

International Peace Bureau

GLOBAL DAY OF ACTION ON MILITARY SPENDING INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE!

The International Peace Bureau is pleased to announce that the date of the 4th edition of the Global Day of Action on Military Spending has now been fixed

14 APRIL 2014

Once again, it coincides with the release by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) of their annual statistics on global military spending. In the USA, Tax Day actions will be held on April 15 and some groups will combine the GDAMS actions with those. In other places, activists may prefer to do an action on the weekend, ie April 12-13. This could be followed by an extra activity on the Monday, and/ or the release of an action-report to the media on that day, together with the latest SIPRI figures.

There are a number of options available in terms of timing.
Whatever works for you!

Similarly, the themes featured by each group will vary according to domestic political circumstances. All we ask is that everyone makes an effort to make known the actual global spending figures. After all, even if in some countries the national military budget is not so very large, or is even being reduced, it is the overall global total which is the real political and moral scandal.

JOIN THE CROWD AND HELP FUND GDAMS!

Annual Global Military Expenditure
\$ 1738 000 000 000
SIPRI 2012

It means that:
For each person on earth government spend **\$ 249** on the military

It represents:
604 x the regular UN budget (\$ 2.7 bn)
UN 2010

12.7 x the Official Development Assistance (\$ 128 bn)
UN 2010

Meanwhile **842 million** people do not have enough to eat
FAO 2013

Welfare not Warfare!
Join Us 14 April 2014
<http://www.gdams.org>




www.gdams.org

Help us to persuade governments to cut military spending and fund human needs instead. GDAMS is powered and run largely by the goodwill of volunteers and their determination to improve people's lives by rolling back the system of militarism.

We are crowdfunding to cover the costs of the 2014 edition and to broaden the ongoing GDAMS campaign.

Please help us grow. Donate now, and tell the world!



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Disarmament for Development

MILITARY SPENDING

[Prioritizing Government spending and cuts: military hardware versus domestic services](#)

15 November 2013 - Lobbyists for military contractors are swarming all over Capitol Hill these days in a frenzy to stave off automatic budget cuts as part of the second wave of “sequestration” in January. If the cuts take effect, the Defense Department will not get their \$50 billion increase for next year and will have to make do with \$475 billion to fund troops and the related hardware.

More on this subject:

[A Smarter Pentagon Budget](#)

[Reality Sets In](#)

[Obama administration has 680 green military projects underway despite slashing budgets](#)

6 November 2013 – The Defense Department has 680 renewable energy projects in the works encompassing all five branches of the U.S. armed forces as part of President Barack Obama’s continuing effort to create a “green” military sustainable by alternative energy sources. The projects underway — as well as hundreds of other projects still in the proposal stages — come as the military faces severe budgetary cutbacks, and critics of Obama’s green agenda, including opponents of his recent [executive order to “prepare the nation” for the effects of climate change](#), say it’s part of an overarching agenda that encroaches on civil liberties and puts the nation’s security at risk.

[US quietly releases \\$1.6B to Pakistan in military, financial aid](#)

19 October 2013 - The Obama administration is quietly releasing more than \$1.6 billion in frozen military and financial assistance to Pakistan, ahead of the prime minister's visit to the White House in October. The Associated Press reported that Congress has given the green light to dispersing most of the money, which should start moving in early 2014.

[Defense spending foes rally against new tax break for Bath Iron Works](#)

14 November 2013 - Led by veteran peace activists, a Bath-based group has formed to defeat a new property tax break proposed by the company to allow it to expand the shipyard and — according to BIW officials and a defense industry analyst — remain competitive for U.S. Navy contracts with Huntington Ingalls Shipyard in Mississippi.

[Sign The Peace Alliance’s petition to tell the Congress to support Peacebuilding funding in federal budget!](#)

As the budget debate continues to heat up - negotiators are meeting now and a deal that has to be reached by January 15th - please join today in taking action to let Congress know that we want continued funding for key peacebuilding initiatives. In particular for the Complex Crises Fund (CCF), which is part of the international affairs budget.

UNITED STATES

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EADS plans to cull jobs and cut defense costs

28 October 2013 - European aerospace group EADS is planning to cut jobs and costs in its defense division. But analysts and senior executives do not expect it to be as radical as the restructuring [EADS](#) launched in 2007, which cut more than €3bn in costs and 8,000 jobs. Many of Europe's biggest [defence buyers have slashed](#) their spending because of fiscal constraints. Between 2001 and 2010 the EU reduced its military spending from €251bn to €194bn, according to the European Commission and executives expect Europe to launch no big new military procurement programmes in the coming 10-15 years.

