

Talking points for the launch of Nuclear Weapons Ban Monitor 2018

NUCLEAR WEAPONS BAN MONITOR

Background

- On 29 October 2018, at the United Nations in New York, Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) will launch the Nuclear Weapons Ban Monitor 2018, the first report of a newly established watchdog for the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW).
- The TPNW was negotiated and adopted by a majority of the UN member states in 2017, over the objections of the nuclear-armed states and their allies. The Treaty was opened for states to sign in September 2017. International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), last year's Nobel Peace Prize winner, calls for all states to join the TPNW in order to put pressure on the minority of states that stand in the way of the UN achieving its goal of a world free of nuclear weapons.
- The TPNW prohibits its states parties from developing, testing, possessing, hosting, using, and threatening to use nuclear weapons, as well as assisting, encouraging, or inducing those prohibited acts. The Treaty codifies norms and actions that are needed to create and maintain a world free of nuclear weapons. It also provides a yardstick against which progress towards a world without nuclear weapons may be measured.
- The Nuclear Weapons Ban Monitor measures progress in the support for the TPNW. It also evaluates the extent to which the policies and practices of states comply with or contradict the actions that are prohibited by the TPNW. A key purpose of the report is to highlight specific activities that will need to be discontinued if the international community is to achieve its goal of creating a world without nuclear weapons.

14,500 nuclear weapons in the world today

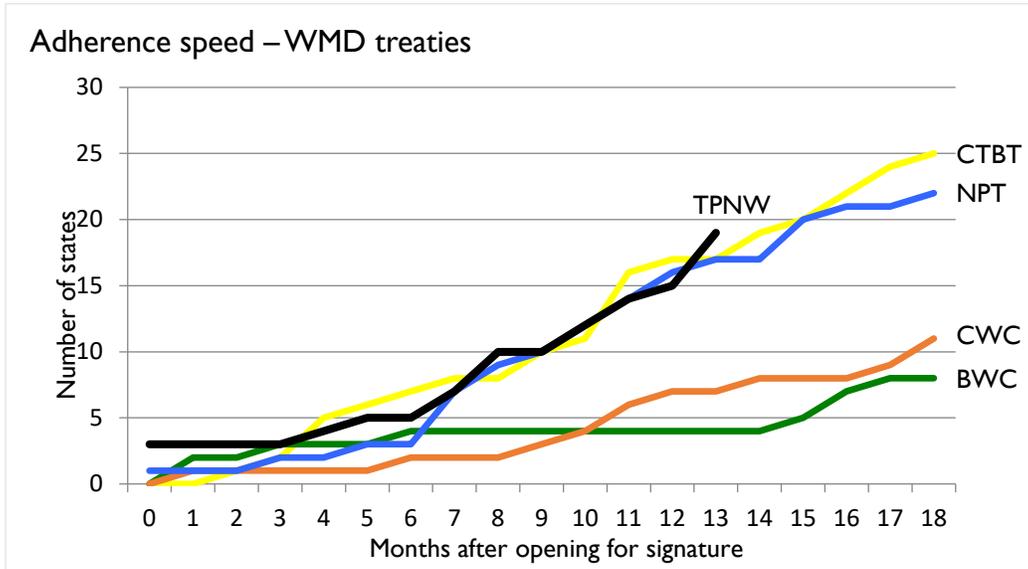
- The nine nuclear-armed states had a combined total of approximately 14,500 nuclear warheads as of June 2018. The total number of nuclear weapons in existence has been reduced dramatically since the estimated peak of approximately 70,000 warheads in 1986.
- But the number of nuclear weapons in the world (or in a single state's possession) is only one dimension of the "arms race". Other important indicators include the average and maximum yields of each warhead, the intensity of financial investments in nuclear-weapon systems and technology, and the precision and nature of means of delivery.
- All nuclear-armed states are currently engaged in large nuclear-weapon modernisation projects, and the last few years have seen a spike in overt nuclear threat-making.
- The world has, on several occasions, been brought to the brink of nuclear war or accidents through miscommunication, misunderstandings, and technical malfunctions. The intellectual straightjacket of nuclear deterrence has prevented states from drawing lessons from these realities and, thereby, from pursuing sustainable political solutions.

