

**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.**

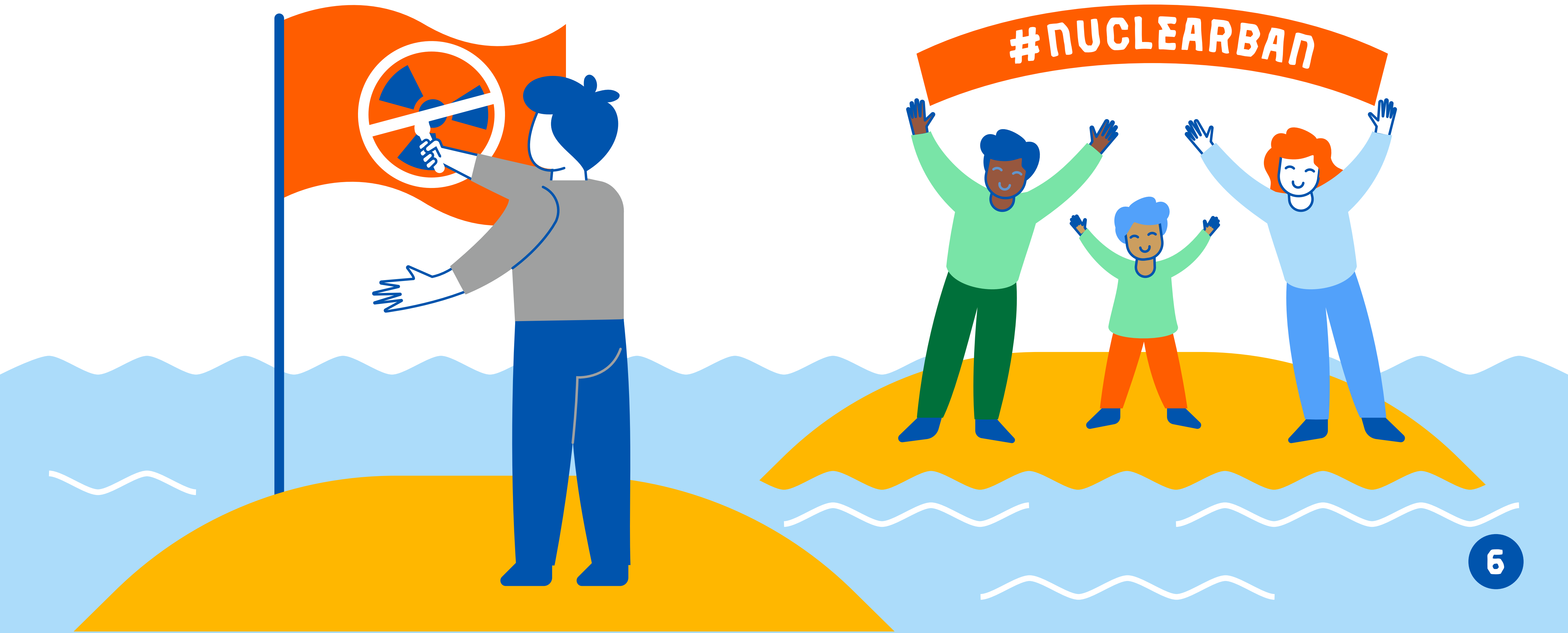


The nine countries with nuclear weapons and the countries relying on those countries have not yet joined the treaty. Until they do, the treaty does not apply to them directly.



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.

