

Peace is Union Business – 80th Anniversary of Hiroshima & Nagasaki

Kelly Marks
Research/Industrial Officer



This year the world commemorates the 80th Anniversary of the dropping of nuclear bombs on Hiroshima & Nagasaki by the United States.



Federation members attended the Hiroshima Day Committee Sydney rally and march on Saturday 2 August at Sydney Town Hall and through the CBD to mark the occasion.

Federation library display

Our newly minted honorary Life Member of the Federation, our librarian Mary Schmidt and her able assistant librarian Graeme Smart have put up a display in the library on level 1 so please check that out!



Further events throughout week

Federation attended a commemoration ceremony in Newcastle on 6 August.

Senior Vice President Natasha Watt will speak at the launch of an exhibition at Sydney Trades Hall on Thursday 7 August at 6pm titled [Peace in Pieces – Hiroshima Day Committee Sydney](#)

Federation members are encouraged to attend commemoration events where they live including:

- Saturday 9 August, 5 pm, Lantern Parade [Remember Hiroshima: March for Peace | Facebook](#), Wollongong Civic Plaza. Hosted by Wollongong Against War and Nukes
- Saturday 9 August, 11am – 2 pm Nagasaki Day Commemoration, 3rd Floor Meeting Room, Hunter Unions Building, 406 -408 King St. Newcastle West (opposite City Wests). 11am - 2pm. Hosted by Hunter Peace Group. Speakers, BBQ, and Peace Crane installation. Speakers include Hunter Workers Secretary Leigh Shears
- Sunday 10 August 4-6pm, at **NSW Teachers Federation auditorium**, Nagasaki memorial conference in person or online with a great array of speakers. 80 Years of Hiroshima and Nagasaki: 89 Seconds to Midnight [More details and RSVP here.](#)

Federation supports International Campaign Against Nuclear Weapons

The federal branch, the AEU, in addition to the ACTU, are proud partners of this organisation, which won the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize.

See: [Support in Australia - ICAN Australia](#)

[Federation members demand Australia backs UN nuclear ban treaty](#)

Federation's 2023 Annual Conference Decision "On Peace" states:

"Federation reaffirms our commitment to campaigning for Australia to become a signatory to the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, and will continue to support the work of International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, Australia (ICAN)."

Today on Hiroshima Day, ICAN has released the results of a new national poll revealing that two-thirds of Australians want the government to sign and ratify the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW): [New Poll: Two-thirds of Australians want to sign the nuclear weapon ban - ICAN Australia](#)

Gem Romuld, ICAN Australia Director, said:

"Eighty years after Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Australians are crystal clear — our country must take action to ensure these weapons are never used again. The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons is the global pathway forward. Australians expect our government to deliver on Labor's longstanding promise to sign and ratify the treaty, and to do so in this term of Parliament."

Federation members and associations can also take action and support the campaign by doing the following:

Individual members:

[Nuclear weapons belong in the past - sign the ban treaty!](#)

[Call on your local council to commemorate the 80th anniversaries of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and support the nuclear weapon ban treaty](#)

Associations:

Can pass motions at their association to send a delegation or write a letter to either their local federal Labor MP (if relevant) [Parliamentary Pledge - ICAN Australia](#) and/or to their local government councillors to pass the Cities Appeal motion at council level. [CITIES APPEAL - ICAN Australia](#)