



NUCLEAR WEAPONS: YES OR NO?

PRESSURE GROUPS

WORKBOOK



Peace Education Scotland's educational resource 'Nuclear Weapons: Yes or No' is designed to introduce pupils to ideas and themes surrounding the topic of nuclear weapons. It has 4 units: The Nuclear Weapons Debate, Nuclear Explosions, Trident, and Pressure Groups.

This course is as objective and balanced as possible, with opportunities for you to develop your creative and critical thinking skills. It has been designed around the underlying principle that young people should be encouraged to have knowledgeable debates and opinions about nuclear weapons.

CHECK

On a scale of 1 to 10, how much do you already know about Pressure Groups?

0 – 3: I don't know what a pressure group is, or why we might need them

4 – 6: I know a bit about pressure groups and some of the things they do

7 – 10: I know a lot about pressure groups and their role in creating change

Write your answer here:

WATCH

You will now watch a short film about Pressure Groups.

The film will introduce you to a lot of the information in this module. It might contain information you already know, or information that surprises you! Pay attention to how you feel watching the film, and how the film makes an impact on you. Think about this impact as you go through the exercises in this module!

LEARN

WHAT IS A PRESSURE GROUP?

Pressure groups operate in the UK and in other countries across the world, trying to make changes in various areas. They are groups of people who have the same cause and want to change something in our communities and society. Members of pressure groups believe that by working together they will be able to achieve the changes they want. They do this by putting pressure on politicians in local councils, or at a national level in parliament. Some pressure groups are also charities, but not all charities are pressure groups.

THINK

WHAT IS A PRESSURE GROUP?

Sort these groups into 2 lists: Pressure Groups and Non Pressure Groups. For the groups on your Pressure Groups list, write what you know about their cause or ideas!

- Fathers for Justice
- Cancer Research UK
- Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament
- Nike
- The Labour Party
- Greenpeace
- Shelter
- Oxfam
- Rangers Football Team
- MTV
- Marks and Spencers
- The Scottish Parliament

| PRESSURE GROUPS | NON PRESSURE GROUPS |
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LEARN

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

We live in a democracy, which means that we have the right to vote and have the ability to change things in our communities and societies. As citizens in this country we have lots of rights. One example is the right to education. We also have lots of responsibilities. For example, we have a responsibility to obey the laws of the country. Pressure groups are like citizens in a country because they also have rights and responsibilities. Understanding the difference is an important part of how they create change.

Rights are things that you are entitled to do or experience.
Responsibilities are things that you could be expected to do.

Rights are universal and unconditional. They're for everyone, no matter what.
Responsibilities depend on the person or group and what power they hold.

Rights are vital for our leaders and societies to uphold.
People have different ideas about the responsibilities of a country or society.

THINK

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

What is a pressure group's right, and what is their responsibility?

- Pressure groups can criticise the government and politicians.
- Pressure groups must make sure the information they release is based on facts. If they are criticising the government or politicians they cannot make up information which is not true.
- Pressure groups must keep an accurate record of any money they make and what they have used it for
- Pressure groups can make protests as long as they are within the law.
- Pressure groups must represent the views of the majority of their members.
- Pressure groups have freedom of speech and can recruit new members.
- Pressure groups can raise money for their organisation.
- Pressure groups can hold meetings of their group.
- Pressure groups may not try to intimidate politicians or the public.
- Pressure groups can use newspapers, television and radio (the media) to make their views known to other people.
- Pressure groups must make sure that demonstrations are within the law and should inform the police and the council of where and when demonstrations are taking place.
- Pressure groups must make sure meetings are peaceful and not violent.

Sort the statements above into 2 lists for rights and responsibilities in the grid below!

| RIGHTS | RESPONSIBILITIES |
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LEARN

ABOUT CND

CND is a pressure group who aims to persuade the government to get rid of nuclear weapons. Scottish CND is the Scottish branch of the campaign. There are also branches in Wales and Northern Ireland. CND:UK is based in England and brings all the branches together. Some other anti-nuclear groups operating in the UK include Nukewatch, Trident Ploughshares, Faslane Peace Camp, Secure Scotland, Greenpeace, the Acronym Institute, Friends of the Earth and the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons.