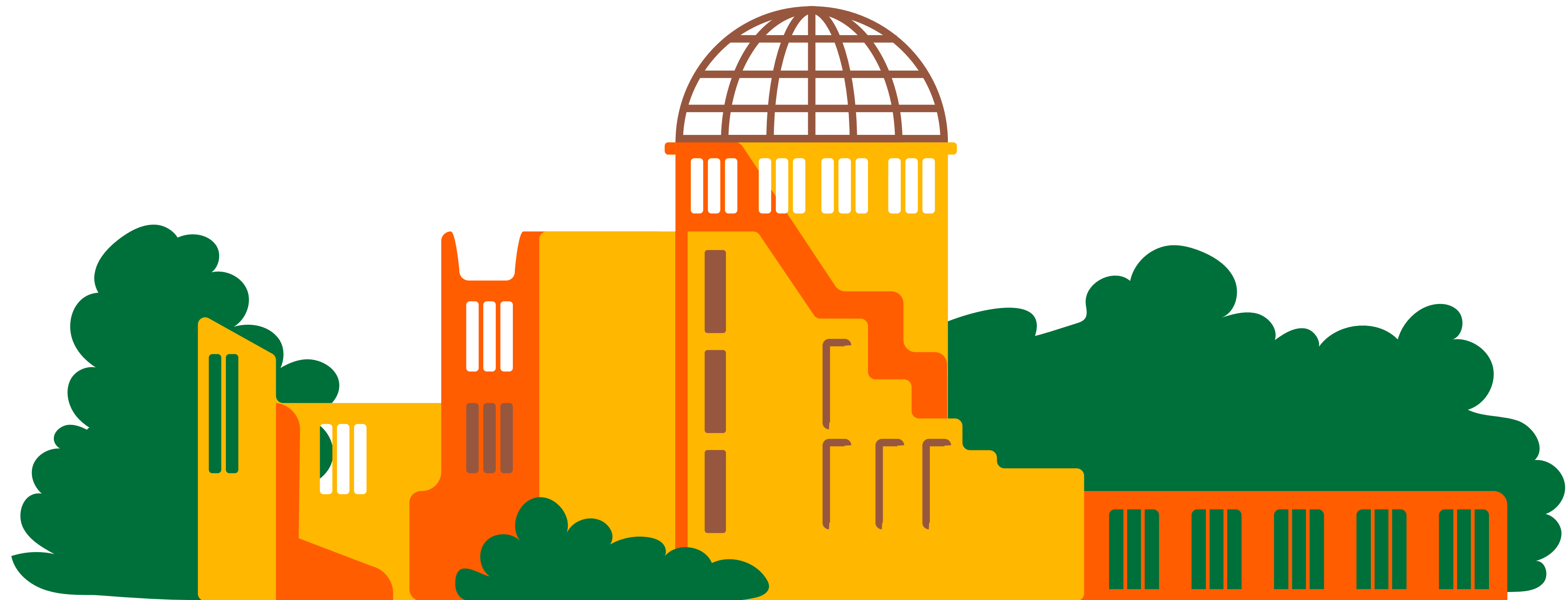
The more countries join the ban treaty, the more unacceptable it will be to possess or use them.

This will make everyone, everywhere, safer.



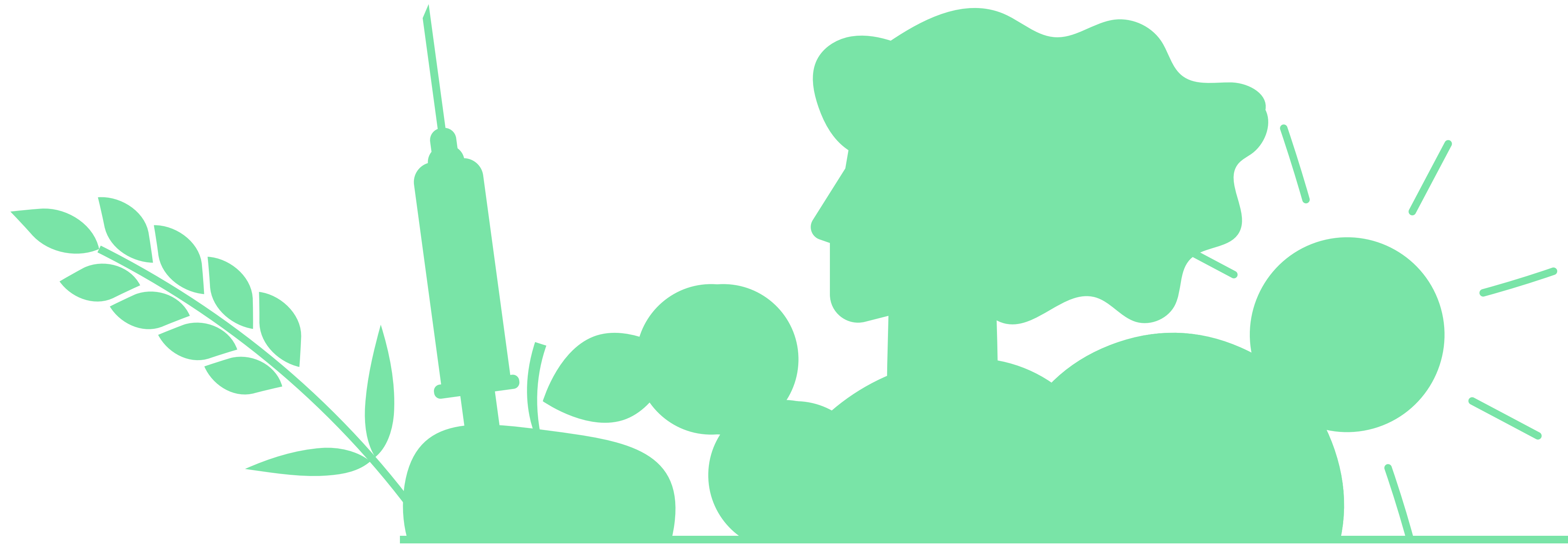
After all, nuclear weapons can instantly destroy everything you treasure.

