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Kim Campbell, lobby group seek end of nuclear weapons

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By [ALAN FINDLAY](#), FREE PRESS PARLIAMENTARY BUREAU

OTTAWA -- Former prime minister Kim Campbell returned to Parliament Hill yesterday with a call for Canada to help stem the threat of nuclear weapons.

Campbell and her colleagues from the Middle Powers Initiative, an international group devoted to the abolition of nuclear weapons, warned the threat of nuclear attack looms as large as ever, despite the end of the Cold War 17 years ago.

"There are still tens of thousands of nuclear warheads on hair-trigger alert," Campbell said at a news conference.

The Middle Powers Initiative was designed to target nations such as Canada that have decided against nuclear weapons yet have significant sway on the international stage.

Campbell said the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty needs to be renewed and strengthened to ensure terrorists and others don't obtain miniaturized nuclear bombs.

The weaponization of space is another issue that needs to be addressed, according to the group.

"Nuclear weapons are still a very important issue and they still present a serious threat to human security," Campbell said.

Campbell's term as prime minister in 1993 ended when the former Progressive Conservative party was nearly wiped off the political map in a general election that returned only two Tories to the Commons.