



Move the Nuclear Weapons Money

Report to the Abolition 2000 Annual Meeting

July 2022

www.nuclearweaponsmoney.org

About Move the Nuclear Weapons Money

[Move the Nuclear Weapons Money](#) is a global coalition and campaign to cut nuclear weapons budgets, end investments in the nuclear weapons industry and re-allocate these budgets and investments to support peace, climate stabilization and sustainable development.

The campaign was established by the *Abolition 2000 Working Group on Economic Dimensions of Nuclearism* in cooperation with the *Basel Peace Office, Global Security Institute, International Peace Bureau, Peace Accelerators, Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament, UNFOLD ZERO, World Federalist Movement* and the *World Future Council*.



Activities:

Nuclear weapons budgets

The campaign has been **particularly active in the United States**, where PNND members Ed Markey and Eleanor Holmes-Norton have introduced measures into the Senate and House to cut nuclear weapons budgets and reallocate these to climate protection, renewable energy, economic development and sustainable development. These include the [Smarter Approach to Nuclear Expenditures \(SANE\) Act](#) and the [Nuclear Weapons Abolition and Economic and Energy Conversion Act](#), both of which were first introduced a number of years ago, but were updated and re-introduced in 2021.

The campaign has also **been active in the UK**, where PNND members Jeremy Corbyn MP (former Leader of the Labour Party) and Fabian Hamilton MP (Shadow Minister for Peace and Disarmament) have led initiatives to cut the nuclear weapons budget and to protect workers in the nuclear weapons industry through Defense Diversification.

An outline of this issue and examples of policy action, are included in the [Parliamentary Handbook on Disarmament for Security and Sustainable Development](#), which was launched in November 2020 and has been the subject of a number of parliamentary events in follow-up (see the [PNND 2022 Report to Abolition 2000](#)).

Nuclear weapons budgets and the pandemic

Since 2020, the campaign has included a focus on nuclear weapons budgets and the pandemic. This has included legislative measures such as the [Invest in Cures Before Missiles \(ICBM\) Act](#) (introduced in 2021), events such [Disarmament, public health, and pandemics](#) (November 2021) and articles and appeals including:

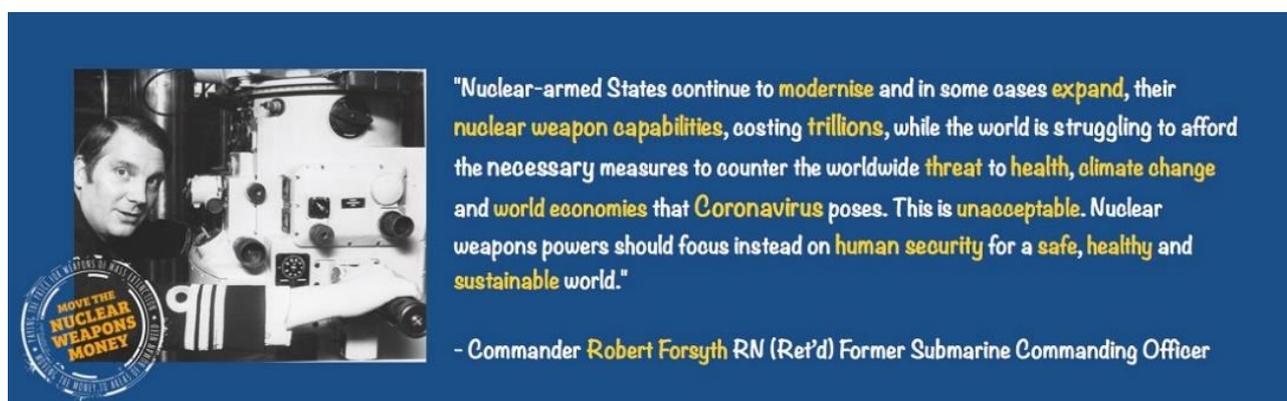
- [African youth call for a ceasefire and nuclear weapons cuts to help address Covid-19 pandemic](#)
- [Former UK Royal Navy Commanders call for nuclear cuts to help address Covid-19](#)
- [To address the corona virus: Shift resources from nukes and the military to public health and the economy!](#)
- [Protect People and the Planet: An Appeal for a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World](#) which calls, inter alia, for governments to 'to re-direct nuclear weapons budgets and investments to instead support public health, COVID-19 recovery, the climate and sustainable development.' The appeal was presented to the United Nations in October 2021 during UN Disarmament Week.