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...**



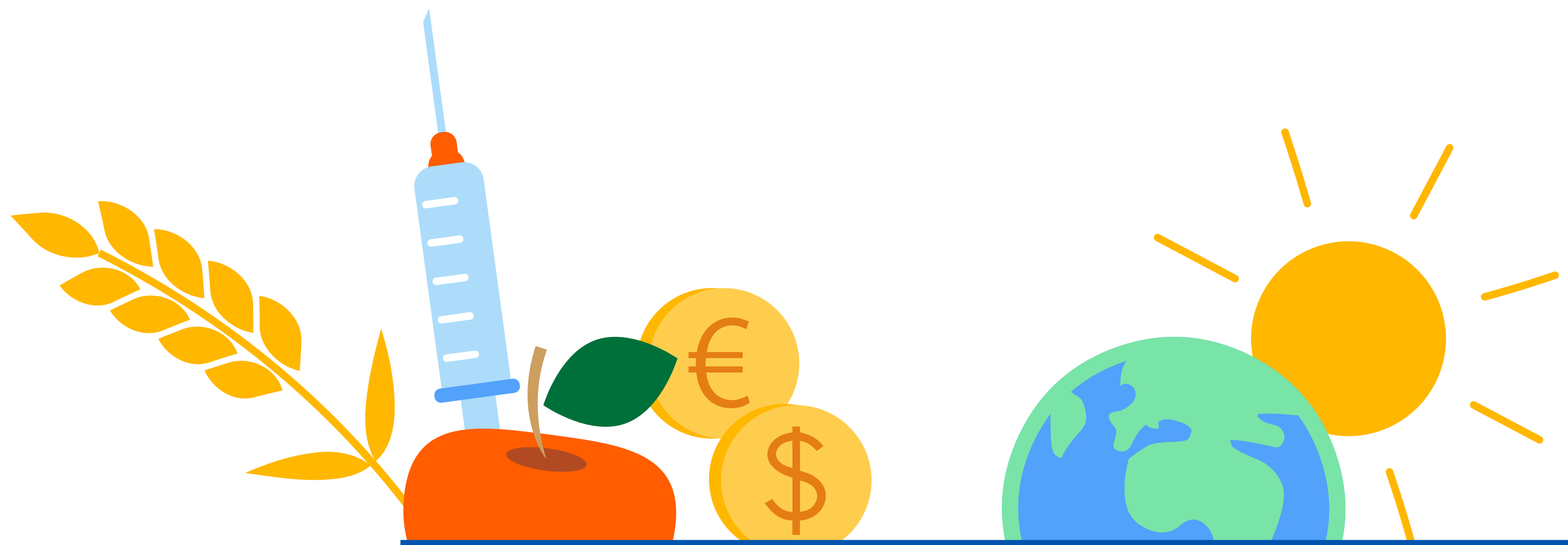
Eradicate poverty.

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.

