

# *Humanitarian Consequences of Nuclear Weapons*

## **OBJECTIVES**

1. Discuss the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons both in the short term and in the long term.
2. Discuss the history and background building up to the negotiations and adoption of the TPNW.
3. Articulate the catastrophic impact of nuclear weapons on human life and the natural environment as a rationale for prohibiting nuclear weapons.

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. Do you think people in your country are generally aware of the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons? How do you think raising awareness on this aspect may influence public opinion on nuclear weapons?
2. Why was viewing nuclear weapons through a humanitarian lens instrumental in shifting the debate and moving forward the process of negotiating the TPNW?
3. What connections do you see between the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons and sustainable development?

## **ACTIVITIES**

1. Read the testimony of a hibakusha or a survivor of nuclear testing, and share your reflections. You could also express your feelings through poetry, drawing, essay, etc
2. Watch **this video** by Kurzgesagt. Discuss how understanding the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons has changed the way you think about security (or not)
3. Explore the NUKEMAP and find out the impact of nuclear detonation in your city. Discuss what impact you may see in the short term vs. long term if a nuclear weapon is detonated in your local community.

## OTHER RESOURCES

*[https://www.icanw.org/catastrophic\\_harm](https://www.icanw.org/catastrophic_harm)*

*<https://www.icrc.org/en/document/humanitarian-impacts-and-risks-use-nuclear-weapons>*

*<https://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/disarmament-fora/hinw>*

*<https://nuclearsecrecy.com/nukemap/>*