

Protest against Subcritical Nuclear Testing Conducted by the United States

May 21, 2024

The government of the United States announced that it conducted the third subcritical nuclear test under the Biden administration on May 14. The Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations, a nationwide organization of atomic bomb survivors in Japan that has advocated for the abolition of nuclear weapons since 1956, strongly protests this act.

In January 2021, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) came into effect. However, the United States secretly conducted two tests in June and September of that year, which were revealed in a report published in April 2022.

The global risk of nuclear weapons being used has been increasing. We are gravely concerned that nuclear weapons will be used in the Russian-Ukrainian war and in the Israeli-Palestinian war. The atomic bombings in Japan claimed many lives and continue to affect our bodies, lives, and minds in various ways. The tragedy of the use of nuclear weapons, which resulted in inhumane consequences, must never be repeated.

The TPNW prohibits the development, testing, production, stockpiling, transfer, use, and threat of use of nuclear weapons. These actions are illegal under international law, regardless of a country's status as a party to the treaty. In the United States, 70% of respondents in public surveys voice that nuclear weapons are unnecessary. As the world moves toward the abolition of nuclear weapons, the actions of the United States are completely unacceptable.

We strongly urge the United States to take the lead in global discussions advocating for the prohibition and abolition of nuclear weapons, and we vehemently protest the nuclear tests conducted by the United States.

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