Fulfil the NPT: From nuclear threats to human security

Move the Nuclear Weapons Money promotes the Open Letter to the 10th NPT Review Conference entitled [Fulfil the NPT: From nuclear threats to human security](#). Amongst other things the appeal calls on governments to “Shift budgets and public investments from the nuclear weapons industry to instead support public health, climate stabilization and sustainable development.” The Open Letter will be presented to the States Parties to the NPT during the civil society plenary session on August 5.

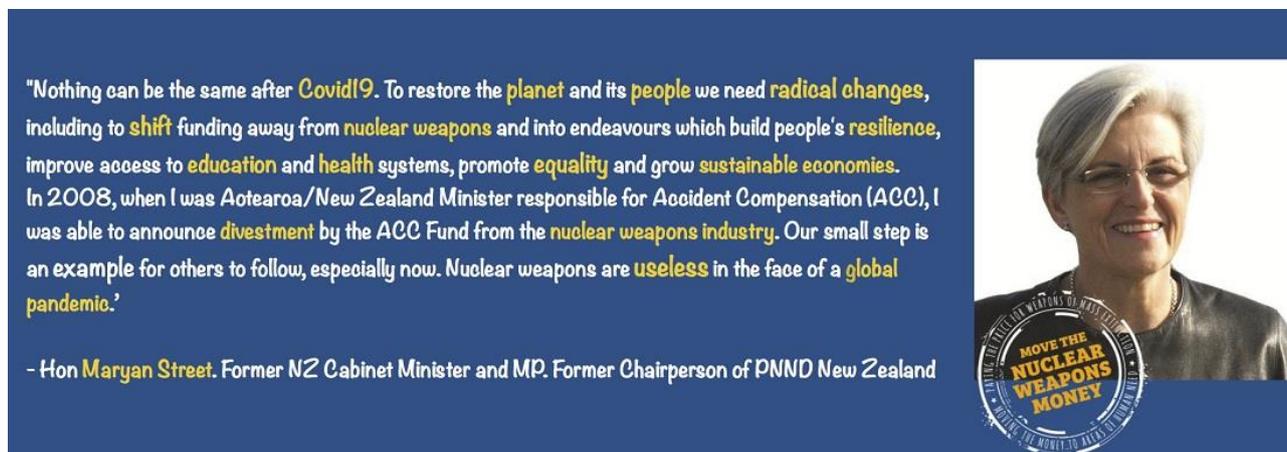
Social media promotion

Move the Nuclear Weapons Money has initiated a [social media campaign](#). We invite people to [submit a short quote](#) with your thoughts on the possibilities and/or benefits of ‘moving the nuclear weapons money’, plus a photo of yourself, and we will turn this into an infographic/meme for social media posting. Below are two examples of the many memes.



"Nuclear-armed States continue to **modernise** and in some cases **expand**, their **nuclear weapon capabilities**, costing **trillions**, while the world is struggling to afford the necessary measures to counter the worldwide **threat to health, climate change** and **world economies** that **Coronavirus** poses. This is **unacceptable**. Nuclear weapons powers should focus instead on **human security** for a **safe, healthy** and **sustainable** world."

- Commander **Robert Forsyth** RN (Ret'd) Former Submarine Commanding Officer



"Nothing can be the same after **Covid19**. To restore the **planet** and its **people** we need **radical changes**, including to **shift** funding away from **nuclear weapons** and into endeavours which build people's **resilience**, improve access to **education** and **health** systems, promote **equality** and grow **sustainable economies**. In 2008, when I was Aotearoa/New Zealand Minister responsible for Accident Compensation (ACC), I was able to announce **divestment** by the ACC Fund from the **nuclear weapons industry**. Our small step is an **example** for others to follow, especially now. Nuclear weapons are **useless** in the face of a **global pandemic**."