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) was formed in London in 1958. Scottish CND was formed shortly after. CND opposes all nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction: their development, manufacture, testing, deployment, and use or threatened use by any country. CND workers co-ordinate strategies, tactics and publicity to help drive the campaign along and keep applying pressure on all the UK governments.

LEARN

ABOUT SCOTTISH CND

Scottish CND has members across Scotland. SCND are one of the largest and longest running peace organisations in Scotland campaigning against nuclear weapons and for a nuclear-free world. All Britain's nuclear weapons are kept in Scotland, at the Faslane Naval Base on the Clyde. Protests were made about nuclear weapons, their testing and the growing threat of the world being destroyed by a nuclear war. Scottish CND demand the removal of nuclear weapons from Scotland.

CND in Scotland has not just opposed the nuclear bomb, it has also been integral to the peace movement. In 1982 it opposed the Falklands War, in 1995 the war in the Balkans, in 1998 the Gulf War, in 2001 the war in Afghanistan, in 2003 the war in Iraq, and more recently the conflicts in Syria and war in Ukraine. In each of these conflicts there was, or is, the possibility of hostilities spreading, with the threat of nuclear weapons being used.

Since Scotland received its own parliament, Scottish CND has had two governments to apply pressure to, and work alongside to achieve disarmament. In 2007 the House of Commons in Westminster decided to renew the Trident nuclear weapon system. In 2016 they made the decision to renew Trident again. Both these decisions were opposed by the Scottish government. Although the weapons are all in Scotland, the Scottish parliament doesn't hold enough power to overturn this decision.

LEARN

GOALS, STRATEGIES AND TACTICS

Pressure Groups work to persuade politicians and the government to make changes. Trying to persuade someone is a vital skill, and campaigns need to be very skilful and clever in the ways they act. Pressure Group activities can be described as goals, strategies and tactics.

Goals are the overarching aims of the pressure group. These are the changes that need to be made in order for the pressure group to achieve its purpose.

Examples of goals include:

- Changing the law or creating a new law
- Abolishing an industry or a certain type of practise
- Changing public opinion about a particular topic
- Providing a new service for people who need it

Strategies are the pathways that a pressure group takes to achieve their goals. These are the group's way of mapping out the steps they need to take.

Examples of strategies include:

- Influencing politicians to use their power in a certain way
- Directly, peacefully, disrupting the activities they oppose
- Educating people and raising awareness about a cause
- Encouraging people to use their votes in a certain way

Tactics are the actions that a pressure group takes to complete their strategies and achieve their goals. They are the building blocks of a campaign.

Examples of tactics include:

- Demonstrations, pickets, marches and protests
- Stalls at fairs, festivals and other events
- Petitions, lobbying and engaging with politicians
- Making creative content about the issue

THINK

PRESSURE GROUP TACTICS

List these tactics from 1 to 10 by how effective you think they are. 1 is the most effective tool, and 10 is the least effective tool!

- Persuading Members of Parliament and Members of Scottish Parliament to join your organisation
- Writing letters to Members of Parliament and Local Councillors
- Publicity campaigns using mass demonstrations outside parliament
- Chaining yourself to the gates of the Scottish Parliament
- Publicity campaigns using posters and leaflets
- Asking members of the public to sign a petition
- Producing a website so that people can read about what you are trying to achieve

- Holding marches in city centres carrying banners and posters
- Boycotting products e.g. stop buying from a certain shop or certain producer
- Making a TV commercial so that people can see and hear what you are trying to achieve

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Compare your list to your classmates' lists!

LEARN

GOALS, STRATEGIES AND TACTICS

Goals, strategies and tactics are designed to support each other. For example, a pressure group might have an overall purpose of banning smoking. As part of this, they might have a goal of stopping young people from taking up smoking. Their strategy for this might be to educate young people about the health problems smoking brings. Their tactics to achieve this strategy might be to deliver talks in schools, include anti-smoking adverts on young people's television, or hand out educational materials about smoking at fairs and music festivals.

CND and Scottish CND have the overall purpose of abolishing nuclear weapons. As part of this purpose, they have many goals and strategies, including raising awareness, influencing votes, and encouraging politicians to use their power to help the campaign. They use a wide variety of tactics to deliver these strategies.

