

The Tawdry Power of Nuclear Weapons

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Dedicated to the Public Domain

Mass murder-suicide is not an appropriate governmental service nor an appropriate human industry. I hold these truths to be self-evident.

Outrageously, all nine nuclear weapon states have placed themselves on a firing line for planetary murder-suicide. As such, they are Nuclear Weapon Rogue States.¹

Moms don't support it. Dads don't either. Kids, they're not for it, especially some of them. And yet, here we have it.

Sixty-six million years ago, the Chicxulub asteroid strike killed the dinosaurs by putting 385 million tons of black carbon soot into the upper atmosphere, stopping photosynthesis on Earth for two years.²

A possible USA-Russia nuclear weapon exchange could result in 150 million tons of upper atmosphere soot. The Nuclear Winter caused by this soot could murder five billion people by starvation, including one billion students.^{3,4} The Nuclear Weapon Rogue States have brought a weapon to school. And they have a plan to use it.

Support for the existence of Nuclear Weapons would be unanimously zero among the 5-8 billion Nuclear Weapon Murder-Suicide Victims. The vaporized, the incinerated, the burned, the frozen, the dismembered, the irradiated, the starved, the eaten, the shot, the infected, and the cancerous—there would be no support.

On February 26, 2024, United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres chided the United Nations Conference on Disarmament, a permanent 65-country conference based in Geneva, for "failing in relation to its very objectives... The frustration of a majority of States at the slow pace of disarmament led to the negotiations of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons... The world must no longer be held hostage by these devices of death."⁵

1. USA, Russia, China, England, France, India, Pakistan, Israel, North Korea

2. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-017-14199-x>

3. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s43016-022-00573-0>

4. <https://pesacheck.org/is-one-fifth-of-the-worlds-population-currently-in-school-cf014d60f59a>

5. <https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/speeches/2024-02-26/secretary-generals-remarks-the-conference-disarmament>

The United Nations is an oligarchy, ruled by the Security Council's five Permanent Members, who have veto-power and Nuclear Weapons. The September 20, 2017, Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, now with 94 Signatory States and 73 States Parties, is an initiative of the United Nations General Assembly.^{6,7} But the General Assembly is not granted the legal authority to defend itself, or you, from Nuclear Weapon Murder-Suicide.

Nuclear Weapons cause immense, indiscriminate mass murder and heinous environmental damage. These effects make them illegal. Our precarious, coercive, murder-suicide 'deterrence', which is an aggressive first-strike posture in the case of the United States⁸, is itself illegal, as are policies and threats for Nuclear Weapon use.

Nuclear Weapon Rogue States are brazen fugitives from these international humanitarian and environmental law precedents:

1. The United Nations Charter, June 26, 1945⁹

"... to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war... to affirm faith... in the dignity and the worth of the human person..."

2. The Nuremberg International Military Tribunal, November 20, 1945 - October 1, 1946¹⁰

This Tribunal prosecuted Nazi leaders for:

Crimes Against Peace, "... planning, preparation, initiation or waging of a war of aggression..."

War Crimes, "... murder, ill-treatment... of civilian population... wanton destruction of cities, towns and villages..." and

Crimes Against Humanity, "... murder, extermination... and other inhumane acts committed against any civilian population".

6. https://www.icanw.org/tpnw_full_text

7. https://www.icanw.org/signature_and_ratification_status

8. <https://archive.org/details/the-doomsday-machine-confessio-daniel-ellsberg/page/n13/mode/2up> pp.19-20

9. <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/full-text>

10. https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/atrocities-crimes/Doc.2_Charter%20of%20IMT%201945.pdf

3. The United Nations Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, December 9, 1948¹¹

"In the present Convention, genocide means any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such:

- (a) Killing members of the group;
- (b) Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group;
- (c) Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part;"

"The following acts shall be punishable:

- (a) Genocide;
- (b) Conspiracy to commit genocide;
- (c) Direct and public incitement to commit genocide;
- (d) Attempt to commit genocide;
- (e) Complicity in genocide."

4. The United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, December 10, 1948¹²

"All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights."

"Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person."

5. The Geneva Convention Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of August 12, 1949¹³

"... shall in all circumstances be treated humanely, and not be subject to: violence to life and person, in particular murder of all kinds, mutilation, cruel treatment and torture... (nor) extensive destruction and appropriation of property".

