October 2024

Support for the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons among Members of the Commonwealth

The **Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW)** is the first globally applicable treaty that categorically prohibits the most destructive, inhumane instruments of war ever created. It was negotiated at the United Nations in 2017 and entered into force in 2021. In addition to making nuclear weapons illegal, it provides a framework for their time-bound, verifiable elimination, and includes important provisions to assist victims of nuclear use and testing.

As of 1 October 2024, there are 73 states parties to the TPNW and a further 25 signatories – comprising exactly half of all states in the world. Among members of the Commonwealth of Nations, support for the TPNW is strong, with 32 members (57 per cent) having ratified the treaty and 8 members (14 per cent) having signed but not yet ratified it. Of the 16 non-signatories in the Commonwealth, 10 have indicated their support for the TPNW in the UN General Assembly. Thus, a total of 50 Commonwealth members (89 per cent) are considered supporters of the treaty.

The TPNW is in line with the Charter of the Commonwealth, which states: “We support international efforts for peace and disarmament at the United Nations and other multilateral institutions.”

Which members of the Commonwealth have joined the TPNW?

STATES PARTIES **32** **Antigua & Barbuda, Bangladesh, Belize, Botswana, Dominica, Fiji, Gambia, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Kiribati, Lesotho, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Namibia, Nauru, New Zealand, Nigeria, St Kitts & Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent & Grenadines, Samoa, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Trinidad & Tobago, Tuvalu, Vanuatu**

SIGNATORIES **8** **Bahamas, Barbados, Brunei, Ghana, Mozambique, Tanzania, Togo, Zambia**

NON-SIGNATORIES **16** **Australia, Cameroon*, Canada, Cyprus*, Eswatini*, Gabon*, India, Kenya*, Mauritius*, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea*, Rwanda*, Singapore, Tonga*, Uganda*, United Kingdom**

* Has indicated its support for the TPNW in the UN General Assembly.

Antigua & Barbuda **State party**	**Signed:** 26 September 2018 **Ratified:** 25 November 2019
Australia **Non-signatory**	Australia said in 2023 that it "is considering the TPNW systematically and methodically as part of our ambitious agenda to advance nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament".
Bahamas **Signatory**	**Signed:** 19 September 2023 The Bahamas is in the process of ratifying the TPNW.
Bangladesh **State party**	**Signed:** 20 September 2017 **Ratified:** 26 September 2019
Barbados **Signatory**	**Signed:** 22 September 2022 Barbados is in the process of ratifying the TPNW.

Belize **State party**	**Signed:** 6 February 2020 **Ratified:** 19 May 2020
Botswana **State party**	**Signed:** 26 September 2019 **Ratified:** 15 July 2020
Brunei **Signatory**	**Signed:** 26 September 2018 Brunei is in the process of ratifying the TPNW.
Cameroon **Non-signatory**	Cameroon has indicated its support for the TPNW in the UN General Assembly.
Canada **Non-signatory**	
Cyprus **Non-signatory**	Cyprus has indicated its support for the TPNW in the UN General Assembly and has said that it is "examining the possibility of future accession" to the treaty.
Dominica **State party**	**Signed:** 26 September 2019 **Ratified:** 18 October 2019
Eswatini **Non-signatory**	Eswatini announced in 2023 that it would "soon [be] signing this important treaty [the TPNW]".
Fiji **State party**	**Signed:** 20 September 2017 **Ratified:** 7 July 2020
Gabon **Non-signatory**	Gabon has indicated its support for the TPNW in the UN General Assembly.
Gambia **State party**	**Signed:** 20 September 2017 **Ratified:** 26 September 2018
Ghana **Signatory**	**Signed:** 20 September 2017 Ghana is in the process of ratifying the TPNW.
Grenada **State party**	**Signed:** 26 September 2019 **Ratified:** 20 June 2022