Fast speed of support for the TPNW

- The nuclear-armed states and some of their allies are trying to prevent the TPNW from attracting support and getting the required 50 states parties to become international law. However, as of 20 October 2018, 13 months after the Treaty opened for signature, a total of 70 states had signed or adhered to the TPNW. 69

states had signed, of which 18 had also ratified and therefore become states parties. In addition, one state had acceded to the TPNW and become a state party. 31 more states need to adhere to the treaty to trigger its entry into force.

- The speed of adherence to the TPNW is faster than for any other treaty regulating weapons of mass destruction (WMD). Adherence was slower both for the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). While it took 450 days for the NPT to get 20 states parties, the TPNW had reached 19 at 371 days after it opened for signature. The TPNW is well on its way to early entry into force.



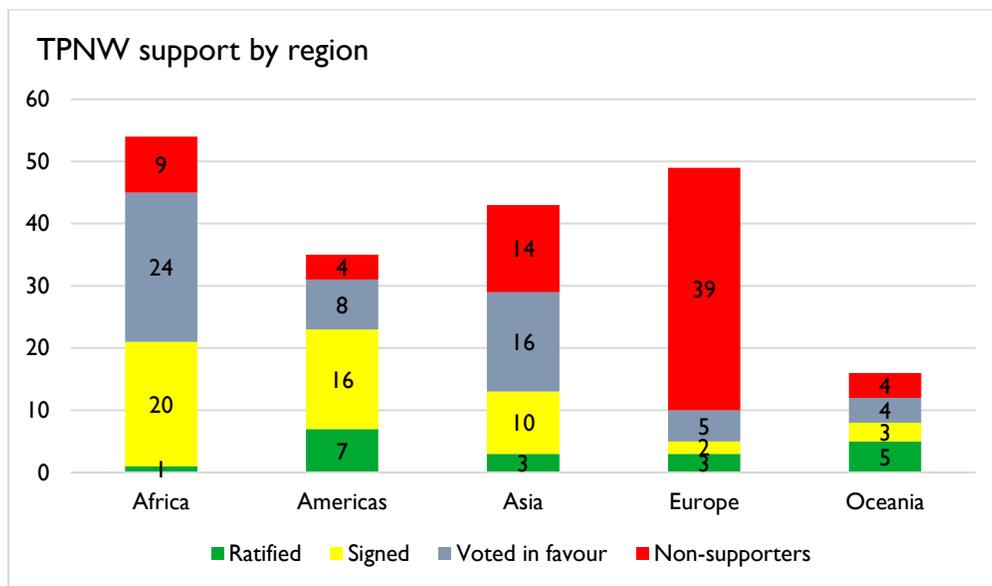
The first 70 states to sign or adhere to the TPNW	
Category	States
Signed and ratified (18 states)	Austria, Costa Rica, Cuba, Gambia, Guyana, Holy See, Mexico, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Palau, Palestine, Samoa, San Marino, Thailand, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam.
Acceded (1 state)	Cook Islands
Signed (51 states)	Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei, Cabo Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, DR Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Indonesia, Ireland, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, South Africa, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tuvalu.

More than three-fifths of the world's states are TPNW supporters

- The Nuclear Weapons Ban Monitor identifies 127 states, or more than three-fifths of the world's states, as TPNW supporters. This number includes both the 70 states that have already signed or adhered to the TPNW and an additional 57 states that voted in favour of adopting the TPNW at the UN in July 2017 but that have not yet signed it.

