

## Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

Consultative Status with United Nations ECOSOC, UNCTAD and UNESCO

Consultative Relations with FAO, ILO, and UNICEF



### Australian Section

#### **WILPF Australia Statement for Choosing Humanity: Why Australia must join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons ICAN, July 2019.**

#### **A Feminist Perspective**

##### **Women's International League for Peace and Freedom Australia**

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom Australia (WILPF Australia), part of WILPF International, works to achieve a permanent 'feminist peace' with justice, equality, and demilitarized security for all. We mobilize women to abolish the causes of war by challenging militarism, advocating for gender justice, rights and peace, and advocating for just economic and social systems.

With this in mind the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom Australia, a partner organization of ICAN Australia, strongly endorses the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons adopted on the 7th July 2017. This Treaty is a major breakthrough in attempts to eliminate nuclear weapons. ICAN well deserves the award of the Nobel peace prize in 2018.

WILPF Australia supports the work of ICAN and its partners in continuing to challenge militarisation and the proliferation of weapons. Militarism normalises armed conflict and armed violence. It is underpinned by the assumption that the use of force or the threat thereof is the most appropriate response to conflicts, and actual or perceived threats. While nuclear weapons exist such norms pose an existential threat to the human condition.

From a feminist perspective our goal is to redefine human security. Security does not come from conflict and armaments production. WILPF Australia therefore calls on the Australian Government to sign and ratify the United Nations Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons as a humanitarian imperative.

Christine Henderson  
President  
WILPF Australia  
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