

What is it?

2017 treaty that bans the use, possession, development, testing, deployment, or transfer of nuclear weapons under international law

Entered into force in January 2021

- **93** states have signed
- **70** states have ratified

Why is it important?

First **legally-binding** multilateral agreement to ban nuclear weapons

Basic Obligations:

- **Prohibits** developing, testing, producing, stockpiling nuclear weapons
- **Bans** using or threatening to use nuclear weapons
- **Forbids** stationing, installing, or deploying nuclear weapons on State Parties' territories
- **Obligates** States Parties to provide victim assistance and help with environmental remediation necessary due to testing or use of nuclear weapons

What should I know?

Does not contain a **verification regime** but States Parties must maintain or conclude a safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

The TPNW came from efforts led by the **Humanitarian Initiative** to increase awareness of consequences of nuclear war

Controversy:

- Proponents believe the TPNW complements the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) and reinforces norms against nuclear weapons use
- Opponents believe it undermines the NPT