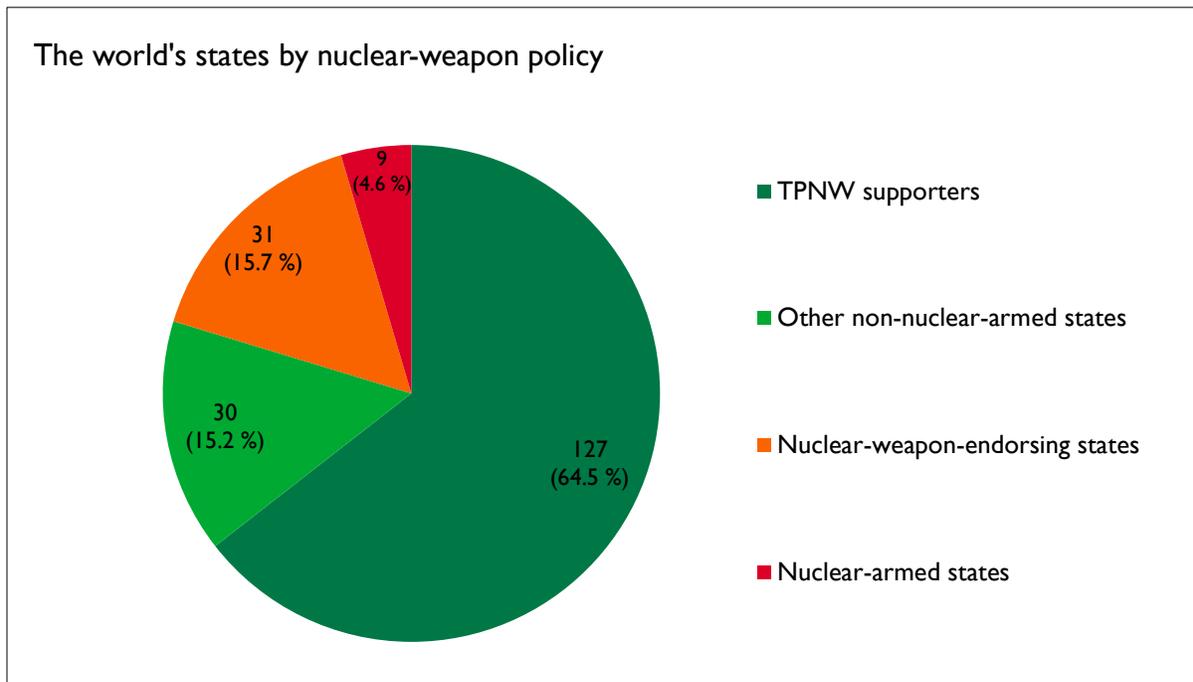
Support for the TPNW high in all regions apart from Europe

- Support for the TPNW is high in all regions apart from Europe, with 91% of the states in the Americas supporting it, 75% of the states in Oceania, 84% of the states in Africa, and 68% of the states in Asia. There are only 4 non-supporters among the 45 states in the Americas, 4 non-supporters among the 16 states in Oceania, 9 non-supporters among the 54 states in Africa, and 14 non-supporters among the 43 states in Asia.



- The non-supporters are a mix of outspoken opponents of the Treaty and states that have not yet taken a stance. In the Americas, the non-supporters are the nuclear-armed state of the United States and the nuclear-weapon-endorsing state of Canada, together with Barbados and Dominica. In Oceania, the non-supporters are Micronesia, Nauru, and Niue, together with the nuclear-weapon-endorsing state of Australia. In Africa, the 9 states that have not yet supported the TPNW are Cameroon, Eswatini, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, and Zambia. Finally, in Asia, the 14 current non-supporters are Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Singapore, Syria, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan, together with the five nuclear-armed states in the region (China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPR Korea), India, Israel, and Pakistan) and the nuclear-weapon-endorsing states of Japan and the Republic of Korea.
- Europe is the region with the fewest states supporting the TPNW. Of the 49 states in the region 39 (almost 80%) are still non-supporters. Only three (Austria, Holy See and San Marino) have adhered to the TPNW and two (Liechtenstein and Ireland) have signed, while another five (Azerbaijan, Cyprus, Malta, Moldova, and Sweden) voted to adopt the Treaty. Switzerland also voted to adopt the Treaty, but has since decided not to sign the Treaty for the time being and is therefore included among the current non-supporters in Europe.