EUROPEAN
UNION

NATO builds \$1 billion HQ as allies cut military spending

13 November 2013 - NATO is building a new, state-of-the-art headquarters in Brussels, but critics say the \$1 billion project seems extravagant at a time when austerity is forcing many alliance members to slash military spending.

Moreover, little was told about this mind-boggling news of Bulgarians working in near slavery conditions in NATO's [building site of Evere](#). This money could definitely be spent for better purposes than military.

EUROPEAN
UNION

U.N. official cautions against Asia armament

12 November 2013 - The U.N. disarmament chief cautioned against increasing arms buildup in East Asia, calling for efforts to establish multilateral dialogue to improve mutual understanding and regional security. In a recent interview, Angela Kane, the high representative for Disarmament Affairs at the U.N., noted that under a collective security mechanism, military expenditures in Europe have decreased, whereas [Asia appears to be moving in the opposite direction](#).

ASIA

Parliament to review govt spending on security for mining projects

30 October 2013 - Burma's parliament is planning to review government spending on the deployment of army battalions to provide security for state-owned mining projects across the country.

Militarisation near natural resource projects has been linked to an increase in fighting with ethnic minority rebels across the country, including the resource-rich Kachin state where conflict has raged for over two years. Burma's armed forces are already allocated over 20 percent or one fifth of the annual budget, compared to 4.4 percent on education and 3.7 percent on healthcare.

BURMA

France's new military budget: rethinking power

13 November 2013 - Following a comprehensive review of both the means and ends of its military apparatus, France has this year set out its defence and strategic posture for the years to come. As part of this process, it published a new defence White Paper in April and, after a vote in the Senate in October, adopted the loi de programmation militaire (Military Programming Law), outlining military spending provisions for the period 2014-19.

FRANCE

Disarmament for Development

IRAQ

[Future of the Iraqi defense industry - market attractiveness, competitive landscape and forecasts to 2018](#)

31 October 2013 - Following the end of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Iraq is undergoing a significant period of national reconstruction that will see its defence expenditure rise at a compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) of 8.68% over the next five years. Despite this being a slower rate of growth than the CAGR of 15.56% exhibited between 2009 and 2013, Iraq's defense market is still set to reach a value of US\$26.2 billion by 2018 – growth primarily driven by the predicted growth of the country's economy thanks to its strong oil reserves.

[Israel backtracks on defense spending cuts](#)

ISRAEL

31 October 2013 - The Israeli government bowed to pressure from the defense establishment and voted to give it a 2.75 billion shekel (\$738 million, €573 million) budget increase, official statements said. The rise came less than six months after the cabinet approved a 3 billion shekel cut as part of the overall 2014 austerity budget, which Finance Minister Yair Lapid said was essential for the country's economic health.

More on this subject:

[IDF to get NIS 2.75 billion budget increase](#)

[Knesset c'tee approves defense budget with a warning](#)

[Japan to tap technology for military use, another step away from pacifism](#)

JAPAN

13 November 2013 - Japan is finalizing a budget for a new command centre for cutting-edge research modeled after the U.S. Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) to try to tap a broad swathe of civilian technologies with potential military uses. The planned research program is another symbol of hawkish Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's push to [bolster Japan's military](#) as he seeks to make it less bound by the limits of the pacifist post-war constitution.

[New Zealand fine-tunes defense requirements](#)

NEW ZEALAND

15 November 2013 - New Zealand will develop a revised Defense Capability Plan to alert the defense industry to future mid-term requirements, Defense Minister Jonathan Coleman said.

[Watchdog slams Sri-Lanka navy chief heading ship firm](#)

SRI-LANKA

30 October 2013 - International rights groups and the UN Human Rights Council have urged Sri Lanka's military to relinquish some operations following the end of a decades-long Tamil separatist war in May 2009. Despite the international pressure, the military has expanded its operations since the end of the war the government raised defense spending, until last week's record of 253 billion rupees (\$1.95 billion). The military already runs hotels, passenger flights using military planes, whale watching tours, farms and retail stores. Soldiers have also been deployed at various times to sell vegetables and fish as part of a strategy to force retailers to reduce prices.

