Spending into Oblivion: The Cost of the Nuclear Arms Race

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Total 2019 spending: $72.9 billion
In 2019, nuclear-armed states spent $138,699 a minute on nuclear weapons.

**Total increase:**

$7.1 billion
Behind the Numbers

- Costs include nuclear warhead and nuclear-capable delivery systems operating costs and development
- Based on open-source annual budget documents and regional experts’ estimates
- Full costs, including victim assistance payments and environmental clean-up, likely much higher
- Country-by-country explanation of estimates included in full report
Pandemic priorities

Sources:
https://www.icanw.org/healthcare_costs
Nuclear Weapons Spending and the NPT

“Each of the Parties to the Treaty undertakes to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to **cessation of the nuclear arms race** at an early date and to nuclear disarmament, and on a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control.”

Article VI, Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty
NPT & TPNW pave the way for divestment

- The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and the 2017 Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons build a strong legal case for divestment from nuclear weapons
- PAX research shows that a factor in the decision of financial institutions to divest from a weapon is its status under international law
- NYC Resolution 976 calls for divestment of NYC pension funds from companies involved in production and maintenance of nuclear weapons
Recommendations

• States-parties to the NPT must:
  • Reiterate the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament to which all States parties are committed under Article VI
  • Condemn nuclear-armed states’ qualitative and quantitative advancement of their nuclear arsenals

• NYC residents call on NYC Council Members to advance Res 976 to a vote to divest NYC pension funds from nuclear weapons companies