

**Nuclear weapons are the cruelest weapon in human history.  
Yet they were never outlawed. Until now.**



**On January 22, 2021,  
nuclear weapons finally  
became illegal.**

**In 2017, 122 nations  
adopted a UN treaty  
banning nuclear weapons.  
It has now become  
international law.**





**From January 22, 2021, possessing, producing, testing, exporting or using nuclear weapons are all prohibited.**

**The nuclear weapons ban treaty protects you and me,  
children, women, the world's hibakusha,  
the environment, the future.**

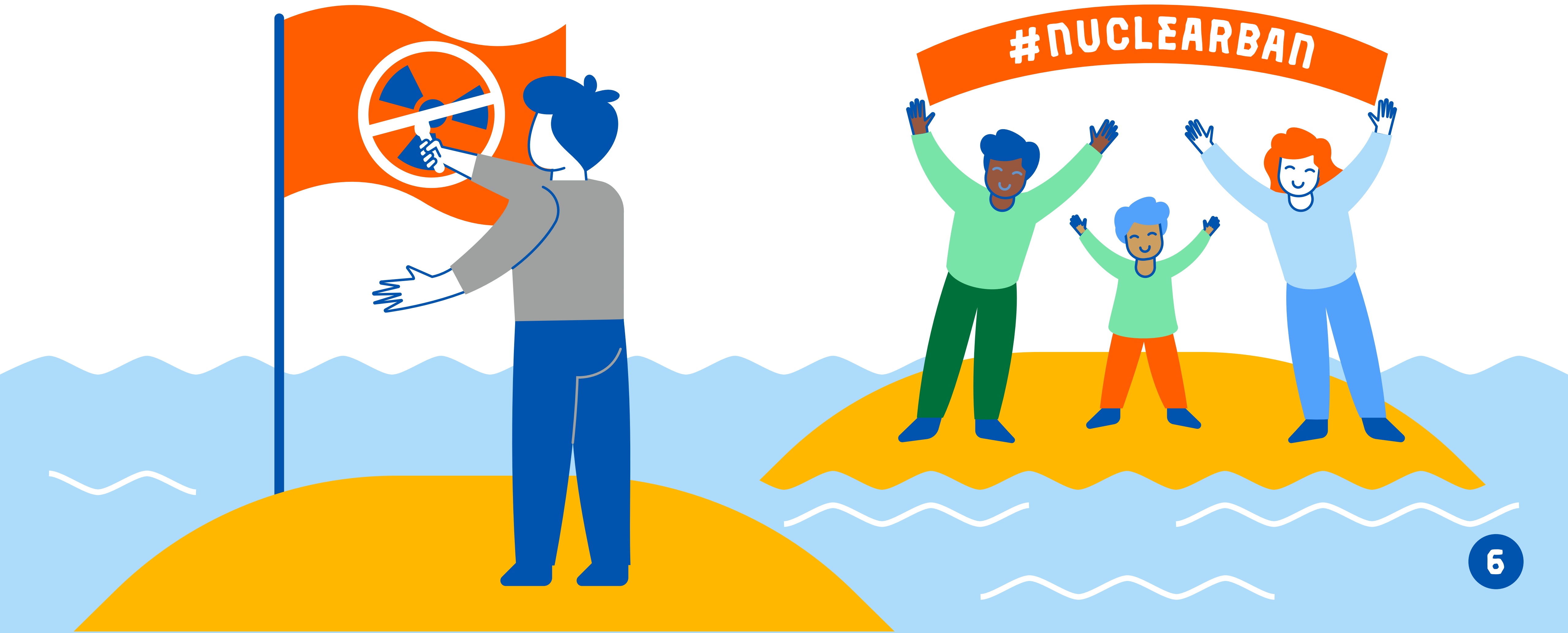


**The nine countries with nuclear weapons and the countries relying on those countries have not yet joined the treaty. Until they do, the treaty does not apply to them directly.**



**So is the treaty meaningless?**

**No, the treaty will actually make it harder for these countries to keep or rely on these weapons.**



**Let's think about the treaty like face masks during the Covid pandemic.**



Face masks protect yourself and others from the invisible threat of the virus. Whether you wear a mask or not is up to you. But don't you feel safer when people around you wear masks?





