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Message from the Executive Director
Dear friends,

2019 was a year of many successes for ICAN but it’s hard to look back at this year and not share a sense of growing concern about nuclear weapons and the security situation in the world.

We’ve seen the unravelling of key treaties such as the Iran deal and the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF), nuclear-armed states like India and Pakistan engaging in an exceptionally dangerous escalation in April 2019, with both states implicitly threatening to use nuclear weapons, and all nuclear-armed states are investing heavily in their nuclear forces.

We must loudly protest the actions of nuclear-armed states and the nuclear weapon endorsing states; their reckless behaviour is threatening to unleash unprecedented suffering and catastrophic humanitarian harm across the world. These few governments are putting us all at risk and endangering their people in order to hold on to their weapons of mass destruction.

But throughout all of this, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) is a bright light on the international arena, the proof that the majority of the states in the world do not believe that nuclear weapons are acceptable or legitimate and are willing to take action. This treaty is the pathway towards a world free of nuclear weapons.

In 2019, support for the TPNW continued to grow steadily, with 15 new ratifications and 11 new signatures. By the end of the year, a total of 80 countries had signed the treaty and 34 had ratified it, meaning it was more than two-thirds of the way to becoming binding international law.

ICAN’s advocacy at the United Nations and in capitals around the world was instrumental in achieving these significant results. Our workshops and persistent outreach to governments enhanced decision-makers’ understanding of the treaty and prompted them to act. Regional meetings in the Caribbean and Africa, in particular, helped galvanise support for the treaty and built momentum towards entry into force. But we are also working in nuclear-armed states and their allies by rallying the public, local governments and parliamentarians.

In 2019, over 200 cities, including Washington D.C., Paris, Manchester, Geneva, Canberra, Berlin, Oslo, Toronto and Zurich have publicly supported the treaty and urged their governments to join it. Over 1,400 sitting parliamentarians around the world that have committed to work to get their government to join the treaty and they are now putting forward motions, debating the treaty, asking questions to the executive branch and increasing the pressure in other ways.

We have also worked to involve the private sector by getting financial institutions to divest from nuclear weapons producing companies. In 2019, 14 new banks and pension funds developed policies against investments in nuclear weapons producing companies and have sold off any tainted assets. This is increasing the financial pressure on nuclear weapons-producing companies and showing them that the time is up for these weapons of mass destruction. With the 75th anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, we must strengthen the public’s understanding of the horrors nuclear weapons cause. It is critically important in the current climate that we expand public support for nuclear disarmament. We must reach not just audiences already committed to our cause, but new people who can be persuaded by our message. In 2019, we have developed a new website and several digital tools that help us be heard and make a persuasive case for nuclear disarmament.

We have powerful allies. Over 120 governments support the treaty, in addition to the United Nations, the Red Cross and Red Crescent movement, religious leaders such as Pope Francis, Religions for Peace and the World Council of Churches, the trade union movement and the environmental movement, and of course hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of people around the world that know we must eliminate nuclear weapons before they eliminate us.

When Pope Francis visited Hiroshima and Nagasaki in November 2019, he said “we must never grow weary of working to support the principal international legal instruments of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, including the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.” The Pope called the use, the possession and the threat to use nuclear weapons “immoral” and stated that “we will be judged on this”.

The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons constitutes the best chance we have to protect our world from nuclear war and achieve nuclear disarmament. Our goal for 2020 is to get the 50 ratifications needed for the Treaty on the Prohibition to enter into force. This would be a moment for history books – the moment nuclear weapons become illegal under international law.

This coming year will provide us with a unique chance to achieve something that will be remembered by coming generations and we hope you will be a part of our journey there.

Beatrice Fihn

It is critically important in the current climate that we expand public support for nuclear disarmament
ICAN Partners around the world in 103 countries
In 2019, thousands of activities by partner organisation took place around the world. From petitions, demonstrations, and movie screenings to research, advocacy and lobbying, ICAN partner organisations mobilised to grow the support for a world free of nuclear weapons.

547 ORGANISATIONS

29 NEW PARTNERS IN 2019
A single nuclear warhead could kill hundreds of thousands of people, with lasting and devastating humanitarian and environmental consequences. Russia, the United States, the United Kingdom, France, China, India, Pakistan, Israel and North Korea, possess an estimated total of nearly 14,000 nuclear weapons, most of which are many times more powerful than the nuclear weapon dropped on Hiroshima.

Sources: SIPRI yearbook 2019, Nuclear Weapons Ban Monitor 2019
Progress towards Entry into Force

15 NEW RATIFICATIONS IN 2019
Antigua and Barbuda, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Dominica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Laos, Maldives, Panama, South Africa, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago.

11 NEW SIGNATURES
Botswana, Cambodia, Dominica, Grenada, Lesotho, Maldives, Nauru, St Kitts and Nevis, Trinidad and Tobago, Tanzania, Zambia.

80 SIGNATORIES & 34 STATES PARTIES

to the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons as of 31 December, 2019
Munich is one of nearly 70 German cities to have joined the ICAN Cities Appeal in 2019.
The ICAN Cities Appeal is a commitment by a city or town indicating its support for the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) and calling for the national government to sign and ratify it without delay.

As cities are the main targets of nuclear weapons, municipalities have a special responsibility to their constituents to speak out against any role for nuclear weapons in national security doctrines.

In 2019 ICAN campaigners, supported by grassroots groups, got 215 cities and towns to join the ICAN Cities Appeal, such as Paris, Canberra, Washington DC, Berlin, Oslo, Geneva, Manchester, and Vancouver.

For the full list of cities visit: cities.icanw.org
Meetings & events

ICAN at the African Union
On April 4, ICAN briefed the AU Peace and Security Council on the risk of nuclear weapons use and the crucial role African States can play in ending them, through signing and ratifying the TPNW.