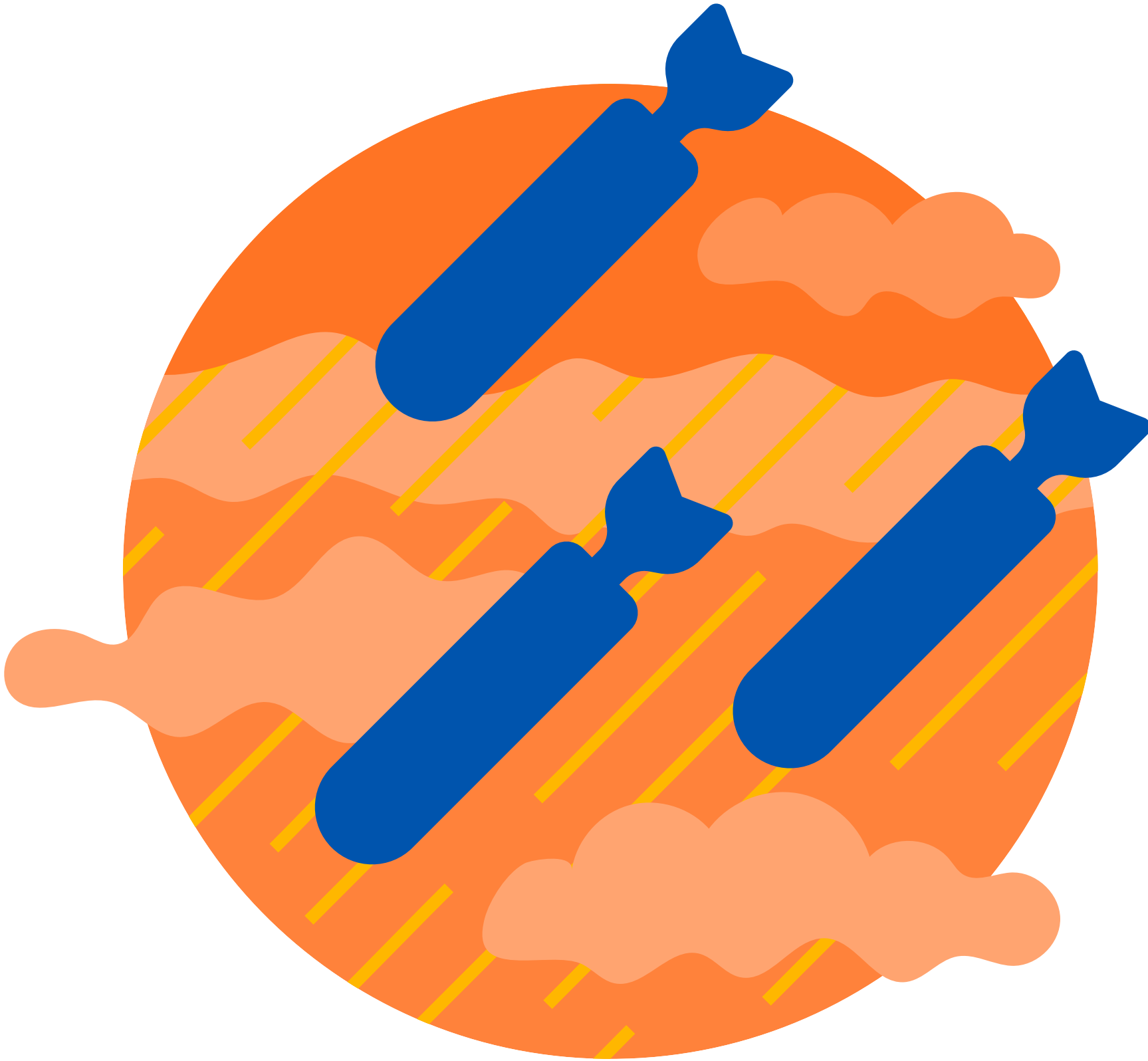
Reduce the threat of global climate disruption and nuclear famine posed by any use of the current nuclear arsenal.



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.