The vast majority of states reject nuclear weapons



- Categorising the world's states according to their basic nuclear-weapon policy, the Nuclear Weapons Ban Monitor finds that the vast majority of states already reject nuclear weapons. Nuclear-weapon-free security policies are the norm, not the exception. Today, 157 states – four-fifths of the world's 197 states – have rejected any role for nuclear weapons in their military postures. This includes the 127 TPNW supporters and 30 other non-nuclear-armed states.
- A minority of 40 states – one-fifth of the world's states – explicitly base their security on the possession and potential use of nuclear weapons: the nine nuclear-armed states of China, DPR Korea, France, India, Israel, Pakistan, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States; and 31 states which the Nuclear Weapons Ban Monitor refers to as “nuclear-weapon-endorsing states”. They have opted not to develop nuclear weapons themselves, but to rely instead on the possession and potential use of such weapons on their behalf by one or more allies (sometimes called a “nuclear umbrella”).

The “hidden” nuclear-weapon states

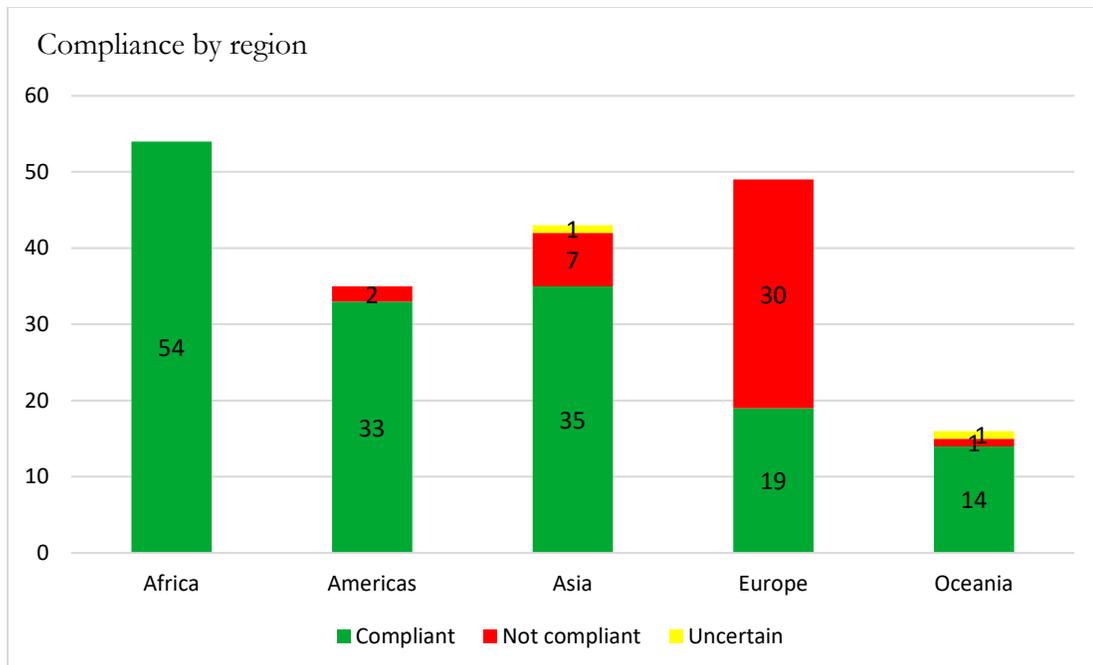
- The Nuclear Weapons Ban Monitor puts a particular focus on the 31 above-mentioned nuclear-weapon-endorsing states. Basing their security on their allies' continued retention of nuclear weapons, they function as enablers of nuclear armament and bear responsibility for the perpetuation of nuclear risks. They can also be described as “hidden” nuclear-weapon states, since their role in preventing progress towards a world free of nuclear weapons has not been given much attention prior to the adoption of the TPNW. In France, the United Kingdom, and the United States, increased spending on nuclear weapons is frequently justified as a means of “reassuring” allies or meeting “extended deterrence commitments”.
- The 31 nuclear-weapon-endorsing states are Albania, Armenia, Australia, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, and Turkey.

