

**Draft Joint Statement by TPNW States Parties and Signatory States  
for the Cluster 1 Debate: Nuclear weapons session of the First Committee of the 80th  
session of the United Nations General Assembly**

New York, 17 October 2025

**Chair,**

I take the floor on behalf of the States Parties and Signatory States to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW).

Eighty years ago, emerging from a devastating global conflict, the United Nations was established to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war. Yet, 80 years after nuclear weapons were first tested and used in that conflict, these horrific weapons continue, posing an existential threat to humanity.

**Chair,**

The awareness of the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons, and a firm conviction to prevent such consequences, continues to guide our work to advance nuclear disarmament.

As States Parties and Signatory States to the TPNW, we reaffirm that the establishment of a legally binding regime on the prohibition on nuclear weapons, the core purpose of the TPNW, is a necessary and effective measure in preventing a nuclear arms race and towards achieving nuclear disarmament. The legal prohibition constitutes a fundamental step towards the complete, verifiable and irreversible elimination of nuclear weapons needed for achieving and maintaining a world free of nuclear weapons.

We also reaffirm that the TPNW is fully complementary to the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban-Treaty (CTBT) and with treaties establishing Nuclear-Weapons-Free Zones which we recognize have made immense contributions. We therefore call for the ratification of existing treaties and relevant protocols, as well as the withdrawal or revision of any reservations or interpretative declarations and the refraining from any action contrary to the object and purpose of the treaties establishing such zones. The TPNW's provisions provide further impetus to nuclear disarmament and create a legal framework that helps implement Article VI of the NPT as an effective measure to achieve a nuclear-weapon-free world.

We welcome the latest States that have signed and ratified the TPNW, taking the total combined number of states parties and signatories to 99 States, thus demonstrating the determination of a global majority to eliminate nuclear weapons.

**Chair,**

We remain gravely concerned that nine States still possess arsenals of nuclear weapons that could destroy human civilisation many times over.

The inherent risks and transboundary and global consequences of nuclear weapons, for which no state- nor any international humanitarian organization, including those within the United Nations system- has adequate response capacity, make clear that all States' security is jeopardized and that all States therefore have an urgent security interest in their total elimination. Nuclear weapons are therefore a threat to the security and ultimately the existence, of all States, irrespective of whether they possess nuclear weapons, subscribe to nuclear deterrence or firmly oppose it.

Heightened geopolitical tensions, further expansion and modernization of nuclear arsenals, the increasing salience of nuclear weapons in military and security doctrines, including through security guarantees and the growing dangers of nuclear proliferation and potentially devastating nuclear arms race demand immediate and decisive action from all of us.

**Chair,**

We are witnessing renewed advocacy of, and attempts to, further embed nuclear deterrence in security policies around the world. Such actions will weaken the nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament architecture. The risk of nuclear weapons being used again remains an inherent threat due to their very existence, which results in profound and legitimate security concerns for all States, including examples of Non-Nuclear Weapon States that have been subjected to explicit threats by Nuclear Weapon States, adding to the already worrying trend of overt and implicit threats between Nuclear Weapons States. As States Parties and Signatory States to the TPNW, we reiterate that nuclear weapons do not provide sustainable national, regional, or international security. To the contrary, nuclear weapons and nuclear deterrence pose significant and existential risks with consequences borne by all States and all of humanity. In this context, we welcome the establishment by the UN General Assembly of an independent Scientific Panel on the effects of Nuclear War and look forward to its findings.

Emerging technologies incorporated into nuclear weapons systems heighten the risks of nuclear weapon use – intentional, inadvertent or accidental – by increasing the prospect of miscalculation, escalation, and loss of control. Vulnerabilities in command, control and communication systems of nuclear weapons risk manipulation and unauthorized use. Pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons, nuclear-armed States must maintain meaningful human control over nuclear weapons and their delivery systems in the context of the development of artificial intelligence technology in the military field.

**Chair,**

We stress that any use or threat of use of nuclear weapons is a violation of international law, including the Charter of the United Nations, and is inadmissible and contrary to international

humanitarian law. In this regard, we firmly deplore all nuclear threats and increasingly strident nuclear rhetoric.

Nuclear testing must not resume for any reason or under any pretext and therefore we urge all States to uphold the global norm against nuclear testing and to relegate the terrible legacy of testing to history.

It is unacceptable that decades after the use or testing of nuclear weapons, many affected communities still await assistance and environmental remediation, and we, as TPNW States Parties and Signatory States, are doing our part by advancing the implementation of the positive obligations in Articles 6 and 7 of this Treaty, including through, inter alia, the discussions on the feasibility and potential establishment, amongst any other feasible mechanisms, of an international trust fund for victim assistance and environmental remediation that is viable, effective, and sustainable. We call on all States to do their part in addressing the harms to people and the environment.

**Chair,**

The complete, verifiable and irreversible elimination of nuclear weapons is not just an aspiration but an imperative for global security and the survival of humanity.

We, the States Parties and Signatory States to the TPNW, stand united in our unwavering determination to confront escalating nuclear dangers. We will do our part to unite and mobilize the international community towards eliminating the existential threat posed by nuclear weapons to achieve and maintain a world free of nuclear weapons, which is a global public good of the highest order.

I thank you.