Nuclear Disarmament

[The door opens wider: UN General Assembly takes new action for nuclear abolition](#)

5 November 2013 - From May to August 2013, the UN Open Ended Working Group 'opened the door' to a nuclear weapon free world (see UN body adopts report on advancing nuclear disarmament negotiations). This was followed on 26 September by the first ever UN High Level Meeting on nuclear disarmament.

On November 4th, the door was opened wider with the resounding adoption at the United Nations First Committee (Disarmament and International Security) of two key nuclear disarmament resolutions.

Read [Full Report](#)

[Appeal of the 5th Nagasaki Global Citizens' Assembly for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons](#)

4 November 2013 - From the 2nd to the 4th of November, an assembly involving hundreds of local activists, academics, NGO representatives and scholars from around Japan, and international NGO representatives took place in Nagasaki. They discovered a series of spirited workshops and plenary sessions where they explored rejecting nuclear "umbrellas" (extended deterrence) and expanding Nuclear Weapon Free Zones; the Fukushima nuclear power plant accident and its relationship to the Atomic bombing of Nagasaki; establishing a legal framework to ban nuclear weapons; transmitting the legacy of the hibakusha to future generations; and what the world should do to address the inhumanity of nuclear weapons. An international drafting committee worked throughout the conference to produce the 2013 Nagasaki Appeal, reflecting the discussions and findings of the conference. The appeal, which was adopted by the closing plenary, calls for concrete actions at the international level, and makes specific appeals to the Japanese government.

[Read Full Appeal](#)

[Lawmaker sees fresh push toward nuclear-weapon spending cuts](#)

13 November 2013 - Mike Quigley, a US representative, offered in July an amendment to the fiscal 2014 House energy and water appropriations bill that would have cut \$23.7 million from the \$551 million budget proposal for work on [extending the life of the B-61](#). Critics say the current plan to modernize the weapon - which is stationed in U.S. allied countries in Europe - is overly ambitious and goes above and beyond simple refurbishments needed to continue its use.

[Uranium mining and the U.S. nuclear weapons programme](#)

Fall 2013 - From 1942 to 1971, the United States nuclear weapons program purchased about 250,000 metric tons of uranium concentrated from more than 100 million tons of ore. Although more than half came from other nations, the uranium industry heavily depended on Indian miners in the Colorado Plateau. Until recently, their importance remained overlooked by historians of the atomic age. There is little doubt their efforts were essential for the United States to amass one of the most destructive nuclear arsenals in the world.

Viewing nuclear weapons through a humanitarian lens

November 2013 - There is renewed and deep international concern about the catastrophic humanitarian consequences that would result from the detonation of nuclear weapons in populated areas. Yet 25 years after the end of the Cold War, nuclear weapons and nuclear deterrence remain central to the security doctrines of a significant number of states. Drawing on a range of perspectives, this volume explores what viewing nuclear weapons through a humanitarian lens entails, and why it is of value. Recent developments in this respect are also examined, as well as what these could mean for nuclear arms control in the near future.

Read [Full Report](#)

Red Cross resolution on nuclear weapons

17 November 2013 – A resolution “Working towards the elimination of nuclear Weapons : Four-year plan” was adopted unanimously by the Council of Delegates of the Red Cross and Red Crescent movement. The resolution reaffirms the principal call of the RC movement resolution in 2011 urging all governments “to take concrete steps leading to the negotiation of a legally binding international agreement to prohibit the use of and completely eliminate nuclear weapons - based in existing commitments and international obligations – and to conclude such negotiations with urgency and determination.



Gioconda Úbeda Rivera (center) receives the 2013 Future Policy Award. She is the former Secretary-General of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) and Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica. Ms. Rivera is flanked by Jacob von Uexkull, Founder of the World Future Council and Alexandra Wandel, Director of the World Future Council.

NWFZ Treaty wins policy prize

30 October 2013 - This year’s [Future Policy Awards](#) were handed out at the United Nations on the eve of UN Disarmament Week. The Gold Award, or top prize, went to a policy that ensures the peace and security in Latin America and the Caribbean through the military denuclearization of the region: the Treaty of Tlateloco. The outstanding success of this treaty, which has been ratified by all 33 countries in the region, including Cuba, is one the world needs to hear about, says David Krieger who sits on the World Future Council and is president of the [Nuclear Age Peace Foundation](#).

