The UK nuclear mind-set derives from 1945. Trident is no more of the ‘real world’ of today than colonialism, slavery or apartheid. Ongoing multilateral disarmament initiatives being boycotted and voted down by UK are supported by the overwhelming majority of countries. We must join the ‘real world’ of the 21st century.

Nuclear weapons cannot meet Just War criteria. Ad bellum they fail on: proportionality and probability of success. In bellum they fail on: distinction (inherently indiscriminate, proportionality and inhumane consequences. All the attempts at moral justification depend on deterrence theory. Deterrence depends on intention to use, i.e. a commitment to mass murder, unimaginable suffering and putting all life at risk. To resolve nuclear ethics for yourself against personal moral criteria see: http://nuclearmorality.com.

Electoral evidence suggests the opposite: Labour won in 1964 with a mandate to disarm but failed to do so. Labour lost in 1983 after split with SDP which also opposed Trident. And in 2015 by losses to SNP and other anti-nuclear parties.

In the face of NPT Article VI, UK retains 215 100 kT warheads and presses ahead with Trident renewal. - promotes the CTBT while using simulation technology. - promotes FMCT but retains ample fissile material. - researches verification but prohibits inspection, and - boycotts multilateral negotiations under UN OEWG.

British nuclear disarmament would be welcomed by nearly all countries. It would put moral pressure on rest of P5 and strengthen anti-nuclear movements in P5 and NATO countries. Moral rejection is an essential step towards abolition.

Abbreviations: NW - Nuclear weapons NPT - Non-Proliferation Treaty CTBT - Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty FMCT - Fissile Materials Cut Off Treaty OEWG - Open Ended Working Group ICJ - International Court of Justice P5 - Permanent members of the Security Council