

Introduction

The **Global Campaign on Military Spending (GCOMS)** is an international campaign promoted by the International Peace Bureau and founded in December 2014.

The overall goal of the GCOMS is to push governments to achieve major re-allocations of military expenditures (especially in high-spending countries) to 5 broad alternative areas:

- **Peace**: disarmament, conflict prevention and resolution, common and human security;
- **Sustainable development** and anti-poverty programs;
- **Climate change** and biodiversity loss – for their mitigation and adaptation;
- **Public services / social justice**, human rights, gender equality and green job-creation;
- **Humanitarian programs** to support the most vulnerable groups.

All the above are parts of a wide global transformation towards a Culture of Peace.

By convincing governments to invest money in the sectors of health, education, employment and climate emergencies rather than the military, this campaign aims at building **human security structures worldwide** and at the same time **puts a stop to war and destruction**.

GCOMS also intends to involve as many citizens and organizations as possible in an open and robust debate on the **counterproductive results of military expenditure**.

Since it started in **2011**, the **Global Days of Action on Military Spending (GDAMS)** have been a spring event that takes place in April and May every year. GDAMS are coordinated by the International Peace Bureau (IPB) offices in Berlin and Barcelona and have a Steering Group, being the **annual highlight of the GCOMS**. This special period of action aims to raise public awareness on the huge amount of public money allocated to the **military sector** and on the necessity to redirect these funds to **human and environmental needs**.

It was decided that the GDAMS actions would take place (firstly during a day, afterwards during a few weeks) near the U.S. Tax Day and the yearly publication of SIPRI's data on worldwide military expenditure. This is a particularly good timing: during these days the biggest world military spender is collecting taxes, while SIPRI is publishing its report and drawing attention to the issue.

The objective of GDAMS is to alert the public about the fact that their money is being used to fund the military industry rather than social services such as education, health or culture. Moreover, with this campaign, **IPB aims to promote a new culture of peace**, where international tensions and conflicts could be transformed by **diplomacy, dialogue and cooperation** rather than with violence or the threat of it, in accordance with a **common security** paradigm;

To do so, the campaign organizes public awareness activities all around the world. As these activities are targeting mainly citizens, they often invite them to reflect on the impact military spending has on their daily lives and the alternatives they can think of.



Overview

The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) released data on global military spending for 2021, which is up for the seventh consecutive year to \$2.11 trillion: \$132 billion more than the previous year. This 0.7% increase in real terms reflects increases in military budgets approved by many governments throughout the first year of the Covid-19 pandemic.

This year's Global Days of Action on Military Spending were very influenced by **the invasion of Ukraine by Russia**, which shook the international security architecture and increased tensions and conflictivity. Militaristic discourses had a boost in this context of war and soon military spending increases were announced by many countries, especially those part of NATO, following suit to its demand to member states of allocating 2% of their GDP to military spending. Our message was once again urgent and necessary and with this in mind we chose a new slogan: **"Give Peace A Budget"**. With it, we wanted to emphasize that militarism is what has brought us to this point, and that increasing military expenditures is the exact opposite of what these times require: giving a budget to peacebuilding, funding common & human security, investing in the needs of the people and the planet.

The 11th edition of the Global Days of Action on Military Spending took place from April 13 to May 12, including:

- April 13: GDAMS Launch Event (online)
- April 18: Tax Day in the U.S.
- April 21: Launching of the Common Security Agenda 2022
- April 25: GDAMS press conferences and social media storm on the occasion of SIPRI's release of new data on military spending

- May 9: Europe’s Day of Peace · Actions against the militarization of the European Union
- May 10 to 12: Actions against the militarization of the Asia-Pacific region

During this period we’ve listed more than **120 organizations from at least 28 different countries who carried out actions in all 5 continents**. Thousands of people engaged with the campaign and its members on social media all across the world.

The GCOMS twitter account earned thousands of impressions over the GDAMS period.



On the 25th of April, to coincide with the release of the new SIPRI data on global military spending, we took to the net to alert the world that military spending had exceeded \$2trillion for the first time through a **social media storm**:

“It is time for us to join together and call on governments around the world to cut military spending, and to instead invest in common and human security. We need to give peace a budget”

We created a [Shared Folder](#), where partners and friends could find a pad (instructions), posting examples and other materials to use in their social media (Twitter, Facebook and/or Instagram) to spread the word and draw attention to the issue. We used these hashtags: #GDAMS2022 #GivePeaceABudget #WelfareNotWarfare

According to Hashtagify, the [#GivePeaceABudget](#) hashtag reached almost **4 million impressions** on the day of our Social Media Storm on Twitter alone.



GDAMS 2022 Appeal · Give Peace a Budget

This year, the world reaped the horrors of its investments in tools of war. The violence being perpetrated on people around the world at the hands of militarized states has had devastating impacts on humanity and the environment. The \$2.11 trillion spent on militaries in 2021* did not provide true security— instead, these bloated budgets for weapons and war kept us mired in cycles of violence. It is time for us to join together and call on governments around the world to cut military spending, and to instead invest in common and human security. We need to give peace a budget.

Russia's military invasion of Ukraine in February highlighted the flaws of a militaristic approach to international affairs and security. Despite this, most politicians and media continue to push for solutions focused on military power projection and deterrence, to be funded with even higher military budgets. But if spending in the military could truly provide us with security, wouldn't we have achieved that already? Ever-growing military capacities and militaristic policies and discourses have only brought us more human and ecological devastation. More of the same will not change the situation. The collective military expenditure of NATO members, which is 17 times that of Russia, did not prevent President Putin from invading Ukraine. Still, its member states have committed to dedicate a 2% of their GDP to military spending in response to Russia's aggression war. It should be obvious by now that countries trying to outspend one another by buying weapons of all sizes does not make up for a proper defense and security strategy. It has not worked in the past and it never will.

Similarly, we're witnessing an arms race in the Asia-Pacific region that can only lead to increasing tensions and war. The experience of the Middle East has shown the impact of militarization and foreign intervention creating turmoil and conflict in the entire region for decades already, with painful and still very alive reminders in Afghanistan, Syria, Yemen, Palestine and Libya.

Global reliance on militarization destroys trust and undermines cooperation efforts among countries. By focusing on cooperation and multilateralism, we can reimagine international security in a way that does not exclude people across national lines. Governments must invest in and legitimize these alternatives, putting more options on the table so that the threat of war and annihilation can be taken off. While military spending increases, peacebuilding is still underfunded, and the collective action required to address the global emergencies of our time gets sidelined.

The costs of global militarism affect more than just foreign policy and international relations— they also prevent us from addressing crises like climate change, global pandemics, and the welfare of humanity. The latest report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) included another stark warning about the climate crisis, and yet national governments continue to invest more in the military than in keeping the planet habitable. The COVID-19 pandemic of the past two years has been another powerful illustration of the desperate need to reallocate public resources and investing in healthcare and welfare.

Military spending does not keep us safe, and prevents the global collaboration that is essential for human wellbeing. For all this, we call on civil society and the media to push for major reductions of military expenditures, instead of the increases announced in many countries.

We demand that governments reduce their military spending, and commit funding to common and human security instead— investing in the true needs of the people and the planet to build a just and sustainable peace.

To give it a chance, we need to **give peace a budget**.

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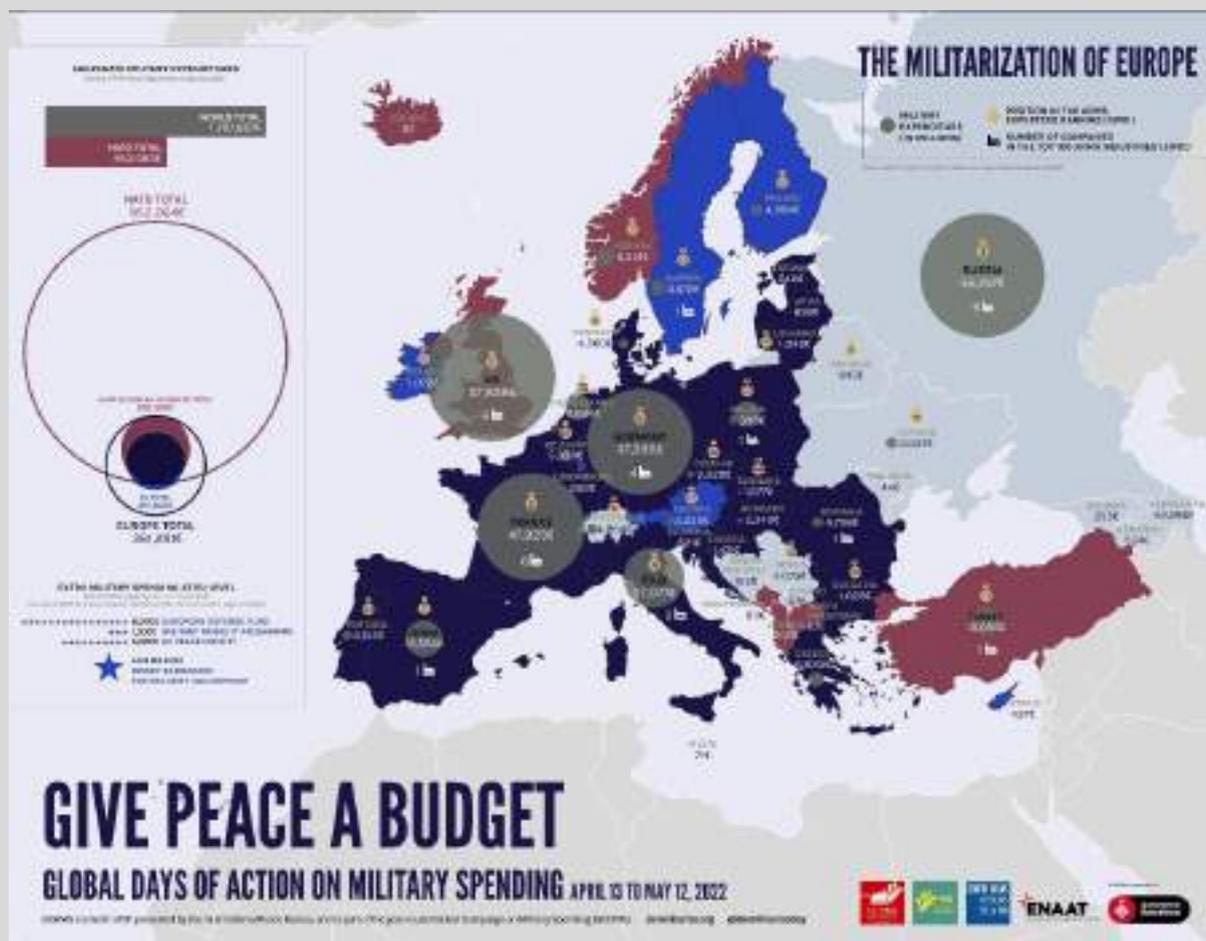
This appeal was available at [Action Network](#), which together with our contact email, managed to gather around 180 endorsements from peace organizations.

List of endorsements

AAMOC Elaia	IUDESP Universitat de Alacant
ACAPS-GIRONA	JUSTÍCIA I PAU - GIRONA
Alternativa Antimilitarista. MOC Las Palmas	Kem/ Moc Bilbao
Alternativa Antimilitarista MOC/ADNV	La Prunelle RDC
American Friends Service Committee	LE MOUVEMENT DE LA PAIX
Aotearoa New Zealand Campaign on Military Spending	Migration Conseils
Arriant Formació i Lleure	Militante Education Nouvelle
Asociacion Civil Casa de la Pax Cultura	Mouvement de la Paix NANTES
Asociación Educar en la Noviolencia	Movement for the Abolition of War
ASOCIACION PRO DERECHOS HUMANOS DE ANDALUCI A (APDHA)	Mugak Zabalduz Karabana
Associació Cultural La Nave Va	NC Peace Action
ASSOCIACIÓ NÚRIA SOCIAL	Nouveaux Droits de l'Homme Cameroun
Associació pel desenvolupament del riu Senegal	Nucleo de Direitos Humanos (NDH/UFG)
Association of Concerned Africa Scholars (USA)	Ongi Etorri Errefuxiatuak
Auckland Peace Action	Ongi Etorri Errefuxiatuak
Australian Anti-Bases Campaign Coalition	Pachakuti
Better World Info	Pax Christi USA
Beyond the Bomb	Peace Action
Campaign Against Arms Trade	Peace Action New York State
Canadian Voice of Women for Peace	Peace Boat
Caravana Abriendo Fronteras	People's Solidarity for Participatory Democracy (PSPD)
Cátedra UNESCO de Filosofía para la Paz de la Universitat Jaume I de Castellon	Plataforma Girona Acull
	Plataforma per la Pau lloret
	PSR Arizona

Centre Delàs of Peace Studies	Quaker, ...Albany Friends Meeting
Church Women United in New York State	Religious Society of Friends
CND /Pax Christi /Maw	RESILIENCE EARTH SCCL
Collectif 2250	Rete Italiana Pace e Disarmo
Comité Paix Concarneau	SCI Catalunya
Coordinadora d'ONG Solidàries de les comarques gironines i l'Alt Maresme	Scientists for Global Responsibility
Desarma Madrid	SimplementeOpinion
East Bay Peace Action	Stop Fuelling War, Cessez d'alimenter la Guerre
EBC Girona	Swatantrata Abhiyan Nepal
Ecologistas en Acción	The National Network Opposing the Militarization of Youth
Eirene Cultura para la Paz	Tipping Point North South
Environmentalists Against War	Ukrainian Pacifist Movement
Escola de Cultura de Pau	United Church of Christ, Justice and Local Church Ministries
Escuelas de Paz	Upper Hudson Peace Action
Fellowship of Reconciliation	Valentes i Acompanyades
Fundació SER.GI	Vedruna
Fundación Cultura de Paz	Veterans For Peace
Fundación Escuelas de Paz	Vrede vzw
FundiPau	WILPF España
Gamip América Latina y el Caribe	WILPF Qld
GCOMS	Women in Black Oxford
GCOMS UK	Women's Action for New Directions (WAND)
Girona pel clima	Women's International League for Peace & Freedom Canada
Ibero-american Alliance for Peace	World BEYOND War
International Fellowship of Reconciliation - IFOR	World Beyond War Aotearoa New Zealand
International Peace Bureau	
IUDESP UJI Castellón	

New GDAMS infographic: the militarization of Europe



May 9 is Europe's Day of Peace, and on the occasion we prepared -together with the European Network Against Arms Trade (ENAAT)- an infographic displaying military spending and other indicators of militarization.