With nuclear weapons you cannot say: I’m sorry, I was wrong, next time I’ll be more careful

5 November 2013 - Lisa Clark of Beati i costruttori di Pace is a newly-elected member of IPB’s Board. She and other members of the Italian Disarmament Network recently challenged their government to support the Humanitarian Initiative at the UN General Assembly’s First Committee

Miscellaneous

'Killer robots' ban must be part of Geneva talks, says campaign group

13 November 2013 - An international coalition of disarmament and human rights groups has said that UN-sponsored talks in Geneva this week must seize the opportunity to ban the development of fully autonomous weapons, dubbed "killer robots".

Global Day of Action to stop explosive investments - 12 December 2013

IKV Pax Christi will release the 2013 edition of the Worldwide Investments in Cluster Munitions : A Shared Responsibility report. The report includes the infamous 'Hall of Shame' of financial institutions that are investing in cluster munition producers, and also the growing 'Hall of Fame' and 'runners-up' category of financial institutions that have established (comprehensive) policies to prevent future investment in them. It also shows what action states are taking to prohibit investments in cluster munition producers.

Pax Christi International Peace Award 2013

13 November 2013 - The 2013 Pax Christi International Peace Award has been granted to the International Memorial Society for its outstanding work in keeping alive the memory of the victims of political repression in Russia's recent history and for its deep commitment to human rights in the country. The award ceremony took place in Leuven, Belgium, on 14 November 2013.

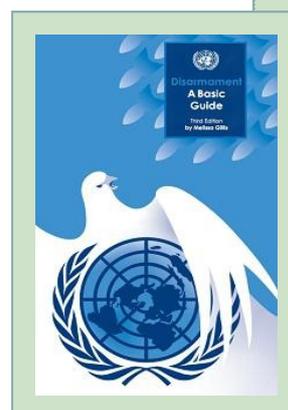
Stop Harper's \$2 billion tanks deal. Sign the petition!

The next thing you do could stop a terrible weapons deal. The timing is absolutely critical for you to take action right away – please urge your Member of Parliament to stop this awful waste of our public dollars from going ahead.

Resources

Disarmament: A Basic Guide (3rd edition)

The guide is published by the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs in collaboration with the NGO Committee on Disarmament, Peace and Security pursuant to the purposes of the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme (UNDIP).





Bonn International Center for Conversion (BICC): Annual Report 2013 and Global Militarization Index

November 2013 - The [Annual Report 2013](#) provides information about the numerous project activities of the peace and conflict research institute between July 2012 and June 2013. At the same time, BICC is setting new priorities for its future work by centering on Conversion Studies that provide a critical and policy relevant analysis of the dynamics of organized violence.

[The Global Militarization Index \(GMI\) 2013](#) shows that the Middle East continues to be the most highly militarized region in the world. Experts of BICC point out that Asia, too, is demonstrating a particularly strong trend towards regional rearmament.

The Economics of Peace and Security Journal – October issue

EPSJ raises and debates all issues related to the economics and political economy of (inter)personal, communal, national, international, and global violence, peace, and security. The scope includes implications and ramifications of conventional and non-conventional conflict for all human and nonhuman life and for our common habitat. Special attention is paid to constructive proposals for conflict resolution and peacemaking. While open to noneconomic approaches, most contributions emphasize economic analysis of causes, consequences, and possible solutions to mitigate conflict and violence. The journal was launched in January 2006 and published twice a year in January and in July. As from 2013, issues are published in April and October.

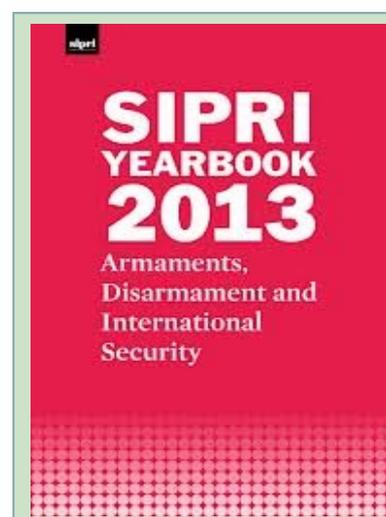
Small Arms Survey's new publication: Parts for Small Arms and Light Weapons

Numerous parts make up each small arm or light weapon, and the value of their global trade is worth at least USD 1.4 billion annually. These parts range from generic elements—like nuts, screws, and bolts that are also used in dozens of other products—to highly specialized, technologically sophisticated components, like sensors, designed specifically for a particular model. 'Parts for Small Arms and Light Weapons', a new *Research Note* by the Small Arms Survey, provides a brief overview of parts for small arms and light weapons, as well as the international trade in these parts.