Caribbean Forum on the TPNW
ICAN, in partnership with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Guyana and in cooperation with ICAN’s partner Soka Gakai International, co-hosted a Forum on the TPNW for government experts from the Caribbean in Georgetown, Guyana in June. The meeting concluded with an adopted document urging all Caribbean states to join the Treaty.

ICAN in West Africa
ICAN addressed the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Parliament in May and held a Regional Forum for ECOWAS Member States on TPNW in Abuja, Nigeria in August. The meeting concluded with an adopted document urging all Caribbean states to join the Treaty.

TPNW signing ceremony
On September 26, 12 states signed or ratified the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons during a special High-Level Ceremony at the UN Headquarters in New York. Among them, five ratified the treaty (Bangladesh, Kiribati, Laos, the Maldives and Trinidad and Tobago) and nine signed it (Botswana, Dominica, Grenada, Lesotho, St Kitts and Nevis, Tanzania and Zambia, as well as the Maldives and Trinidad and Tobago).
Emerging technologies and nuclear weapons expert workshop
In November in Geneva, ICAN hosted a one-day expert meeting on the increased risk of nuclear weapon use posed by emerging technologies, including applied machine learning and cyber warfare. The meeting brought together about a dozen academics, policy makers and activists to discuss the increasing threat posed by applying emerging technologies to nuclear weapons, the solutions to reduce this threat and how to communicate about it to the public.

ICAN meets the Pope
Pope Francis has been a long-time supporter of the TPNW and the abolition of nuclear weapons. In November an ICAN delegation met with Pope Francis ahead of his visit to Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

ICAN meets Irish President Michael Higgins
In September, ICAN’s Executive Director Beatrice Fihn and UN Liaison Seth Shelden met President Higgins and his wife Sabina on the second day of their visit to the United Nations. Ireland is a long-time champion of the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

ICAN meets the Prince of Monaco
As part of their efforts to bring the voices of Hibakusha - survivors of the atomic bombing - and promote the TPNW, a delegation of ICAN campaigners accompanied Hiroshima survivor Sakashita Noriko in meeting with Prince Albert II of Monaco.
From July 31st to August 8th, Hiroshima Prefecture and the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) organised the “Hiroshima-ICAN Academy on Nuclear Weapons and Global Security,” bringing together 15 students and young professionals from around the world in an intensive programme designed to teach them everything they need to know to become the next generation of advocates for an end to nuclear weapons.
More and more financial institutions are saying no to nuclear weapons. In 2019, ICAN partner organisation PAX published three “Don’t Bank on the Bomb” reports exposing the companies involved in nuclear weapons production, the financial institutions backing them, and highlighting those frontrunners that have taken real steps to divesting from nuclear weapons. The final report “Beyond the Bomb” profiles 77 banks, pension funds, insurance companies and other financial institutions with policies to not invest in nuclear weapons producers. This is an increase of 14 since the 2018 report.

This is the second edition of the Norwegian People’s Aid’s Nuclear Weapons Ban Monitor, a watchdog which measures progress towards a world free of nuclear weapons, by using the 2017 UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) as a yardstick. The report also evaluates the extent to which the policies and practices of all states comply with the prohibitions in the TPNW, regardless of whether they have joined the Treaty yet.

Nearly 50 U.S. universities are involved in the research and design of U.S. nuclear weapons, largely in secret and in contradiction of their mission statements, reveals ICAN’s report: “Schools of Mass Destruction: American Universities in the U.S. Nuclear Weapons Complex.” After ICAN launched the “Schools of Mass Destruction” report, the Johns Hopkins University student newspaper published an editorial calling on their university to end its involvement in nuclear weapons.
Digital campaigning

facebook.com/icanw.org
@nuclearban
@nuclearban

New website, new look!
Visit: icanw.org
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Ahead of the EU Parliamentary elections on 23-26 May, 2019, ICAN initiated a campaign targeting election candidates to sign the ICAN Parliamentary Pledge. ICAN and our European partner organisations mobilized around Europe to get candidates to commit to the ICAN Parliamentary Pledge if elected. Over 200 candidates agreed, and ultimately 71 of these candidates from 16 countries were elected into the new European Parliament.

ICAN will now work with the 71 MEP’s to form a “Friends of the TPNW” group which will champion the Treaty within the EU Parliament.
ICAN is a broad, inclusive campaign, focused on mobilising civil society around the world to support the specific objective of prohibiting and eliminating nuclear weapons.

ICAN international structure consists of partner organisations, an international steering group and a Swiss registered non-profit association.


Our auditors examine the financial statements (balance sheet, statement of receipts and expenses and notes) annually to ensure that the accounts conform to the legal and statutory requirements. Our current auditors are RSM Audit Switzerland SA and ICAN’s 2019 audit will be available in the summer of 2020.

The funds ICAN receive in terms of donations and grants are used to support the organisations mission and are used in line with ICAN’s ethical investment policy and ICAN’s risk management policy. In addition, ICAN has developed a series of policies and codes of conduct to govern our work, such as ICAN’s Code of Conduct, ICAN’s Privacy Policy, ICAN’s Child Protection Policy, and ICAN’s Safeguarding Policy.

**Sources of funding:**

- **Government grants** 33%
- **Foundations and organisations** 42%
- **Private donations** 25%
Canton de Genève
Future of Life Institute
Gould Family Foundation
Government of Ireland
Government of New Zealand
Government of Norway

Ploughshares Fund
Religions for Peace
Soka Gakkai International
Swiss Loterie Romande
Ville de Genève
And many generous private donors

* Estimated annual budget 2019. Full audit will be available by July 2020