

## **Endorse Back From The Brink Action of Immediate Witness**

BECAUSE our first principle affirms our belief in the inherent worth and dignity of each person, and any use of nuclear weapons would be an act of genocide with unimaginable humanitarian consequences;

BECAUSE our second principle calls for justice and compassion in human relations, and any use of nuclear weapons would constitute an act of incomparable injustice resulting in indiscriminate human suffering;

BECAUSE our sixth principle envisions a world community with peace and justice for all and nuclear weapons establish a coercive international order that threatens the security of all nations, even those possessing nuclear weapons;

BECAUSE UU's have historically opposed nuclear weapons through 15 related prior statements of conscience or AIW's since 1962;

WHEREAS, The Bulletin of Atomic Scientists has set the hands of the Doomsday Clock to 2 minutes to Midnight and scientific studies have shown that even a limited use of nuclear weapons would have devastating global environmental effects leading to the starvation of 2 billion people;

WHEREAS, President Trump has withdrawn the United States from the Intermediate Forces Treaty and the "Iran Nuclear Deal," has adopted a Nuclear Posture Policy that projects wide use of nuclear weapons, and is proposing a vast \$1.7 Trillion "retooling" of the US nuclear arsenal with destabilizing weapons that threaten a new nuclear arms race;

WHEREAS, the US still maintains an arsenal of nearly 5000 nuclear weapons, with 1500 of these still on cold-war "targeted alert", the US President has sole, unchecked authority to launch a nuclear first strike and this US president has already threatened other countries with nuclear weapons;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED this General Assembly of the UUA endorses the nation-wide Back From the Brink Campaign to reduce the risk of nuclear war, which calls on the US government to take the following five steps:

1. Renounce first use of nuclear weapons
2. End unchecked authority of any U.S. president to launch a nuclear attack
3. Take U.S. nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert
4. Cancel the \$1.7 Trillion plan to upgrade the US nuclear arsenal
5. Actively pursue a verifiable agreement among nuclear-armed states to eliminate their nuclear arsenals

AND BE IT RESOLVED, that participants in the GA upon their return to their congregations shall inform and educate their fellow UU's, friends and neighbors of the continuing existential

threat of nuclear weapons and take steps to pass the Back from the Brink resolution as congregational resolutions, town warrants and state laws;

AND FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, UU's shall actively contact, engage and convince their representatives in Congress to pass the following specific resolutions:

1. HR 302" Embracing the goals and provisions of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons" (specifies the Back from the Brink provisions);
2. HR 921/S 272 Establishing a policy of NO FIRST USE of any nuclear weapons;
3. HR 669/S200 Removing presidential first strike authority;;
4. HR 1086/S401 "Holding the LYNE Act" on preventing the deployment of the Trident D5 low yield nuclear warhead and other provisions.