SIPRI Yearbook 2013 Summary now available in seven languages

SIPRI Yearbook 2013 presents a combination of original data in areas such as world military expenditure, international arms transfers, arms production, nuclear forces, armed conflicts and multilateral peace operations with state-of-the-art analysis of important aspects of arms control, peace and international security.

A summary is now available in Catalan, Dutch, English, French, German, Spanish and Swedish, with an Italian version out shortly.



1914 – 2014



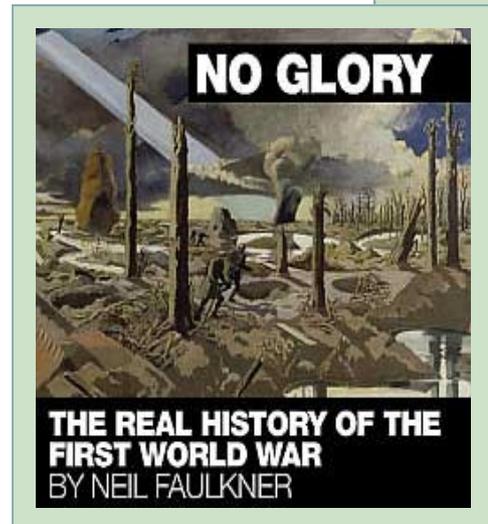
[Youth Camp at Peace Event Sarajevo 2014: Registration and call for youth activities](#)

From June 6-9 2014 an international youth camp with youth activities will take place in Sarajevo within the framework of the [Peace Event Sarajevo 2014](#). It will be a self-organized place for debate, information, action, and training on different topics related to non-violence and peace. The youth camp with its youth activities will allow young activists from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Europe and around the world to share their experience, engage in common activities, and learn from each other. It is the youths' challenge as well as their responsibility to shape a world full of peace, non-violence and justice instead of war and violence. The future belongs to the youth and we would like to give them and those young in mind the opportunity to make Sarajevo in June 2014 a meeting place for peace and non-violence. Here is a call for activity proposals and registration to the youth camp. More info on youth@peaceeventsarajevo2014.eu

[Read Full Letter](#)

[No Glory: the real history of the First World War](#)

A new 36-page [pamphlet by UK historian Neil Faulkner](#) looks at the real reasons for the outbreak of the First World War. This pamphlet is part of the No Glory campaign. No Glory in War 1914-1918 is a national campaign of political, cultural, and educational activities that aim to tell the truth about the First World War, to oppose 'nationalist' interpretations of the conflict, and to use the occasion to remember the dead, learn the lessons, and promote international solidarity and peace.



[Latest news](#)

The Nobel Museum in Stockholm closed its doors recently to Making Peace where the exhibition was visited by an incredible 109,600 people over a 5 month period (June – November).

[Check out our website for photos](#)

Meanwhile Making Peace organisers are in the United States meeting with city and park officials in Chicago where Making Peace will hopefully be presented in 2015. This would be the inaugural presentation of Making Peace in the USA and comes as a result of the IPB's attendance at the 12th World Summit of Nobel Peace Prize Laureates held in Chicago in April, 2012.



It is important to note that 2015 marks a number of major commemorations including (by order of date), the end of the Vietnam War (30 April 1975), the end of the Second World War (8 May 1945 in Europe / 2 Sept 1945 in Asia), the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki (6 and 9 August 1945) and the founding of the United Nations (24 October 1945). These dates serve as good anchors for events relating to Making Peace and will attract media and wide public attention.

If you / or your organisation would like to get involved in the US tour of Making Peace or can help the IPB in presenting Making Peace elsewhere in the world, please do let us know.

help@makingpeace.org

www.makingpeace.org

ABOUT IPB

The International Peace Bureau is a non-profit association founded in 1891, the oldest international peace organization, dedicated to the vision of a World Without War. Our network includes 300 member organisations in 70 countries. Our current main programme centres on Disarmament for Sustainable Development and we campaign mainly on the reduction of military expenditure.

We depend on your support to continue working on this and a range of other topics, including nuclear and conventional disarmament, arms trade, peace education, culture of peace and peace history.



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Please consider:

Leaving us a legacy or making an endowment or a simple donation.

In this way you can enable IPB to plan its work more effectively and thus help to "save succeeding generations from the scourge of war".

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