**This treaty is designed to protect your country and the world from the greatest threat of nuclear weapons. It is up to each country to enter into the treaty.**

**The more countries join the ban treaty, the more unacceptable it will be to possess or use them.**

**This will make everyone, everywhere, safer.**



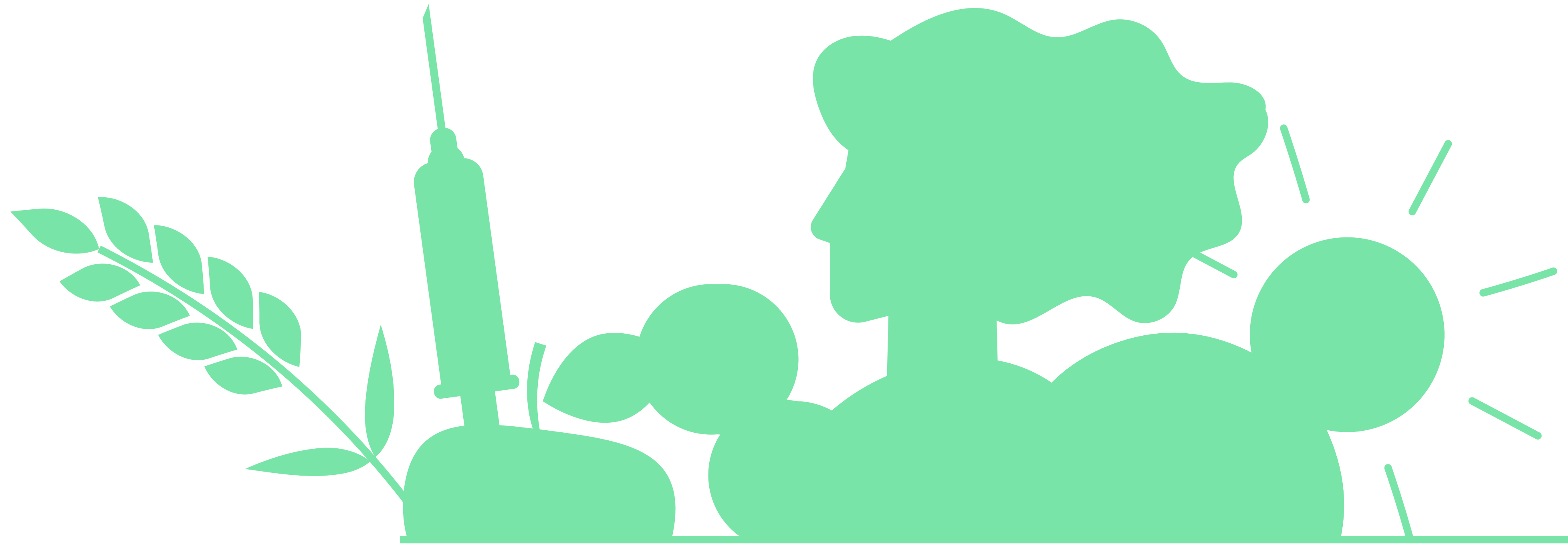
**After all, nuclear weapons can instantly destroy everything you treasure.**

**This is what the hibakusha in Hiroshima and Nagasaki experienced.**



**Just as wearing a mask protects others from disease, giving up nuclear weapons can make the world safer for everyone.**