Most states already in compliance with the TPNW

- Looking at compliance with the TPNW, the picture is only slightly different. Overall, compliance is high. The Nuclear Weapons Ban Monitor finds that 155 states already maintain policies and practices that are compliant with all of the prohibitions of the TPNW. These are states that have already signed or adhered to the TPNW, or which could do so without complications regarding compliance.
- A minority of 40 states currently engage in behaviour that contravenes one or more of the prohibitions in the TPNW. The non-compliant states are the nine nuclear-armed states and the 31 nuclear-weapon-endorsing states. They may also sign and ratify the TPNW, but would have to change their policies and practices to become compliant.

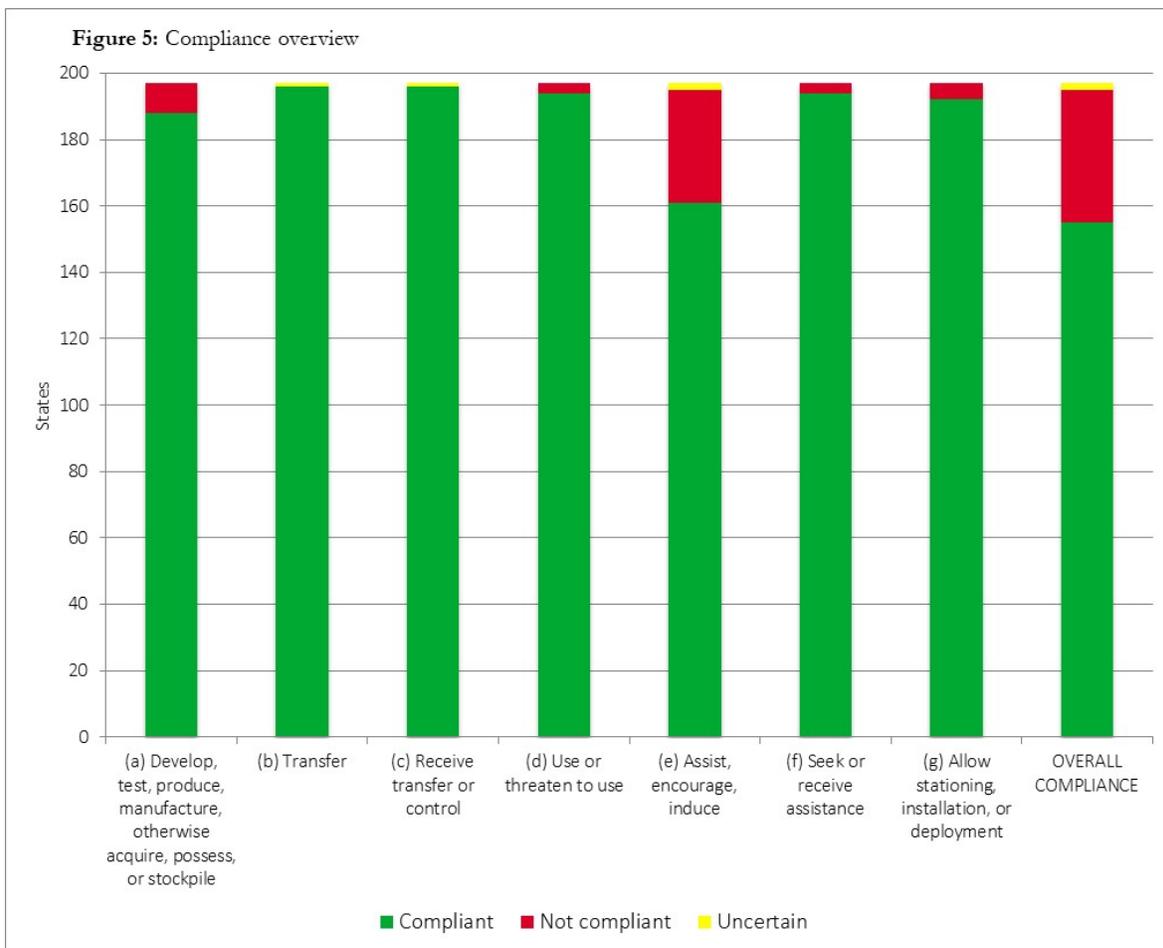
Europe is the region with the most states that contravene the TPNW

