



A New Call to Halt and Reverse the Nuclear Arms Race

As the world marks the 80th year of the nuclear weapons age, the catastrophic risks posed by these weapons are growing.

The major powers are spending tens of billions of dollars annually to upgrade and expand nuclear weapons capabilities. The threat of nuclear weapons use and an unconstrained nuclear arms race is greater than at any point since the end of the Cold War.

The last remaining bilateral nuclear arms reduction agreement, New START, will expire in early 2026.

No bilateral arms reductions negotiations are underway between the United States and Russia, or with China, which is increasing the size of its arsenal.

Some members of Congress and arms lobbyists want to spend even more on nuclear weapons and expand the size of the already massive U.S. arsenal for the first time in decades. Such a buildup is unnecessary, unaffordable, and counterproductive.

More nuclear weapons will not make the world safer.

To create a safer and more secure world for all—and especially for future generations—we, the undersigned, declare our opposition to the new arms race and the building, testing, and deployment of more nuclear weapons, and our support for disarmament.

We call on the leaders of the United States and other nuclear-armed states to immediately implement a mutual and verifiable halt to the deployment and development of more nuclear bombs and nuclear weapons systems. Such a halt would reduce the skyrocketing costs of nuclear weapons and help to redirect resources to meet human needs, including programs to mitigate the health and environmental harm caused by eight decades of nuclear weapons testing and production.

We affirm the Reagan-Gorbachev maxim, reiterated by the five original nuclear-armed states: “A nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought.” We urge all states to refrain from threats of nuclear weapons use.

We call upon the United States to fulfill its disarmament obligations by immediately engaging in good faith negotiations with Russia and other nuclear-armed states to cap and reduce their deadly nuclear arsenals, as steps toward their elimination and the peace and security of a world without nuclear weapons.

We invite leaders of other civil society organizations, former officials, and cultural figures in the United States and around the globe to endorse this appeal and declare their support for a safer world free from the fear of nuclear weapons.