We the undersigned, call on the Australian Government to stop funneling billions of dollars into offensive weapons for unjust U.S. wars, and instead invest in the health and safety of our community.

On 23 March 2020, in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic ravaging the world, the UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres called for a global ceasefire. The UN call highlights the disparity between the huge financial and technological resources invested in wars, and the under-funded and under-resourced public health systems desperately trying to control this deadly virus.

We call on the Australian Government to support the UN Secretary General's call.

COVID-19 has sharply exposed the dangerous and unsustainable priorities of our society. On the other hand, the vast majority of Australians are co-operating to control the virus. World-wide, there are desperate zones in the Middle East, Afghanistan and the Philippines, rather than supporting unjust U.S. led wars.

We call on the Australian Government to support peace and development, and has continued to follow the U.S. into wars of aggression in Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria.

We need a society that prioritises the health, education and the environment over war.

This statement is the initiative of IPAN, the Independent and Peaceful Australia Network.

IPAN is national network of over 50 member and supporting organisations, including peace groups, trade unions, church and community organisations and individuals which work to promote independent and peaceful Australian foreign policies. The statement continues to circulate at www.ipan.org.au and we welcome further endorsements and signatories in print and online.

Signatories:

Stephen Darley 0434 162 419
Kathryn Kelly 0417 269 984
Nick Deane 0420 526 929

For details see: ipan.org.au/vietnam-moratorium-campaign-2020

What are the costs and the consequences of Australia’s involvement in US-led wars?

A People’s Call for Healthcare not Warfare

PRIORITY PEOPLE AND ENVIRONMENT

In spite of this dreadful period of physical distancing, people are organising and helping each other and building social unity. We need to make sure we come out of these crises with a more humane, just and democratic society.

We need a society that prioritises the health, education, justice and the environment - an independent and peaceful Australia.

We need a society that invests in our research scientists, the CSIRO and other public research institutions, not globalised corporations in search of profit.

We need a society that prioritises peace, justice and the health of our people and the environment - an independent and peaceful Australia.

For details see: ipan.org.au/the-iran-quote

Vietnam War Moratorium 2015

May 8 this year marks the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War Moratorium when more than 150,000 Australians from many different walks of life took to the streets demanding an end to conscription and Australia’s involvement in the US-led war on Vietnam. Unfortunately, not much has changed since May 1970. Australia is still in a close alliance with the United States and has contributed directly to the war in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Syria. The Vietnam Moratorium 2015 seeks to draw attention to the war in Iran or China.

Vietnam Moratorium 2020

Currently, 2020 is a year where people’s lives are being affected by a crisis on a global scale, namely, the COVID-19 pandemic. Vietnam Moratorium will commemorate that 50th Anniversary of the US-led war on Vietnam, and will highlight the ongoing effects of this war on the people of Vietnam.

Vietnam Moratorium 2020 will mark this moment with a call to stop war and bring the billions of dollars currently funneled into offensive weapons for unjust U.S. wars, and invest in the health and safety of our community.