LEARN

CND TACTICS

MARCHES

Marches involve a group of people walking from one location to another. This might involve the crowd chanting and singing, carrying CND banners, playing drums and music, and handing out flyers, badges and stickers. They often end with a 'rally'. Marches are good tools for making a campaign visible in public, and they often receive coverage from local or national media. Marches provide an opportunity for supporters of CND to come together to do something physical and peaceful to show their feelings about the cause.

DEMONSTRATIONS

Demonstrations are large gatherings of people in a public place or a place that is relevant to nuclear weapons. Demonstrations involve listening to people speak about the issues. They often happen at the end of a march. They are also called a 'rally'. Demonstrations have three outcomes that CND can use for its campaign. They raise awareness about nuclear weapons among the public. They remind our governments that lots of their citizens oppose nuclear weapons. Large, targeted demonstrations can also disrupt operations at nuclear sites.

DIRECT ACTION

'Non Violent Direct Action' means doing something disruptive, such as trying to block military vehicles holding nuclear weapons from getting into military bases. This kind of protest often involves breaking the law, in a way where no-one is harmed. CND needs to be clever about the ways they use or encourage direct action, especially if they want to gain support from lawmakers. Direct action has played an important part in the struggles for rights in Britain (for example, the Suffragettes) and it can be a useful tool to raise awareness of the cause.

LEAFLETS

Leaflets and flyers are short documents that share key points of information. They might be informing people about a particular nuclear weapons issue, or advertising a CND event, or showing people how to get involved with a particular campaign. CND produces lots of leaflets every year. CND can use leaflets by giving them to local groups to be handed out to people in towns all over the country. CND can use this to raise awareness about nuclear weapons issues, as well as teaching people about the campaign and how to join it!

WEBSITES

A website is often the public digital face of a pressure group. CND's website contains information about nuclear weapons with research and reports, and information about the different campaigns, events and local group activity CND has going on. CND uses its website to share and store information. It can also raise money for the campaign by selling T-shirts, badges and other merchandise through their website's shop. Lastly, CND can make it easier for people to become a member of the campaign with an online sign-up!

STREET STALLS

Street stalls involve CND campaigners setting up a table or booth somewhere in public. They distribute flyers and petitions, hand out badges and stickers, and raise money through donations and selling merchandise. They aim to attract passers-by to speak to them about nuclear weapons. CND can use street stalls to encourage local people to become members of CND. Local CND groups do stalls as outreach in their communities, and sometimes CND is invited to do a stall at an event like an arts or music festival.

LOBBYING

Lobbying is when campaigners directly try to influence the policies or actions of politicians or governments. This can involve direct appeals, using public engagement schemes, or sitting on panels open to civic society, such as Cross-Party Groups. Scottish CND sits on the

Holyrood Cross-Party Group for Nuclear Disarmament. This is a chance to meet with MSPs from across the political spectrum to speak about advancing anti-nuclear policies. Most governments don't have an official anti-nuclear group, so lobbying looks quite different!

TV AND MEDIA

TV and media appearances can take many forms. CND campaigners are often interviewed by TV, radio and print journalists for articles, news programmes and documentaries about Trident, nuclear weapons, war and peace. Most media outlets try to present both sides of the debate about a controversial issue like nuclear weapons, so CND campaigners are often featured alongside voices who are pro-nuclear. This level of exposure brings both support and criticism for CND, as it reaches a massive range of people.

LETTERS

Letter writing campaigns involve writing a letter to a target - often one or more members of a political party or government - to directly appeal to them to support or assist with CND's cause. The more people who write letters, the more effective it is! CND can use letter writing campaigns to engage with local authorities all over the country, as well as supporters in remote parts of the country who might not be able to take part in other CND campaigns. CND often writes a template letter for people to personalise and send on.

EDUCATION

The practical realities of the nuclear weapons industry are rarely discussed in public by the media or our governments. CND has a responsibility to help people make informed choices and opinions about nuclear weapons by showing them the full picture and answering their questions. Education projects don't try to persuade anyone to join CND, instead they aim to teach people the facts about nuclear weapons and let them decide. CND creates modules for schools to help the next generation of voters from their own opinions!

