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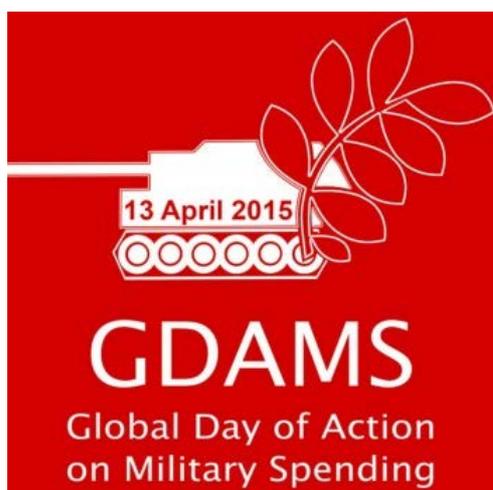
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# Newsletter

*June 2015*

## **GDAMS 2015 Final Report**



Here is the **Global Day of Action on Military Spending's** final report, highlighting the main actions that took place all over the world.

Our partners organised 127 events in 20 countries including various campaigns on social media, a kite-flying event, a street meditation, a night light action, a blockade of military establishments, writing a poem, a video clip and others.

*This year's Day of Action came at a time of increasing tensions in several regions, and signs of political pressure to spend more from the public purse on the military and to sell yet more weapons. At the same time governments and the UN are urging greater financial commitments both to the Post-2015 Development Agenda, and to efforts to tackle the climate change crisis. The Day of Action was an*

*opportunity to take stock of the facts and to explore what can be done at various levels.*

See also **QCEA's article mentioning GDAMS European network's statement released on**

**April 13th.**

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## ***Military Spending***



**The House approved a \$579 billion defense spending bill for 2016, The Hill reports**

The bill increases U.S. defense spending by \$38 billion through the overseas contingency fund (OCO), which the White House has said it will veto. It is the sixth spending bill passed by the House so far this year.



**A new report, Cutting the Cloth: Ambition, Austerity and the Case for Rethinking UK Military Spending by Oxford Research Group.**

The British Parliament and government elected on May 2015 have an historic opportunity to reshape the defence and security policies of the UK. The time has come for a radical rethinking of what the British people and government want and expect their military to do and on how British resources can better coordinated to advance national, regional and global peace and security.

### **More on Military Spending :**

- Reckless overspending on Dickey, billion-dollar weapons moves ahead in congress
- Tanzania hikes defence spending
- 'Moon shot' call on clean energy
- US spending \$9M a day in ISIS fight
- Saudi, Qatar and UAE defence budgets not shrinking despite oil price drop
- Global cost of war was \$14 trillion last year

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## ***Development and Climate***



**IPB-WFC paper on financing for development now on Addis Conference website**

As the Third Conference on Financing for Development (FFD) in Addis Ababa sets out to resolve the challenges of development financing, the World Future Council and the IPB, with the endorsement of other civil society organizations, take this opportunity to outline their position and present recommendations.



**Post-2015: zero draft outcome document**

The draft of the UN post 2015 Development Agenda, likely to be adopted at the General Assembly in September, has been just released. It will be discussed at the upcoming session of the post-2015 intergovernmental negotiations, from 22-25 June. It includes a Sustainable Development Goal linked to peace, SDG 16.



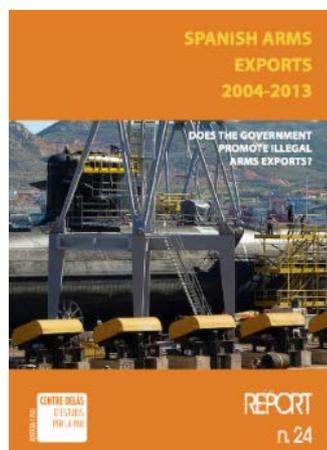
# Arms Trade



**Vietnam eyes Western warplanes, patrol aircraft to counter China**

Vietnam is in talks with European and U.S. contractors to buy fighter jets, maritime patrol planes and unarmed drones, sources said, as it looks to beef up its aerial defenses in the face of China's growing assertiveness in disputed waters.

