revamped our campaign website, [www.goodbyenuk.es](http://www.goodbyenuk.es) to act as a platform where you can direct people that are interested in our campaign and nuclear weapons. Remember to include [www.goodbyenuk.es](http://www.goodbyenuk.es) in all your material, social media updates, videos, presentations, and outreach for the 70th Anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

During the event

❑ **TAKE PICTURES!**

Pictures are a great way to illustrate what happened at your event and make the impact of it go beyond the people that attended it. It is therefore important to have good, high-resolution photos of your event. If you can, make sure that you have a photographer or a friend who could help you with that. Remember to include a high-resolution photo in your media release and if you want ICAN to be able to use them, don’t forget to send us your pictures, write to: Daniela@icanw.org.

❑ **GET MORE PEOPLE ON BOARD!**
To persuade more and more people and create a massive global movement it is important that we inform the public on what is happening. The newsletter is a great way to do so. During your events make sure there is always a sign-up list that you can circulate (for a template: see the resources section of this kit) or you can have this page [http://www.icanw.org/become-a-supporter/](http://www.icanw.org/become-a-supporter/) open on a laptop or ipad.

**After the event**

- **SHARE YOUR STORIES**

  To inspire your fellow campaigners all over the world, don’t hesitate to share your stories on the campaigners list. Want your event to be featured on the icanw.org website? Get in touch with Daniela Varano
  
  Daniela@icanw.org

- **FOLLOW-UP**

  When your event is over another job begins! Don’t forget to follow-up with the participants to let them know the results of the events and what you want them to do now. Get in touch, get them to sign up to ICAN’s newsletter and keep them involved in our work.
Testimonies of the survivors: videos

The 70th anniversary is a great opportunity to share the stories of those who witnessed and survived the bombing. Make sure you circulate these compelling stories. You can share them on social media, embed them in your website, they can accompany a post on your blog or an article for an online magazine.

Setsuko Thurlow
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F2h-PRNoK_U

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GsdYxFG8gKM

Dr. Hiromi Hasai
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v5P_37dS96E

Kikue Shiota
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TCHEppzMZn0

Shizuko Abe
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=senGVPRN1pI

Shigeko Sasamori
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XxVksebbRyw

Yasuki Yamishita
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CUCbVW-Mwrk

Isano Tanabe
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gfQmSL7o5kA

Shigetaro Murakami
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o92eWZt2AmA

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cay0HWK5ziU

Additional resources (click to download)

Facebook Cover
Sticker
Sing up template