Countries in red are NATO member states, in light blue members of the EU, and in dark blue both countries in both NATO and the EU.

The Member States of the European Union have been increasing their military expenditures for several years now, culminating to €217 billion in 2021, and up to €275 billion if the UK is included. This makes the EU-27 Member States and UK collectively rank second on the global scene, after the US and before China, and spending almost 5 times more than Russia.

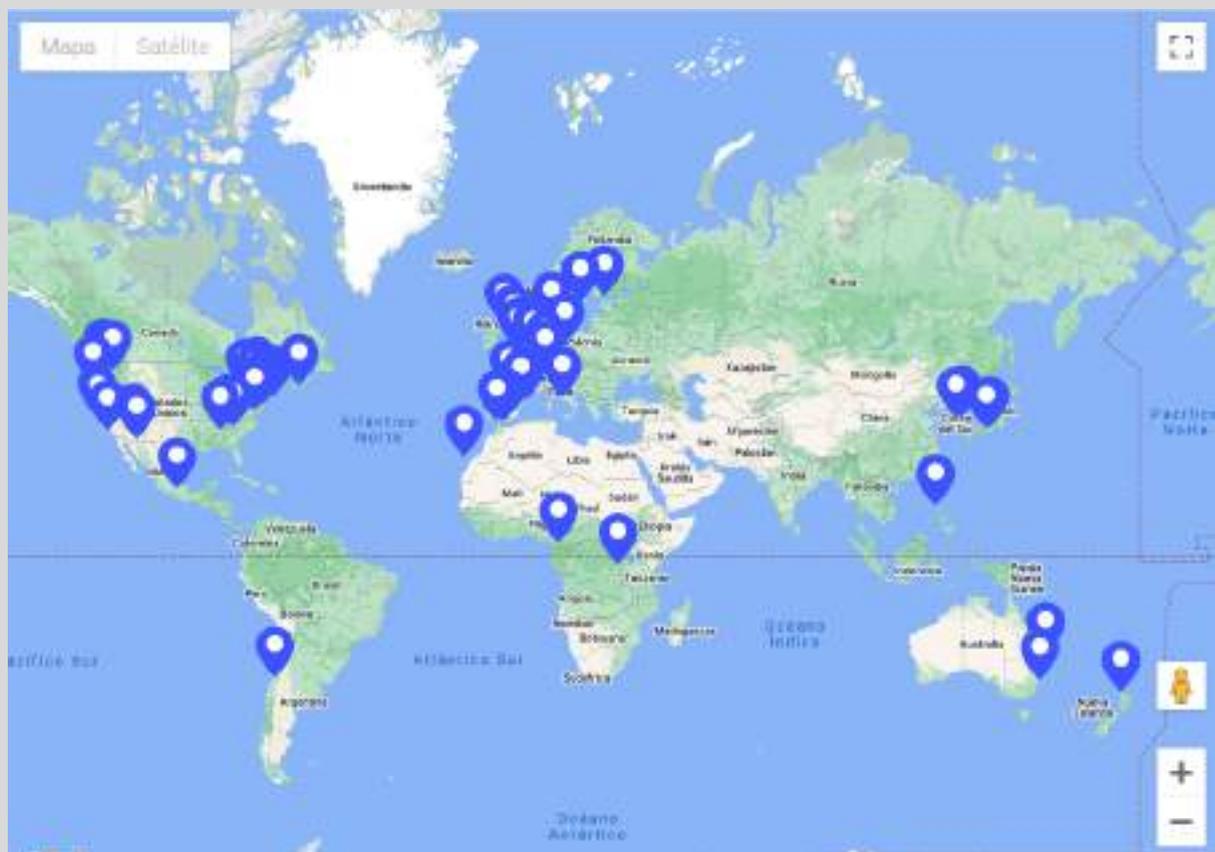
NATO countries spend 17 times more. **Our point: how are further increases going to change the current situation and build security?**

Besides military expenditures, the infographic also shows countries' position at the **Arms Exporters Ranking** and the number of companies at the **Top 100 arms industries**.

Our sources were: Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) Military Expenditure, Arms Transfers, and Arms Industries Databases (2021); European Network Against the Arms Trade (ENAAAT); Transnational Institute (TNI), '*At what cost?*' [report](#) (2022)

GDAMS 2022 actions

This year, many actions were held online as well as outdoors. Several actions took place in the streets, especially in the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia and South Korea where activists gathered to protest against militarism and bloated military budgets.



A new [map of actions](#) was prepared for the occasion, which allowed us to better display activities planned by our partners, connecting it with our Agenda.

GDAMS Press Conferences, and other media work

Three press conferences took place on April 25 in Barcelona, Berlin and Seoul, and press releases were launched in various other countries on the occasion of GDAMS and the release of new data on military spending for 2021 by the Stockholm Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). Military spending reached an estimated **\$2.11 trillion** in 2020, a 0.7 percent higher than the previous year. Press conferences and releases presented a critical analysis to this exorbitant level of expenditure, especially in the context of the Ukrainian invasion and the global pandemic. They claimed major reallocations of these resources to cover the true needs of people and ensure a just recovery for everyone.

- **Berlin Press Conference ‘SIPRI Statistics on global arms spending 2021’**

Watch the press conference [here](#).

On April 25th the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) published statistics on global arms spending for 2021.

In the 2021 statistics on global arms spending, the COVID-19 pandemic highlights very clearly the consequences of prioritizing military spending over the healthcare sector. At the press conference, the speakers interpreted the SIPRI statistics and explained their importance for peace and de-escalation as well as their link to COVID-19.

They also showed alternatives to armament and militarism, and stressed the need for a reallocation of money from the military to health care, education, and other programs that promote social justice.

Furthermore, the implications of the Russian aggression against Ukraine for a further intensification of global arms spending was addressed.

The following leaders in the field took part in the press conference:

Reiner Braun, Executive Director, International Peace Bureau

Maike Finnern, Chair of Education and Science Workers' Union (online)

Michael Müller, Parliamentary Undersecretary in the Ministry of Environment a.D., Chair of Friends of Nature

Žaklin Nastić, Member of the German Bundestag, DIE LINKE

The press conference took place on Monday, April 25th, 2022 at the International Peace Bureau Office in Berlin



- **Barcelona Press Conference ‘Give Peace A Budget’**

Centre Delàs of Peace Studies and the IPB organised a press conference in Barcelona on the occasion of the Global Days of Action on Military Spending (GDAMS) and denounced that “the increase in military spending of the Spanish State announced by President Sánchez would mean an increase of between 13 and 15 billion euros by 2023, in the midst of an international arms build-up”.



The press conference was held at LaFede (Catalan NGOs Federation)

The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) released new data on global military spending for 2021, which is up for the seventh consecutive year to \$2.11 trillion: \$132 billion more than the previous year. **This 0.7% increase in real terms reflects**

increases in military budgets approved by many governments throughout the first year of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The United States continues to lead by far in global military spending. Although its defence budgets decreased for the first time in four years (-1.4 per cent), they still account for 38 per cent of the global total. Next on the list are China, which accounts for 14 per cent of global military spending and increased its military spending by 4.7 per cent over the previous year, India (+0.9 per cent), the UK (+3 per cent), Russia (+2.9 per cent), France (+1.5 per cent), Germany (-1.4 per cent), Saudi Arabia (-17 per cent), Japan (+7.3 per cent) and South Korea (+4.7 per cent). The combined military spending of the top ten countries accounted for three quarters of global military spending.

If we add up **the expenditure of EU member states**, the aggregate is 233.617 billion, 11% of the total, **the third highest expenditure in the world after the United States and China.** This figure will be added to the already growing defence budgets of each member state. Cumulative military spending by NATO member states is again over \$1 trillion and represents 55 per cent of the global total. Almost all NATO member countries increased their military budgets by 2021, 9 of which have allocated 2% or more of their GDP to military spending.

These data show how most governments decided to increase their military spending, despite being in the midst of a health emergency caused by Covid-19 which had already been raging for many months. In the framework of GDAMS, two months after the start of the war in Ukraine, the International Peace Bureau (IPB) and the Centre Delàs d'Estudis per la Pau organised a press conference to assess the new data on military spending and call for a reduction in military spending worldwide and in Spain. Instead of dedicating budgets to prepare a war, a budget should be allocated to peace as the only way to stop the war. [Nora Miralles](#) (president of the Centre Delàs d'Estudis per la Pau), [Javi Raboso](#) (head of the Culture of Peace campaign at Greenpeace), [Kristian Herbolzheimer](#) (director of the Institut Català Internacional per la Pau - ICIP), [Pere Ortega](#) (researcher at the Centre Delàs, expert on military spending) and [Quique Sánchez](#) (member of Centre Delàs, the Barcelona office of the International Peace Bureau and the GCOMS campaign) participated in the press conference.

PARA LA GUERRA, NADA DEMOS UN PRESUPUESTO A LA PAZ
Rueda de prensa | Lunes 25 Abril | 11:00h | Barcelona y online

Publicación de los datos sobre el gasto militar mundial del SIPRI (Stockholm International Peace Research Institute)

NORA MIRALLES
Presidenta del Centre Delàs per la Pau

JAVI RABOSO
Coordinador

KRISTIAN HERBOLZHEIMER
Director

QUIQUE SÁNCHEZ
Investigador del Centre Delàs i GCOMS

PERE ORTEGA
Investigador del Centre Delàs i GCOMS

GCOMS
Global Campaign on Military Spending

Sede de l'ateneu cat.
C/ Talers, 1-3 BarCELONA
Para confirmar asistencia y acceder a la videokonferència escribir a premsa@centredelas.org

MOVE THE MONEY

*“Military spending obeys a domino effect, because of the doctrine that you rearm if your neighbour rearms. All the announcements of countries deciding to increase their military spending, including meeting NATO’s demand to reach a military expenditure of 2% of GDP, shows that there will be an increase in military spending next year. Therefore, **the forecasts in this sense are clear, the priority in public policies won’t be held, and there will not be social policies**”,* warned [Nora Miralles](#), president of the Centre Delàs d’Estudis per la Pau (Centre Delàs d’Estudis per la Pau).

As for Spain, new data published by SIPRI show that **the country climbed one position in the ranking of countries with the highest military spending in 2021**, becoming the 16th country that spent the most on military and armaments in the world, with a figure of 18,079 million euros. According to calculations by the Centre Delàs, the figure is even higher, reaching 21,766 million euros, the equivalent of 59.6 million euros per day. This data takes into account the consolidated budget of the Ministry of Defence (10,199,000 euros), the rest of the military expenses distributed among other ministries that are not included in the Defence appropriations (which NATO advises member countries to do), and the budget executed, which is higher than the initial one.

[Pere Ortega](#), researcher at the Centre Delàs and expert in military spending added that **“the Spanish state already had a considerable budget for 2022, before the war broke out in Ukraine. The military expenditure approved for the Ministry of Defence alone is already 11.7 billion euros, which represents an increase of around 8% over last year. It has always been a privileged ministry that has seen its budget increase year after year, even above the increase of the Consumer Price Index”**. Moreover, **according to the calculation of the Centre Delàs d’Estudis per la Pau**, which shows that military spending is not only in the budgets of the Ministry of Defence, but also distributed among the budgets of other ministries, and which also follows the criteria established by NATO itself, **the real Spanish military spending for this year is 22,949 million euros, 65 million euros per day**, which is more than the double of what is accounted for by the government. “If this military spending is already barbaric in itself, add to it Pedro Sánchez’s announcement that the government will try to increase military spending next year to 2% of GDP, as demanded by NATO. It depends on how the calculations are made, but if they start from the government’s calculation, Spanish military spending currently represents 1.1% of GDP, therefore, the announced increase would be between **13 and 15 billion more for military spending in Spain in 2023**,” said Ortega, who added that according to calculations by the Centre Delàs, Spanish military spending this year already represents 1.8%.