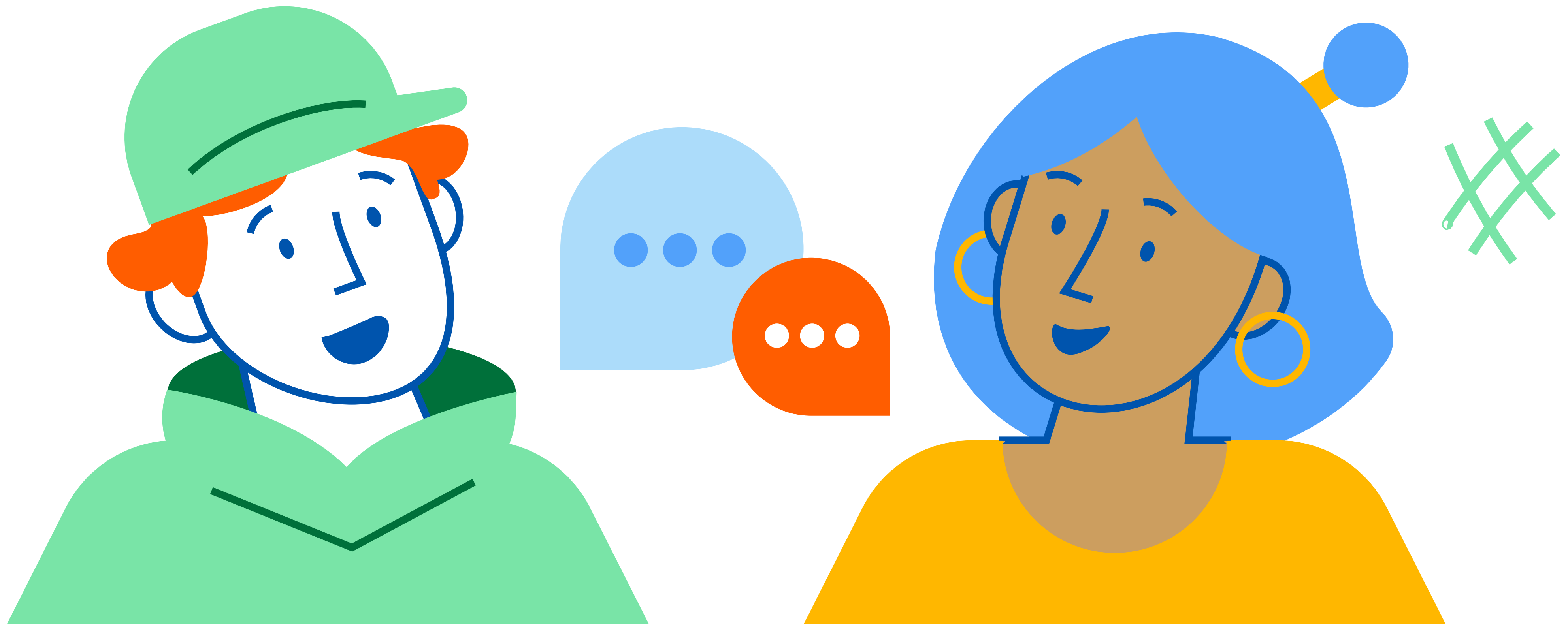
In other words, nuclear weapons are not abstract, they have an impact on our daily lives.



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?"

