

#HumanRaceNotArmsRace:

A Community Statement in commemoration of 80 years since the Trinity test, and US atomic bombings of Hiroshima & Nagasaki

Eighty years ago, the creation of the atomic bomb unleashed unprecedented devastation on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, launching decades of nuclear testing and nuclear weapons production that disproportionately harmed communities still enduring the violence of colonization.

At the same time, the founding of the United Nations gave rise to a shared hope: that the world could eliminate nuclear weapons and spare future generations the scourge of war. As we mark this solemn anniversary, we honor the memory of those harmed and affirm our collective responsibility to build a more just and secure future. From survivors in Japan to communities across the Pacific, Algeria, Kazakhstan, Russia, China, the American Southwest, and beyond, those most impacted have long led the call for a world free of nuclear weapons. Their courage proves that change is possible. Now it's our turn to carry that legacy forward.

For too long, nuclear weapons have entrenched global power imbalances, reinforcing systems of inequality and control. While a few states cling to these weapons in the name of "security," the true cost has been paid by Indigenous, colonized, and marginalized peoples, including through a greater incidence of related cancers in women and girls. Real safety cannot be built on injustice. As arms control agreements near collapse and new nuclear dangers emerge, we face a historic choice. We must demand disarmament, prevent further proliferation, and ensure today's conflicts do not become tomorrow's nuclear catastrophe.

We've done this before and we can do it again. In the 1980s, everyday people forced political leaders to pull back from the brink, achieving an 80% reduction of global nuclear arsenals. A future free from nuclear weapons is not only necessary—it is within our power.

Arms Control Association

Back from the Brink Coalition

Center for International Policy

Children of the Earth

Climate Tucson

Council for a Livable World

Downwinders, Inc.

Friends Committee on National Legislation

HEAL Utah

International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN)

LABRATS

Massachusetts Peace Action

National Iranian American Council

Nuclear Truth Project

Nuclear Watch New Mexico

NuclearBan.US

Pathways To Peace

Peace Action

Peace Action, WI

Peace Coalition of Monterey County

Physicians for Social Responsibility

Ploughshares

RootsAction

Soka Gakkai International

The United Methodist Church – General Board of Church and Society

Tri-Valley Communities Against a Radioactive Environment (CAREs)

Union of Concerned Scientists

United for Peace and Justice

United Nations Association – UK

Utah Physicians for a Healthy Environment

Veterans For Peace, Chapter 46, Monterey

Voices for a World Free of Nuclear Weapons (United Religions Initiative)

Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility

Western States Legal Foundation

Win Without War

Women's International League for Peace & Freedom US Section

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Monterey County Branch