This demand is part of a joint action by more than a hundred civil society organizations from different countries that have issued a public call to governments around the world to reduce their military spending and instead devote resources to peacebuilding and human and common security.

“The curve of the increase in annual military spending coincides with the curve of the increase in armed conflicts in the world, and this immediately leads us to question what we mean by security, because the more we arm the world, the more armed conflicts there are”, said [Kristian Herbolzheimer](#), director of the Institut Català Internacional per la Pau.



From Greenpeace, [Javi Raboso](#), head of the organisation's Culture of Peace campaign, added that ***"it is not possible to decarbonise the economy without demilitarising our societies. We need to reflect on our dependence on fossil fuels, which creates a devilish geopolitics and takes us in the opposite direction to what the climate emergency requires"***.

"Militarism is what got us into this situation, and we won't change much with the same approach. NATO countries already spend 17 times more than Russia, so it makes no sense to increase it further. On the contrary, we need to rethink international relations and redefine the meaning of security," warned [Quique Sánchez](#), member of the International Peace Bureau's Global Campaign on Military Spending (GCOMS), which stresses the necessity of funding human and common security, the only way to stop war and build peace.

- **Seoul Press Conference 'Stop the arms race, Give peace a chance'**

On April 25, a coalition of Korean peace organizations organized

On the occasion, a coalition of organizations issued the following statement:

While the world is witnessing the war and militarism is gathering strength, we are here today to shout "let's give peace a chance' again, on the occasion of the Global Days of Action on Military Spending. The war has been ongoing for eight weeks since Russia invaded Ukraine on 24 February. The peace negotiation has bogged down, also the distress by the war has worsened. According to the United Nations Human Rights Office of High Commissioner (OHCHR), the war has so far caused 5,381 civilian casualties, 470 of whom are children. About 5.2 million people have left Ukraine, fleeing from the war. Not only in Ukraine, but also countless people in the world have already suffered from wars and conflicts. We must stop any more tragedies. The power to bring a diplomatic and peaceful resolution is more important than ever. We urge governments around the world to reduce military spending and

to create a peaceful and sustainable world, stressing that making peace by peaceful means is the most realistic and fastest way.

According to the Trends in World Military Expenditure 2021, the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) released today, the world spent 2,113 billion dollars on military expenditure last year, an 0.7% increase year over year. South Korea's military expenditure has ranked 10th in the world, it has maintained for 9 years from 2013. Military spending as a percentage of GDP is also 2.8%, one the highest among the top 10 countries.

European countries and the U.S. have officially increased the defense budget and introduced various weapons, with an excuse of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, announcing an increase in military spending. The stock prices of defense companies are also rising day by day. However, we cannot prevent war or guarantee peace and security in this way. Rather, it will increase military tensions and the risk of war, accelerate the arms race, and will negatively affect the stability of the world and peace building.

It will work the same for the solution for peace on the Korean Peninsula. It is important to rebuild trust and resume dialogue, not to increase military spending. In 2018, South and North Korea agreed on 'disarmament in a phased manner as military tension is alleviated and substantial progress is made in military confidence-building', however, the South Korean government has continued to increase military spending since then. Military spending, which was about 40 trillion won in 2017, increased to about 55 trillion won in 2022, during Moon Jae-in's administration. In Particular, the investment in military capability building-up to introduce weapons has increased significantly. South Korea's continued armament enhancement has been one of the reasons for destroying military trust between the two Koreas and blocking progress in peace and denuclearization on the Korean Peninsula. While inter-Korean and DPRK.-U.S agreements were not properly implemented and dialogue and negotiations stopped, North Korea eventually pushed ahead with the ICBM test-firing. The situation on the Korean Peninsula verges on returning to the confrontation like it was before the Panmunjom Declaration. However, aggressive military strategies and armament enhancement plans of President-elect Yoon Seok-yeol is making the future even bleaker. These plans include the restoration of the Korean 3-axis system including securing preemptive strike capability such as kill chain, the deployment of the Korean THAAD system, the early deployment of the Korean Iron Dome, the introduction of AI-based unmanned and robot combat systems, and the reinforcement of ROK-U.S. Extended Deterrence. It is urgent to switch to a peaceful approach, not to repeat the failed methods of military pressure and sanctions. Many people acknowledge that South Korea's military and economic power already has a much greater advantage over North Korea, and in 2021, South Korea spent 1.5 times the amount of North Korea's gross domestic product (GDP) on defense. The strengthening of South Korea's military capabilities will only deepen the security dilemma on the Korean Peninsula and will not stop North Korea from developing nuclear weapons and missiles. What we need for peace is not more military spending.



We should re-arrange our budget and resource use priorities for ‘human security’ and ‘peaceful coexistence’ rather than ‘military security’. Economic inequality intensified, and the climate crisis or disaster response was not sufficient, while spending limited resources on advanced weapons and military capability enhancement. It is widely known that there was difficulty in the process of extinguishing a large forest fire on the east coast last month because of the lack of manpower and helicopters for fighting fires. The UN Environment Programme (UNEP) said, in a report released in February, that large wildfires due to the climate crisis will continue to increase, and that a major reorganization of the forest fire budget is needed to respond to it. According to the <World Inequality Report 2022>, the income and wealth inequality index of South Korea is significantly high. The reality that the social safety net is weak has been revealed by infectious disease disasters such as Covid-19.

Let’s use our resources to solve urgent problems which threaten our lives and daily lives, not to build up the military. We need to drastically cut our defense budget and use it as an expense to cope with the global climate crisis, disasters, and social inequality.

Let’s stop the arms race and make peace by peaceful means. Efforts should be made to implement the inter-Korean agreement, resume dialogue, and improve relations, not to strengthen military capabilities.

On the Global Days of Action on Military Spending, people from all over the world are shouting.

Stop arms race and give peace a chance!

25 April 2022

This statement was endorsed by:

Catholic Human Rights Committee
Christian Youth Academy
Civilian Military Watch
Cool-jam, the shelter for irregular workers
Gang-jeong Peace Network
Green Korea United
Gunsan Peace Museum
In for Peace, Democracy and Human Rights Education
Incorporated Organization Shilcheon Bulgyo
Institute for the Study of Ecclesia and Life
Jeju Green Party
Jeju Peace Human Rights Center
Jeju Peace Human Rights Institute WHAT
JEJUPUMUZIL
Korea Association for Restorative Justice
Korean House for International Solidarity
Korean Women's Movement for Peace
National Council of YMCAs of KOREA
National YWCA of Korea
NCKK Reconciliation & Reunification committee
No! Temporary Workers movement
One Korea Tree
Palestine Peace and Solidarity in South Korea
Pax Christi Korea
Peace Ground
Peace Network
PEACEMOMO
Peacewind
People in the tent village in front of Jeju
People who want Seogwipo City bypass road to become Green Park
People's Solidarity for Participatory Democracy(PSPD)
Progressive 3.0
Seongsan Environment Defenders
Sisters of divine providence
St. Francis Peace Center Foundation
The Network of Love and Respect
Tongil Euibyung(The Righteous People for Korean Unification)
Women Making Peace
World Without War

● Aotearoa Press Release

As the world burns, global military spending exceeds \$2 trillion

As the world burns and sea levels rise, global military spending increased to more than \$2 trillion (US) in 2021, according to figures released by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) today – the Global Day of Action on Military Spending.

SIPRI has estimated global military expenditure last year was at least \$2,113 billion (US), the first time it has exceeded \$2 trillion (US): an average of more than \$5.78 billion (US) every day. This comprised a 6.1% nominal increase since 2020 (0.7% when adjusted for inflation).^[1]

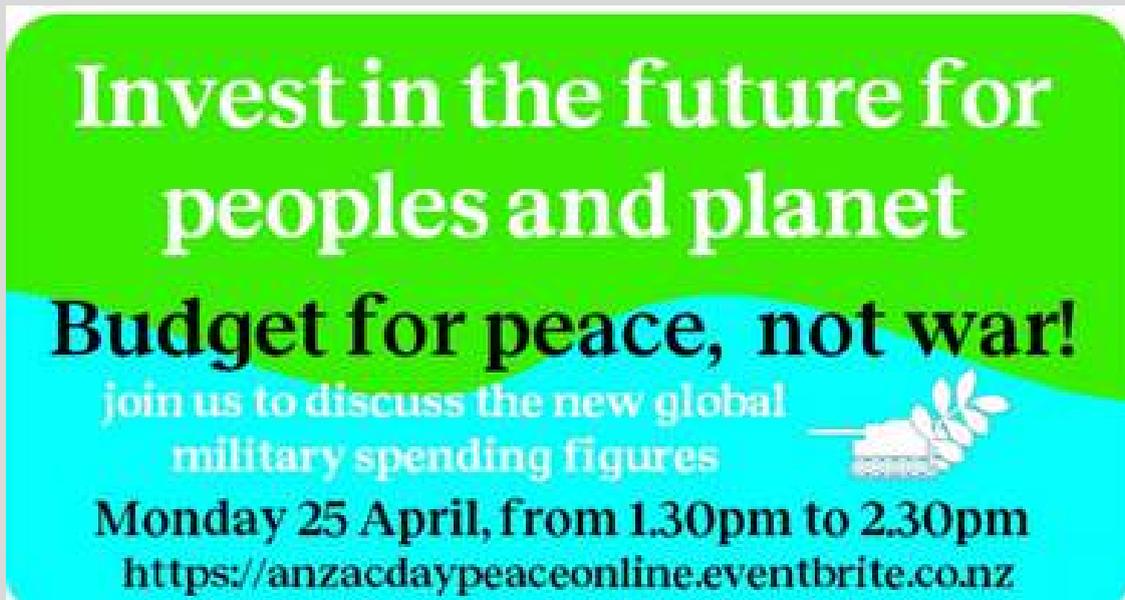
By way of contrast, on average 14,000 children under the age of five died every day last year from mainly preventable causes – lack of access to adequate food, clean water and basic medicines – a figure UNICEF describes as “unconscionable”.^[2] This is one of the prices paid, the collateral damage that is seldom talked about, for maintaining armed forces in a state of combat readiness around the world.

It is inexcusable that many states – including New Zealand – continue to prioritize spending on combat-ready armed forces over human health and wellbeing, and care for the planet. Over the past two years the COVID-19 pandemic has devastated lives and livelihoods around the world, highlighted and exacerbated systemic social, economic and political inequities, and exposed multiple flaws in government spending and other priorities, including the folly of maintaining armed forces in a constant state of combat readiness when there are so many other more pressing needs.

It is more obvious than ever before that military spending does nothing to address the major global threats and their local impacts, whether a pandemic, obscene levels of poverty and social inequality, or the escalating climate catastrophe – instead, military spending diverts resources that could be put to far better use.

Every dollar of military expenditure is a dollar taken away from socially useful spending – a dollar that could be used to take real action on climate change, to ensure a decent standard of living for all, and to ensure health and social welfare systems can function well in national, regional or global emergencies: it is a dollar that could be used to save lives, to promote flourishing communities and care for the planet, rather than being spent on endless preparations for war.

The five largest spenders in 2021 were the US, China, India, Britain and Russia, which together accounted for 62% of world military spending, while the US and China accounted for 52%.^[1] Military expenditure increased in three of the world’s five regions in 2021 – Asia and Oceania (3.5%), Europe (3.0%) and Africa (1.2 %) – while decreasing in the Middle East (-3.3 %) and the Americas (1.2 %). Overall in 2021, the military burden (military expenditure as a share of gross domestic product) was 2.2%, while average military spending as a share of government expenditure was 5.9 %.^[1]



New Zealand's military spending

While New Zealand does not feature in the SIPRI table ranking the highest increases in military spending around the world this year as it did in 2020 ^[3], that is simply because other states increased their spending by more, not because there has been any reduction in New Zealand's military spending.

Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, essential public services including health, education, support for persons with disabilities, and housing desperately needed increased spending, yet the New Zealand government continues to prioritize military spending.

In last year's 'Wellbeing' Budget, military spending was a total of \$5,188,350,000 (NZ), on average \$99.7 million (NZ) every week – a 10.6% increase on actual spending in 2020. ^[4] The specter of an additional \$20 billion (NZ) to be spent over the next decade on increased combat capability, warships and military aircraft continues to threaten the possibility of substantive action on human health and wellbeing, and climate justice. ^[4]

The ongoing prioritizing of military spending – whether here in Aotearoa or around the world – is a reflection of a dominant violent ideology that focuses on outdated narrow military security concepts, rather than real human security that meets the needs of all, and it continues to harm the future of humanity and the planet.

