

**Question for oral answer O-000038/2018  
to the Council**

Rule 128

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Subject: Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW)

Nuclear weapons are the most serious threat to humanity, since their use would lead to widespread death and destruction and would release radiation that would have lasting repercussions for decades.

The dimension and potency of the nuclear arsenals currently in existence and the growing tension internationally, make the need for nuclear disarmament – an issue essential to safeguarding peace, security and the very survival of humanity – all the more urgent.

On 7 July 2017, a United Nations conference was convened to negotiate a legally binding instrument banning nuclear weapons, leading to their total elimination – an objective shared by the 122 states promoters – and giving expression to the aspirations of the peoples for a world free of nuclear weapons. Thus, the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) was passed.

The treaty has been open for signature and ratification by the various UN member states since 20 September 2017.

When the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize laureate, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), addressed the European Parliament, it raised the importance of signing and ratifying the treaty.

The UN has set the mandate for a high-Level conference on nuclear disarmament, to take place at its headquarters from May 14 to 16 2018, to make progress on effective measures for nuclear risk-reduction and disarmament.

The Council is asked to answer the following:

- Does it intend to discuss this UN conference and the position of the Member States on the TPNW?

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Deadline for reply: 26.4.2018