

Demand a sane nuclear policy.



#NOFIRSTUSE

Under current policy, Donald Trump, like every president before him, has limitless authority to launch a nuclear strike.

The notion that any one person, regardless of character or party affiliation, could have such vast power to end life on Earth is appalling in the best of times – let alone during a time of increasing nuclear rhetoric and vast foreign policy shifts.

"A nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought."

- Ronald Reagan

66%

Of the American public supports adopting a policy of "No First Use of nuclear weapons. Including 78% of Democrats, 53% of Republicans, and 65% of independents.

Data for Progress, 2019

WHY NFU?

- » A binding agreement by nuclear-armed states to never use nuclear weapons first would be a critical step toward preventing a disastrous nuclear exchange and pave the way to deep reductions in these arsenals.
- » This can and should begin in the United States, which, owing to its superior conventional forces, has no need to rely on the first use of nuclear weapons in any conflict.
- » We need to disincentivize the demand for a nuclear arsenal that costs us trillions of dollars which could be going to the actual needs of our communities: healthcare, education, housing, solutions to the climate crisis, and much more.
- » There are no circumstances in which the United States could use nuclear weapons first without suffering horrific consequences and inflicting the loss of thousands of innocent lives. Retaining that suicidal option only encourages other countries to do the same.
- » Nuclear deployment anywhere in the world, by any actor, would drastically elevate the role of the military globally and fundamentally weaken the ability of civil society to advocate for their communities and causes.
- » A No First Use policy would in no way reduce our ability to deter nuclear-armed adversaries who fear a nuclear counterattack.

WHAT NUKES COST US

1 \$1.5 trillion over the next 30 years

That's \$5,000 for every single American. That's enough money to wipe out student debt in our country. It's enough to kick start a Green New Deal. Which is a better investment?

2 Astounding costs from gross mismanagement

Whether it's criminal, like in the case of Rocky Flats, or merely criminally wasteful, like the now abandoned MOX facility at the Savannah River site, the money isn't being spent wisely.

3 The crowding out of other defense priorities

In this year's budget the Pentagon had to drop funding for a new Virginia-class submarine to pay for an expanding NNSA (*Bloomberg, February 6, 2020*).

REAL TALK

Why are we dumping more and more money into nuclear weapons when our adversaries are advancing in new domains like cyber and our infrastructure is crumbling?

WHAT ABOUT THE PEOPLE?

Long after nuclear weapons are built, the communities where they are manufactured pay the price in health and safety costs.

