

# INTERFAITH ROUNDTABLE ON NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

**MONDAY 24TH FEBRUARY  
10AM-1PM  
UNITING CHURCH IN  
AUSTRALIA HEAD OFFICE  
LEVEL 2, 222 PITT ST, SYDNEY**

August 2020 will mark the 75th anniversaries of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Three-quarters of a century after the nuclear age began, our one precious world remains threatened by close to 14,000 nuclear weapons, held by 9 nations. While nuclear-armed leaders exchange war threats, at the same time a quieter movement is underway to build a world free of these abhorrent bombs.

The 1978 UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons is the first treaty to comprehensively outlaw nuclear weapons and set out a pathway for their total elimination. It rejects nuclear weapons in all circumstances, and delegitimises policies of nuclear deterrence. The global majority of nations negotiated this treaty, and are now pursuing its entry-into-force. With 80 signatories and 34 states parties to date, the treaty will become international law within the next two years.

Despite having joined the treaties prohibiting landmines, cluster munitions, chemical and biological weapons, Australia remains outside the nuclear weapon ban treaty. While our nation's current policies support the use of nuclear weapons on our behalf, the tide of public opinion is turning and Australia's signature on the ban is inevitable.

Please join a briefing and discussion on nuclear disarmament from a faith perspective. We will consider:

- What does the threat of nuclear war mean to your faith?
- What ideas and lessons can we glean from global movements for peace?
- What role can faith-based organisations play in raising awareness of the nuclear weapon ban treaty in Australia?

RSVP 19TH FEBRUARY: [GEM@ICANW.ORG](mailto:GEM@ICANW.ORG)