11. [https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/atrocities-](https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/atrocities-crimes/Doc.1_Convention%20on%20the%20Prevention%20and%20Punishment%20of%20the%20Crime%20of%20Genocide.pdf)

[crimes/Doc.1_Convention%20on%20the%20Prevention%20and%20Punishment%20of%20the%20Crime%20of%20Genocide.pdf](https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/atrocities-crimes/Doc.1_Convention%20on%20the%20Prevention%20and%20Punishment%20of%20the%20Crime%20of%20Genocide.pdf)

12. <https://un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights>

13. https://un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/atrocities-crimes/Doc.33_GC-IV-EN.pdf

6. The United Nations International Court of Justice 1996 Advisory Opinion, "Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons"¹⁴

The U.N. General Assembly asked the Court, 'Is the threat or use of nuclear weapons in any circumstance permitted under international law?' The Court's response, according to International Court of Justice Judge Koroma, "flinched from answering the actual question."

The Court answered that they are pretty sure it's not ever permitted, except maybe if a sovereign State really, really, really needed a nuclear detonation to preserve itself. Then, possibly it would be legal. And, by the way, all countries are obligated to move directly toward complete nuclear disarmament.

The brightest star in this Advisory Opinion constellation is the "Dissenting opinion of Judge Weeramantry". He states that "...the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons is illegal *in any circumstances whatsoever* (his emphasis)... The question should therefore have been answered by the Court- convincingly, clearly and categorically."

7. The International Criminal Court, created by the Rome Statute in 1998 with Amendments in 2010¹⁵

This independent Court is closely affiliated with the United Nations. The purpose of the Court is to prosecute:

Genocide, "...acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group...",

Crimes Against Humanity, "... a widespread or systematic attack directed against any civilian population...",

War Crimes, "... grave breaches of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949..." and

Aggression, "... an act of aggression which, by its character, gravity and scale, constitutes a manifest violation of the Charter of the United Nations."

14. <https://www.icj-cij.org/case/95>

15. <https://www.icc-cpi.int/sites/default/files/2024-05/Rome-Statute-eng.pdf>

8. The United Nations Draft articles on Prevention and Punishment of Crimes Against Humanity, 2019¹⁶

In October, 2024, United Nations member States scheduled formal negotiations on this treaty for 2027.

"For the purpose of the present draft articles, "crime against humanity" means any of the following acts when committed as part of a widespread or systematic attack directed against any civilian population, with knowledge of the attack:

- (a) murder;
- (b) extermination;"

"No exceptional circumstances whatsoever, such as armed conflict, internal political instability or other public emergency, may be invoked as a justification of crimes against humanity."

The USA being awash in guns has led to gunfire, now the leading cause of death for USA children¹⁷.

A world awash in Nuclear Weapons will lead to Nuclear Holocaust, which will become the leading cause of death for children, students and everyone else.

We don't honor the power of gun school shooters. We can serve ourselves by also not honoring the power of their moral kin, Nuclear Weapon School Shooters.

We need to prevent Nuclear Holocaust by prohibiting Nuclear Weapons.

A Modest Proposal

As an alternative to the imminent extermination of humanity, I offer a Nuclear Weapon School Shooter Peace Plan. This Peace Plan will satisfy even those persons much-invested in Nuclear Weapon Murder-Suicide.

For Mass Murder-Suicide, as for Simple Murder-Suicide, etiquette requires that one serve oneself first. In this way, a Nuclear Weapon School Shooter can experience the Holocaust they desire, but without the moral taint of having murdered billions of people.

16. https://legal.un.org/ilc/texts/instruments/english/draft_articles/7_7_2019.pdf

17. <https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMc2201761>

All a Nuclear Weapon School Shooter needs to do is stop eating! Then, the excitement, the validation and the sense of victory that can, apparently, come from hosting Holocaust, these rewards can be fully theirs.

If personal Holocaust by fasting is felt to lack dramatic urgency, stopping liquids will hasten the denouement. Nuclear Weapon School Shooters needing still more theatricality in their demise can select an opportune moment to proclaim, feebly, "All is well."

In the 2010 documentary film, 'The Tipping Point', General Colin Powell said about his experience managing 28,000 Nuclear Weapons, "The one thing I convinced myself after years of exposure to the use of nuclear weapons is that they were useless. They could not be used... This is the moment when we have to move forward and all of us come together to reduce the number of nuclear weapons and eliminate them from the face of the Earth."¹⁸

18. <https://archive.thinkprogress.org/colin-powell-nuclear-weapons-are-useless-4ab6657759c7/>