It is truly shameful that military spending continues to rise in the midst of a global pandemic and rapidly worsening climate catastrophe – a transition from combat-ready armed forces to civilian agencies that meet the needs of all peoples and the planet is long overdue. ^[5]

The IPCC has warned ^[6] the time for action is now if we want to have a liveable future: it is time to invest in the future for peoples and the planet, and budget for peace – not war.

Resources and references:

- Aotearoa New Zealand Campaign on Military Spending, <http://www.converge.org.nz/pma/gdams.htm>
- SIPRI, <https://www.sipri.org>
- Share: Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/PeaceMovementAotearoa/posts/5033024826744846>
Tweet, <https://twitter.com/PeaceMovementA/status/1518353319835578368>

^[1] 'World military expenditure passes \$2 trillion for first time', SIPRI, 25 April 2022, and 'Trends in world military expenditure 2021', SIPRI Fact Sheet, April 2022, both are available at <http://www.converge.org.nz/pma/gdams.htm>

^[2] 'Levels and Trends in Child Mortality: Report 2021', UN Inter-Agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation, December 2021, <https://data.unicef.org/resources/levels-and-trends-in-child-mortality/>

^[3] 'Global military spending increases, New Zealand ranks in report', Peace Movement Aotearoa, 27 April 2020, <http://www.converge.org.nz/pma/nzgdams2020.pdf>

^[4] 'Military spending increases in Budget 2021', Peace Movement Aotearoa, 20 May 2021, <http://www.converge.org.nz/pma/nzbudget2021.pdf>

^[5] As outlined, for example, in 'Military spending increases in Budget 2021', note above.

^[6] See, for example, 'The evidence is clear: the time for action is now', IPCC, 4 April 2022, <https://www.ipcc.ch/2022/04/04/ipcc-ar6-wgiii-pressrelease>

● Peace Boat Statement on LDP Security Proposal

On April 21, 2022, the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) of Japan compiled a proposal calling for a revision of the Government's National Security Strategy and other documents to include a substantial expansion of defense spending to 2 percent of GDP, as well as the possession of a real capability to strike enemy bases.

This proposal deviates from the principles of the Constitution and increases the danger of war. A group of 20 leading scholars and activists from throughout Japan, including Peace Boat Executive Committee member Kawasaki Akira, issued an emergency statement protesting against the proposal.

This took place during the Global Days of Action on Military Spending (GDAMS) in 2022. Following its launch on April 21 with 20 names, a further 600 people have now endorsed the statement (as of April 28). The full text is as follows.

[Urgent Statement] Protesting the Liberal Democratic Party's "Security Proposal", which deviates from constitutional principles and increases the risk of war

In preparation for the scheduled revision of three security policy documents at the end of 2022, including the National Security Strategy, the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) today compiled a set of recommendations. The content of this proposal is a policy of military expansion, deviating from the principles of Japan's Peace Constitution and increasing the risk of war.

First, it proposes the possession of a substantial capability to attack enemy bases. This has in the new proposal been given the different name 'counterattack capability' against ballistic missile attacks or similar, however, from the history of discussions within the party it is clear that this refers to enemy base strike capability. The proposal further states that the targets of attack "are not limited to missile bases, but also include the command and control functions of the other country". Having such an offensive capability would effectively contravene Japan's basic policy of defense under the Constitution – that is, exclusively defense-oriented policy. Although the proposal claims that this is "under the concept of exclusively defense-oriented policy", it is in reality an extremely dangerous policy, coming as close as possible to a pre-emptive attack by Japan. Having offensive capability does not eliminate the threat of missiles, nor does it completely stop enemy missiles. If Japan adopts such an offensive posture, other countries will naturally react in the same way. This would unnecessarily increase military tensions in the region and in fact increase the likelihood of a potential attack on Japan.

Second, it proposes to expand defense spending within five years, with a target of 'at least 2 percent of GDP'. This is in other words a declaration to double defense spending. Such an expansionary stance by Japan would accelerate the arms race in Asia. In the first place, the very stance of setting an increase in defense spending as a political goal is incompatible with the pursuit of an effective defense and security policy. Various wasteful and opaque practices have been pointed out in contracts between the Japanese government and the defense industry, and in the introduction of weapons from the US. Correcting these problems must be the first priority.

Third, it calls for a review of the Three Principles on Transfer of Defense Equipment and Technology, and to consider the provision of lethal weapons to countries undergoing aggression, in a way that "allows for the transfer of equipment in a wide range of fields". This is an abandonment of the principle of 'not aggravating conflict', which is the cornerstone of Japan's arms export control policy maintained under the Constitution. It is extremely likely that such a change would lead to a situation of arbitrary interpretations going unchecked. It is unacceptable that people could be killed or injured by weapons exported by Japan.

To propose such a policy of military expansion at a time when people are feeling insecure because of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine is a highly inflammatory and provocative act. Such policies in the name of strengthening deterrence would actually create distrust of Japan's pacifism, provoke neighboring countries militarily and consequently increase the risk of war.

The COVID-19 pandemic which has persisted over more than two years has left Japan's society and economy in the same state of exhaustion as the rest of the world. The expansion of healthcare and welfare and measures to address inequality and poverty are the most urgent needs. A prolonged war in Ukraine could have further negative social and economic consequences. Money must now go to serve the people, not to weapons.

The fact that the ruling LDP has issued such a proposal will have a major impact on the revision of security policy by the Government. What is, however, required of Japan now is not to stir up an arms race, but diplomacy for mutual disarmament and easing of tensions with neighbouring countries, and efforts to restore international law and order, with the

United Nations at the core. The LDP proposal must not be taken as a given. Rather, we call for a calm and broad-based debate by both the ruling and opposition parties, returning to the fundamentals of diplomacy and security based on the Peace Constitution.

- **Media Release: Indo-Pacific Expo exposes Australian Government hypocrisy**

“With the opening of the Indo-Pacific Expo today, major arms suppliers will be spruiking their wares to both rich and poor countries. They will be selling to human rights abusers and to countries involved in wars,” protest organiser Denis Doherty said in Sydney today.

“There is no limit on ‘investment opportunities’ for the arms trade.”

NSW Government hypocrisy was exposed when State Treasurer Matt Kean told the ABC (1-3-22) that *“it is completely unacceptable that we invest in anything that does not have good Environmental, Social and Governance outcomes not only in Australia but around the world.”*

“The NSW Government quickly puts those ESG rules away when there is a buck to made from death and misery,” Mr Doherty said.

The NSW investment website (<https://invest.nsw.gov.au/sector-opportunities/defence>) cheerfully promotes the arms trade and provides funding for the Expo.

“However, we are not allowed to know how much this sponsorship is costing the people of NSW. Companies exhibiting at the Expo have dubious human rights records yet they are welcomed into our city. The list of which military representatives will attend the Expo is kept confidential while the cash registers are turning over. As the world’s military spending passed \$2 trillion in 2021, the NSW and Federal Governments continue to invest in war instead of fighting the climate, health, fire and flood crises in our country,” Denis Doherty concluded.

- **ENAAAT & GCOMS Statement: The EU at a crossroads: choosing peace or militarizing?**



On Europe's day, the Global Campaign on Military Spending and the European Network Against Arms Trade call the EU to revert back to its initial aim: preserving and promoting peace through non-violent means. The EU should choose peace and stop feeding the global arms race.

The Member States of the European Union have been increasing their military expenditures for several years now, culminating to €217 billion in 2021, and up to €275 billion if the UK is included. This makes the EU-27 Member States and UK collectively rank second on the global scene, after the US and before China, and spending almost 5 times more than Russia.

Most European countries (including Russia) have increased their military spending continuously since 2014 and following the annexation of Crimea by Russia. As history has consistently shown, this contributes to a "security dilemma" where all sides feel increasingly threatened, whether justified or not. This can only lead to military confrontations in the continent, in which the Ukrainian people are the first victims.

Today the EU is cynically exploiting the invasion of Ukraine as an excuse to accelerate its militarisation and its support to the arms industry, a process which started way before the war. On top of national military spending, the EU will put several billions of Euros to support the arms industry, the development of cutting-edge armament as well as their transfer within and outside the EU.

In 2021-2027, €8 billion will go to the research and development of the next generation of weaponry, 1.5 billion will go to the mobility of military goods and troops across the EU, and at least €1.5 billion will largely be used to 'deliver' weapons to partner countries outside the EU. This latter amount channeled through the alleged 'European Peace Facility' may be substantially increased if Member States decide so, considering that a large part of it has been already used to reimburse arms deliveries to Ukraine.

Furthermore, the arms industry has been trivialized to the extent that it now has access to most EU funding schemes as a 'normal business', from social to regional or environmental programmes. Hundreds of millions of Euros will therefore also be used to subsidize this controversial sector without prior control.

This is all the more worrying as this money will mainly benefit the major arms industry groups, many of which are among the top 100 companies in the sector, and therefore major exporters. And these companies are based in European countries that are themselves among the biggest arms exporters.

For example, 59% of the funding allocated so far by the EU Defense Fund in 2017-2020 goes to 15 major beneficiaries (the top 5 being Leonardo, Indra, Safran, Thales, Airbus), and many of them are involved in controversial arms exports, in serious corruption allegations or in the production and maintenance of nuclear weapons. More than two thirds (68.4%) of the allocated budget goes to the 'big four' countries: France, Italy, Germany, and Spain, which rank respectively second, fourth, sixth and seventh in the SIPRI arms exporters ranking.

By exponentially increasing its subsidies to the arms industry, the EU is largely feeding the global arms race, which in turn fuels conflicts worldwide. By doing so, the EU is betraying the vision of its founding fathers to prevent a new arms race; the EU should rather exponentially increase its funding for non-violent means of resolving conflicts and tensions, which are largely underfunded, and promote a new world order based on sustainability, justice and human security.

International

Launch Event “Common Security Report 2022”



Thursday April 21, 01.00 – 02.30 PM (Central European SummerTime)

The Launch Event was organised by **Olof Palme International Center, ITUC and IPB**.

The world stands at a crossroads. The choice is between an existence based on competition and aggression or one rooted in peace and common security. Humanity faces the existential threats of nuclear war, climate change and pandemics. How we respond to these threats will define our very survival.

Our world order faces severe challenges. The common systems and structures – needed to provide security, combat poverty and inequality and prevent human suffering – are inadequate, and frequently violated or ignored. The future of humanity depends on us fixing our struggling global order.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of Olof Palme’s Independent Commission on Disarmament and Security Issues. Now, in 2022, Russian aggression against Ukraine is a reminder of what can happen when the world order fails. It is time to consider whether Palme’s concept of Common Security can help bring us back from the brink.

The report, *Common Security 2022*, informed by a High-Level Advisory Commission, a diverse group of prominent people from every continent, builds on the work of the Palme report and shows the way forward.

Follow the launch event on [Facebook](#)

Or watch it on [Youtube](#).

Programme

- Presentation of the report *Common Security 2022*, Anna Sundström, Secretary General, Olof Palme International Center
- *Common Security – challenges of today’s world*
Jan Eliasson, Former Deputy Secretary-General of the UN and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Sweden
Sharan Burrow, General Secretary, International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), Australia
Sean Conner, Deputy Executive Director, IPB, USA
Moderator: Anna Sundström
- Voices from High-Level Advisory Commission
- *Common Security -a blueprint for future survival*
Stefan Löfven, former Prime Minister Sweden
Rosaline Marbinah, OSCE Special Representative on Youth and Security, Sweden
Trisha Shetty, CEO, SheSays and President Steering Committee, Paris Peace Forum, India
- Closing Remarks – Philip Jennings, President, International Peace Bureau

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[Common Security Report 2022 – For Our Shared Future](#)

The new Common Security 2022 report comes at a time when the international order faces severe challenges. The world stands at a crossroads. It is faced with a choice between an existence based on confrontation and aggression or one to be rooted in a transformative peace agenda and common security. In 2022, humanity faces the existential threats of nuclear war, climate change and pandemics. This is compounded by a toxic mix of inequality, extremism, nationalism, gender violence, and shrinking democratic space. How humanity responds to these threats will decide our very survival.

The Common Security Report 2022 was published by the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), the International Peace Bureau (IPB) and the Olof Palme International Center.

The full report is available in [English](#), [German](#), [French](#), [Russian](#) and [Spanish](#). Find more information [here](#).



"What if – Spesterra" Youth Video Challenge Youth 4 Disarmament (UNODA)

The United Nations General Assembly declared 2021 the “International Year of Peace and Trust”. It is also the first year of the Decade of Action to usher in ambitious steps to deliver on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Against this backdrop, **the Office for Disarmament Affairs launched the “What if — Spesterra” Youth Video Challenge to stimulate young people’s interest and**

knowledge about the vital way disarmament contributes to a safer, more secure and sustainable world for all.

Coined from the Latin words spes, which means hope, and terra, which means land, the “What if – Spesterra” Youth Video Challenge calls on young people across the globe to imagine: “What do you think the world would look like if more money were spent on peace and development and less on arms?” and share their vision in a creative 2.20-minute video.

Making use of multimedia productions like short films, animations, documentaries, and music videos, young people are invited to showcase their vision of what would happen if we put people at the center of our disarmament efforts to save lives and make our world a safer place.