- Hon **Maryan Street**. Former NZ Cabinet Minister and MP. Former Chairperson of PNND New Zealand

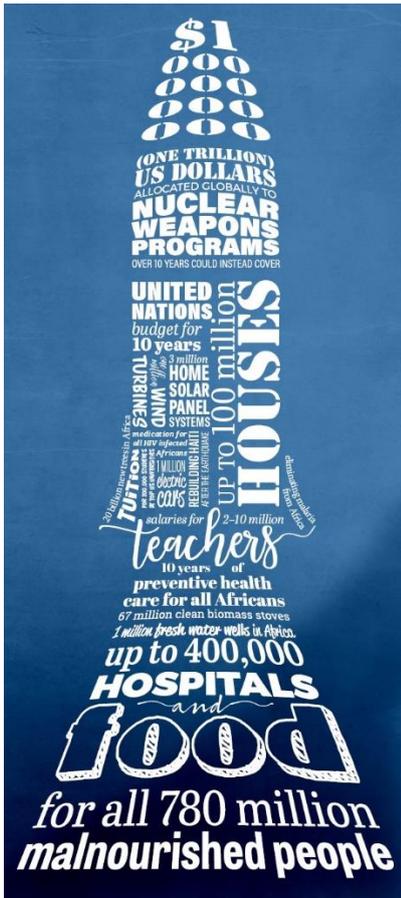
Relationship with related initiatives/campaigns

Move the Nuclear Weapons Money supports, engages and builds cooperation with related initiatives and campaigns including the [Global Campaign on Military Spending](#), [Go Fossil Free Divestment Campaign](#), [Divest from the War Machine](#), [Divest/Invest](#) and [Don't Bank on the Bomb](#).

Abolition 2000 campaigners and organizations

Abolition 2000 campaigners and organizations are invited to use *Move the Nuclear Weapons Money* resources ([handbook](#), [graphics](#), [legislation](#), [blogs](#) etc...) to assist your campaigns and events. We also invite you to submit relevant blog articles for publishing on the *Move the Nuclear Weapons Money* website, endorse the global appeal, and join the *Move the Nuclear Weapons Money* social media campaign

Move the Nuclear Weapons Money graphics for use



The one-million dollar nuclear note. We printed 1 million of these for a *Count the Nuclear Weapons Money* action in New York during Disarmament Week, 2019. We continue to use samples as conversation openers about the amount of money spent on nuclear weapons and what it could instead assist. Contact info@nuclearweaponsmoney.org for copies of the notes.

Infographic based on the nuclear weapons budget for the next 10 years (depicted as the warhead) and what it could instead cover (Missile body). For full description see [nuclear weapons money opportunity costs](#).

Nuclear weapons divestment

Move the Nuclear Weapons Money campaigns for nuclear weapons divestment by individual investors, universities, cities, religious organizations, governments (sovereign wealth funds/pension funds), banks and other financial institutions. At the federal level, four governments had already adopted nuclear divestment measures prior to the *Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons* entering into force. The campaign advocates for other parties to the TPNW to adopt similar measures. (See [Ban treaty opens the door to global nuclear divestment campaign](#)).

At the city level, the campaign was active in the initiative to persuade the New York City Council to decide in December 2021 to divest from the nuclear weapons industry. See [Money counters call on New York City to divest from nuclear weapons](#) and [Open letter to New York City Council](#) and [New York City Decides to Divest from Nuclear Weapons](#).



Move the Nuclear Weapons Money organizes a counting of nuclear weapons money in front of New York city hall and presents an Open Letter to the City Council supporting their fossil fuel divestment measure and calling for the council to also divest from the nuclear weapons industry.



Move the Nuclear Weapons Money speaks at the NY city council hearings on the proposed nuclear weapons divestment resolution and gives \$1million nuclear weapons money notes to the New York city councilors at the hearings.