

WHAT DO NUKES HAVE TO DO WITH CLIMATE CHANGE?

LET'S TALK ABOUT: RESOURCES



SHIFT RESOURCES

Instead of spending huge amounts of money on the development and maintenance of nuclear weapons that harm people and the planet, governments and companies should invest their resources in climate action, such as by financing projects in the field of clean energy, research in innovative low-carbon technologies and climate-smart agriculture.

FOR EXAMPLE

The United Kingdom is replacing its current nuclear weapons system, Trident, at a cost of at least £205 billion. Meanwhile Christian organisations are asking the government to increase its climate budgets and deliver the UK's existing commitment of £11.6 billion for international climate finance.

IN NUMBERS

In 2020, nine nuclear-armed states spent \$72.6 billion on their nuclear weapons, more than \$137,000 per minute. To successfully tackle the interlinked climate, biodiversity and land degradation crises annual investment should reach \$536 billion annually by 2050.

RUNNING OUT OF TIME

We are running out of time for mobilising the big amounts of money needed to stop climate change. Governments and companies should urgently shift nuclear weapons budgets to protect the planet instead of destroying it. If not, we will be faced with more flooding, extreme heat, droughts, and rising sea levels.

WHAT NOW?

Ask your government to move nuclear budgets to climate action. Check if your own investments and pensions with financial institutions are ethical and ask your church institutions to do the same. Tell them that the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and the Paris Agreement, both international legally binding treaties, reflect common consensus that nuclear disarmament and climate action is urgently needed.

Week Four: Aug. 29– Sept. 4

Nuclear weapons and climate change are two of the greatest threats facing the world. With nearly 14,000 nuclear weapons, nine nuclear-armed states possess the capacity to destroy humanity and devastate the environment through war. Climate change threatens all life and responding to it involves shifting priorities and resources away from militaries and war, toward just and sustainable peace.

In the Clinton Franciscans' Laudato Si' Action Plan for 2022, a commitment was made to "Research harmful environmental effects of the production of nuclear weapons and make Information available to the public in 2022." This is in keeping with the Corporate Public Stands taken by the Clinton Franciscans on Care for Creation and Nuclear Disarmament.

From August 8 – September 5, the Franciscan Peace Center will be sharing a weekly series of infographics created by Pax Christi International which highlight the relationship between the threat of nuclear weapons and the threat of climate change.



Franciscan Peace Center

Sources
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<https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/press-release/world-needs-usd-81-trillion-investment-nature-2050-tackle-triple>
<https://enr.uk.org/resources/205-billion-cost-trident/>
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