

“Remember your humanity, and forget the rest.”

Transcend your political tribe. Understand the Other. Work for the common good. A few of you may want to work with us.

The title above is from the Russell-Einstein Manifesto of 1955. The whole sentence reads: “We appeal, as human beings, to human beings: Remember your humanity, and forget the rest.” In today’s “age of rage,” with its warring political tribes and the foreign leaders and countries we are supposed to hate, it is especially good advice.

We are grateful for what we have been able to accomplish this past year and we are looking forward to the new year with confidence despite the all-too evident dangers to our communities, our state, our country – and to the countries in the U.S. government’s crosshairs.

We hope some of you will want to work with us, either anonymously through your financial contributions, or also more openly, in any of several other ways (see below).

You can see some of our work and find out more about us at lasg.org. In short,

“Thanks to the Los Alamos Study Group . . . for being such an active and informed voice on nuclear weapon issues for decades.” Jill Hruby, Administrator, National Nuclear Security Administration, 2024

Our track record is unmatched

Through technical analysis, public and decisionmaker education as well as litigation, we have halted or deferred multiple nuclear weapons projects, starting in the 1990s. **As far as we can tell, since 2008 we are the only organization which actually stopped a major U.S. nuclear weapons project** (a large plutonium facility at LANL called, in short, “CMRR-NF”).

That 2012 cancellation was a significant setback to U.S. warhead plans. As LANL put it, “The US stockpile modernization strategy...relied on the availability of new pits [plutonium warhead cores] ...the deferral of the CMRR Nuclear Facility erased a decade of Integrated Nuclear Planning virtually overnight.”

The effects of that cancellation continue to roll down, right to the present day. Despite more than \$10 billion in subsequent investments, LANL has not been able to create the bomb-making capability they hoped to acquire with that building and may never do so. Current stockpile plans reflect that lack of capability, and are less aggressive than they used to be.

For more on our history, see <https://lasg.org/who.htm>.

What we hope to do in 2026

At a minimum, we will prepare for and meet with congressional and White House decisionmakers in the usual ways throughout the year, both on-line and in-person in Washington. We are planning a local outreach campaign, the scope of which is somewhat resource dependent. As before, we will support and educate interns, here and in DC. The sum of what we can do depends in part on what funds we can raise and what talent we can find.

What you can do

Besides supporting our work financially, you can endorse the “Call for Sanity, Not Nuclear Production,” as a first step. Scan the QR code to the right to do so.

Recruiting other local organizations to this Call would be very valuable in convincing political leaders that nuclear weapons production is not a desirable activity for northern New Mexico. You might assume that most environmental organizations would be on board. They aren’t. Neither are most churches. A lot of groups hang back for reasons known only to them. What would turn the tide is the personal connections you and others may have. Do not underestimate them.

Also, we need your help to flush the NM delegation out of hiding. Will they support extension of the New START treaty? Oppose the arms race? Write them. Write letters to editors. Use the ads in this series as sources of talking points. You can find them at <https://lasg.org/LASG-ads.html>. Other sources of talking points can be found in our Bulletins and press releases. Find them at lasg.org.

Finally, **spread the word. Enthusiasm matters.** We notice that some people discourage themselves before they even start. Some people think it should be easier. **If it’s not pleasant, it is usually we ourselves who need an attitude adjustment.** In our experience, it is not often that people support nuclear weapons, but rather that they just “don’t want to get involved.” This, you will notice, is a post-democratic attitude, more akin to the world of 1984 than to a vibrant democracy. That’s our challenge.

Some quick issue updates

• A YouGov poll in late October/early November of this year found that a large majority of Americans would prefer mutual nuclear disarmament to the status quo, i.e. “nuclear deterrence” as we know it. **Almost twice as many Americans would support unilateral partial nuclear disarmament as would oppose it.** Nearly half of Americans believe the U.S. will engage in a nuclear war within a decade. This is a terrible psychic burden.

Where does our delegation stand on these issues? What do our editorial boards think? **Let’s ask them.**

• Congress just passed the annual National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). The Senate language, which would have more than doubled future LANL pit production (assuming this was possible), did NOT pass. Perhaps our work helped; we don’t know. We do know there is a secret expansion plan, to be implemented if perceived necessary.

