



International Peace Bureau

WWW: Working together for a World Without War

IPB News

30th March 2007

Disarmament for Development Programme

In 2005 IPB launched a major new programme, designed to reflect widespread public concern at the rapid rise in global military spending (now totalling \$1118 billion); and the evidence that weapons -- such as small arms, cluster bombs, landmines -- seriously impede sustainable development. Post 9-11, the failure of military solutions should be obvious to all. IPB advocates reductions in defence budgets and the adoption of a 'human security' approach. Activities organised in pursuit of these goals include: seminars, publications, website, e-newsletter, exhibitions and a short film. National and international networks are gradually being developed.

SweFOR launches new campaign: Less money for arms, more for development

On 25 March, the Swedish Fellowship of Reconciliation launched a new campaign comparing the huge sums spent on arms each year versus the money spent on development. SweFOR criticizes the Swedish government for allowing Sweden to become one of the world's largest arms exporters per capita and hence adding to the global arms race. Swedish arms exports have grown considerably over the past few years.

SweFor is an IPB member organisation. Contact: karin.haglund@swefor.org
More... More... www.swefor.org.

Partial UK ban on cluster munitions falls short of target

The United Kingdom has announced a decision to ban "dumb" Cluster Munitions. According to the Cluster Munitions Coalition, it is a step in the right direction, but falls far short of what is needed to protect civilians from the deadly effects of these weapons. The UK government will ban the usage of its two types of cluster munitions that do not have self-destruct devices, the RBL 755 aerial bomb and the M26 ground rockets for Multiple Launch

Rocket Systems (MLRS). However the UK will retain the use of its Israeli manufactured M85 bomblets with self-destruct mechanisms.

[More...](http://www.clusterbombs.org.uk/latest-news/) <http://www.stopclustermunitions.org/news.asp?id=56>

Peace Boat calls on Japan to support the Oslo Initiative to ban Cluster bombs

IPB member Peace Boat calls on the government of Japan to reconsider its decision not to support the Oslo initiative. They urge the Japanese government to “take a proactive role as the pacifist nation it proclaims to be in working towards the conclusion of a Cluster Bomb Ban Treaty similar to the existing Landmine Ban Treaty”.

[More...](http://www.peaceboat.org/english/index.html) <http://www.peaceboat.org/english/index.html>

The German government support the ban on cluster munition

German Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development supports NGOs' initiatives on banning the use of Cluster munition. In a press release after meeting with representatives from Handicap International and ActionGroup Landmine.de he declared: “We must once and for all see to it that cluster munitions are banned. The production, the trade and, above all, the use of these terrible weapons should simply be prohibited”.

[More...](#)

Demolition of houses for US military base expansion in South Korea

Due to the expansion of a US military base in South Korea, resident of Daechuri village were given an ultimatum to leave their village by 31 March 2007. Villagers were forced to accept an agreement that will allow them to be settled temporarily in rented apartments as a new housing complex is being built.

[More...](http://www.acpp.org/) <http://www.acpp.org/>

US high military spending mostly profits military firms and contractors

The current US administration’s huge military spending mostly profits the military firms and contractors. The US proposed military spending for 2008 financial year is \$647 billion. This military spending is accompanied with a comparable growth in prime contracts awarded to military firms like Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman and Boeing. Pentagon contracts are up from \$144 billion in 2001 to over \$294 billion in 2006, an increase of 103%.

More... <http://www.worldpolicy.org/projects/arms/reports.html>

Belgium bans uranium weapons and armour

After a ban on Cluster Munitions and Land Mines, the Belgium government become the first country in the world to ban Uranium weapons and armour. On Thursday 22nd March the Belgian parliament voted unanimously in favour of the law that will "prohibit the manufacture, use, storage, sale, acquisition, supply and transit of munitions and armour that contain depleted uranium (DU) or any other industrially manufactured uranium".

More... <http://www.bandepleteduranium.org/>
<http://www.bandepleteduranium.org>

International Coalition to Ban Uranium Weapons - March newsletter

Follow link below for the latest version of ICBUW Newsletter with details on the following themes: Belgium Bans Uranium Weapons and Armour ICBUW Seminar and Lobbying in Geneva (event co-organised by NGO Committee for Disarmament). Report From the Oslo Conference on Cluster Munitions. Report From CADU's Lobby of the UK Parliament. Book Review: Depleted Uranium: Properties, Uses and Health Consequences. Edited by Dr Alexandra Miller.

More... <http://www.bandepleteduranium.org/en/a/122.html>

The human cost of uranium weapons exhibition, European Parliament, Brussels

Join the International Campaign to Ban Uranium Weapons (ICBUW) and the European Parliament Green/European Free Alliance in Brussels, on May 13th -15th to view the work of the Japanese photographer Naomi Toyoda for an exhibition of his photos on uranium weapons will be on show.

More... <http://www.bandepleteduranium.org/en/a/121.html>

Arms Trade Treaty: People's consultation bulletin, activities update

50 People's Consultations are currently planned to take place around the world over the coming months. The People's Consultations will present the views of people who are affected by armed violence and others who are concerned about bringing the arms trade under control and ask their governments to take these into account. For details of the objectives and suggested activities, new materials for order and new dates for "Week of Action and Day of Action" follow links below.