The challenge was launched on World Arts Day on 15 April and closed on Youth Skills Day on 15 July and was open to youth between the ages of 18 to 24.

The [winners](#) attended an intensive summer course on disarmament. They also developed concrete recommendations on ways to reduce military spending in order to secure our common future, which they presented, along with the winning videos, at a side event during the seventy-sixth session of the United Nations First Committee.

Youth 4 Disarmament also prepared [this Trello Board](#) containing some draft social media posts and a public service announcement (PSA) featuring UN Messenger for Peace Michael Douglas and ten UN Youth Champions for Disarmament.

For more information please visit this [website](#), or watch this explicative video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ld5FuaskUUU>

Africa

Cameroon

- The organization **Nouveaux Droits de l'Homme** located in Cameroon and partners of GCOMS since 2021 shared the GDAMS material through their network online. "Nouveaux Droits de l'Homme" demanded Cameroon's government to reallocate the military budget of the country, through an online picture campaign.

Banners included:

- "Improve education"
- "Increasing the shopping basket is giving peace a budget"
- "Encourage recycling and protect the environment"
- "Reduce military expenditure in favor of cleaning up the public highway"
- "Reduce military spending in favor of a better arrangement of our markets"
- "Renovate medical laboratories"
- "Reduce military expenditure in favor of drinking water"





Democratic Republic of the Congo

- **La Prunelle RDC** and the **Collectif 2250** joined GDAMS. The organizations shared GDAMS statements and materials on their social media.

“The world spent over \$2 trillion on the military in 2021. These budgets for war and weapons keep us in cycles of violence. It is time to call on governments to reduce military spending and invest in common and human security.

Because weapons destroy and kill, use these budgets for peace. 2 trillion dollars in 2021 for weapons around the world can build bridges to connect communities.”



You can find out more about this action [here](#).

- La Prunelle RDC and Collectif 2250 also participated in the Move The Money campaign:



Asia & Pacific

Japan

- **Peace Boat**, as an International Steering Group Member of GCOMS, also took part in GDAMS, and prepared the following [report](#) on their activities:



On 25 April, figures released by the [Stockholm International Peace Research Institute \(SIPRI\)](#) showed that world military expenditure increased in 2021 by 0.7% in real terms and is now estimated at a shocking USD2113 billion. To coincide with this announcement and to highlight the amount of public money spent on weapons and the military, the [Global Days of Action on Military Spending \(GDAMS\)](#) ran for a month from April 13 until May 12, 2022. Organized by the Global Campaign on Military Spending (GCOMS) which is coordinated by the [International Peace Bureau \(IPB\)](#), GDAMS has been taking place every year for the last 11 years. Peace Boat is a member of the International Steering Committee and joined the [GDAMS 2022 Appeal](#), under the slogan, "Give Peace a Budget". Peace Boat carried out various activities during the period of GDAMS to highlight this global rise in military spending according to the figures from SIPRI as well as a proposal from the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) to substantially increase military spending in Japan.

Urgent Statement on LDP's "Security Proposal"

On April 21, 2022, the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) of Japan compiled a proposal calling for a revision of the Government's National Security Strategy and other documents to include a substantial expansion of defence spending to 2 percent of GDP, as well as the possession of a real capability to strike enemy bases. This proposal deviates from the principles of the Constitution and increases the danger of war. A group of 20 leading scholars and activists from throughout Japan, including Peace Boat Executive Committee Member, Kawasaki Akira, issued an emergency statement protesting against the proposal. Following its launch on April 21 with 20 names, a further 600 people endorsed the statement. A press conference on this urgent statement was held online on Thursday, April 28, with Akira Kawasaki from Peace Boat. The full text of the urgent statement is available [here](#) in English.



Video message from Nagasaki survivor, Ogawa Tadayoshi

Upon the announcement of the global figures on military spending by SIPRI on April 25, a video was released and shared on social media with a [message from Ogawa Tadayoshi](#), a survivor of the nuclear bombing of Nagasaki. Mr Ogawa travelled to Ukraine ten years ago with Peace Boat's Global Voyage for a Nuclear Free World and is currently holding an exhibition in Nagasaki of his pictures from that visit to Ukraine's Kyiv, Odessa and Chernobyl, hoping that peace and smiles return to the people there. In his message he spoke about military spending, nuclear weapons and the war in Ukraine, as follows:

"Give Peace A Budget" - not the military, which causes armed conflict. I want our taxes to be used for supporting those who are in danger... We need to have more budget for health and welfare, education and solving issues like poverty, not for the military.



Educational Workshops on Military Spending in Peace Boat Centers

Over the course of the last 11 years of GDAMS, Peace Boat has held educational workshops onboard its ship to raise awareness of the issue of military spending and give participants an opportunity to think about how public money should be spent. With Peace Boat's global voyages not currently sailing due to the ongoing global pandemic, Peace Boat was glad to instead to be able to hold a series of workshops in Peace Boat Centers across Japan with staff, volunteers and participants who will be joining future Peace Boat voyage on the theme looking at both the figures from SIPRI and the new proposal from the LDP on Japan's budget.



On April 27 an online workshop with participants from Peace Boat Centers in Fukuoka and Nagoya was held which included a 20-min mini lecture on the world and Japan's military spending. On April 28, an in-person workshop in Tokyo Peace Boat Center included an overview of the world military spending focusing on the facts that it is increasing, and that Japan's military expenditure is fairly high - currently ninth in the world. It started with the question to participants of whether or not they would agree to a proposed increase in Japan's military spending and discussion on why people had answered yes or no. The group discussed why those who had initially agreed with an increase in the military budget felt scared about neighbouring countries as well as the role of the media in increasing fears. The group also discussed what else they would like to use the government spending on if not for the military including education and support for single mothers, On May 11, a 60-min workshop in Yokohama Peace Boat Center saw people join in-person and online with a similar format as Tokyo. As all participants answered no to the initial question and were against a further increase in Japanese military spending, the discussion focused on how to stop this trend, how our voices can be heard, and what other fields need this funding. One volunteer who is also a nurse spoke about the need for increased spending in healthcare from her own experience in her workplace of understaffing and a lack of mental care for staff.



If we had 2 trillion dollars, we would give a budget to..

Peace Boat staff also shared their thoughts on “If I had 2 trillion dollars, I would give a budget to...” Responses varied from climate action and renewable energy to a focus on social welfare or children. However, an overwhelming number of people said they would like more funds to be directed to peace education.

https://peaceboat.org/english/news/gdams2022_report

South Korea

- A press conference and a street protest were held (see also page 15) on April 25 at Gangeong Square in Seoul. You can find out more about it and see all the pictures [here](#) at the PSPD website.





Philippines

- A press conference was held. You can find more information [here](#). More information can be found on the [STOP The War Coalition](#) facebook page.

Australia

- **IPAN & Antibases**
Disarm the Seas: Actions against AUKUS & the Indo-Pacific Expo;

PEACE PICKET

Tuesday May 10
11.30 am – 1.30 pm

Darling Harbourside
International Convention Centre

Speakers include Lee Rhiannon, Wendy Bacon, Warren Smith (MUA), and Prof Jake Lynch.

'An arms exhibition called Indo Pacific Expo will have 657 arms companies displaying naval weapons systems to local and foreign buyers. The sellers will be from Australia, Europe, USA and Israel.

Australia needs less weapons and more work on peace, healing the pandemic, stopping climate change and a fair system for all. We cannot afford \$1000 billion wasted on destabilizing nuclear powered submarines.

We call on the NSW Government to remove itself as a sponsor and funder of the Expo and to cancel its stall at the arms bazaar. We call on the organizers to cancel the events.'



Watch a video of this action [here](#).

For more information click [here](#)

You can download a leaflet as a pdf file [here](#).

See also: Media release 'Indo-Pacific Expo exposes Australian Government hypocrisy' (page 21)

Aotearoa / New Zealand

- **Peace Movement Aotearoa** organized ANZAC Day Online Peace Event combining a peace vigil to remember all the casualties of war, and 'Budget for peace, not war'.

ANZAC Day Online Peace Event
1.30pm - 2.30pm, Monday 25 April 2022

'Budget for peace, not war'
a forum marking the Global
Day of Action on Military Spending

Opens with peace vigil to remember all the casualties of war

 facebook.com/PeaceMovementAotearoa @PeaceMovementA

**Invest in the future for
peoples and planet**

Budget for peace, not war!
join us to discuss the new global
military spending figures

Monday 25 April, from 1.30pm to 2.30pm
<https://anzacdaypeaceonline.eventbrite.co.nz>

For more information about New Zealand's military spending see page 19 of this paper or visit this [link](#).

South America

Chile

- **Serpaj Chile** (Servicio Paz y Justicia) endorsed GDAMS appeal and shared it to social media. Like every year, Serpaj took part in the annual campaign against military spending.

As every year, SerpajChile joins the global campaign Against Military Spending 2022 under the slogan "Let's give peace a budget", which aims to raise awareness among society and public policy makers about the excessive military spending that countries allocate each year in their budgets.

Unfortunately, the year 2022 has started negatively for those of us who advocate Nonviolence and fight for Peace. In recent times we have seen that there is no end to the interest in war. The world is currently suffering from armed conflicts in different regions, in addition to the consequences of famine and the Covid 19 pandemic, which has killed more than five million people so far.

Investing in war is violence against humanity and the environment, and in no way guarantees peace. For instance, the 1.98 trillion dollars spent on armies in 2020 did not bring any security or peace of mind, but only destruction and death for the people.



This is the reason why this initiative seeks to unite the messages towards governments to defund military spending and to invest in the search for peace through greater social spending, education, health and other needs that guarantee the dignity of every human being.

On 25 April, a press conference will be held to release new data on military spending in the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) Annual Report. From April 13 to May 12, SerpajChile joins the petition to cut military spending and to start rebuilding Peace, coexistence and collaboration among the peoples of the world.

For War, nothing

Let's Give Peace a Budget.

Read this statement in Spanish [here](#).

Find out more about the [SERPAJ Chile](#).

Perú

- **Perú por el desarme** showed its support for GDAMS 2022 through some publications on its social media in which it stated that Colombia, Brazil and Mexico are the three countries that increased their military budgets the most during the pandemic.

Perú por el Desarme posted on their twitter profile:

"Colombia, Brazil and Mexico, the three AL countries that increased their military budgets the most during the pandemic (2021). A worrying trend that insists on the "defence" of peace through arms (and the violence they ensure)".

Colombia

- **Iberoamerican Alliance for Peace**, through its co-president Angelo Cardona, also a Council member of the **International Peace Bureau**, participated and supported the GDAMS 2022 campaign through some publications on its social media. He called on governments around the world to reduce their military investment and invest in the real needs of people to build a common security agenda. He thinks that expenditures should be to strengthen the health system and create dignified living conditions for humanity instead of using our budgets to finance the death industry.

Click [here](#) to see the social media post shared.

"More weapons can only mean more tension, more war and more deaths. The money should be spent on strengthening the health care system and creating dignified living conditions for humanity instead of using our budgets to finance the death industry."

Find their twitter account [here](#).

North America

Canada

- **Canadian Voice of Women (VOW)** joined organizations around the world in signing on to this year's appeal for the Global Days of Action on Military Spending (GDAMS), sharing it at their [website](#).

United States - Washington DC

- **American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)** called for action and joined the Move the Money campaign to urge leaders to deliver better health care, schools, and jobs—not more money for weapons, war, and corporate defense contractors. During the Global Days of Action on Military Spending, AFSC

offered political education at a community event in DC, alongside poets & comedians.

You can find more information about the AFSC on their [webpage](#).



The AFSC posted the following tweets on their [Twitter profile](#):

“As global military spending surpasses \$2 trillion, orgs around the world are calling on global leaders to “give peace a budget.”

Citing Tori Bateman: “This year, we’ve seen how military spending fails to keep us safe. It’s shameful that govts, especially the U.S., continue to destabilize our world w/ more weapons, while failing to address climate change, public health, and other true global crises.”

“It’s time dor the U.S., and world leaders everywhere to cut military spending and commit to solving our problems for real.”

During the GDAMS, AFSC posted the following [tweet](#):

“As part of the Global Days of Action on Military Spending, AFSC offered political education at a community event in DC, alongside poets and comedians”

Alongside with the this picture about the event.



Tori Bateman, policy advocacy coordinator at AFSC, joined the Move the Money campaign. He published a [tweet](#) stating that he would address climate change:



- **SOAW School of the Americas Watch**

SOAW published a [letter against military spending](#) addressed to the SOAW presidents of Latin America and the Caribbean. It managed to gather some 280 signatures from organizations and individuals. Among the signatures, that of Adolfo Perez Esquivel, Nobel Peace Prize winner.

You can download the letter [here](#).



Carta Contra el Gasto Militar y la Militarización en América Latina y el Caribe

“En nuestro continente, los países que más gastaron fueron Brasil con 19.187 millones de dólares; Colombia con 10.180 millones de dólares; México con 8.680 millones de dólares; Chile con 6.230 millones de dólares; y Argentina con 2.591 millones de dólares. En América Central y el Caribe, el gasto militar ascendió a 11.000 millones de dólares, de acuerdo a SIPRI.”

