



Stakeholder submission for the 43rd session of the Universal Periodic Review

Report on Liechtenstein

The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) is a campaign coalition of over 600 non-government organizations in over one hundred countries. Following the historic achievement of the adoption of a strong nuclear weapons ban treaty, ICAN now campaigns for all States to sign and ratify the Treaty as a matter of urgency, take measures towards the global elimination of all nuclear weapons, and provide an overdue response to the victims of the humanitarian and environmental impact of nuclear weapon tests in the Pacific and elsewhere.

ICAN was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2017 for “its work to draw attention to the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons and for its groundbreaking efforts to achieve a treaty-based prohibition of such weapons.”

National Human Rights Framework

The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons has clear references to and implications for human rights law and practice. Preambular paragraph 8 reaffirms “the need for all States at all times to comply with applicable international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law” The most relevant rights concern from a nuclear weapons attack is the right to life, other relevant rights concerns include the prohibition of inhuman and degrading treatment, the right to a home and to property, as well as rights violations resulting from nuclear weapons testing.

Liechtenstein has signed but not yet ratified the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW).

Aurelia Frick, the then-minister of foreign affairs of Liechtenstein, signed the TPNW at a high-level ceremony in New York when it opened for signature on 20 September 2017. In a statement to the United Nations in October 2021, Liechtenstein reiterated its “commitment to ratifying the TPNW” and said that it looked forward to contributing to the first meeting of states parties in 2022. In 2020, it said that it “strongly supports the collective effort to outlaw nuclear weapons”. In response to questions raised in the Landtag, or parliament, the then-minister of foreign affairs, Katrin Eggenberger, said in 2020 that the government was working to address matters related to a customs union with Switzerland before completing its ratification process.

ICAN urges Liechtenstein to complete all steps for ratification of the treaty as a matter of international urgency.