

The Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations in North America (UUA), through its annual General Assembly (GA) and its Board of Trustees, has supported peace and disarmament in over 84 resolutions [<http://www.uua.org/actions/#peace>] since the merger of the Unitarians and the Universalists in 1961. One of the resolutions passed the first year affirmed "belief in total, universal disarmament under controls" because "weapons of mass destruction are inconsistent with our moral and religious principles."

In 1962, the GA urged the end to nuclear weapons testing and to national shelter programs, since the fear and suspicion produced by such testing and programs "increase the likelihood of a nuclear war" and "foster the notion that thermonuclear war is tolerable...and could be won." Sixteen resolutions in which a test ban treaty is mentioned culminated in a resolution specifically dealing with and calling for a comprehensive test ban treaty (1985).

In 1985, the GA, in declaring UUA properties nuclear free zones, summarized its beliefs as follows: "Affirming our conviction that serving life demands the selfless promotion of peace, the GA of the UUA has resolved to seek an end to the nuclear arms race....Believing that humankind is free to choose life, we denounce the blasphemy against life which is represented by the development, production, deployment and threatened use of nuclear weapons. Pledging, in our religious principles, to protect the Earth and interdependence of its living system we choose to create hope and the vision of a better world. We fulfill this pledge through our efforts to abolish all nuclear weapons from the face of the earth."

Nuclear Free Zone

<http://www.uua.org/actions/peace/85zone.html>

October 1985 General Resolution

BELIEVING that humankind is free to choose life, we denounce the blasphemy against life which is represented by the development, production, deployment and threatened use of nuclear weapons.

PLEDGING, in our religious principles, to protect the ". . . Earth and interdependence of its living system" we choose to create hope and the vision of a better world. We fulfill this pledge through our efforts to abolish all nuclear weapons from the face of the earth.

APPLAUDING the international treaties which have established Nuclear Free Zones in South America, Antarctica, outer space and the seabed, and being inspired by the Nuclear Free Zone ordinances and resolutions of hundreds of municipalities and churches in England, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Canada and the United States;

WE DECLARE all property of the Unitarian Universalist Association to be a NUCLEAR FREE ZONE and we encourage all those who use these properties to denounce the use or threatened use of nuclear weapons by individuals, groups, or nation states.

FURTHER, we invite and encourage all other denominational and religious bodies in North America and throughout the world to join us in declaring their properties Nuclear Free Zones.

AND FINALLY, we invite all Unitarian Universalist Congregations and Organizations to declare their property Nuclear Free Zones and thereafter register with the UUA as Abolitionist Congregations/Organizations committed to:

1. Ending the testing, production, deployment, use or threatened use of nuclear weapons;
2. Promoting, where possible, Nuclear Free Zones in their communities and municipalities;
3. Considering how to contribute meaningfully to the Abolitionist cause, whether by educational or legislative programs, public protest, or non-violent civil disobedience;

Unitarian Universalist Association

Nuclear Disarmament

1982 General Resolution

<http://www.uua.org/actions/peace/82disarmament.html>

a full moratorium on the testing, manufacture and deployment of new nuclear weapons, to be followed by meaningful control and reduction of all nuclear weapons; and United Nations General Assembly endorsement of a US-USSR bilateral nuclear weapons freeze as the first step of worldwide, general, balanced disarmament;

Unitarian Universalist Association

The New Abolitionism

1982 General Resolution

<http://www.uua.org/actions/peace/82abolitionism.html>

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That this Assembly urges all Unitarian Universalists to recognize and support solemnly and with hope the great new historical movement known as *The New Abolitionism*, "a worldwide moral and religious movement which says 'no' to the nuclear arms race and nuclear war as the old Abolitionism launched a crusade to say 'no' to slavery. *The New Abolitionism* against slavery . . . can be a winning crusade" because it must; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That in the spirit of *The New Abolitionism*, this Assembly affirms continuing support of the campaign for a mutual freeze of the nuclear armories of both the United States and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics; that it urges the proposal of George F. Kennan for a 50 percent reduction of the nuclear stockpiles of both the United States and the USSR be seriously negotiated; and that it endorses the resolution adopted by the 1981 United Nations General Assembly that "the use of nuclear weapons would be a violation of the Charter of the United Nations and a crime against humanity."

