

## Presentation by Seth Sheldon from ICAN

ICAN and its partners has been really quite busy over the last year in particular with respect to the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, which as you know entered into force this past January. And ICAN played an important role in gaining the 50<sup>th</sup> ratification that triggered entry into force. There have been 4 more ratifications since then which means there are 54 states parties, a further 34 countries that have signed, and we expect more of them to ratify before the first meeting of States Parties which is scheduled for next January (12-14) 2022 in Vienna. And ICAN will be the civil society coordinator.

That's the big thing. A lot else happening.

This week we launched our 2020 spending report showing that nuclear-armed states increased spending during the pandemic by 1.4 billion dollars, showing also which companies receive contracts, documenting also how much of that goes to lobbyists and even think-tanks.

Last Friday we launched an extensive report demonstrating how NATO states can join the TPNW and how certain states are even moving in that direction and that was timed to be released in connection with the NATO Summit and the Biden-Putin Summit.