**What would happen if all countries joined this treaty?  
In the "world without nuclear weapons,"  
we could...**



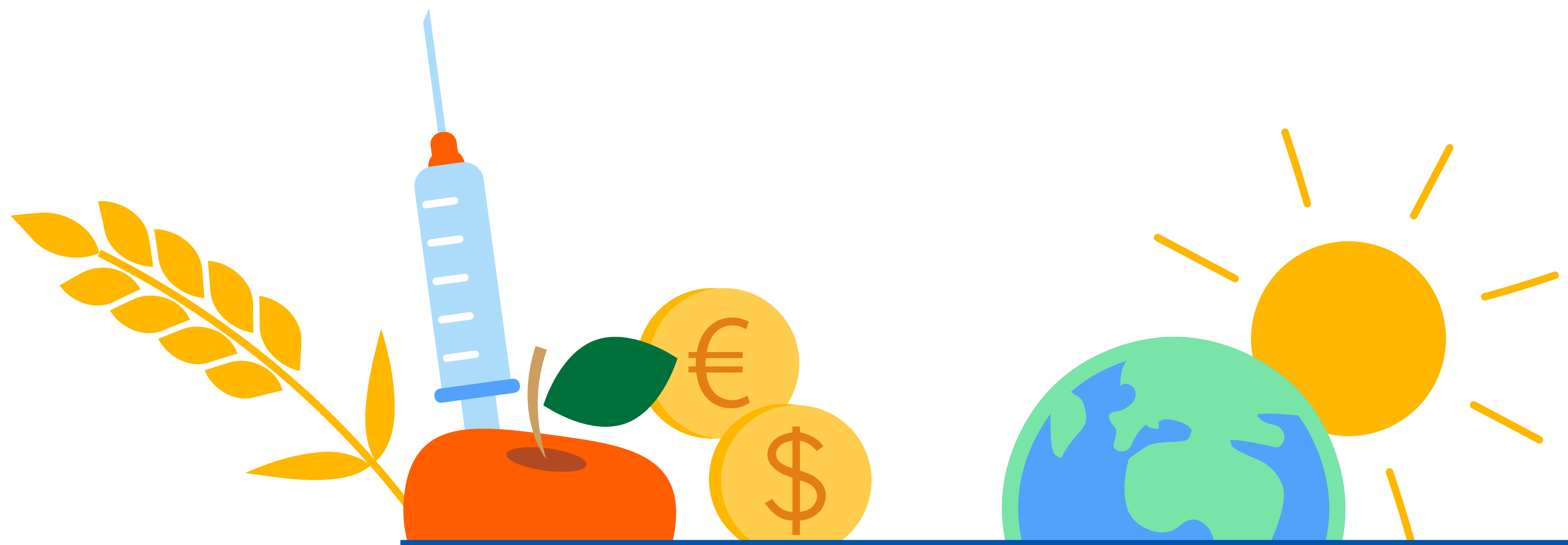
## **Eradicate poverty.**

Use the money the nine nuclear-armed states spend on their nuclear weapons each year to cover nearly the entire annual cost of eliminating extreme poverty globally.



## **Expand medical resources.**

Redirect annual investment of 100 billion USD in nuclear weapons toward medical treatment for Covid-19.



## **Prevent further environmental destruction.**

Reduce the threat of global climate disruption and nuclear famine posed by any use of the current nuclear arsenal.