Unitarian Universalist Association

Halting the Arms Race

1983 General Resolution

<http://www.uua.org/actions/peace/83race.html>

BE IT RESOLVED: That the 1983 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association, reaffirming its commitment to end the arms race, urges the United States Congress to:

1. Persuade the President to initiate serious disarmament discussions with the USSR; and
2. Defeat appropriation bills for the MX and Pershing II missiles; and
3. Pass a bilateral and verifiable Nuclear Weapons Freeze resolution; and

4. Take all other necessary action to end the arms race, including support for the United Nations World Disarmament Campaign; and
5. Continuing from the McCloy-Zhorin agreements of 1961, initiate talks aimed at replacing armed threats and confrontation with serious negotiation between the US and the USSR to attain peaceful coexistence without regard to ideological differences.

Unitarian Universalist Association

**The Citizens Agenda for Common Security and
Disarmament By the Year 2000**

1989 Board Resolution

<http://www.uua.org/actions/peace/89disarmament.html>

WHEREAS, we want the year 2000 to begin a millenium of peace;

WHEREAS, a peaceful world requires the abolition of nuclear weapons and a new approach to international relations based on common security for all countries rather than dangerous attempts at military superiority;

THEREFORE, the Board of Trustees of the Unitarian Universalist Association urges the President and Congress of the United States to:

1. Redirect national resources away from the military and toward meeting human needs. Fund jobs and housing.
2. Declare a halt to nuclear testing. Negotiate a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. Stop funding the Star Wars. Honor existing arms control treaties.
3. Negotiate a 50% reduction in strategic nuclear arms (START Treaty). Halt production and deployment of new nuclear weapons.
4. Negotiate cuts in conventional forces in Europe as a follow-up to the progress achieved in nuclear cuts in the INF Treaty.
5. Halt military and covert intervention. Respect other countries' right to self-determination. Strengthen international peace-keeping institutions including the U.N.

[logo from www.uua.org/uuawo]

Unitarian Universalist Association

The Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations in North America [www.uua.org] represents the interests of more than 1,000 local congregations. Since merger of the Unitarians and the Universalists in 1961, UUA has supported peace and disarmament in over 84 resolutions [<http://www.uua.org/actions/#peace>] passed by its annual General Assembly and its Board of Trustees. One of the resolutions passed the first year affirmed "belief in total, universal disarmament under controls" because "weapons of mass destruction are inconsistent with our moral and religious principles."

A 1983 resolution on Halting the Arms Race [<http://www.uua.org/actions/peace/83race.html>] urged the United States Congress to:

1. Persuade the President to initiate serious disarmament discussions with the USSR; and
2. Defeat appropriation bills for the MX and Pershing II missiles; and
3. Pass a bilateral and verifiable Nuclear Weapons Freeze resolution; and
4. Take all other necessary action to end the arms race, including support for the United Nations World Disarmament Campaign; and
5. Continuing from the McCloy-Zhorin agreements of 1961, initiate talks aimed at replacing armed threats and confrontation with serious negotiation between the US and the USSR to attain peaceful coexistence without regard to ideological differences.

In 1985 the General Assembly, in declaring UUA properties nuclear free zones, [<http://www.uua.org/actions/peace/85zone.html>], summarized its beliefs as follows:

Affirming our conviction that serving life demands the selfless promotion of peace, the GA of the UUA has resolved to seek an end to the nuclear arms race....Believing that humankind is free to choose life, we denounce the blasphemy against life which is represented by the development, production, deployment and threatened use of nuclear weapons. Pledging, in our religious principles, to protect the Earth and interdependence of its living system we choose to create hope and the vision of a better world. We fulfill this pledge through our efforts to abolish all nuclear weapons from the face of the earth.

In 1989 the UUA Board of Trustees adopted The Citizens Agenda for Common Security and Disarmament By the Year 2000 [<http://www.uua.org/actions/peace/89disarmament.html>]. This agenda include a call to the President and Congress to:

1. Redirect national resources away from the military and toward meeting human needs. Fund jobs and housing.
2. Declare a halt to nuclear testing. Negotiate a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. Stop funding the Star Wars. Honor existing arms control treaties.
3. Negotiate a 50% reduction in strategic nuclear arms (START Treaty). Halt production and deployment of new nuclear weapons.