

**Etholiadau'r Senedd 2021**

**Holiadur Ymgeiswyr**

**Senedd Election 2021**

**Candidates Questionnaire**



## **C N D Cymru**

Annwyl ymgeisydd Seneddol,

Carai CND Cymru ofyn i chi ymateb i'r holiadur byr hwn yr ydym yn ei anfon at bob ymgeisydd yn etholiadau 2021 i'r Senedd er mwyn i ni allu hysbysu ein cefnogwyr o farn ymgeiswyr ar faterion niwclear.

Mae yna 5 cwestiwn: mae a wnelo'r tri cyntaf ag arfau niwclear, gyda chwestiwn yr un ar bŵer niwclear a gwastraff niwclear yn eu dilyn.

Ar ôl i chi gwblhau'r holiadur, anfonwch e at [heddwch@cndcymru.org](mailto:heddwch@cndcymru.org) os gwelwch yn dda.

Diolch am roddi o'ch amser.

Dear Senedd candidate,

CND Cymru would like to ask you to reply to this brief questionnaire, which we are sending to all 2021 Senedd election candidates, so that our supporters know candidates' views on nuclear issues.

There are 5 questions: the first three concern nuclear weapons, followed by one question each on nuclear power and nuclear waste.

After completing the questionnaire, please return it to [heddwch@cndcymru.org](mailto:heddwch@cndcymru.org)

Thank you for your time.

Enw / Name : ...David Griffin.....

Plaid / Party :....Green Party.....

Etholaeth / Constituency : Cardiff West & Regional List.

1. Prif bryder CND Cymru, wrth gwrs, yw arfau niwclear, nad yw'n fater datganoledig. Fodd bynnag, gall Aelodau'r Senedd lofnodi Addewid Seneddol ICAN<sup>1</sup> i gefnogi Cytundeb y Cenhedloedd Unedig (CU) ar Wahardd Arfau Niwclear:<sup>2</sup>

*Yr ydwyf fi, y seneddwr/wraig sy'n arwyddo isod, yn croesawu mabwysiadu'r Cytundeb ar Wahardd Arfau Niwclear gan y CU ar y 7 Gorffennaf 2017 yn gynnes, fel cam pwysig tuag at sicrhau byd heb arfau niwclear.*

*Testun pryder dwys i mi yw'r canlyniadau trychinebus i'r ddynolryw pe câi arfau niwclear byth eu defnyddio, ac yr wyf yn ymwybodol o'r angen, o ganlyniad, am ddileu'r arfau annynol a ffaidd hyn.*

*Fel seneddwr/wraig, yr wyf yn addo gweithio i gael fy ngwlad i lofnodi a chadarnhau'r cytundeb tirnod hwn, gan fy mod yn ystyried dileu arfau niwclear yn fudd cyhoeddus byd-eang o'r radd flaenaf ac yn gam hanfodol tuag at hyrwyddo diogelwch a llesiant holl bobloedd y byd.*

Beth yw eich barn am arfau niwclear ac, yn benodol, a fydddech y barod i arwyddo'r Addewid hwn os cewch eich ethol?

1. CND Cymru's main concern is, of course, nuclear weapons, which are not a devolved issue. However Senedd Members can sign the ICAN<sup>1</sup> Parliamentary Pledge in support of the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons<sup>2</sup>:

*I, the undersigned parliamentarian, warmly welcome the adoption of the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons on 7 July 2017 as a significant step towards the realization of a nuclear-weapon-free world.*

*I am deeply concerned about the catastrophic humanitarian consequences that would result from any use of nuclear weapons, and I recognize the consequent need to eliminate these inhumane and abhorrent weapons.*

*As a parliamentarian, I pledge to work for the signature and ratification of this landmark treaty by my country, as I consider the abolition of nuclear weapons to be a global public good of the highest order and an essential step to promote the security and well-being of all peoples.*

What are your views on nuclear weapons, and in particular, if elected, would you be prepared to sign this Pledge ?

Nuclear weapons are immoral, unconscionable and represent a risk of unintended use. They ultimately give a small number of people the power to commit mass murder in our name without our consent.

Furthermore, they don't protect us from

- Terrorism
- Economic competition
- Covert interference in our democracy or our political system (cyber or more conventional social engineering)
- Biological weapons
- Takeover of our media or social media channels by other actors

which are the things any future adversaries are most likely to use.

Furthermore, Trident is based on a submarine remaining hidden in the world's oceans forever, even while satellites become ever more capable and the major powers are putting ever larger numbers of autonomous self powered -going drones into service. In 20 years I think Trident as a concept will be useless, and the people we would seek to deter will know it.

The idea that a major nuclear power would seek to engage with us in nuclear war seems to imply the UK is more important that I suspect we really are, yet possessing a deterrent makes us more of a target.

I will of course sign.

