

TREATY ON THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS (TPNW) IN THE PACIFIC

7 July 2017	Adopted by the Conference at the United Nations
20 Sept 2017	Opened for Signatures
22 Jan 2021	Entered into Force

Australia



Australia had voted against UNGA resolution on adoption of TPNW.

February 2023
"The government will consider the TPNW systematically and methodically as a part of our ambitious agenda to advance nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament."

April 2023
"I think the TPNW is of substantial normative value."

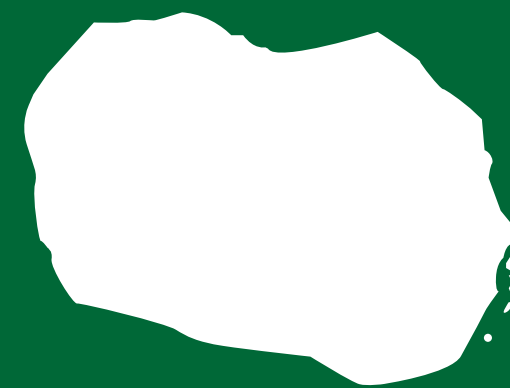
April 2023
"In terms of the TPNW, I think the fact that so many states have signed it demonstrates the frustration that there has been insufficient progress in the context of the NPT, and if this can spur more progress in that arena, that is a good thing."



Penny Wong
Foreign Minister

- 2018-2021**
Australian Labor Party, adopted a resolution committing it to sign and ratify the TPNW in government.
- October 2022**
Abstained, for the first time from voting on UNGA resolution on TPNW.
- This move formally brought an end to five years of Australian opposition to the treaty.
- The United States warned Australia against joining the TPNW, arguing that it could hamper their defence arrangements with the US.

Cook Islands



- 4 September 2018**
Accession
- 15th State**
to accede to the TPNW

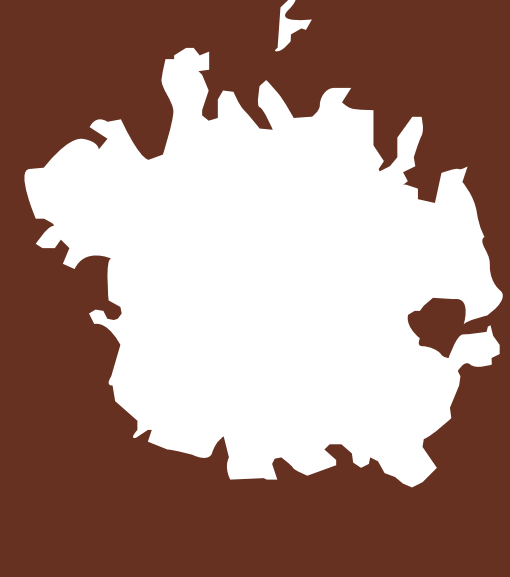
February 2023

"We in the Pacific are all too aware the cataclysmic effects of nuclear weapons. To this day, some of our people are still suffering the devastating effects of nuclear testing carried out in our region more than 30 years ago"



Henry Puna
Former Prime Minister, Cook Islands

Federated States of Micronesia



Since 2018

FSM has consistently voted against an annual UN General Assembly resolution since 2018 that welcomes the adoption of the TPNW.

- 2016**
FSM voted against the UN General Assembly resolution that established the formal mandate for states to commence negotiations on TPNW.
- 2017**
Did not participate in the negotiation of the TPNW at the United Nations in New York and thus did not vote on its adoption.

Fiji



- 20 September 2017**
Signed
- 7 July 2020**
Ratified the TPNW
- 28 May 2020**
Fiji's parliament approved the ratification

22 January 2021
"We will never forget the painful past of nuclear testing in the Pacific. We are now one step closer to ridding the world of the scourge of these senseless weapons once and for all."

June 2022
"It is not idealism that convinces us. It is level-headed commonsense that calls on us to do away with this means of species extinction."

7 July 2020
"Pacific islanders continue to be exposed to nuclear radiation. Nuclear explosions, we know very well, do not observe national borders, they don't respect visa regimes, nor does nuclear waste respect time – it remains for generations."



Frank Bainimarama
Former Interim President of Fiji



Satyendra Prasad
Permanent representative of Fiji to the United Nations

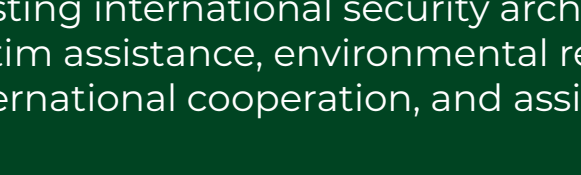
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Kiribati



- 20 September 2017**
Signed
- 26 September 2019**
Ratified the TPNW

2022
"We firmly believe that the TPNW complements the NPT by filling the missing legal gap in the NPT and expands the existing international security architecture by addressing victim assistance, environmental remediation, international cooperation, and assistance."



Teburoro Tito
Permanent Representative of Kiribati

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Marshall Islands



Since 2018

The Marshall Islands have voted against the UNGA resolution on adoption of the TPNW.

- September 2017**
The Marshall Islands said that it was committed to "a close and inclusive examination" of its participation in the TPNW and "listening closely to our stakeholders and affected communities, and also taking into account any possible implications on our mutual security relationships".
- 5 October 2017**
The cabinet of the Marshall Islands approved the signing and ratification of the TPNW. However, the resolution was never adopted by the Parliament of Marshall Islands (Nitijela). Resolution noted possible legal implications for the compact of free association, with the United States, specifically on provisions relating to the clean-up of former nuclear test sites and testing of nuclear-capable inter-continental ballistic missiles in its territory, at Kwajalein atoll.