Guyana **State party**	**Signed:** 20 September 2017 **Ratified:** 20 September 2017
India **Non-signatory**	
Jamaica **State party**	**Signed:** 8 December 2017 **Ratified:** 23 October 2020
Kenya **Non-signatory**	Kenya has indicated its support for the TPNW in the UN General Assembly and hailed the treaty's entry into force in 2021 as "a critical milestone in achieving a nuclear-free world".
Kiribati **State party**	**Signed:** 20 September 2017 **Ratified:** 26 September 2019
Lesotho **State party**	**Signed:** 26 September 2019 **Ratified:** 6 June 2020
Malawi **State party**	**Signed:** 20 September 2017 **Ratified:** 29 June 2022
Malaysia **State party**	**Signed:** 20 September 2017 **Ratified:** 30 September 2020
Maldives **State party**	**Signed:** 26 September 2019 **Ratified:** 26 September 2019
Malta **State party**	**Signed:** 25 August 2020 **Ratified:** 21 September 2020
Mauritius **Non-signatory**	Mauritius has indicated its support for the TPNW in the UN General Assembly and has described the treaty as being "among the outstanding achievements of the UN".
Mozambique **Signatory**	**Signed:** 18 August 2020 Mozambique is in the process of ratifying the TPNW. Its cabinet approved the ratification in 2023.
Namibia **State party**	**Signed:** 8 December 2017 **Ratified:** 20 March 2020

Nauru **State party**	**Signed:** 22 November 2019 **Ratified:** 23 October 2020
New Zealand **State party**	**Signed:** 20 September 2017 **Ratified:** 31 July 2018
Nigeria **State party**	**Signed:** 20 September 2017 **Ratified:** 6 August 2020
Pakistan **Non-signatory**	
Papua New Guinea **Non-signatory**	Papua New Guinea has indicated its support for the TPNW in the UN General Assembly.
Rwanda **Non-signatory**	Rwanda has indicated its support for the TPNW in the UN General Assembly and has said that it will adhere to the treaty in due course.
St Kitts & Nevis **State party**	**Signed:** 26 September 2019 **Ratified:** 9 August 2020
St Lucia **State party**	**Signed:** 27 September 2018 **Ratified:** 23 January 2019
St Vincent & Grenadines **State party**	**Signed:** 8 December 2017 **Ratified:** 31 July 2019
Samoa **State party**	**Signed:** 20 September 2017 **Ratified:** 26 September 2018
Seychelles **State party**	**Signed:** 26 September 2018 **Ratified:** 9 July 2021
Sierra Leone **State party**	**Signed:** 22 September 2022 **Ratified:** 24 September 2024
Singapore **Non-signatory**	
Solomon Islands **State party**	**Signed:** 24 September 2024 **Ratified:** 24 September 2024

South Africa **State party**	**Signed:** 20 September 2017 **Ratified:** 25 February 2019
Sri Lanka **State party**	**Acceded:** 19 September 2023
Tanzania **Signatory**	**Signed:** 26 September 2019 Tanzania is in the process of ratifying the TPNW and has urged all other states to ratify it too.
Togo **Signatory**	**Signed:** 20 September 2017 Togo is in the process of ratifying the TPNW and has said that this process “is almost complete”.
Tonga **Non-signatory**	Tonga voted in favour of the adoption of the TPNW at the negotiating conference in 2017.
Trinidad & Tobago **State party**	**Signed:** 26 September 2019 **Ratified:** 26 September 2019
Tuvalu **State party**	**Signed:** 20 September 2017 **Ratified:** 12 October 2020
Uganda **Non-signatory**	Uganda has indicated its support for the TPNW in the UN General Assembly and the parliament’s foreign affairs committee reviewed the treaty in 2023.
United Kingdom **Non-signatory**	
Vanuatu **State party**	**Signed:** 20 September 2017 **Ratified:** 26 September 2018
Zambia **Signatory**	**Signed:** 26 September 2019 Zambia is in the process of ratifying the TPNW.