¡¡No al Gasto Militar, No a la Militarización en América Latina y el Caribe!!

¡¡Gastos Militares para Escuelas y Hospitales!!

Comisión Construcción de Paz, No Violencia y Antimilitarización
CONVIDA-20

- **No Wars, No Warming: Fund Our Future**

April 18 at 12:00pm

IRS office at 290 Broadway at Duane Street, New York.

The climate and peace movements come together for a rally and short march in front of the IRS this tax day, April 18th, to demand that our tax money stop being used to fund endless war and environmental destruction. The Pentagon is the number one institutional consumer of oil on the planet. In order to maintain its 800+ military bases around the world, the Pentagon alone produces more fossil fuel emissions than 140 other countries, COMBINED.

We recognize that the people who are most often placed in harm's way from armed conflict are also the people who have and will continue to face the brunt of the climate crisis. In this moment, after two years of Covid19, our tax money should be funding social services that benefit the communities most impacted by the climate crisis and most affected by decades of systemic underfunding. The US has no problem dumping over half of its federal budget into policing the rest of the world through the Pentagon but refuses to cover the things people actually need. Join us to demand that our tax money stop fossil-fueling endless war, and start funding healthcare, green jobs and infrastructure, other climate adaptation measures, and housing. We demand a livable future.

Sign up for the action here: <https://actionnetwork.org/forms/get-ready-april-13th-23rd>

Also join the Rebellion Broadcast for live updates at <https://t.me/xrnyc>

To help our message reach a wide audience we need everyone's help. Click, Click Going, Invite Friends, and Share these events on your feed. Help us spread the word!

This event is part of the Spring Rebellion, our largest ever sustained, nonviolent civil disobedience campaign in NYC. See the full schedule [here](#) or here:

<https://www.xrebellion.nyc/spring-rebellion-details>



National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee

A State By State [NWTRCC](#) network list of Tax Day actions:

Chandler, Arizona

- *April 17, 10a.* Tax Day event at Northrop Grumman. Organized by [Phoenix Anti-War Coalition](#) – Attendees at the event will be holding signs and tax info flyers.

Berkeley, California

- *April 14, 6-7:30p.* The People's Life Fund will host a redirection ceremony to invest in the community in the Bay Area. A spokesperson from each group receiving the grant will provide a brief intro to their mission and their work. We will end with optional "Choose Your Own" Breakout Groups for anyone who wants to stay for a few extra minutes to chat with other war tax resisters or other grantees. [Zoom Meeting link](#). Meeting ID: 822 9903 4596 Passcode: 268629 For more information see, www.nowartax.org or contact nowartax@riseup.net.

San Diego, California

- *April 18, 11a-1p.* "Bake Sale for the Air Force." San Diego Federal Building (800 Front Street). Event will include war tax redirection. Sponsored by Southern California War Tax Resisters.

South Bend, Indiana

- *Monday April 18 4:30-5:30 pm.* Vigil outside Federal Building at Jefferson and Main. Sponsored by Michiana War Tax Refusers. For more information, contact Peter Smith at psmith@saintmarys.edu or (574) 532-3720.

Des Moines, Iowa

- *Monday April 16, 4pm.* “Shut Down DM’s Drone Command Center” – Air National Guard Drone Command Center, 3100 McKinley Ave. Des Moines. For more information, contact Frank Cordaro at 515-490-2590 or frank.cordaro@gmail.com.

Brunswick, Maine

- *Monday April 18;* Sponsored by PeaceWorks in conjunction with War Industry Resisters Network. Details being finalized. More information will be listed at peaceworksbrunswickme.org/events.html

Boston, Massachusetts

- *Tuesday April 19, Noon-1pm.* Tax Week Action in conjunction with War Industry Resisters Network. Place to be determined. Sponsored by Massachusetts Peace Action. For more information, Massachusetts Peace Action at (617)354-2169, info@masspeaceaction.org or www.masspeaceaction.org/events/

Northampton, Massachusetts

- *Saturday April 23, 12:30p.* “One Planet. One People. No War!” Organized by Demilitarize Western Mass – We’ll meet at weapons contractor L3Harris’ building, 50 Prince Street, and march to downtown for a rally. If you prefer not to march, meet us in front of City Hall at 1 pm for the rally and speakers. The event, co-sponsored by Code Pink of Western Mass, will focus on militarism, its impact on the climate and racial justice. Join us for this rally for both Earth Day and a Tax Day action!

Santa Fe, New Mexico

- *Friday, April 15, 10a-2p (maybe longer).* Tabling at La Montañita Co-op (913 West Alameda Street).

Manhattan, New York

- *Monday, April 18, Noon.* Vigil and leafleting at 26 Federal Plaza in front of the Federal Building on Broadway stretching down to the IRS office at 290 Broadway and Duane Street. The vigil will be followed by a march to the

financial district to call out the criminal corporations that profit from war. Sponsored by NYC War Resisters League, Extinction Rebellion, and others. For more information: nycWRL@nycwarresisters.org • 718-768-7306 • www.nycwarresisters.org • [Facebook Event Page](#)

Corvallis, Oregon

- *Saturday April 16, Noon.* “Let’s Use Our Taxes for a Better World” rally at Howland Plaza, 1st & Madison; featuring music, speakers, networking, prioritizing, and coalition building. Sponsored by Veterans for Peace & Linus Pauling Chapter -Mid-Valley, Oregon. For more info, contact Court Smith at 541.753.3335 or crtsmth@comcast.net

Eugene, Oregon

- *Monday April 18, Noon.* “Let’s Use Our Taxes for a Better World” rally at Howland Plaza, 1st & Madison; featuring music, speakers, networking, prioritizing, and coalition building. Sponsored by Veterans for Peace & L

Portland, Oregon

- *Saturday April 15, 7:30-9am.* Sign-holding on Portland bridges (Burma Shave Style). Meet at E. Burnside and MLK Jr. Blvd. Sponsored by War Resisters League – Portland. For more information, email: jgrueschow@comcast.net.

Lancaster, Pennsylvania

- *Monday, April 18, 11a.* Penny Polls in City Center Square. Organized by [1040 for Peace](#) – Penny Poll where public can “vote” on how they’d like to have their federal taxes spent.

Philadelphia

- *Friday, April 15, Noon.* “Stations of Justice, Nonviolence, Peace, and the Love of Humanity...” At Lockheed Martin: Mall & Goddard Boulevards, King of Prussia (behind King of Prussia Mall). Sponsored by Brandywine Peace Community. For more info, call 215-843-4827.

[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 852 4513 1803

Passcode: 758202

One tap mobile: +19292056099

Knoxville, Tennessee

- *Monday, April 18, 11:30a.* Tax Day action at Market Square, asking people how they would like their tax dollars spent and explaining the sad truth about how the people we

have elected to represent us will actually spend their money. Sponsored by the Oak Ridge Environmental Peace Alliance (<https://orepa.org/>).

Brattleboro, Vermont

- *Monday, April 18, 10am-5pm.* WTR information table outside the Brattleboro Food Coop, 2 Main Street. Sponsored by [Taxes for Peace New England](#). For more information, contact Daniel Sicken at 802-387-2798 or dhsicken@yahoo.com

Harrisonburg, Virginia

- *Saturday, April 16, 11:30a.* Several people from Community Mennonite Church and Shalom Mennonite Church have organized a War Tax Resistance/redirection vigil at LOVE Park next to the Harrisonburg Farmer's Market. Some people will literally or symbolically be giving their redirected money to representatives from those organizations to whom the redirected money is going. Some will be reading the letters they are writing to the IRS to enclose with their tax returns stating what they are doing and why. Others will be distributing Piechart leaflets showing the percentage of Federal Outlays going to military spending this year – about 48 percent. This vigil will follow the regular 11:00 Saturday “anti-war vigil” that is held there. Anybody is welcome to join us – even if you are not a war tax resister but have concerns about the share of the federal budget going to military spending – and the high opportunity costs incurred.

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

- *Saturday, April 9, Noon-1pm.* Vigil to protest federal tax dollars for war and environmental harm, U.S. Army Reserve, 5130 W. Silver Spring Dr. Sponsored by Milwaukee War Tax Resistance, Casa Maria Catholic Worker, & Peace Action of Wisconsin. For more info, contact Lincoln at Casa Maria at usury_sucks@hotmail.com or (414) 344-5745.

It's also worth mentioning this great effort by the [War Industry Resisters Network](#) to promote actions around Tax Day this year, the **Global Mobilization to Stop Lockheed Martin**, being some of them also GDAMS actions.

The full list of these actions prepared by Veterans for Peace can be found [here](#), and a photo album [here](#).



Europe

Italy

- **Rete Pace e Disarmo**
Give peace a budget: diamo fondi alla Pace!

One more year Rete Pace e Disarmo



joined GDAMS by sharing its appeal and online materials.

Quest'anno il mondo ha raccolto gli orrori dei suoi investimenti in strumenti di guerra. La violenza perpetrata sulle persone di tutto il mondo per mano di stati militarizzati ha avuto impatti devastanti sull'umanità e sull'ambiente. I 1.98 trilioni di dollari spesi per le forze armate nel 2020 non hanno fornito una vera sicurezza – invece, questi bilanci gonfiati per le armi e la guerra ci hanno tenuti impantanati in cicli di violenza. È ora di unirci e chiedere ai Governi di tutto il mondo di tagliare le spese militari e di investire invece nella sicurezza comune e umana. Dobbiamo dare fondi alla Pace! Per darle una possibilità, dobbiamo dare fondi alla pace.

Read the full statement [here](#).

On April 25, together with Sbilanciamoci, RIPD prepared a statement and materials to bring attention to military spending increases around the world.





United Kingdom

The GCOMS UK Coalition prepared the following [report](#).

- **Street demonstrations, Vigils & Stalls**

The first event of GDAMS in the UK was a demonstration on the evening of April 11th at Menwith Hill US spy base on the Yorkshire Moors, organised by the [Menwith Hill Accountability Campaign](#) and [Bradford CND](#). As is tradition the group stopped every vehicle leaving the base for just enough time to allow them time to read the banners.



[London Women in Black](#) held [two GDAMS vigils in April](#), where passers-by were engaged on the issue of military spending and asked to sign a petition to Boris Johnson on the subject.



[Merseyside CND](#) held a stall on the streets of Liverpool asking people what they'd prioritise over military spending.



Keighley Peace and Environment Network held a Vigil for Peace in Ukraine, calling for an end to military spending increases and, instead, resources dedicated to peace and planet.

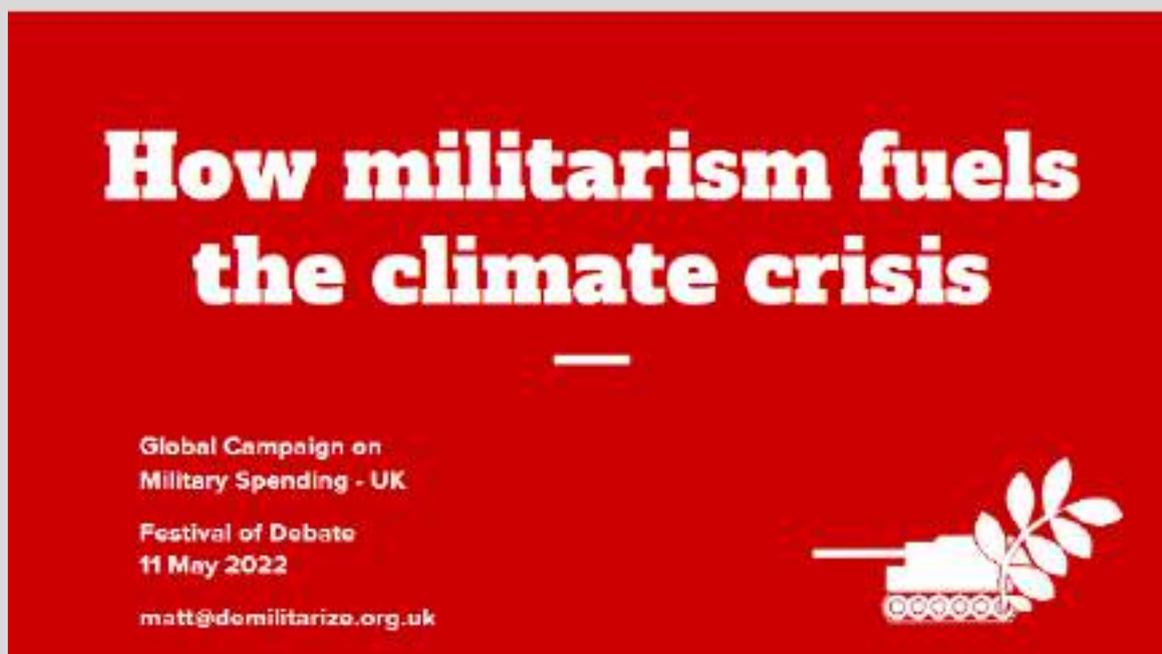


Presentations

[Scrap Weapons](#) held an exceptional webinar for GDAMS 2022 – “Strategies for reducing military expenditure”. It was a fantastic insight into their work, if you missed it, we really recommend catching up below. They also discussed their new [Global Weapons Tracking tool](#) using crowd sourced data – demonstrating how much easier tracking and monitoring of disarmament programmes is today. They also invited attendees to [sign up to the call for a UN General Assembly special session on disarmament](#).



