

March 2023

Statements on the Complementarity of the TPNW with the NPT

There is broad agreement among states that the **2017 Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW)** complements and reinforces the **1968 Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)**. All states parties to the TPNW are also parties to the NPT and remain firmly committed to the NPT's full implementation. The TPNW is, according to its parties, "a necessary and effective measure related to the cessation of the nuclear arms race and to nuclear disarmament", as envisaged in article VI of the NPT. The TPNW's preamble refers to the NPT as "the cornerstone of the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime" and reaffirms its "vital role".

GROUP STATEMENTS

TPNW states parties

Declaration adopted at the first meeting of states parties to the TPNW in Vienna:

"We recognise the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as the cornerstone of the disarmament and non-proliferation regime, and deplore threats or actions that risk undermining it. As fully committed states parties to the [NPT], we reaffirm the complementarity of the [TPNW] with the [NPT]. We are pleased to have advanced the implementation of article VI of the [NPT] by bringing into force a comprehensive legal prohibition of nuclear weapons, as a necessary and effective

measure related to the cessation of the nuclear arms race and to nuclear disarmament.” – [23 June 2022](#)

African Group

“We welcome the historic adoption of the landmark Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) on 7 July 2017. The group stresses that the [TPNW] does not undermine the NPT, but rather complements and strengthens the nuclear non-proliferation regime with the NPT as its foundation.” – [2 August 2022](#)

Arab Group

“The Arab Group affirms that the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons does not contradict the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, but rather complements it and advances its objectives.” – [14 October 2022](#)

Association of Southeast Asian Nations

“ASEAN reiterates that the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), which held its first meeting of state parties in June 2022, is a historic agreement that contributes towards global nuclear disarmament and complements other existing nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation instruments.” – [3 October 2022](#)

New Agenda Coalition

“[The TPNW] incorporates a humanitarian approach to nuclear weapons, and it does so in a way that reinforces and complements the NPT, and reiterates the urgency of the implementation of its article VI.” – [1 August 2022](#)

NATIONAL STATEMENTS

Austria

“The TPNW is not only fully complementary with the NPT but brings a crucial and urgently needed reinforcement of the norms for nuclear disarmament and against the proliferation of nuclear weapons. Austria calls on all states to join the TPNW and to engage actively and constructively with the profound arguments on which it is based.” – [2 August 2022](#)

Bangladesh

“We believe the TPNW will serve as a critical component in strengthening the NPT. We call upon states that are yet to join the TPNW to do so without any delay, to attain universal application of this treaty.” – [1 August 2022](#)

Bolivia

“We highlight the relevance of the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, of which Bolivia is a signatory country, which in a complementary way reinforces the NPT so that states fulfil their commitments and responsibilities.”
– [3 August 2022](#)

Brazil

“Brazil is of the view that the time is ripe for the states parties to the NPT to ... make resolute efforts to achieve the treaty’s full promise of effective nuclear disarmament, including with complementary agreements. One of the greatest achievements in this regard in recent years has been the adoption in 2017 of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.”
– [3 August 2022](#)

Burkina Faso

“My country welcomes the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in 2017 and its entry into force [in 2021] ... We are convinced that this treaty complements the NPT.” – [3 August 2022](#)

Chile

“We believe that the TPNW ... is an instrument that complements and strengthens the implementation and credibility of the NPT, and we call on all countries to adhere to it.” – [2 August 2022](#)

Costa Rica

“The TPNW complements the NPT and advances the implementation of article VI on nuclear disarmament.”
– [5 August 2022](#)

Cuba

“The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons [is] a complementary instrument to the NPT, whose entry into force and institutionalisation is an undeniable milestone in advancing towards nuclear disarmament.” – [2 August 2022](#)

Democratic Republic of the Congo

“While stressing that the NPT remains the cornerstone of the non-proliferation regime with a view to achieving nuclear disarmament, the DRC considers that the NPT and the TPNW are two complementary instruments and that the latter is based on existing standards and reinforces the obligations of article VI of the NPT.”