• **The NDAA provided even more money for warheads than Trump requested.** Nuclear weapons madness is fully bipartisan. **Nuclear pork is popular. At the nuclear labs, California gets “clean” missions, NM gets dirty ones.**

• **The LANL plutonium facility is a 1–2-minute drone flight from public areas.** Heavy drones are currently widely used for combat in Ukraine, and for civilian deliveries. The NDAA aims to fix this tough security problem, at LANL and elsewhere. Good luck. The LANL site is inherently insecure, as NNSA has recognized.

• The NDAA wants a strategy to maintain U.S. ICBMs for the next 25 years, given how delayed the “Sentinel” replacement missile system will be. **There are not enough citizens working against Sentinel and its LANL-enabled new warhead.**

• The NDAA disallowed imposition of any limits to warhead contractor salaries. **Souls are expensive.** Recruitment and retention are sensitive topics.

• See <https://lasg.org/Ukraine/Ukraine.html> for Ukraine War updates. It is a large war; roughly as many Ukrainian soldiers have died as U.S. servicepersons did in WWII. Very few Americans understand what is going on there, why it happened, and what can be done to stop it.

Russia is winning this war, with far fewer casualties than Ukraine. This was always going to be the case. **The best way to preserve and rebuild what is left of Ukraine would be for outside parties to stop supporting the war and create a neutral, largely demilitarized Ukraine in agreement with Russia.** Meanwhile some European leaders want to invest in war, on the assumption that the U.S. will come and save them. They have lost touch with reality.

There are other U.S. wars underway and imminent, and the U.S. continues to support the slaughter in Gaza. All these and the structures behind them are most worthy of your attention and action. **Does the NM delegation feel significant heat regarding these U.S. wars? No. We should help them.**

• There has been no recent arms control or disarmament progress – quite the reverse in fact. **It would be highly desirable for the U.S. to accept Russia’s offer to extend New START for a year.** Our delegation and our local journalists are silent about this, as well as about the ridiculous, technically infeasible “Golden Dome.” **We can help them find their tongues, by finding our own.**

Our greatest concern, as the year ends

We see a gradual loss of thoughtful citizen engagement across multiple policy issues, a passivity that can be traced to multiple causes.

Not least of these is the scarcity of thoughtful journalism. There are many excellent reporters here. Yet it seems as if owners and editors are more likely to identify with federal and corporate power than to speak uncomfortable truths to that power. Our congressional delegation, for example, is almost never held to account. Our labs are never held accountable in any serious way.

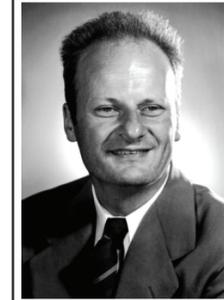
The sound of silence has become deafening. Yes, our media could do better, and it must if we are to rebuild our democracy and solve the serious problems around us.

What about us? Won’t we get the news media we deserve? Are the silence and denial really our own, to begin with? Isn’t it our own passivity which is being taken for assent? If we aren’t engaged, why should anybody else be? **Ours is a failing state. New Mexico needs “all hands on deck.”**

We can’t afford to kick back. We are becoming an internal colony. The latest assaults, on a very large scale, are the AI data centers which if built will consume vast amounts of capital, construction labor, water, and energy.

We are all going to have to pitch in and help – but isn’t that just what deep down, we all want? To work with others to build a lasting positive legacy for our communities? We’ll have to ditch some dysfunctional myths, such as the idea that

we will get economic and social development from industries and laboratories that create few or no useful civilian goods and services, while providing no morally



“I call on all scientists in all countries to cease and desist from work creating, developing, improving, and manufacturing further nuclear weapons – and for that matter, other weapons of potential mass destruction such as chemical and biological weapons.” Hans Bethe, 1995



coherent public meaning. We could list many more. There are no easy answers, but all the answers start with *showing up* in one way or another, *in person, not just virtually*, and not just in a group of like-minded friends. Much of what we think we know may not be so. We had better pay attention.

THANK YOU! This is the last ad in our 2025 series; you can find the others along with previous years at <https://lasg.org/LASG-ads.html>.

Los Alamos Study Group, 2901 Summit Place NE, ABQ, NM 87106 <https://lasg.org>

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we are science-based educators, policy analysts, and nuclear disarmament advocates, with solid grounding in multiple disciplines and the ability to draw on other experts as needed. We work primarily in New Mexico and Washington, DC, and internationally as the occasion arises. Our work is widely recognized and respected. We’ve held several hundred Capitol Hill briefings. We are strictly nonpartisan and factual. As best we can, we anchor policy details in a broad historical and technical perspective. We focus on practical outcomes.