While communist parties rule both Vietnam and China and annual trade has risen to nearly \$60



**Centre Delàs d'Estudis per la Pau- Report 24: Spanish Arms Exports 2004-2013: Does the government promote illegal arms exports?**

A new report by Centre Delàs on the Spanish arms exports, which analyzes the exports in 2013, through a historical perspective of the last

**More on Arms Trade:**

- Swedish arms sales should depend on buyer's democratic credentials – report

billion, Vietnam has long been wary of China, especially over Beijing's claims to most of the South China Sea.

decade. The report asks and tries to answer whether the government promotes illicit weapon exports. According to the official statistics, in 2013 Spain exported approximately 3,907 million euros in weapons.

## Impacts

Location	Contamination density* (number of landmines/ha)	Type of contamination
Kobani city centre	Very High (10 pieces of landmines/ha)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)</li> <li>Standardized Explosive Ordnance*</li> <li>Booby-trapped houses</li> <li>Booby-trapped vehicles</li> <li>Booby-trapped AT-RO tanks</li> <li>Booby-trapped AT-RO trucks</li> <li>Booby-trapped AT-RO cars</li> </ul>
Northern Kobani neighbourhoods	High to Medium (5 to 10 pieces of landmines/ha)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)</li> <li>Standardized Explosive Ordnance*</li> <li>Booby-trapped houses</li> <li>Booby-trapped vehicles</li> <li>Booby-trapped AT-RO tanks</li> <li>Booby-trapped AT-RO trucks</li> <li>Booby-trapped AT-RO cars</li> </ul>
Southern Kobani neighbourhoods	High (5 pieces of landmines/ha)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)</li> <li>Standardized Explosive Ordnance*</li> <li>Booby-trapped houses</li> <li>Booby-trapped vehicles</li> <li>Booby-trapped AT-RO tanks</li> <li>Booby-trapped AT-RO trucks</li> <li>Booby-trapped AT-RO cars</li> </ul>
Western Kobani neighbourhoods	Low (0.2 pieces of landmines/ha)	Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)
Village around Kobani	Medium to Low (0.5 to 1.0 pieces of landmines/ha)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)</li> <li>Standardized Explosive Ordnance*</li> <li>Booby-trapped houses</li> <li>Booby-trapped vehicles</li> <li>Booby-trapped AT-RO tanks</li> <li>Booby-trapped AT-RO trucks</li> <li>Booby-trapped AT-RO cars</li> </ul>

### Booby-trapped corpses and other horrors remain in Syrian town after combat

After Kurdish fighters backed by American air power drove the Islamic State militant group from the key Syrian border town of Kobane in January, it lay in ruins. Hundreds of airstrikes by the U.S.-led military coalition fighting the militants had rained down in previous months, and ground fighting had also taken a heavy toll. A new report released by the non-governmental organization Handicap International details what that means nearly six months later.



### Push to rid world of landmines faltering says Axworthy

The treaty to ban landmines once stood as one of Canada's proudest diplomatic accomplishments. But the man who played an instrumental role in one of the world's most successful international agreements says the goal of ridding the planet of these "diabolical" devices is now under threat. Former Liberal foreign minister Lloyd Axworthy said that after a decade during which landmines became "taboo," new pariah states, such as Syria, Yemen and Burma, have emerged and are laying new landmines.

#### More on Impacts:

- Colombian govt, FARC rebels begin clearing landmines

- Unmaking the mines of Mekong

- Yemen: Cluster munitions harm civilians

- Safe Schools Declaration: "We urge all governments to endorse the Safe Schools Declaration"

#### More on Nuclear:

# Nuclear



## CND voices opposition to US nukes on British soil

CND has slammed Pentagon plans to scrap a Cold war-era treaty and deploy nuclear missiles in Europe. Reports emerged over the weekend that the US government is considering this option as part of a review of its policy towards Russia in response to the situation in Ukraine. In response, the UK Foreign Secretary Philip Hammond did not rule out these weapons coming to Britain.

## An Unnoticed Crisis: The End of History for Nuclear Arms Control? by Alexei Arbatov, Carnegie Moscow Center

The proliferation of nuclear technologies and materials is blurring the line between the peaceful and military uses of nuclear energy. An aggressive search for new formats, concepts, and methods is urgently needed to adapt nuclear arms control to the new realities. A search should also start for innovative ways to build confidence about limitations on the nuclear forces of third states. As difficult as this task is, the main challenge is to restore cooperative relations among key global and regional powers and alliances.