MEETINGS

At meetings, members of a CND group come together to share updates, develop projects, plan events, discuss new ideas and make decisions. CND has many groups that meet regularly to decide the direction and activities of the campaign. Online and in-person meetings are a big part of how CND operates. This includes local chapters, working groups, fundraising groups, office bearers and executive committees. Navigating the group dynamics in meetings helps the campaign as CND can learn about peaceful ways of resolving conflict.

MAGAZINES

Magazines are short publications which CND puts together and sends out. They contain updates on the campaign, articles about nuclear weapons issues, contributions from members, and information about how to join the campaign. Scottish CND's magazine is called 'Nuclear Free Scotland'. Scottish CND prints several issues a year which are sent to all of its members and given out at street stalls and other events. This helps to keep members engaged, informed and updated, and also helps draw in new members and supporters!

SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media campaigns have become really important for pressure groups. They can reach huge numbers of people, engage with them in new ways, and connect with similar campaigns around the world to support and empower one another. CND creates regular content for people to learn from, be inspired by, engage with and personalise, which has helped them to reach new generations of supporters. CND can use social media to track people's engagement and direct people back to their website for more information.

CREATIVITY

Often artists, poets, musicians and other creative people will champion a cause within their work. This can involve creating something artistic for CND to use, representing CND when on stage, or publicising the campaign to their fans. CND often relies on facts and information to engage with people, but they can use music, artwork and poetry to appeal to people in

creative and emotional ways. They can also find new members among the followers of the artist representing them.

PETITIONS

Petitions are statements about a change to a law or policy that are signed by members of the public to show their support. In the UK, 10 thousand signatures will receive a response from parliament, and a petition with 100 thousand signatures will be considered for a parliamentary debate. CND has ongoing petitions that people can sign to show they support an end to nuclear weapons. They also launch petitions on topical nuclear developments, such as supporting international treaties about nuclear weapons.

FUNDRAISING

Some pressure groups are charities and can apply for charitable funding. Some are funded by membership fees from their supporters. Some others rely entirely on fundraising, collecting donations from the public and selling merchandise. Most pressure groups use a combination. CND is a membership based organisation that also sells merchandise and collects donations. CND can use the money to pay for research and reports, events, meeting spaces, promotional materials, staff and volunteer expenses and much more!



CND TACTICS

Which one of these tactics do you think is most likely to get British politicians to stop producing nuclear weapons and disarm any weapons they already have?

- Marches
- Demonstrations
- Direct Action
- Leaflets
- Websites
- Street Stalls
- Lobbying
- TV and Media
- Letters
- Education
- Meetings
- Magazines
- Social Media
- Creativity
- Petitions
- Fundraising

In groups of 3, order the tactics from 1 to 16, from most to least influential!

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Each of the groups should share their lists with the class.

What did the groups have in common? What did you think about differently? Why did you make the choices you did for first and last place? Did listening to the other groups make you change your mind or learn more about how to use some of these tactics?

THINK

CND TACTICS

Can you think of any other tactics a pressure group could use to achieve their aims? Each group should think of one tactic, and describe it for the class!

Think about the following questions when discussing tactics with your group:

- What activities would the tactic involve?
- Who in the campaign would use the tactic?
- What audience would the tactic reach?
- What would be the purpose of the tactic?
- How does the tactic fit with other tactics?
- What resources would the tactic need?

CHALLENGE

RESEARCH AND REPORT

Your task is to gather information about a pressure group of your choice, and present that information in a 250 word report. Try to choose a group that represents a cause that interests you! There are hundreds pressure groups who campaign on a range of issues, including human rights, healthcare, environmental issues, LGBTQI+ issues, climate action, public safety, poverty relief, anti-racism, peace and justice, anti-sexism, inequality, pollution, housing and more!

Your report should include **at least six** of the following points:

LOGO - What is the group's logo? What is it supposed to represent?

GET INVOLVED - Does the group have volunteering or other opportunities to help out?

KEY FIGURES - Does the group have a leader? What role do they play in the group?

