

**March 26, 2024**

Dear [Legislator Title and Last Name]

As a collective of 17 interfaith organizations committed to the promotion of a peaceful, just, equitable, and sustainable global community, we write to express our deep concern over the current global nuclear security environment and to urge your support for vital legislation aimed at strengthening nuclear arms control efforts.

Escalating tensions between global powers paired with deteriorating international arms control agreements present a grave threat to global peace and security. In light of these challenges, we stand united in supporting a new bicameral effort ([H.Res.1079/S.Res.593](#)), introduced by Representative Bill Foster (D-IL-14) and Senators Markey (D-MA) & Merkley (D-OR), which intends to bolster existing nuclear arms control regimes.

Specifically, the resolution strongly condemns the Russian Federation for its dangerous and provocative nuclear rhetoric and the veiled threats of potentially using nuclear weapons to advance its invasion of Ukraine. It denounces the Russian Federation's claimed suspension of the New START Treaty, a critical arms control agreement which provides invaluable transparency into Russia's nuclear arsenal but also establishes verifiable limits on all Russian deployed intercontinental-range nuclear weapons. Furthermore, it urgently requests that the Russian Federation resume full adherence to the New START Treaty. This includes conducting on-site inspections, providing necessary treaty-mandated notifications and data, and restarting meetings of the Bilateral Consultative Commission, which are essential for the treaty's effective implementation.

Additionally, the resolution calls upon the Biden Administration to persist in its efforts to engage the People's Republic of China in further discussions on nuclear risk reduction and arms control. It emphasizes the importance of pursuing new multilateral arms control initiatives that would include the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, aiming to enhance global security and stability. The resolution also urges the Biden Administration to continue dialogue with the Russian Federation on nuclear arms control and risk reduction. The goal of such dialogue is to prevent the conflict in Ukraine from escalating to the use of nuclear weapons, and avert an uncontrolled nuclear arms race, thereby ensuring a safer international environment.

Drawing on previous interfaith advocacy efforts, including [calls to President Biden](#) to pursue diplomacy to avoid nuclear catastrophe, we reiterate that the potential use of nuclear weapons holds no justification under any circumstances. Their existence alone, as [noted](#) by Pope Francis, breeds a "mentality of fear and mistrust" that undermines genuine dialogue and peace. The cycle of nuclear escalation must be broken and we're collectively called to foster a world free from the shadow of nuclear annihilation.

**We implore you to cosponsor H.Res.1079 and commit to actions that lead us away from the brink of nuclear catastrophe.**

Sincerely,

Alliance of Baptists  
Atlanta Good Shepherd Community Church  
Church of the Brethren, Office of Peacebuilding and Policy  
Disciples Peace Fellowship  
Dorothy Day Catholic Worker, Washington DC  
Franciscan Action Network

Friends Committee on National Legislation  
InterReligious Task Force on Central America  
National Council of Churches  
Pax Christi USA  
Presbyterian Church (USA), Office of Public Witness  
Religions for Peace USA  
Sisters of Mercy of the Americas - Justice Team  
Sojourners  
Soka Gakkai International-USA  
The United Methodist Church - General Board of Church and Society  
United Church of Christ