More...

http://www.iansa.org/campaigns_events/PeoplesConsultation/index.htm(login: consultation, password: bangkok)

http://www.iansa.org/campaigns_events/PeoplesConsultation.htm

Launch of a global survey on gender and mine action

The Swiss Campaign to Ban Landmines announces the launch of a global survey to gather comprehensive information on the significance of gender in the impact of mines and in the effectiveness of mine action. This is the first time that comprehensive global information on the significance of gender in mine action has been collected. The project also opens up a new dimension in the study of gender and conflict.

More... http://www.peacewomen.org/campaigns/global/gender_mines.pdf

Weapons of Mass Destruction

FRIDAY May 4, International Peace Bureau meeting at the NPT PrepComm, Vienna - NGO Room at 5:30-7:30

IPB will be holding a meeting at the NPT Prepcomm - Ngo room. Speakers will include a member of the Swedish delegation to the NPT PrepComm. The session is open to all, but specific invitations will be issued to representatives of key civil society organisations who we hope will contribute their experience and ideas.

[More...](#)

Russia plans to open nuclear fuel Site by the end of this year

Russia expects to open an international uranium enrichment facility in Siberia by the end of 2007. According to the Russian Officials, the Angarsk site would produce fuel for nuclear power reactors as part an effort to discourage developing nations from enriching their own uranium fuel, a process that could also yield nuclear weapon materials.

More...

http://www.nti.org/d_newswire/issues/W_2007_3_23.html#29368F7D

<http://www.itar-tass.com/eng/level2.html?NewsID=11360477&PageNum=0>

News and comment on the diplomatic movements over Iran's nuclear programme

Click link below for update on the diplomatic movements over Iran's nuclear programme.

More... <http://www.basicint.org/updates/iran.htm>.

Other

Worldwide protests against Iraq war

Thousands of people gathered in cities around the world on 18th - 19th March to protest against the Iraq war. The demonstrations were held to mark the 4th anniversary of the war. Protesters in London, Washington and many other cities called for immediate end to the war.

More... <http://www.unitedforpeace.org/>
<http://newstandardnews.net/content/index.cfm/items/4507>

Resources

Fellowship magazine special issue on military bases

This magazine was published in conjunction with the International Conference for the Abolition of Foreign Military bases that was held in Quito and Manta, Ecuador on March 5-9, 2007. Email: editor@forusa.org

More... www.no-bases.net or www.forusa.org/fellowship

Empire and the bomb: how the United States uses nuclear weapons to dominate the world.

Written by Joseph Gerson, this book describes how during international crises, confrontations and wars, the U.S. was prepared and threatened to initiate nuclear war on more than 30 occasions - most recently in relation to Iran. ISBN 9780745324944 Paperback; Price: £18.99/\$28.95/€27.00

ISBN 9780745324951 hardback; Price: £60.00 /\$90.00 /€84.00, Pages: 336pp. [Cover](#) and [content](#)

More... <http://www.press.umich.edu/titleDetailDesc.do?id=231921>

Building a sustainable peace

Edited by Tom Keating and W. Andy Knight, this book presents an overview of peace studies. It also offers a critical analysis on peace and conflict with specific references on peace building strategies employed in recent international conflicts.

ISBN 92-808-1101-0; 502pp, US\$30.00, sale number E04.III A.8 contact: United Nations University Press email: unpubli@unog.ch, more: www.un.edu

Peace at any price, how the world failed Kosovo

Edited by Iain King and Whit Mason, This book gives a comprehensive account of the Kosovo operation and provides a balanced review of what happened and "we must not allow to happen again". ISBN 1-85065-842-0, 303pp, hardback £15.00

Email: hurst@atlas.co.uk more... www.hurstpub.co.uk

Darfur, the ambiguous genocide

The book offers a passionate account of the current tragedy including the region's politics and history. It also examines the ineffective diplomatic efforts to end the crises. ISBN 1-85065-770-x, 212pp, hardback £15.00.

Email: hurst@atlas.co.uk more... www.hurstpub.co.uk

Newsletters

- [1325 PeaceWomen E-news](#)
- [Campaign Against Arms Trade](#)
- [Campaign Against Depleted Uranium](#)
- [Civil Society Watch](#)
- [Faslane 365](#)
- [Global Campaign For Peace Education](#)
- [Global Security Institute](#)
- [IANSA](#)
- [International Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms \(IALANA\)](#)
- [International Crisis Group](#)
- [International Coalition to Ban Uranium](#)
- [Movement for the Abolition of War](#)
- [Lawyers' Committee on Nuclear Policy](#)

- [Netwerk Vlaanderen](#)
- [NGO Congo](#)
- [Nonviolent Peaceforce](#)
- [Nuclear Age Peace Foundation](#)
- [Pax Christi](#)
- [Peace Women Across the Globe](#)
- [Small Arms Survey](#)
- [Swisspeace - KOFF](#)
- [The International Network of Engineers and Scientists for Global Responsibility \(INES\)](#)
- [The Monitor- News from the NGO Coalition for the International Criminal Court](#)
- [UBUNTU](#)
- [UNIDIR Highlights](#)
- [War Profiteers](#)

Calendar

Click [here](#) for IPB's international events calendar.

Message to IPB members: if you have reports of activities that are relevant to this newsletter please email them to the Secretariat.

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