

Be moral and socially responsible leader

It is not surprising to see the successes of PNC as noted in its recent expansion providing a much larger footprint throughout the United States (June 1, "[PNC completes takeover of BBVA USA, making the Pittsburgh bank the fifth-largest in the country](#)").

I understand the leadership that PNC offers, and can expand, especially in the area of corporate social responsibility. Of specific note, I applaud PNC in the areas of environmental sustainability, funding early childhood development and education, racial equity and most recently its decision to withdraw resources from private prisons.

At its annual shareholders meeting this year, many PNC shareholders voted (but not the majority) for a review of PNC's social responsibility screening process to include the legal and financial risk assessments of investing in the manufacture of nuclear weapons.

I strongly encourage PNC, as its leadership role increases, to set an example for other financial institutions by divesting from nuclear weapons manufacturers and adopting a policy not to invest in them in the future.

PNC's risk management, screens and due diligence processes lag behind peers, and do not explicitly address the risks associated with financing nuclear weapons. PNC's current position on the issue fails to account for the new enforceable Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, which will likely result in increasing reputational and legal risk. The treaty establishes a new normative framework on nuclear weapons and has inspired other financial institutions to exit financial relationships with nuclear weapon producers.

I agree with Pope Francis that not just the use but even the possession of nuclear weapons is immoral.

PNC: Be the moral and socially responsible leader we know you can be to other financial institutions on this critical life- and planet-threatening issue!

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