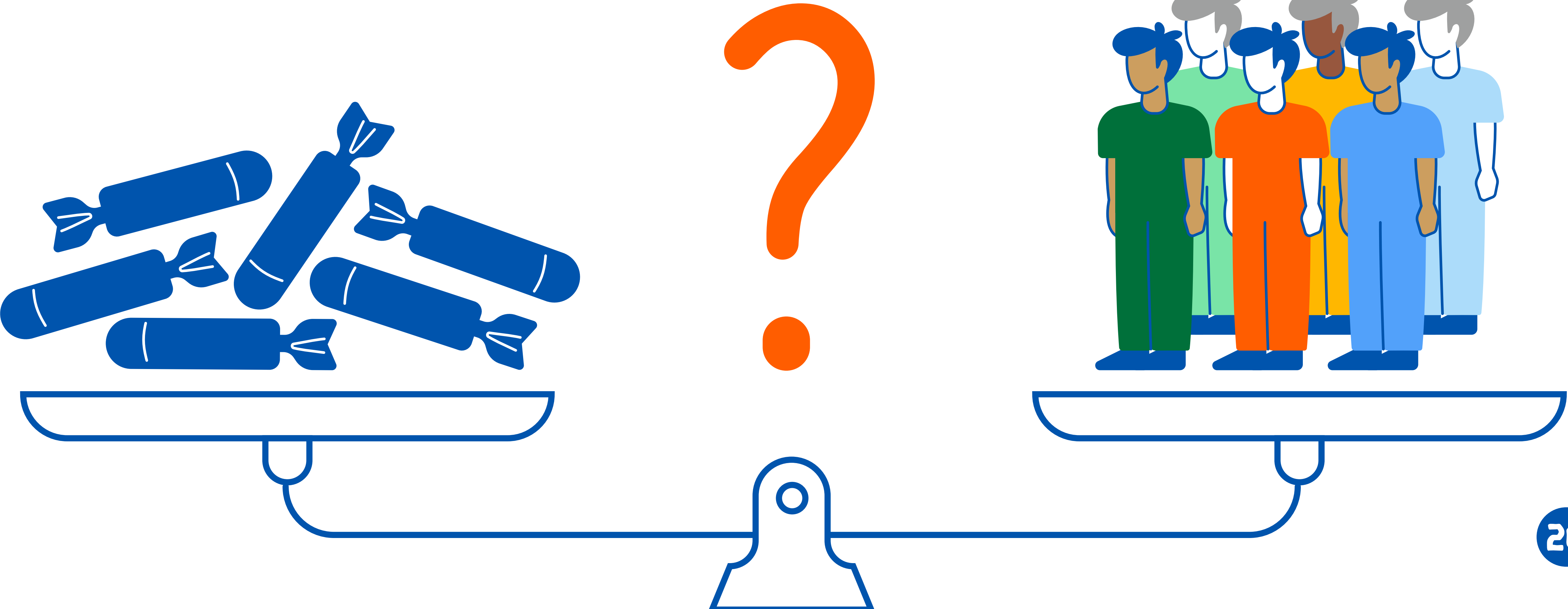


**That's what public opinion is about:
more and more people seeing that nuclear weapons
are something to be ashamed of.
This can change how governments think and act.
That's how we can advance towards a world free
from nuclear weapons.**

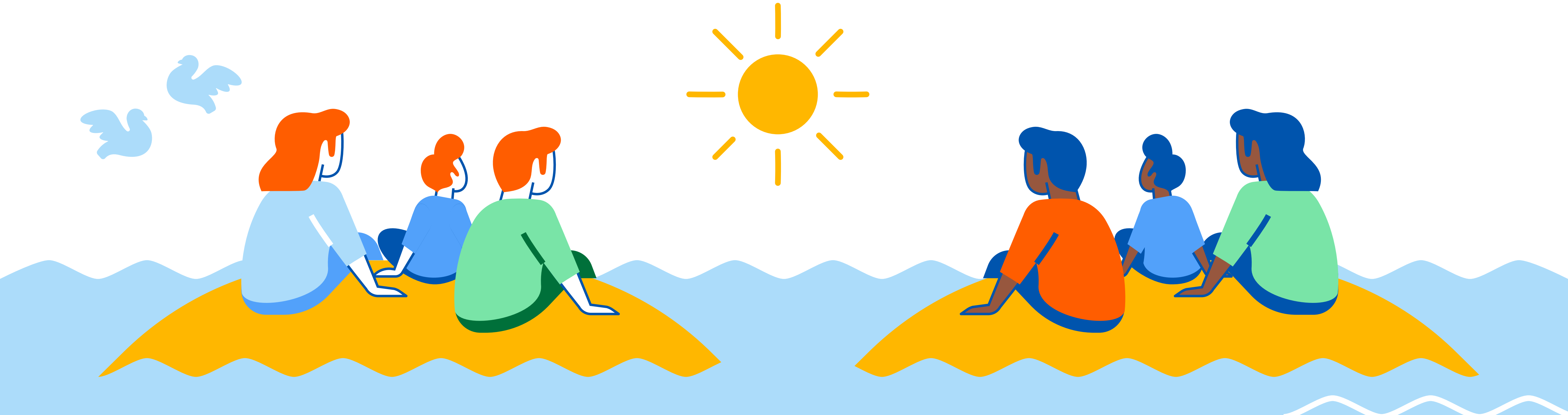


What can you do now to help?

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.

