

The Christian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament is a specialist section of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. It seeks to put forward CND's message in the light of the Gospel in churches of all denominations.

Christian CND continues to work in Churches and other Faith Communities encouraging them to see work for nuclear disarmament as part of their Faith commitment, to engage with the government of the day and make public statements on this subject.

As part of its aim to dialogue with decision makers, it holds an annual walk visiting the London embassies of Nuclear Weapons States, the New Agenda Coalition and other relevant nations. In 2010 this also incorporated interviews with representatives of 13 of these embassies.

Conferences and day schools are arranged on both the theology and politics of nuclear disarmament in solidarity with other Faith Communities. Liturgies and demonstrations are held at significant sites.

CCND also helps schools with their curriculum requirements on War and Peace

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NUCLEAR WEAPONS and POVERTY



BREAD, NOT BOMBS

“Every gun that is made, every warhead launched, every rocket fired, signifies in the final sense a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed.

This world in arms is not spending money alone – it is spending the sweat of its laborers, the genius of its scientists, the hopes of its children.”

President Eisenhower, 1953.

Although President Eisenhower made this statement before the nuclear age, it is even more true now when the costs of arming the world have soared astronomically, particularly in the case of nuclear weapons.

There are currently nine nuclear-armed nations, holding between them, over 20,000 warheads, spending annually \$105 billion on their nuclear arsenals and delivery systems. That will amount to more than \$1 trillion in the next decade.

Britain alone is planning to spend a total of about £100 billion on the replacement and running of its Trident missile system.

Nuclear weapons are costly in many ways. They change our relationship to other nations, to the earth, to the future and to ourselves.

UNITED NATIONS MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The World Bank has estimated that \$40-\$60 billion in annual global expenditures would be sufficient to meet the eight agreed-upon United Nations Millennium Development Goals for poverty alleviation by 2015.

Meeting these goals would eradicate extreme poverty and hunger; achieve universal primary education; promote gender equality and empowerment; reduce child mortality; improve maternal health; combat HIV/AIDS and other diseases; ensure environmental sustainability; and develop partnerships for development.

The annual UN budget for its disarmament office is \$10million. The nuclear weapons states annually spend more than that amount every hour. Or, to put it another way, the nine nuclear weapons states annually spend 10,000 times more for their nuclear arsenals than the United Nations spends to pursue all forms of disarmament, including nuclear disarmament.

From “The Costs of Nuclear Weapons Programs” David Kreiger (Read full article ; [www. WagingPeace.org](http://www.WagingPeace.org))

“Even if our nuclear weapons were never used, they are already causing the death of thousands of innocents, deprived of food, water, clothing, shelter, nurture. These deaths are preventable at a cost far less than world expenditure on death.”

Gerry W. Hughes SJ