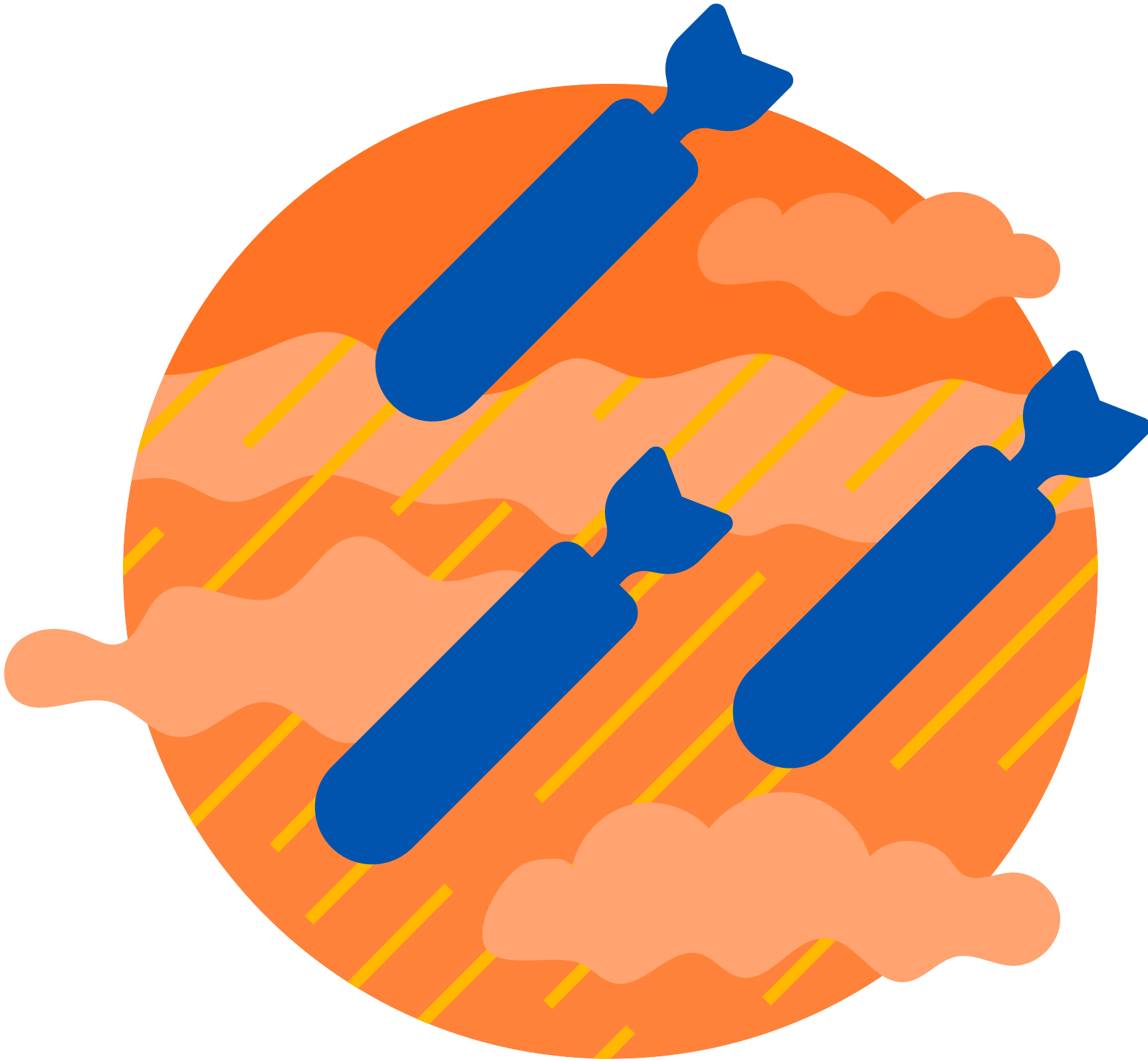


## **Protect rights of women and girls.**

Prevent human rights violations against women and girls who are most intensely impacted by the use or testing of nuclear weapons.



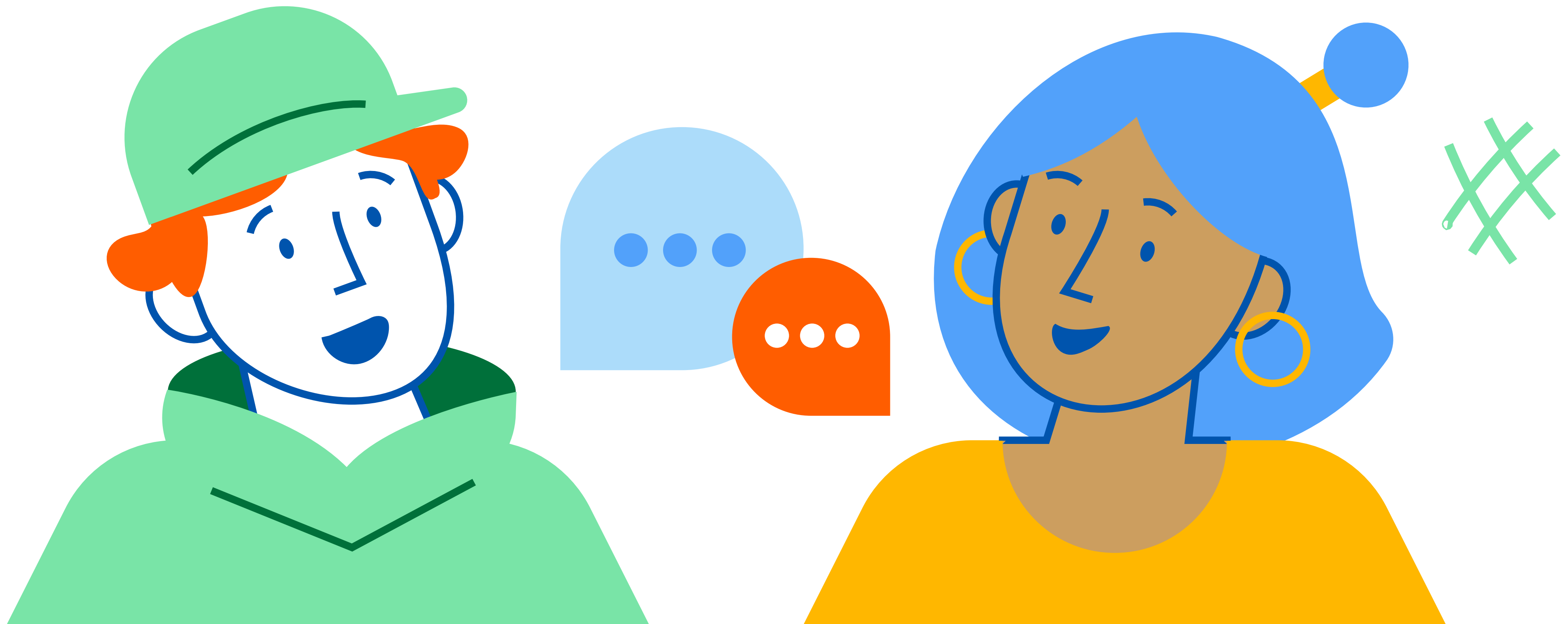
**In other words, nuclear weapons are not abstract, they have an impact on our daily lives.**