- Europe is the region with the most states whose practices and policies contravene the TPNW, while Africa is the only region where all states have been found to be compliant.
- 61 per cent of the 49 states in Europe (30 states) maintain policies and practices that contravene the TPNW. Otherwise, compliance is generally high also in the other regions. In the Americas, 2 states (United States and Canada) out of the 35 states – or less than 6 per cent – are not compliant. In Asia, 7 states (China, DPR Korea, India, Israel, Japan, Pakistan, and the Republic of Korea) out of the 43 states – or 16 per cent – are not compliant, while the situation is uncertain for one further state; Kazakhstan. In Oceania, Australia is the only state among the total of 16 that was found not to be compliant with the TPNW, while the situation is uncertain for the Marshall Islands.



Many states assist or encourage prohibited acts

- Article 1(1)(e) of the TPNW – which prohibits states from assisting, encouraging, or inducing other states to engage in acts prohibited by the Treaty - is one of the most discussed and debated of all the provisions in the TPNW. It is also the provision which is contravened by the greatest number of states. The nuclear-armed states’ retention of nuclear weapons is enabled in various ways, and the Nuclear Weapons Ban Monitor finds that a total of 34 states do not comply with this prohibition. Most of these states are European. The compliance status of two states (Kazakhstan and Marshall Islands) in relation to this prohibition is uncertain, because they both host sites where missiles that can deliver nuclear warheads are periodically tested.
- The Nuclear Weapons Ban Monitor concludes that there is nothing in the TPNW that rules out membership in military alliances that include one or more nuclear-armed states, or joint military operations with nuclear-armed states – as long as this does not involve assistance or encouragement of prohibited activities. Combining alliance membership and adherence to the TPNW is entirely feasible.
- The TPNW does, however, prohibit states from encouraging or inducing their nuclear-armed allies to continue to possess, test, or use their nuclear weapons. In order to be compliant with the TPNW, non-nuclear alliance states must disavow any and all possession and use of nuclear weapons on their behalf.



Overall compliance with Article 1	
Not compliant (40 states)	Albania, Armenia, Australia, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, DPR Korea, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States.
Uncertain (2 states)	Kazakhstan, Marshall Islands.
Compliant (155 states)	Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, DR Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Holy See, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Niue, Oman, Palau, Palestine, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Thailand, The FYR of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Recommendations to states

- The Nuclear Weapons Ban Monitor contains state profiles for all of the world's 197 states. The state profiles are categorised according to each state's basic nuclear-weapon policy, with separate subsections for the 127 TPNW supporters, the 30 other non-nuclear-armed states, the 31 nuclear-weapon-endorsing states, and the nine nuclear-armed states. The state profiles contain summary data on treaty status and compliance for each state, as well as other key facts. Recommendations for action are made to each state.
 1. The nuclear-armed states and the nuclear-weapon-endorsing states should acknowledge that nuclear deterrence is not a sustainable solution for their own or international security, and that any perceived benefits are far outweighed by the risk of nuclear war or accidents.
 2. The nine nuclear-armed states should move rapidly to verifiably reduce and eliminate their nuclear arsenal, whether through unilateral, bilateral, or multilateral steps.
 3. The 31 nuclear-weapon-endorsing states should declare their unequivocal opposition to nuclear weapons, and ensure that their national defense plans and security policies do not involve or foresee the possession or potential use of weapons of mass destruction on their behalf.
 4. All states that have not yet done so, should urgently sign and ratify the TPNW, and encourage other states to adhere to the Treaty. Until they are in a position to do so, they should welcome the TPNW as an important step and a valuable contribution towards the common aspiration of a world without nuclear weapons. They should also attend the TPNW meetings of states parties as observers and work with the TPNW states parties on practical steps towards disarmament.