– [11 October 2022](#)

Ecuador

“The world has made progress in accordance with article VI of the NPT, with the negotiation, adoption and entry into force of a legally binding instrument in the form of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), which does not weaken – and on the contrary strengthens – the effective implementation of the NPT.” – [2 August 2022](#)

El Salvador

“[At the first meeting of states parties to the TPNW] the complementarity of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons with the Non-Proliferation Treaty was reaffirmed as advancing the application of article VI of the NPT.” – [2 August 2022](#)

Guatemala

“The TPNW is an instrument that complements and strengthens the provisions of the [NPT], particularly to legally prohibit these weapons and close the gap on the mistaken interpretation that [nuclear-armed] states have regarding article VI on the ‘right’ to possess these weapons of mass destruction.”

– [3 August 2022](#)

Guyana

“Guyana has welcomed the entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). The treaty builds upon, contributes to and strengthens the NPT and complements efforts to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons.”

– [2 August 2022](#)

Holy See

“[The TPNW] mutually reinforces the nuclear non-proliferation regime, especially article VI of the NPT, which calls for ‘effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament’. The TPNW constitutes such an effective measure ...” – [2 August 2022](#)

Honduras

“For my delegation, the TPNW is not only complementary to the NPT, but also reaffirms and strengthens it.” – [10 August 2022](#)

Indonesia

“The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons complements the implementation of article VI of the NPT.” – [2 August 2022](#)

Iran

“The adoption of the TPNW was a right step in the right direction. It complements the NPT.” – [31 October 2022](#)

Ireland

“The outcome of the [first meeting of states parties to the TPNW] successfully demonstrated the value of the TPNW for its states parties as a pathway to fulfilling [NPT] article VI obligations. The TPNW is fully compatible with and complements the NPT.” – [1 August 2022](#)

Jamaica

“The newly entered into force Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) ... is a welcome step in implementing article VI of the NPT.” – [3 August 2022](#)

Kazakhstan

“We join others in firmly reiterating the collective conviction that the TPNW and the NPT are mutually compatible and reinforcing, particularly with regard to article VI of the NPT.” – [1 October 2022](#)

Kiribati

“We firmly believe that the TPNW complements the NPT by filling the missing legal gap in the NPT and expands the existing international security architecture by addressing victim assistance, environmental remediation, international cooperation and assistance.” – [3 August 2022](#)

Kuwait

“We stress the fact that [the TPNW] does not run counter to the NPT. Rather, it is part and parcel of achieving nuclear disarmament and making progress towards ridding our world of nuclear weapons.” – [18 October 2022](#)

Laos

“The entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) on 22 January 2021 marked a significant milestone to further strengthen the global norms against nuclear weapons and complements other disarmament and non-proliferation instruments.” – [2 August 2022](#)

Liechtenstein

“The TPNW strengthens the NPT framework in defining new and concrete perspectives for nuclear disarmament, thereby helping implement obligations contained in article VI of the NPT. The TPNW is itself a response to a lack of serious commitment by nuclear-weapons states to comply with their disarmament obligations under article VI.”
– [2 August 2022](#)

Malaysia

“Malaysia remains convinced that the TPNW complements and strengthens the NPT, by constituting effective legal measures under article VI of the NPT.” – [3 August 2022](#)

Malta

“We strongly believe in the benefits of this humanitarian-led initiative – which complements the NPT. The TPNW strengthens the global norm against these weapons and fills a legal gap as the first outright prohibition on nuclear weapons.”
– [3 August 2022](#)

Mexico

“The [TPNW] is complementary to the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and a tangible expression of the obligations under its article VI. In other words, the two treaties are fully compatible and mutually reinforcing. And the nuclear powers have failed to prove otherwise, however hard they have tried to do so.” – [4 October 2022](#)