- Fresh concerns, despite global decline in nuclear weapons
- Pakistan, India increases arsenals despite disarmament trend: report
- Global Wave concludes – Peace and Planet continues
- Disarm and modernize

# Miscellaneous



## Women and Armed Violence: Peace and Gender Equality -Report on event held in Geneva organized by Small Arms

- More on Miscellaneous:**
- The 2010 MacBride Prize laureate, Binalakshmi Nepram, on Manipur's endless violence
  - Costa Rica President Solís addresses UN in Geneva on climate change and



**New Acting High Representative for Disarmament Affairs**

Mr. Kim Won-soo assumed his position as Under Secretary-General and Acting High Representative for Disarmament Affairs on 1 June 2015. Prior to taking on this post, Mr. Kim served as Assistant-Secretary-General and Special Adviser to the Secretary-General since January 2007.



**Remembering and Honoring Praful Bidwai**

Our hearts were broken to learn of the sudden, untimely demise of our dear friend and colleague Praful Bidwai. Praful was a courageous truth teller, a fearless advocate, and a kind and funny man. Some of us were fortunate to be present at the founding conference of the Coalition for Nuclear Disarmament and Peace (CNDP) in Delhi, and to be graciously hosted by Praful in his home. He was a

**Survey**

Armed violence affects women, men, girls, and boys in different ways—as both perpetrators and targets of armed violence. Women and girls are targeted by a number of forms of gender-based violence in different ways. Therefore, women’s life’s experiences as community leaders, mothers, wives and daughters are an important element for durable peace. It just makes sense. So why are we still not doing it



**Calling all youth! IPB promotes military spending campaign to youth organizations.**

We are expanding our youth outreach! With the Berlin international conference on the horizon and our ongoing GCOMS initiative, it's vital to engage with young people. Their creativity and energy is key to success. Our youth outreach program is multifaceted. It includes invitations to youth organizations to participate in our events and planning as

**military spending**

**-Film: Costa Rica abolished its military, never regretted**

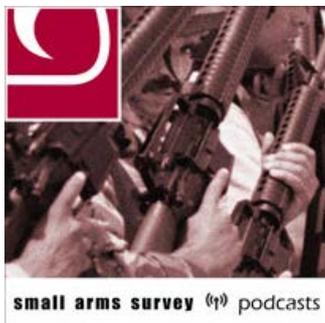
**- President Gorbachev's statement at the "International Climate Change Symposium", Tempio di Adriano, piazza di Pietra, Rome, 27 – 29 May 2015**

tremendous intellectual resource for nuclear disarmament, peace and justice and environmental movements in his home country and internationally. His articles and books informed and enriched our understanding of the complex nuclear dynamics in South Asia. Praful was a member of the Abolition 2000 Global Council – our international family. We will miss him dearly, but we will never forget him. In his honor, we look forward to renewing and strengthening our relationship with CNDP. Praful Bidwai, presente!

well as a focus on social media as a leading method of communication. We are reaching out to youth organizations, universities and student groups around the world in order to include more young voices in our work. See more on our [website](#).

To get involved please contact our Outreach Coordinator intern, Alicia Sanders-Zakre, at [alicia.sanders\\_zakre@ipb.org](mailto:alicia.sanders_zakre@ipb.org).

## Resources



### Weapons and the World: Two-part podcast on Small Arms Survey 2015

This year's edition of the Small Arms Survey's annual flagship publication explores the theme of weapons and the environment, and covers a range of topics relating to small arms and armed violence.

Listen to the podcasts:

[Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#)



### International Network of Museums for Peace - Newsletter 11

The International Network of Museums for Peace (INMP) is a worldwide network of peace museums, peace gardens and other peace related sites, centres and institutions that share in the same desire to build a global culture of peace.

Its ultimate Newsletter is filled with wonderful peace news from our associates opening a global window into the world of peace and peace museums for you to enjoy and learn from.

### [More on Resources:](#)

-From INEW Bulletin #15 - June 2015: *Cities are not targets: Populated areas and international law*

- Small Arms Survey: *Missing Missiles: MANPADS proliferation in North Africa*



## We need you !

Your support helps us implement programmes with partners around the world and to develop our work through public engagement, outreach to other actors, advocacy and networking. Financial contributions are welcome at any time. **Thank you !**

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