

**PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES SURVEY**  
**ON U.S. NUCLEAR WEAPONS POLICY:**

*Please answer each question below. We welcome in addition any written comments or position papers.*

- 1) The current US administration is planning to replace every nuclear weapon in its arsenal with a new H-bomb under the Reliable Replacement Warhead (RRW) program. If elected, will you cancel the RRW program?

Yes X      No \_\_\_\_      Policy Unformed \_\_\_\_

I am against the program. I am from New Mexico, where the nation's nuclear labs are and so there are some people who are not very happy with me for my position on this. But we don't need this program – it's unnecessarily provocative. We have 5,000 nuclear weapons. The existing reliability and upkeep programs more than assure we have the strongest deterrent in the world. Building new nuclear weapons is wasteful and counterproductive to our non-proliferation leadership.

- 2) Do you pledge not to build new nuclear weapons should you become president?

Yes X      No \_\_\_\_      Policy Unformed \_\_\_\_

- 3) If elected, will you seek to eliminate all federal funding for nuclear weapons research and instead support funding to tackle the technological challenges of nuclear disarmament and verification?

Yes X      No \_\_\_\_      Policy Unformed \_\_\_\_

The United States must increase funding for nuclear disarmament and verification.

We must focus on verified disarmament not just in America, but around the world. The 1992 Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Program has deactivated and destroyed hundreds of missiles and thousands of warheads, and has improved security for much of the former Soviet arsenal. I support Nunn-Lugar and will continue it during my administration.

The United States must lead a global coalition to establish effective, universal nuclear security standards that reduce the number of nuclear weapons, and make sure that those that exist are safe from theft or diversion. We also must secure all fissionable material associated with nuclear energy and research, with a "global clean-out," which removes all weapons-grade material world-wide from vulnerable sites, and consolidates it into a limited number of highly-secure facilities.

In a world in which nuclear terrorism rather than war with Russia is the main threat, reducing all nuclear arsenals, in a careful, orderly way, makes everyone safer.

- 4) Do you support negotiations for the global elimination of nuclear weapons, as required by Article VI of the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (which has been ratified by the US and 187 other nations)?  
Yes X No \_\_\_\_ Policy Unformed \_\_\_\_

We also need to strengthen the Non-Proliferation Treaty, which has been weakened in recent years, as India and Pakistan and North Korea have gone nuclear, and as Iran attempts to do so. We need a new global non-proliferation agreement which prevents states from developing nuclear fuel-enrichment capabilities, and then abandoning the NPT as they rush to make bombs. We also need to negotiate a tough universal verification system that gives international inspectors immediate and unfettered access to all sites, worldwide.

- 5) Do you agree with former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and former Secretary of Defense William Perry that the United States should take a leadership role internationally to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons?  
Yes X No \_\_\_\_ Policy Unformed \_\_\_\_

The United States must be a leader on disarmament. Negotiations to reduce our arsenal also are our diplomatic ace-in-the-hole. We can leverage our own proposed reductions to get the other nuclear powers to do the same -- and simultaneously get the non-nuclear powers to forego both weapons and nuclear fuel enrichment, and to agree to rigorous global safeguards and verification procedures.

- 6) The US and Russia, between them, maintain some 3,500 nuclear weapons on high alert status. If elected, will you negotiate with Russia to remove all nuclear weapons from high alert status?  
Yes X No \_\_\_\_ Policy Unformed \_\_\_\_
- 7) In 1996, the United States signed the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, which prohibited “any nuclear weapons test.” In 1999, the U.S. Senate failed to ratify this treaty. If elected, will you work to win the ratification of this treaty?  
Yes X No \_\_\_\_ Policy Unformed \_\_\_\_
- 8) The US currently reserves the option of using nuclear weapons first. If elected, will you support making a commitment that legally binds the United States to no first use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances?  
Yes \_\_\_\_ No X Policy Unformed \_\_\_\_

I believe the United States should not be the first to use nuclear weapons in any future conflict. No responsible President can make a categorical pledge ruling any military option out, but it should not be the policy of the United States to threaten the use of first strike nuclear attack – it immensely complicates our ability to prevent proliferation of these terrible weapons. Such weapons are for second strike deterrence.