As part of the brilliant [Festival of Debate 2020](#), GCOMS UK were asked to speak on the impact of UK militarism on the environment, alongside [Leona Morgan](#), an indigenous community organiser and activist fighting nuclear colonialism. The event was organised by [Sheffield Creative Action for Peace \(SCrAP\)](#). Our presentation is included below and there is also a [recording of the event](#).



Find [here](#) more the entire presentation on military spending.

**GLOBAL DAYS OF ACTION
ON MILITARY SPENDING 2022:**

**13 Apr.
2022
14.00 CEST**

**LAUNCH EVENT:
THE STATE OF DISARMAMENT**

Featuring contributions from:

- **Kate Hudson (UK)**, General Secretary of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament
- **Lindsay Koshgarian (USA)**, Program Director, National Priorities Project
- **Youngah Lee (South Korea)**, Coordinator of Center for Peace&Disarmament, PSPD
- **Alexander Neu (Germany)**, former member of the German Bundestag
- **Anne Jessen (Denmark)**, member of the anti-militarization organization Demos

IPB International Peace Bureau

**REGISTER NOW AT:
bit.ly/GDAMS22**

GCOMS Global Commission on Military Spending

- **Peace Pledge Union** also endorsed the GDAMS campaign with the hashtag #GivePeaceABudget on their [social media](#):

“Global military spending hits \$2 trillion for the first time. Read about our response (along with other member of [@GCOMS UK](#)) at [Peace Pledge Union](#).”

They published the following [report](#) on their website:

Global military spending hits \$2 trillion for the first time

Monday 25 April 2022

In the last year, the world spent \$2,113,000,000,000 on armed force, according to figures released today.

The [statistics were published](#) followed by analysis by academic researchers at the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI).

They show that British military spending has passed £50 billion. It is twice as high per head of population as the EU average.

The UK now has the fourth highest military expenditure in the world – ahead of Russia. Only the USA, China and India spend more on the military than the UK. This finding of SIPRI confirms findings by the International Institute of Strategic Studies, who had already identified the UK as the world’s fourth highest military spender a year ago.

This follows Boris Johnson's announcement in 2020 of a massive rise in British military spending. It was identified by Scientists for Global Responsibility as the highest percentage increase in UK military spending since the Korean War.

Recent weeks have seen a number of politicians attempting to use the crisis in [Ukraine](#) as an excuse for an even bigger increase in UK military spending.

But today, peace and human rights groups pointed out that a fraction of the cost of military spending could pay for real investment in renewable energy – thus ending reliance on Russian fossil fuels and weakening the Putin regime.

"Military spending as deterrence has dramatically failed," declared the organisations that make up the UK wing of the [Global Campaign on Military Spending](#) (GCOMS). They [pointed out](#) that in 2021 NATO spent more than 17 times as much on military budgets as Russia, but that this did not deter the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

They added, "Recent military spending increases by NATO countries, while framed as 'taking tough action', will do nothing to aid the suffering of the Ukrainian people, they will only further stoke arms industry profits".

Greenpeace has called for a £10bn emergency fund in the UK this year to [cut all Russian fossil fuels](#) while combating fuel poverty and the climate crisis. This is less than a fifth of the current UK military budget.

Critics of military spending have taken to social media today, using the hashtag [#GivePeaceABudget](#).

"Massive military expenditure failed to deter Putin's aggression," pointed out the [Peace Pledge Union \(PPU\)](#), one of the groups in the Global Campaign on Military Spending. "But some are naively calling for it to be raised even further. This would be to repeat a failed strategy that won't stop war. We need to Give Peace A Budget!"

- **Cut UK Military Spending (GCOMS UK Coalition) social media campaigning.**

Cut UK Military Spending posted on their social media accounts the following tweets along with the pictures:

"On the eve of [#GDAMS](#) outside Menwith Hill US Spy base to say [#NoNewArmsRace](#) [#MoveTheMoney](#), with [@MenwithCampaign](#) and Bradford CND."



You can find the tweet [here](#).

“The week's [#GDAMS2022](#) actions, events and SIPRI figures release [#GivePeaceABudget](#)” Alongside with the link to the [GCOMS website](#).



“Instead of boosting already inflated military budgets NATO countries must invest NOW in energy efficiency and renewables and Stop Fueling Putin’s war on Ukraine [#GivePeaceABudget](#) [#GDAMS2022](#).”

Along with the tweet GCOMS UK added the link to the Greenpeace article: [“Fossil fuels are fuelling war”](#).



- **Women in Black** organized a street demonstration during the Global Days of Action on Military Spending asking for investments in peace, sustainable energy sources, health, education, and climate change.



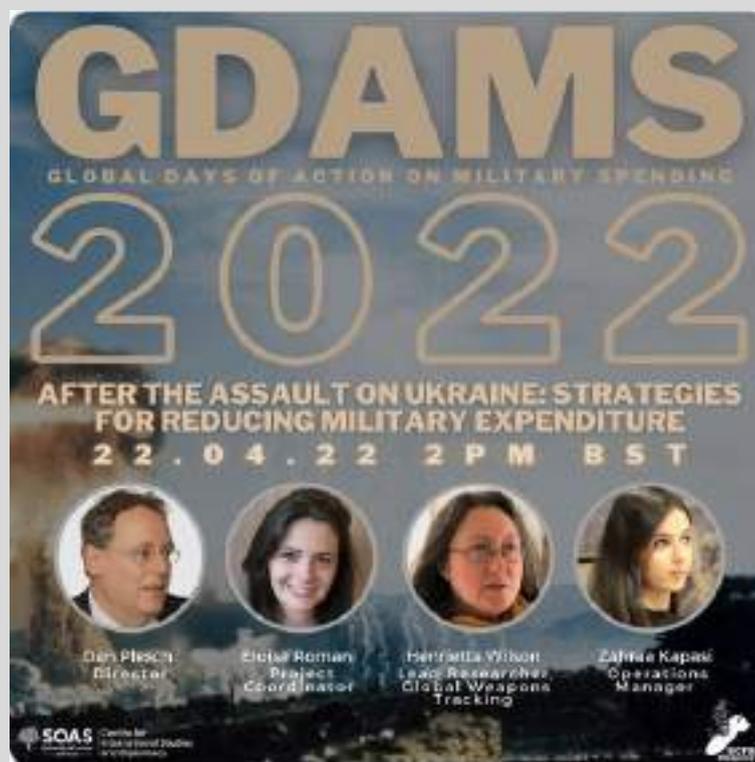
They also spread their message on their [Twitter channel](#). Women in Black [reposted](#) on their Twitter profile a tweet of GCOMS UK adding the following text:

“Join us today at Edith Cavell statue to mark the Global Days of Action on Military Spending [@DemilitarizeDay](#). World military annual spending has risen to £1.522 trillion: 200 times more than the total UN refugee budget. We don’t want more wars. We need genuine, peaceful security.”

- **SCRAPWeapons** is a SOAS initiative seeking to provide a treaty equivalent of the UN framework on Climate Change to abolish weaponry. They organized a webinar in which they examined the impact of the Ukraine Crisis on attempts to reduce military spending.

SCRAPWeapons posted the following [tweet](#) on their [Twitter profile](#):

“Happening tomorrow! Register to webinar "After the Assault on Ukraine: Strategies for Reducing Military Expenditure" - link: <http://scrapweapons.com/gdams-2022/> #Demilitarize #GDAMS #GCOMS @DemilitarizeDay @IntlPeaceBureau @DanPlesch @EloisaRomani @hrgwilson1 @KapasiZahraa @SOAS”



- **Corruption Tracker** joined #GDAMS2022 calling for a universal reduction in military spending to address humanity’s most urgent threats: the climate emergency, global health crisis, and extreme poverty.



You can find out more [here](#).



Spain

- **Antimilitaristas Madrid**

Antimilitaristas Madrid posted this message on their [Twitter profile](#) along with the following pictures:

“It’s terrible that in the middle of a pandemic, global military expenditure grows again! 2,1 trillion dollars. Our government, the most progressive one in history, wants to contribute to such growth.”



- Coordinadora d'ONGD Lleida** joined the #GDAMS call for another year to reduce military spending, especially in a context of war in Ukraine, which highlights the dangers of the arms race in Europe. They invest in slowing down climate change and not making it worse. “They invest in LIFE and not in weapons.”

[Coordinadora d'ONGD de Lleida](#) posted this [tweet](#) on April 27:

“Armies are one of the biggest polluters of the planet and wars and armament accelerate the climate crisis. We invest in slowing climate change, not making it worse. We invest in life and not in armaments!”



- **Coordinadora En Pie de Paz**

Coordinadora En Pie de Paz joined GDAMS by sharing [this collaborative guide](#) on how to calculate military spending prepared by Juan Carlos Rois (in Spanish), which also shared on their social media ([here](#)).



- **Centre Delàs of Peace Studies (Barcelona).**

Press conference (See Page 11).

Centre Delàs followed up the efforts around the press conference with social media messaging during the GDAMS period.



“La curva de incremento del gasto militar anual coincide con la curva de incremento de los conflictos armados en el mundo, y esto nos lleva de inmediato a cuestionarnos qué entendemos por seguridad”,

[@KristianHerbolz](#) ([@ICIPeace](#)) hoy en la Rueda de Prensa con motivo de [#GDAMS2022](#)

“On the occasion of Europe’s Day of Peace, with Demilitarize Day and ENAAT, we launch an infographic that shows military expenditure and other indicators of militarization.

Europe should give peace a budget, instead of feeding the arms race”

“The Global Days of Action about Military Spending GDAMS 2022 start today! It’s time to join and demand governments of all over the world to reduce military expenditure and, in its place, invest in human security. Do you want to join?”

Centre Delàs members also joined the banners campaign.



Participation on a Público TV show.

Jordi Calvo (Coordinator of GCOMS) and Pere Ortega (Centre Delàs) participated on a TV show on the occasion of GDAMS, which already has more than 16.000 views.

You can watch the full show [here](#).



MARTES
26 de abril
19:00 h SE EMITIRÁ EN LA WEB DE PÚBLICO

PARTICIPAN:
Jordi Calvo
 Vicepresidente de International Peace Bureau
Bere Ortega
 Centre d'Estudis per la Pau J. M. Delàs
Beatriz Ruiz-Giménez
 Profesora de Relaciones Internacionales en la Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

MODERA:
Virginia Pérez Alonso
 Directora de Público

ORGANIZAN:

- **Asociación Pro Derechos Humanos de Andalucía (APDHA)**

APDHA posted the following message on their social media profile:

“Today ends the Global Campaign on Military Spending. Thanks to all the people that have participated. If we want to give peace a chance, we have to give it a budget.”



You can find more information on [APDHA here](#).

- **Redesscan** endorsed the GDAMS 2022 appeal to give peace a budget. It also participated in the Move the Money campaign and published this on its Twitter account. Find out more [here](#)
- **Alternativa Antimilitarista MOC** and **Grupo ADN** participated in the global campaign “Give Peace a Budget” and published the following report:

We are part of the campaign on Military Spending: For War Nothing, Give Peace a Budget. Alternativa Antimilitarista.MOC/ADNV is part of the Global Campaign On Military Spending GDAMS 2022 Appeal - Give Peace a Budget.



(En la presentación del libro "Pacifistas en Acción, nos sumamos a la campaña las participantes, en Gáldar, isla de Gran Canaria)

More information [here](#)



See more on their [Facebook](#) page. See more [here](#).

- **SETEM Catalunya**

SETEM Catalunya posted the following message on their [Twitter profile](#):

“We are joining the global campaign about military expenditure and [@Demilitarizeday](#) and we say what we would do with the \$2 trillion destined to weaponry. What would you do with this money?”



See their post [here](#).

- **Caravanas abriendo fronteras**

Posted the following message on their [Instagram profile](#):

“Military expenditure does not keep us safe and we demand governments to reduce it and compromise on investing in real people and planet necessities to create peace and a sustainable future. it is necessary to give peace a budget to defence people and the planet”

- **Greenpeace Spain**

Greenpeace Spain posted the following message on their Twitter page:

“During 2021, in the middle of a pandemic, military expenditure grew again for the seventh consecutive year, registering a new historical record of 2,11 trillion dollars. a worrying race that drives us away from peace, human security and climate justice.”

- **UniPau**

UniPau created the following image:

“GIVE PEACE A BUDGET. The world has reaped the horrors sown in investing in tools for war.”

UniPau also posted the following message on their [social media](#):

“The world is paying the consequences of investing in war. It’s time to ask governments of all over the world to reduce military expenditure and invest in collective and human security. It’s time to give peace a budget.”