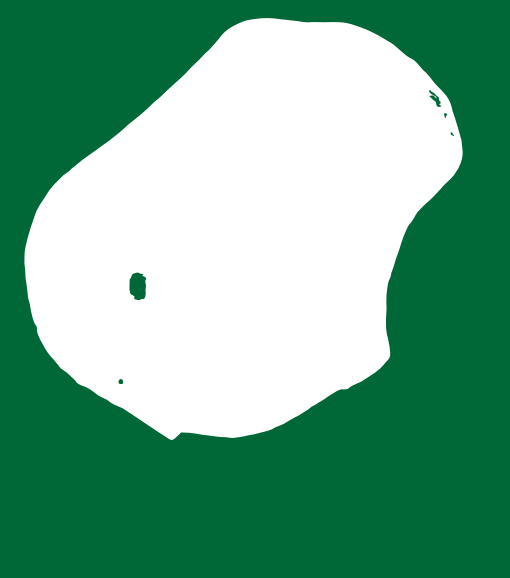
March 2024

"We support the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) short of ratifying it, because it does not go far enough to address the impacts of nuclear weapons... Among other issues, the language in the Treaty on assistance and responsibility for clean-up may still be open to interpretation, where certain interpretations would be detrimental to the RMI's interests."



Hilda Heine
President, Republic of the Marshall Islands

Nauru



- 22 November 2019**
Signed
- 23 October 2020**
Ratified the TPNW
- 48th State**
to ratify the TPNW

New Zealand



Ratification also applies to the dependent territory of Tokelau.

- 20 September 2017**
Signed
- 31 July 2018**
Ratified the TPNW
- 14th State**
to ratify the TPNW

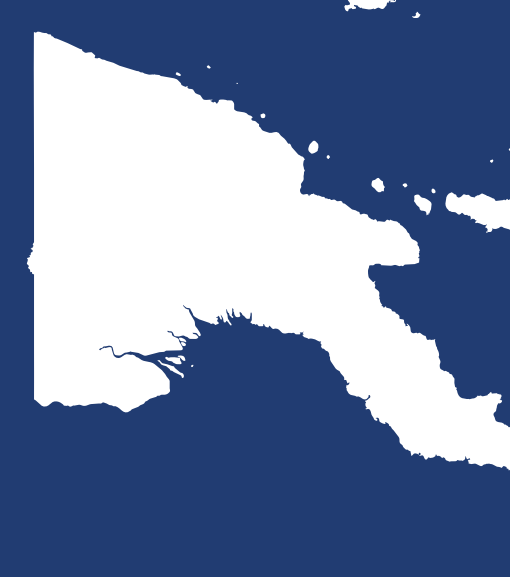
June 2022

"Nuclear weapons are never the answer. But our Treaty can be."



Philip Twyford
Former Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control

Papua New Guinea



Since 2018

Papua New Guinea has consistently voted in favour of UN General Assembly resolution.

- 7 December 2021**
At a roundtable hosted by New Zealand, Papua New Guinea stated that it hoped to become a state party to the TPNW soon.
- Approval by the National Executive Council and Parliament is pending.

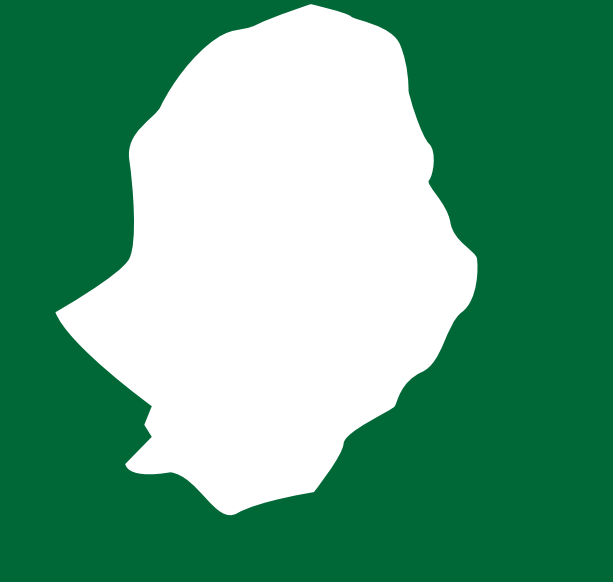
Solomon Islands



Since 2018 Solomon Islands has consistently voted in favour of UN General Assembly resolution.

- 2017**
Voted in favour of adopting the TPNW at the UN Diplomatic Conference in 2017.
- 2023**
Solomon Island ratified the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test Ban Treaty (CTBT).

Niue



- 6 August 2020**
Signed
- 41st State**
party to ratify the TPNW
- 2021**
One of the first state parties that has adopted national legislation specifically to implement the TPNW, in accordance with the Treaty's Article 5.

Palau



- 3 May 2018**
Ratified the TPNW
- 8th State**
party to ratify the TPNW
- 2022**
Palau was also one of the co-sponsors for the UNGA resolution on the TPNW.

Tonga



Since 2020

Tonga has abstained from voting on the UN General Assembly resolution on the TPNW.

- September 2021**
The Government of Tonga said that the question of Tonga's accession to the TPNW was being discussed at the highest level.

Samoa



- 20 September 2017**
Signed
- 26 September 2018**
Ratified the TPNW
- 16th State**
to ratify the TPNW.

September 2017

"We wanted to demonstrate unequivocally our aspiration to have a world without nuclear weapons."



Tuila'epa Sailele Malielegaoi
Former Prime Minister of Samoa

Tuvalu



- 20 September 2017**
Signed
- 12 October 2020**
Ratified the TPNW
- 47th State**
to ratify the TPNW