

**Fulfilling nuclear disarmament obligations
under the NPT
The Role of the TPNW**

Muhadi Sugiono

Universitas Gadjah Mada /

*International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear weapons
(ICAN)*

A Breakthrough in the Nuclear Disarmament

- An overwhelming majority of the world's nations voted for the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) in 2017
- The first globally applicable multilateral agreement to prohibit nuclear weapons comprehensively
- Complementing and reinforcing the NPT and filling a legal gap in international law

A Major Development for the NPT

- The logical and necessary response to the deep concern expressed by all NPT states parties in 2010 at the “catastrophic humanitarian consequences” of any use of nuclear weapons.
- The affirmation by NPT states parties in 2010 of the need for all states “to make special efforts to establish the necessary framework to achieve and maintain a world without nuclear weapons”.
- The failure of certain NPT states parties to support the TPNW and their efforts to prevent other states from supporting the Ban Treaty casts doubt on their commitment to the NPT, as well as their commitment to the United Nations and to multilateralism more broadly.

Worrying Developments

- Nuclear arms race continue.
- Moving some or all of their nuclear weapons to “launch on warning” status, a hair-trigger system for the firing of nuclear weapons.
- The use of Artificial intelligence (AI)
- Heightened tensions between nuclear-armed states
- Making nuclear weapons “more usable”
- Military preparations to use nuclear weapons despite the adoption of the TPNW

Implementing and Strengthening the NPT

- The TPNW reflects the NPT which envisages the creation of additional treaties to help achieve and maintain a nuclear-weapons-free world.
- The TPNW firmly establishes the illegality of nuclear weapons.
- The TPNW does not only support the NPT in establishing a strong taboo against the spread of nuclear weapons globally, but also an effective taboo against nuclear weapons as such.
- The TPNW complements and implements existing arms control and disarmament agreements,

An Urgent Need

- Nuclear weapons serve no legitimate military or strategic purpose, and are useless in addressing any of today's real security threats.
- Nuclear weapons are incapable of distinguishing between military and civilian targets, or between combatants and non-combatants.
- Any use of nuclear weapons would also severely undermine the Sustainable Development Agenda.
- Nuclear weapon programmes divert vast public funds from health care, education, disaster relief and other vital services.

TPNW for the Nuclear-Armed and Non Nuclear-Armed States

- The Treaty covers wide ranges of activities associated with nuclear weapons.
- A nuclear-armed state must agree to destroy them in accordance with a legally binding, time-bound plan. Similarly, a State that hosts another State's nuclear weapons has to remove them by a deadline.
- No limitation to the ability of a State to pursue nuclear energy for non-military purposes.