

## More than 50 municipalities in Catalonia - which make up 50% of the population - support the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

**Coinciding with the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, mayors and FundiPau claim the role of municipalities in nuclear abolition**

Report by Ms. Helena Aranda Mayor, the City of Granollers, Spain

59 localities in Catalonia as well as Barcelona Provincial Council have approved a motion in which they recognize the danger posed by nuclear weapons today, show solidarity with the people and communities affected by its impact and call for to the Spanish Government to sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), approved in 2017 and which entered into force on 22 January 2021.

The number of inhabitants of the cities and towns that have approved the motion represents more than half of the population of Catalonia, a figure that demonstrates public support for the abolition of nuclear weapons.

In the framework of the commemoration, on September 26, of the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, mayors of various localities, representing the Catalan Chapter of Mayors for Peace, together with FundiPau, make public this support and encourage the councils that have not yet done so to debate and approve the motion, and claim the prominent role of municipalities, Catalonia, the State and around the world, to move towards the final elimination of nuclear weapons.

The Mayor of Santa Coloma, Núria Parlon; the Mayor of Calella, Montserrat Candini; the Mayor of Granollers, Josep Mayoral; and the director of FundiPau, Jordi Armadans, have assessed today in Santa Coloma de Gramenet the progress of this joint municipal initiative.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c8l9RjmCHJs>

The president of the Catalan Chapter of Mayors for Peace and Mayor of Granollers, Josep Mayoral, has sent a message to the state government: "When governments are silent, cities have a responsibility to act. Therefore, we ask the Government of Spain to sign and ratify the treaty; processes with tangible results are needed".

"The local world is at the forefront of development and without a Culture of Peace, there is no development," warned Mayor Núria Parlon. From the perspective of Santa Coloma, Núria Parlon explained that "the City Council is working on different public awareness actions that include a joint program of activities with the institutes to organize, for example, visits to the concentration camp such as Buchenwald "but remarked that" if we do not have public awareness of peace, these campaigns lose strength. "



The director of FundiPau, Jordi Armadans, has insisted on the opportunity that this Treaty represents, "It is a key moment, which we cannot waste, to move towards nuclear disarmament. We have never had a context like the current one, with a UN-approved Prohibition Treaty, signed by 86 countries and ratified by 56, and in force since January 22, 2021. " He added, "It makes no sense to invest \$ 72 billion a year in the maintenance of weapons of mass destruction that endanger life and the planet."

Finally, the Mayor of Calella, Montserrat Candini, has vindicated the role of historical memory in the promotion of the Culture of Peace, "we have a moral obligation, from the local world, to maintain and disseminate historical memory, as well as to create a deposit of collective values in favor of peace, to avoid mistakes of the past. Calella has carried out various awareness campaigns such as the identification of the bombings suffered by the city during the civil war or the International Day of Peace campaign".

Nuclear weapons are a real danger to the safety of people, peoples and the environment. And cities are precisely the main targets of these weapons. That is why the voice of cities is essential to move towards disarmament. With the motions, municipalities defend the right of citizens to live in a world free of this threat. Any deliberate or accidental use of a nuclear weapon would have catastrophic, far-reaching and lasting consequences.

The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons already has the support of 86 countries that have signed it and 56 that have ratified it, but for it to be fully effective it is necessary to get the nuclear countries and members of the NATO. And citizen pressure is key to achieving that.

The municipal motions are part of the [Cities of Peace campaign](#), promoted in Catalonia by the Catalan Chapter of Mayors of Mayors for Peace and FundiPau, as part of ICAN's international Cities Appeal campaign, which calls on local councils to express their support for the TPNW and the nuclear abolition.

The city of Granollers and Mayor Mayoral as head of the initiative has been inviting Catalan cities to support the TPNW as well as recruiting them to join Mayors for Peace.

### **Municipalities that have approved the motion**

Aiguafreda, Alguaire, Barberà del Vallès, Barcelona, Begues, Calella, Canovelles, Castellar del Vallès, Castellbisbal, Castelldefels, Cervera, Cubelles, El Prat de Llobregat, Esplugues de Llobregat, Figueres, Gavà, Gelida, Girona, Granollers, Igualada, La Garriga, La Llagosta, Les Franqueses, Lleida, Lliçà d'Amunt, Lloret de Mar, Masllorenç, Molins de Rei, Mollet del Vallès, Montmeló, Montornès del Vallès, Morell, Olot, Palau d'Anglesola, Paret del Vallès, Prats de Lluçanès, Riudellots de la Selva, Sabadell, Sant Boi de Llobregat, Sant Carles de la Ràpita, Sant Cugat del Vallès, Sant Feliu de Codines, Sant Feliu de Llobregat, Sant Just Desvern, Sant Martí de Tous, Sant Sadurní d'Anoia, Santa Coloma de Gramenet, Santa Perpètua de Mogoda, Sitges, Tarragona, Terrassa, Tona, Ulldecona, Vallromanes, Viladecans, Vilafranca del Penedès, Vilanova del Vallès, Vilanova i la Geltrú, Vilassar de Dalt, així com la Diputació de Barcelona i el Consell Comarcal de l'Alt Empordà.