

Joint Appeal for the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons

Dear friends,

On August 6, 2026, United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres [referred to the 1945 atomic bombing of Hiroshima](#) and warned that: “The norms and guardrails that helped prevent a nuclear cataclysm are under severe strain. The decades-long trend of shrinking nuclear arsenals is reversing. The spectre of nuclear war is again being raised as a tool of power and coercion.”

We invite you to make your voice heard globally on this issue, if you have not already done so, by [signing the Nuclear Abolition Day Appeal](#) either in your personal capacity or on behalf of your organization.

September 26 is the [International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons](#), established by the United Nations General Assembly to “enhance public awareness and education about the threat posed to humanity by nuclear weapons” and to “mobilize international efforts towards achieving the common goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world.”

In 2025, civil society organizations from around the world joined forces to launch [NuclearAbolitionDay.org](#) to assist the UN in strengthening the global engagement and political impact of this day each year.

One of the key initiatives is the [Joint Appeal for Nuclear Abolition Day](#), which has already been endorsed by over [600 organizations and more than 1,200 individuals](#) across 99 countries. [Click here](#) to support this appeal.

We plan to:

1. Present the Appeal to UN Member States during the high-level meeting hosted at the UN to observe this day; and
2. Re-promote the Appeal and its calls to action at the UN during the [disarmament discussions of UN Disarmament Week](#) (October 24–30, 2026).

Here are a few quotes from signers (for more, see the [Quotes section](#)):

“Nuclear weapons pose a danger to all humanity and must therefore be dismantled and abolished once and for all from the face of our Earth, our planet, our home.”

Ela Gandhi, Chairperson of the Gandhi Development Trust, Co-President of Religions for Peace. Granddaughter of Mahatma Gandhi.

“Let us all build friendship and peace among nations, abolish genocidal nuclear weapons, and give hope to humanity.”

Mairead Corrigan Maguire, 1976 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate.

“In today’s world, marked by endemic violence and trigger-happy leaders, nuclear arms represent an enormous risk and a total disregard for people and the planet.”

Nnimmo Bassey, Director of the Health of Mother Earth Foundation. 2009 Time Magazine Hero of the Environment.

“We must forcefully denounce the nuclear arms race undertaken by nuclear-armed states and their allies.”

General Bernard Norlain, former Commander of Air Defense and Air Combat Operations for the French Air Force.

“Hibakusha and the citizens of Hiroshima and Nagasaki know firsthand the misery and inhumanity of atomic bombs. That is why they, like us, have tirelessly called for the abandonment of nuclear weapons for the sake of humanity and this planet, under all circumstances.”

Tadatoshi Akiba, former Mayor of Hiroshima and President of Mayors for Peace.

“The threat or use of nuclear weapons is a violation of the principle of humanity and an unacceptable threat to present and future generations.”

Prof. John Polanyi, Founding Chairman of Pugwash Canada, 1986 Nobel Prize Laureate in Chemistry.

Best regards,

Marc Finaud

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