Myanmar

“While recognising that the NPT is the primary instrument that drives the global nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation agenda, we are of the view that the TPNW complements the implementation of the NPT, in particular article VI, and will further solidify norms against nuclear weapons.”
– [4 August 2022](#)

Namibia

“We would like to emphasise the complementarity of the TPNW to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT).” – [26 September 2022](#)

Nepal

“Nepal considers that the TPNW complements and strengthens the objective of general and complete disarmament.” – [4 October 2022](#)

New Zealand

“We see the TPNW as complementary with the NPT, and as strengthening the obligations contained therein, as a practical and effective contribution towards full implementation of article VI.”
– [20 July 2022](#)

Nicaragua

“[The TPNW] complements the NPT and the efforts of its article VI, and we urge its universalisation.”
– [3 August 2022](#)

Niger

“The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), which my country has already signed, and whose ratification process is on track, must be perceived by all as a complementary and non-contradictory instrument to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.” – [2 October 2022](#)

Nigeria

“We fully support the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). Rather than undermine the NPT, the nuclear ban treaty offers a strong and complementary process in furtherance of the disarmament pathways of the NPT.” – [3 August 2022](#)

Palestine (State of)

“It has taken seven decades to finally formalise a just treaty prohibiting nuclear weapons [the TPNW] to complement the NPT and help advance its goals.”
– [26 September 2022](#)

Panama

“We welcome the entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in January 2021, which constitutes a historic milestone for nuclear disarmament and for full compliance with the obligations established in article VI [of the NPT].”
– [2 August 2022](#)

Paraguay

“[The NPT] is perfected and complemented within the international disarmament architecture by the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.”

– [3 August 2022](#)

Peru

“Peru has promoted and ratified the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), an instrument that, in a legal and practical sense, complements the NPT and reinforces the legal framework for nuclear disarmament.”

– [4 August 2022](#)

Philippines

“We take pride in being the 53rd member state to ratify the TPNW, which outlaws nuclear weapons founded on irrefutable humanitarian principles, establishes environmental remediation as a global norm, and represents an advancement of article VI of the NPT.” – [4 October 2022](#)

San Marino

“San Marino welcomes the adoption and the entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) ... This treaty represents a new step towards the implementation of article VI of the NPT and towards our shared goal of a world without nuclear weapons.” – [3 August 2022](#)

Senegal

“[The TPNW] reinforces the ‘nuclear disarmament’ pillar of the NPT and deserves the support of the entire international community.” – [7 October 2022](#)

Sierra Leone

“The TPNW serves as a complementary instrument to the NPT and will ‘end the long impasse’ in multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations to achieve the goal of total elimination of nuclear weapons.”

– [26 September 2022](#)

South Africa

“It is South Africa’s view that the TPNW serves as a catalyst for much overdue progress in the disarmament pillar of the NPT, and in fulfilling the historic bargain between the nuclear-weapon states and the non-nuclear-weapon states.”

– [26 September 2022](#)

Switzerland

“We welcome the various statements [at the first meeting of states parties to the TPNW] to the effect that the purpose of the TPNW is to contribute to the implementation of the NPT provisions, in particular its article VI. Furthermore, we are convinced that efforts within the framework of the TPNW can complement those undertaken within the NPT.” – [22 June 2022](#)

Thailand

“The successful conclusion of the first meeting of states parties of the TPNW (Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons) reaffirms the compatibility and complementarity of the TPNW to the NPT, notably article VI.” – [2 August 2022](#)

Uruguay

“[The TPNW] constitutes a milestone in nuclear disarmament, a significant commitment in favour of international peace and security ... we believe that this agreement strengthens the disarmament regime.” – [3 August 2022](#)

Vietnam

“The NPT should be complemented by other crucial legally binding instruments, including the CTBT and TPNW ... we call on others to join the TPNW.” – [1 August 2022](#)

Zimbabwe

“Our view is that the [TPNW] complements the NPT and is an important contribution to the disarmament agenda.” – [26 September 2022](#)