- **UJI Peace Master (Castellón)**

The University Jaime I joined GDAMS with a series of messages on their social media.



- **USTEA**

The teacher's union in Andalusia joined GDAMS one more year.

Un año más USTEA se ha sumado a la Campaña mundial sobre el gasto militar, GDAMS-GCOMS, mientras los países de la Unión Europea se suman a una loca carrera aumentando sus gastos militares, como les venían exigiendo las directrices de la OTAN.

Dentro de unos días nos sumaremos al Día Mundial de las Mujeres por la Paz y el Desarme, y en el mes de junio apoyaremos la Contracumbre que tendrá lugar unos días antes de la Cumbre de la OTAN que se va a celebrar en Madrid.

Un año más pedimos presupuestos para la Paz, no para la Guerra. La construcción de la Paz sigue sin tener fondos suficientes, y las acciones colectivas necesarias para hacer frente a las emergencias globales quedan en segundo plano respecto a la preparación para las guerras.

Los costes del militarismo global no solo afectan a las relaciones internacionales, sino a la forma de abordar crisis como las sanitarias, como la del Cambio Climático, como las crisis alimentarias. Los distintos países siguen invirtiendo más en armamento y en ejércitos que en mantener un planeta habitable o en sostener derechos públicos básicos como sanidad, educación y servicios sociales.

Si mantenemos una Economía de Guerra y España se dedica a ser un país productor de armas y suministrador de armamentos a distintos países, entre ellos varias dictaduras sangrientas, no podemos esperar que luego, como un bumerang, no nos afecten las consecuencias de los distintos conflictos internacionales.

Una vez más hemos intentado llevar a los centros educativos la idea de que para acabar con las guerras hay que promover primero una Cultura de Paz. Ninguna guerra ha servido para solucionar un conflicto, sino para sumar miles de vidas inocentes a las víctimas tanto militares como civiles de los conflictos bélicos. Y como bien señala el feminismo antimilitarista, las guerras son una cara más del patriarcado.



See the full post [here](#).

- **Ongi Etorri Errefuxiatuak**

The basque organization joined GDAMS with the following [tweet](#):

El militarismo global socava los esfuerzos para construir confianza y cooperación, impidiendo que abordemos crisis globales como el cambio climático, las pandemias o las desigualdades ¡Necesitamos darle un presupuesto a la paz! [#GivePeaceABudget](#) [#GDAMS2022](#)

Switzerland

- **Move the Nuclear Weapons Money**

During GDAMS2022 [Move the Nuclear Weapons Money](#) made available \$1 million notes. The global nuclear weapons budget is over \$100 Billion dollars per year. “Just imagine what this money could cover if it wasn’t wasted so foolishly on weapons of mass destruction!”



Banners and social media material

This year's campaign banner and social media material featured the slogan "Give Peace A Budget". The banner was available in English, French, Spanish, Catalan, and Italian.

The artwork was realized by ESCIF, who gave permission for its use to GCOMS and its partners. Find out more about the artist on his [Instagram](#).



- IPB social media materials



Diplomacy and non-violent solutions will yield much better results than pouring more billions into the military, which has ostensibly failed over history.

Militarization is accelerating at an alarming rate at a time when it should be drastically reduced in order to tackle the grave challenges humanity is facing.

CCOMS
Global Centre for Open Monitoring and Security

IPB
International Policy Institute for the Bombardment



If spending in the military could provide us with security, wouldn't we have achieved that already?

Giving \$ 2.11 trillion (@sipriorg) to the military in 2021 only made us less safe.

The global military spending accounts for 2,1 % of global GDP, an amount which could instead be used to alleviate human suffering and realise comprehensive programmes such as the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

CCOMS
Global Centre for Open Monitoring and Security

IPB
International Policy Institute for the Bombardment

GDAMS 2022

The idea that all 67 wars occurring nowadays in the world will be solved by the old-fashioned deterrence politics is absurd. Increasing military spending to obey NATO diktats is extremely misguided and dangerous.

Coordination Team + Steering Group

Since 2017, the Global Campaign on Military Spending (GCOMS) has been coordinated by Centre Delàs for Peace Studies and by IPB's office in Barcelona (Spain). The coordination team is formed by officers, researchers and volunteers of both organizations and works in coordination with IPB's Berlin and Geneva offices and with its own International Steering Committee.

The International Steering Committee (ISC) is formed by some IPB officers and Board and Council members and by the most active GCOMS partners. The GCOMS steering committee meets online periodically to coordinate actions, especially during the GDAMS period.

Its members are:

- Angelo Cardona, **IPB Youth Network & Council Member**
- Amela Skiljan, Germany, **International Peace Bureau**
- Chloé Meulewaeter, **Centre Delàs of Peace Studies**
- Corazon Fabros, Philippines, **Stop the War! Coalition**
- Cyrille Rolande, Cameroon, **Nouveaux Droits de l'Homme**
- Dave Webb, UK, **Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND)**
- Denis Doherty, Australia, **Independent and Peaceful Australia Network (IPAN)**
- Edwina Hughes, New Zealand, **Peace Movement Aotearoa**
- Francesco Vignarca, Italy, **Rete Italiana Pace e Disarmo**
- Jordi Calvo, Spain, **Centre Delàs of Peace Studies / IPB Barcelona**
- Joseph Gerson, U.S.A., **Campaign for Peace, Disarmament and Common Security**
- Luke Addison, UK, **Peace Jam**
- Moses Adedeji, Nigeria, **Trees on earth Nigeria**
- Nathalie Gauchet, France, **Mouvement de la Paix**
- Panos Trigazis, Greece, **Observatory of International Organizations and Globalization (PADOP)**
- Pere Brunet, Spain, **Centre Delàs of Peace Studies**
- Philip Jennings, **IPB Co-President**
- Quique Sánchez, Spain, **IPB Barcelona / Centre Delàs of Peace Studies**
- Reiner Braun, Germany, **IPB Executive Director**
- Karen Hallows and Rika Watanabe, Japan, **Peace Boat**
- Sean Conner, Germany, **International Peace Bureau**
- Tori Bateman, U.S.A., **American Friends Service Committee**
- Lee Youngah, S. Korea, **People's Solidarity for Participatory Democracy**

Partners and collaborators

- [Acción Colectiva de Objetores y Objetoras de Conciencia](#)
- [Action des Citoyens pour le Désarmement Nucleaire](#)
- [African Hungarian Union](#)
- [Agir Pour La Paix](#)
- [Alianza Social Continental](#)
- [ALTERNATIVA ANTIMILITARISTA-MOC](#)
- [American Friends Service Committee](#)
- [Andalusian Association for Human Rights \(APDHA\)](#)
- [APRED Participative Institute for the Progress of Peace](#)
- [Asamblea Antimilitarista](#)
- [Association Suisse Birmanie](#)
- [Australian Peace Committee](#)
- [Auckland Peace Action](#)
- [Austin Conscientious Objectors to Military Taxation](#)
- [Bake-Ekintza Antimilitarista Taldea](#)
- [Basel Peace Office](#)
- [Beati I Construttori di Pace](#)
- [Better World Info](#)
- [Bunge la Mwananchi](#)
- [Campaign Against Arms Trade](#)
- [Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament](#)
- [Canadian Voice of Women for Peace](#)
- [Catalan Federation of Organizations for Global Justice – LaFede](#)
- [Center for Bangladesh Studies](#)
- [Center of Feminist Foreign Policy](#)
- [Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies](#)
- [Centre Delàs d'Estudis per la Pau](#)
- [Ceasefire.ca](#)
- [ChangeMaker – Society for Social and Economic Development](#)
- [Church Center for the United Nations](#)
- [Coalition for Constitution Implementation](#)
- [CODEPINK: Women for Peace](#)
- [Community Alliance of Lane County](#)
- [Conscience and Peace Tax International](#)
- [Conscience Canada](#)
- [Control Arms Foundation of India](#)
- [Desarma Madrid](#)
- [Campaign for Peace, Disarmament and Common Security](#)
- [European Bureau for Conscientious Objection \(ECBO\)](#)
- [Frauen fuer den Frieden Schweiz \(Women for Peace Switzerland\)](#)
- [FundIPau \(Foundation for Peace\)](#)
- [Global Campaign for Peace Education](#)
- [Global Days of Listening](#)
- [Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space](#)
- [Golden Bay Quackers](#)

- [Granny Peace Brigade Philadelphia](#)
- [Honolulu Friends Meeting](#)
- [Independent and Peaceful Australia Network \(IPAN\)](#)
- [Instituto de la Paz y los Conflictos \(IPAZ\)](#)
- [Instituto Latinoamericano por la Paz y la Ciudadanía -ILAPyC](#)
- [Inter Alia](#)
- [International Association Of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms \(IALANA\)](#)
- [International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons \(ICAN\)](#)
- [International Network of Engineers and Scientists for Global Responsibility \(INES\)](#)
- [Insumissia](#)
- [Just Peace Queensland](#)
- [Kenya Pastoralist Journalist Network](#)
- [Maine War Tax Resistance Resource Center](#)
- [Manipur Women Gun Survivors Network](#)
- [Massachusetts Peace Action](#)
- [Massachusetts People's Budget Campaign](#)
- [Mouvement de la Paix](#)
- [Marrickville Peace Group](#)
- [Milwaukee War Tax Resistance](#)
- [Mouvement Chrétien pour la Paix](#)
- [Mujeres por la Paz](#)
- National Campaign to End the Korean War
- [The National Network Opposing the Militarization of Youth \(NNOMY\)](#)
- [National Priorities Project](#)
- [National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee](#)
- [Netzwerk Friedenssteuer](#)
- New Priorities Campaign (NPC)
- New Priorities Network
- [Northern California War Tax Resistance / People's Life Fund](#)
- [Norges Fredslag](#)
- [Norges Fredsrad](#)
- [Nouveaux Droits de l'Homme – Cameroun](#)
- [Nova Scotia Voice of Women for Peace](#)
- [Nuclear Age Peace Foundation](#)
- [Nuclear Resister](#)
- [Oak Ridge Environmental Peace Alliance](#)
- [Observatory of International Organizations and Globalization \(PADOP\)](#)
- [On Earth Peace](#)
- [Parliamentarians for Nuclear Nonproliferation and Disarmament for Nuclear Nonproliferation and Disarmament](#)
- [Pax Christi International](#)
- [Pax Christi New Orleans](#)
- [Pax Christi Wallonie Bruxelles](#)
- [Pacem in Terris / Peace on Earth](#)
- [Peace Action](#)
- [Peace Action Wellington](#)
- [Peace and Justice](#) (former Edinburgh Peace & Justice Centre)
- [Peace Boat](#)

- [Peacebus.com](#)
- [Peace Jam](#)
- [PeaceMajority Report](#)
- [Peace Movement Aotearoa](#)
- [PeaceNetwork](#)
- [Peace Resource Center of San Diego](#)
- [PeaceWorks](#)
- [People for Nuclear Disarmament](#)
- [People's Solidarity for Participatory Democracy](#)
- [Pioneer Valley War Tax Resistance](#)
- [Prague vision](#)
- [Quakers in Nelson](#)
- [Rauhanliitto – Peace Union of Finland](#)
- [Reaching Critical Will](#)
- [Red Antimilitarista Noviolenta de Andalucia](#)
- [Rete Italiana Pace e Disarmo](#)
- [Rocky Mountain Peace & Justice Cente](#)
- [Rural Development and Youth Training Institute](#)
- [Sadankomitea](#)
- [School of the Americas Watch](#)
- [Science for Peace](#)
- [Servicio de Paz y Justicia en América Latina](#)
- [Stop Fuelling War \(France\)](#)
- [Stop the War! Coalition \(Philippines\)](#)
- [Strategic Concept for Removal of Arms and Proliferation](#)
- [Servicio Paz y Justicia \(SERPAJ\)](#)
- [Suaram](#)
- [Tipping Point North South](#)
- [Trees on Earth Development Foundation](#)
- [UNFOLD ZERO](#)
- [United for Peace & Justice](#)
- [Universitat Jaume I \(UJI\)](#)
- [USAction](#)
- [Vietnam Peace and Development Foundation](#)
- [Vrede.be](#)
- [Walpole Peace & Justice Group](#)
- [War Resisters' International](#)
- [War Resisters League](#)
- [Win Without War](#)
- [Women Against War](#)
- [Women In Black](#)
- [Women's Action for New Directions \(WAND\)](#)
- [Women's International League for Peace and Freedom \(WILPF\)](#)
- [Women's International League for Peace and Freedom \(WILPF\) – Australian Section](#)
- [Women's International League for Peace and Freedom \(WILPF\) – Sierra Leone](#)
- [World Without Wars and Violence](#)

You can learn more about who we are [here](#).

We want to express our most sincere gratitude to all partners, collaborators, sympathizers and friends who contributed to GDAMS 2022.

All of your actions, despite the hardship of these times, are proof of the strong commitment to peace and disarmament of our worldwide social movement.

Thank you, and see you next year!



Global Campaign on Military Spending
International Peace Bureau
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