



May 2nd GCOMS press conferences to address new global military spending data

By GCOMS Campaign

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With the upcoming publication of new SIPRI data on global military spending on May 2nd, we are pleased to announce press conferences to be conducted in the framework of the Global Campaign On Military Spending. They will take place across the globe in Sydney, Tokyo, Helsinki, Berlin and Barcelona. The purpose of these press conferences - which will be lead and attended by outstanding people in the field of peace within each of the respective countries - will be to carry out relevant evaluations of the new data, which show a global increase in military spending for the fifth consecutive year, noting that only a 10% reduction in military spending it would be enough to meet some of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, like ending hunger and promoting quality education for all children, everywhere.

This year, although we have decided our request to be a 10% reduction, which is a basic and simple one to fulfill, we continue to fight for a substantial decrease in the funds allocated to the business of war. The business of war is based in the arms trade and on power structures that ultimately produce civilian deaths, also degrading conflict, preying on the planet and actively contributing to climate change. Actions to promote global justice and to reduce climate change effects require a reduction on military spending and renewed efforts to use negotiation to resolve conflicts.

Therefore, there are plenty of reasons to renew, once again and for the 8th year running, our call for a cut in military spending (based upon SIPRI data), so that the world can move closer to a human security approach that would better serve humanity.

About GCOMS Campaign

The Global Campaign on Military Spending (GCOMS) is an international campaign promoted by the International Peace Bureau. The aim of the campaign is to press governments to invest money in the sectors of health, education, employment and climate change, rather than the military. GCOMS includes the Global Days of Action on Military Spending (GDAMS), which in its 8th edition includes a multitude of actions in more than 20 countries, as listed on the CGOMS webpage.

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