<sup>1</sup> Yr Ymgyrch Ryngwladol yn erbyn Arfau Niwclear, a dderbyniodd Wobr Heddwch Nobel am greu'r Cytundeb ar Wahardd Arfau Niwclear [www.icanw.org](http://www.icanw.org)

<sup>2</sup> Am ragor o wybodaeth am y Cytundeb, gweler [www.cndcymru.org/information/TPNW](http://www.cndcymru.org/information/TPNW) yn cynnwys rhestr o lofnodwyr cyfredol Cymreig Addewid Seneddol ICAN. I weld pawb sydd wedi arwyddo, gweler <https://pledge.icanw.org/>

2. Yn ogystal â gwahardd arfau niwclear, mae Cytundeb y CU ar Wahardd Arfau Niwclear hefyd yn gwahardd cyllido arfau niwclear. A fydddech yn cefnogi mesurau i sicrhau nad oes gan gronfa bensiw y Senedd unrhyw fuddsoddiadau mewn cwmnïau sy'n ymwneud â chynhyrchu arfau niwclear?

Yes, absolutely.

<sup>1</sup> The International Campaign Against Nuclear Weapons, awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for the creation of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons [www.icanw.org](http://www.icanw.org)

<sup>2</sup> For further information on the Treaty [www.cndcymru.org/information/TPNW](http://www.cndcymru.org/information/TPNW) including a list of current Welsh signatories of the ICAN Parliamentary Pledge. To see all signatories <https://pledge.icanw.org/>

2. As well as banning nuclear weapons, the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons also prohibits the financing of nuclear weapons. Would you support measures to ensure that the Senedd pension fund has no investments in companies involved in nuclear weapons production ?

3. Ym 1982, datganwyd bod Cymru yn Wlad Ddi-niwclear, yn sgil cynigion a basiwyd gan bob Cyngor Sir yng Nghymru. Y Cyngorau Sir, ar y pryd, oedd yr

haen ddemocrataidd uchaf o lywodraeth yng Nghymru.

Y Senedd yw fforwm democrataidd uchaf Cymru yn awr. Mae'r Cytundeb ar Wahardd Arfau Niwclear yn gwahardd "caniatáu... i arfau niwclear gael eu lleoli neu eu defnyddio ar eu tiriogaeth". I wledydd sydd wedi cadarnhau'r Cytundeb, mae'r gwaharddiad hwn bellach yn rhan o gyfraith ryngwladol.

A fydddech chi'n cefnogi polisi gan y Senedd o wahardd cludo, lleoli neu ddefnyddio arfau niwclear yng Nghymru, yng ngofod awyr Cymru, ac yn nyfroedd arfordirol Cymru?

3. In 1982, Wales was declared a Nuclear Free Country, following motions passed by every County

Council in Wales. County Councils were, at that time, the highest democratic tier of government in Wales.

The Senedd is now the highest Welsh democratic forum. The UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons bans "allowing ... nuclear weapons to be stationed or deployed on their territory". For states that have ratified the Treaty, this prohibition is now part of international law.

Would you support a Senedd policy of prohibiting the transporting, stationing or deploying nuclear weapons in Wales, in Welsh air space, and in Welsh coastal waters ?

Yes, I would support such a policy.

4. Ar hyn o bryd mae Cymru'n cynhyrchu mwy o drydan nag a ddefnyddia, heb ddim gorsafoedd pŵer niwclear gweithredol. Sut fydddech chi'n ymateb i unrhyw gynnig o blaid cynhyrchu pŵer niwclear newydd yng Nghymru, boed yn orsaf ynni niwclear newydd yn Wylfa, neu Adweithyddion Niwclear Modiwlaid Bach yn Wylfa, Trawsfynydd, neu unrhyw safle arall?

4. Wales currently generates more electricity than it uses, without any operating nuclear power stations. How would you react to any proposal for new nuclear power generation in Wales, whether that be a new nuclear power station at Wylfa, or Small Modular Nuclear Reactors at either Wylfa, Trawsfynydd, or any other site ?

Nuclear power overall has admittedly shown itself to be safer than (say) coal (in terms of worker deaths and population health effects) but carries a risk of potential catastrophe that continues long after the generation ends. The cost of decommissioning has always exceeded estimates and the cost of nuclear energy offered by recently proposed projects far exceeds the expected cost of renewables going forward.

Perhaps more importantly, the safe management of nuclear waste requires an extremely long term commitment that I simply don't believe our political system is able to make. Suppose nuclear waste management ended up in the hands of a privatized organization that secretly failed to carry out the required safety procedures for an extended period then went bankrupt. Can anyone guarantee that this cannot happen in whatever political system may occur in the next 500 years?

Furthermore, Wales still has enormous potential for growth in other renewable energy areas. The Swansea tidal lagoon, if completed, would be the first of a number of such projects that could generate reliable, clean energy.

In short, the downside risks are huge, the financial case is not there, and there are better alternatives.

5. Er nad yw ynni niwclear yn bwnc datganoledig, mae gwastraff niwclear yn fater datganoledig. Sut fydddech chi'n ymateb i unrhyw gynnig o blaid storio gwastraff niwclear yng Nghymru?

5. Although nuclear power is not a devolved issue, nuclear waste is a devolved matter. How would you react to any proposal for storing nuclear waste in Wales ?

The Green Party does not engage in NIMBYism. We all share this planet and it's inappropriate to be precious about our corner of it at others' expense. Much as I oppose building unnecessary nuclear power, nuclear waste already exists, and it has to be dealt with safely. If the safest place overall to reduce risk to the people of the UK (or Europe, or the world) is a location in Wales, we should do what is safest. (But that is a big if)

On the other hand, our decisions can impact future behaviour. A refusal to handle, transport or store waste from any NEW nuclear power generation is a different matter and I think would have the potential to shape future policy.