**What is important now is to start conversations with the people around you:**

**"We really don't need nuclear weapons, do we?"**

**"They really aren't good for anything, are they?"**



**That's what public opinion is about:  
more and more people seeing that nuclear weapons  
are something to be ashamed of.  
This can change how governments think and act.  
That's how we can advance towards a world free  
from nuclear weapons.**

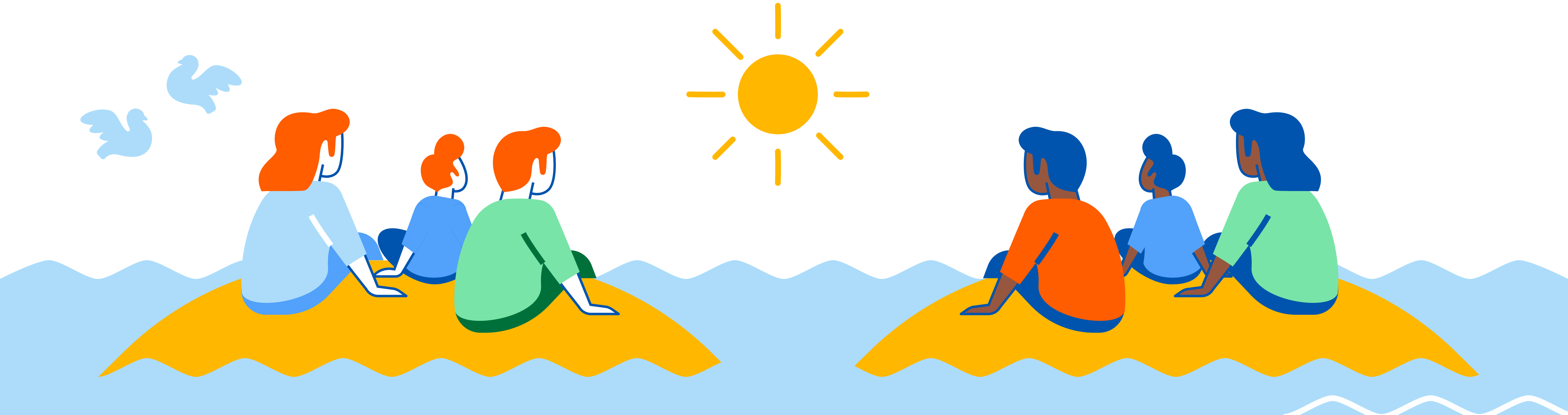


**What can you do now to help?**

**Your actions are influenced by what you value in life.**



# Who is the person you value and treasure most?



Share what you've learned and why you support this treaty banning nuclear weapons.