PURPOSE / AIMS - What does the group want to achieve? What changes do they want to see?

KEY CAMPAIGN - Find an example of an important action the group has taken

CONTACT INFORMATION - What's the best way to get in touch? Email? Phone? Social media? Website?

HISTORY - What year was the group formed? Who first started the group, and why?

TACTICS - What kind of methods does the group use to achieve their goals?

RESOURCES - Has the group produced any materials to teach people about their cause?

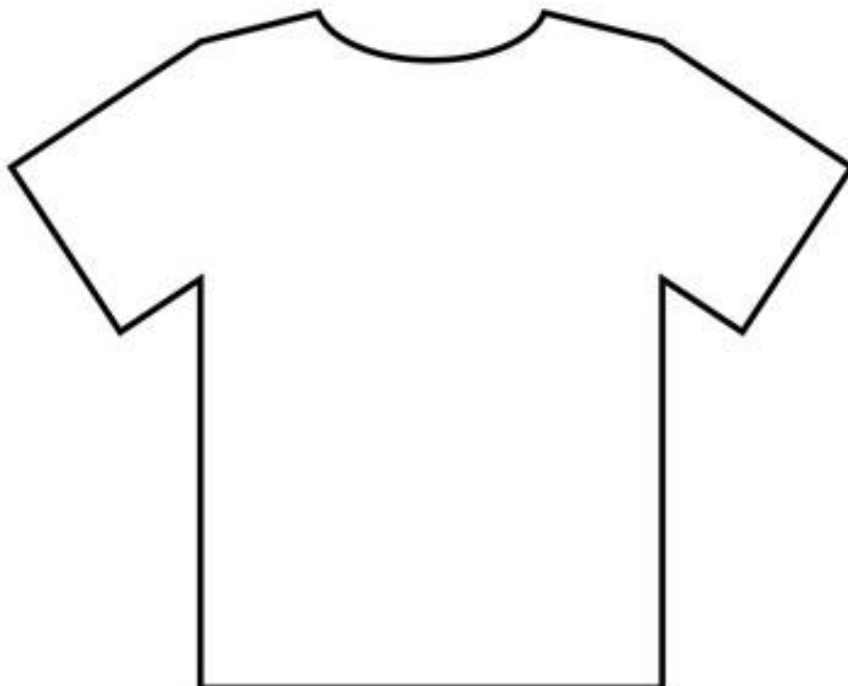
CHALLENGE

DESIGN A T - SHIRT

The CND logo has become known all over the world as a symbol of peace. Your challenge is to design a T-shirt for CND, using their logo in a new and creative way!

Think about the following questions when creating your design.

- What messages of peace or justice do you want to spread?
- What images or pictures can you use the CND logo to create?
- What will make people want to buy and wear this T-shirt?
- What struggles are relevant to CND today that you want to highlight?



CHALLENGE

WRITE A LEAFLET

Your challenge is to design a 1 page leaflet for CND, to teach people about a topic. The leaflet should contain lots of information in creative ways. Think about how you can use the space for text, images, charts and other details to help the reader understand the topic and want to learn more!

You should choose from the following topics:

- Nuclear weapons and the environment
- History of nuclear weapons
- Nuclear weapons in world war II
- Trident nuclear weapons system
- How nuclear weapons are made
- Campaigns against nuclear weapons

CHALLENGE

PLAN A NEWSLETTER

Your challenge is to plan a 5 page newsletter for CND, to update people about the campaign and encourage new people to get involved! Think about how you can use the space for different ways of showing information.

You can include the features below, or come up with your own!

- Letters
- Sign-up information
- Petitions
- Articles
- Cartoons and sketches
- Graphics and charts
- Photographs
- Puzzles and Games
- Bullet points

CHALLENGE

DESIGN A POSTER

Your challenge is to design a new poster for CND, or another pressure group of your choice. Think about how you can use images and slogans to make an impact! Use the space below to design your poster!

CHECK

On a scale of 1 to 10, how much do you know about Pressure Groups now?

0 – 3: I don't know what a pressure group is, or why we might need them

4 – 6: I know a bit about pressure groups and some of the things they do

7 – 10: I know a lot about pressure groups and their role in creating change

Write your answer here: