



**ican**

international campaign to  
abolish nuclear weapons

**NOBEL  
PEACE  
PRIZE  
2017**

Now is the time to end nuclear weapons. The UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons presents every nation with a unique opportunity to end these inhumane weapons of mass destruction by signing and ratifying the Treaty.



## WHY BAN NUCLEAR WEAPONS?

Nuclear weapons are the most destructive, inhumane weapons ever created. The humanitarian impact of any use of nuclear weapons - whether it be by intent, accident or miscalculation- would be catastrophic. That is why, on July 7, 2017, 122 states voted to adopt the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). **This landmark international agreement outlaws these weapons of mass destruction and establishes a pathway to their elimination.**

## WHAT DOES THIS TREATY DO?

The Treaty bans nuclear weapons, and all activities related to them, including developing, testing, producing, manufacturing, otherwise acquiring, possessing, stockpiling, transferring, using or threatening to use nuclear weapons, and allowing nuclear weapons to be stationed, installed or deployed in its Parties' territory. It also prohibits States Parties from assisting, encouraging or inducing anyone to engage in any of these illegal activities.

## WHAT CAN MY COUNTRY DO TO SUPPORT THE END OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS?

For the TPNW to enter into force, 50 States must sign and ratify or accede to it. All states committed to disarmament and international humanitarian law must join the Treaty. The Treaty opened for signature at UN Headquarters in New York on 20 September 2017 and remains open for signature indefinitely. **As of March 2019, the TPNW already has 70 signatories and 22 States Parties.** By signing the Treaty, a State signals its intention to become a party to the Treaty in the future. To become a Party to the Treaty, a State must formally declare its consent to be legally bound by the Treaty in accordance with its relevant domestic procedures and deposit an instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with the UN Secretary-General. F

### MODEL INSTRUMENT OF RATIFICATION, ACCEPTANCE OR APPROVAL

WHEREAS the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted at New York on 7 July 2017 and opened for signature at New York on 20 September 2017,

WHEREAS the said Treaty has been signed on behalf of the Government of [name of State] on [date],

NOW THEREFORE I, [name and title of the head of State, head of government or minister for foreign affairs], declare that the Government of [name of State], having considered the above-mentioned Treaty, [ratifies/ accepts/approves] the same Treaty and undertakes faithfully to perform and carry out the stipulations therein contained.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have signed this instrument of [ratification/ acceptance/approval] at [place] on [date].

[Signature] + [seal]

*Note: This instrument is for States that have signed the Treaty. It must be signed by the head of State, head of government or minister for foreign affairs.*

**“The Treaty represents an important step and contribution towards the common aspiration of a world without nuclear weapons.”**

**- António Guterres, Secretary-General, United Nations**

**“If you love this planet, you will sign this Treaty.”**

**- Setsuko Thurlow, Survivor of the Hiroshima bombing**

## WHAT DO I DO NOW?

If you require any assistance in advancing the process of signature or ratification in your state, please do not hesitate to contact ICAN at [info@icanw.org](mailto:info@icanw.org)

## WHAT IS ICAN?

We (the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons) are a global movement of more than 530 organisations in over 100 countries, pushing for the total elimination of nuclear weapons through the TPNW. In 2017, we received the Nobel Peace Prize in recognition of our work to and help achieve the treaty and end the threat of nuclear weapons.