

# Pathways to Peace in Ukraine Forum

## Recommended Action Steps

### Call your members of Congress and leave a message

Contact your Senators Kristen Gillibrand (202) 224-4451 and Charles Schumer (202) 224-6542. For the 24th congressional district contact John Katko at 202-224-3121, or (315) 253-4068. For other districts, check [here](#) for information.

### Select 2-3 talking points:

1. Ask for continuing the US/NATO policy of not intervening militarily in the war in Ukraine and not imposing a no-fly zone. Enforcement of a “no-fly zone” would require direct military attacks on Russian forces by NATO. This risks escalating to nuclear war and must be avoided.
2. Express support for the United States pursuing vigorous negotiations to end Russia’s invasion. In order for negotiations to have the best chance of success, the US must continue to express its willingness to recognize Ukraine as a neutral country and offer a clear off ramp to lifting sanctions on Russia in exchange for Russia ending the invasion. The US must offer to stop the eastward expansion of NATO in exchange for peace.
3. The US should call for an international security arrangement in Europe not based on Cold War alliances, involving all countries in Europe including Ukraine and Russia, to ensure peace and freedom from occupation in the region, including revitalizing the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.
4. Nuclear war must be avoided. To further reduce the risk of nuclear war breaking out please agree to the five policies supported by the **Back From the Brink Campaign** ([preventnuclearwar.org](http://preventnuclearwar.org)):
  - The US and other nuclear-armed states must join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), which has been signed by 84 countries
  - Pass HR921/S272, the bicameral act to renounce first use of nuclear weapons, introduced by Rep. Adam Smith and Sen. Elizabeth Warren in 2020
  - End the sole, unchecked authority of any U.S. President to launch a nuclear attack

- Take the US nuclear arsenal off hair trigger alert. Right now approximately 400 nuclear missiles are on hair trigger alert, ready to be launched by presidential order.
  - Cancel the \$1.7 trillion plan to upgrade the nuclear arsenal and reallocate the money towards programs that benefit the general welfare.
5. Ask Congress to resist pressure to increase spending on weapons and shift money to rebuild the State Department (after being starved by the Trump Administration) for critical diplomatic efforts.
  6. Urge your member of Congress to uphold Title 42 cancellation and welcome asylum seekers. We need all Democrats to [oppose the Public Health and Border Security Act](#) which would block the Administration from ending Title 42 and vote NO on any Republican amendment that blocks access to asylum at the border or otherwise prevents the Administration from ending Title 42.

### **Get involved**

1. Join the **Nuclear Free World Committee of the Peace Council** in promoting planning for the Anniversary Commemoration of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki (August 6th and 9th)- a way to remind people of the horrors of nuclear war and provide hope for action. Contact [drswords@gmail.com](mailto:drswords@gmail.com) or [wyst@verizon.net](mailto:wyst@verizon.net)
2. Attend/help plan/promote educational programs with the **Beyond War and Militarism Committee of the Peace Council** including an upcoming program on militarism and environmental degradation. Contact [ronvannorstand@gmail.com](mailto:ronvannorstand@gmail.com)
3. **Visit** [peacecouncil.net](http://peacecouncil.net) to **donate**, find information about humanitarian efforts for Ukraine, subscribe to SPC's e-newsletter, and get involved.
4. Follow us on [facebook.com/syracusepeacecouncil1936](https://www.facebook.com/syracusepeacecouncil1936)
5. Become a member of the **Democratic Socialists of America** to be part of a national organization working on local, state and national issues. Joining will also make you a member of the local chapter. Join here: [act.dsusa.org/donate/membership2020](https://act.dsusa.org/donate/membership2020)
6. You can also make donations to the local chapter here: <https://syracusedsa.org/help-grow-our-organizing-and-mutual-aid-capacity>
7. And sign up for email updates for the local chapter: [syracusedsa.org](https://syracusedsa.org)