

# NEWSLETTER



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## The New War's Rising Cost

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\*Views expressed in summarized articles are those of the article's author and do not necessarily reflect the views of IPB\*

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### DISARMAMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT

#### Military Spending

##### The New War's Rising Cost

The Pentagon disclosed last week that America's ever-shifting new war in the Middle East has cost taxpayers more than half a billion dollars since it began in August. Yet Congress has not bothered to hold a vote to authorize the Obama administration's decision to get into another war. As the price tag of the military campaign in Iraq and Syria rises, it might seem reasonable to expect that Congress would have to consider the state of the effort and appropriate funding for it.

##### Biodiversity: A 'Fraction of Global Military Spending' Can Help Manage Protected Areas Better

A mere 2.5% of global annual military expenditure if allocated to protected areas could go a long way in managing them and protecting the planet's biodiversity, says a new study. Published in *Nature* by experts from the Wildlife Conservation Society, the University of Queensland, and the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) the article notes that only one in four protected areas are well managed.

##### Turkey: Defense spending more than doubles under AK Party

Paradoxically, the share of defense spending in gross domestic product (GDP), however, declined over the past 12-year period, according to Turkish Ministry of Defense figures released this week. Turkey allocated 1.71 percent of its GDP to defense spending in 2014, while this figure was 3.45 percent in 2002. The ministry figures also showed that defense spending per capita was TL 470 in 2014, a TL 4 decline from 2013.

##### The Most Powerful Army You've Never Heard Of

The United Arab Emirates is flexing its military muscle in a chaotic, post-Arab Spring Middle East. What was once a nation with a limited presence on the international stage is acquiring advanced weaponry, instituting universal military service, and expanding its fleet of fighter jets and heavy vehicles.

##### Indonesia to create new coastguard, boost defense spending

Indonesia will launch a new coastguard next month to crack down on piracy and smuggling which can disrupt commerce in Southeast Asia's biggest economy, the chief security minister told Reuters. The force is part of President Joko Widodo's push to reassure investors at a time when the economy is growing at its slowest in five years and is strained by twin trade and current account deficits.

##### After 13 years, 2 wars and trillions in military spending, terrorist attacks are rising sharply

Last year saw the highest number of terrorist incidents since 2000, according to the latest Global Terrorism Index

released by the Institute for Economics and Peace. Worldwide, the number of terrorist incidents increased from less than 1,500 in 2000 to nearly 10,000 in 2013. Sixty percent of attacks last year occurred in Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Nigeria and Syria.

## Arms Trade

### The Pentagon's Arguments for Runaway Arms Trading Are Indefensible

The Pentagon's weapons trafficking arm the Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA) announced last week that it brokered \$34 billion in arms deals in fiscal year 2014, one of the highest totals in the history of the agency. It's no match for the record \$69 billion in sales agreements the agency secured in 2012, but it still gives the United States the dubious distinction of being the world's largest arms merchant.

### Chart: The top buyers and sellers in the global arms race

The APEC Summit in Beijing last week and the G20 meetings held in Brisbane, Australia, were both reminders of how the center of gravity in world affairs is fundamentally shifting to Asia. There are two obvious concerns about a burgeoning arms race that is only likely to gather pace in coming years. One is that, especially in poorer countries such as India, Vietnam and China, where there are still hundreds of millions of poor people, public funds are being lavished on prestige military purchases with no social value.

### Bosnia's Federation military industry turnover up 40.8%

The turnover of arms-making companies operating in Bosnia's Muslim-Croat Federation soared 40.8% on the year to 95.2 million marka (\$60.8 million/48.7 million euro) in the first nine months of 2014, the entity's government said on Wednesday. The value of exports to the entity's arms-making industry totaled 71.9 million marka, up 28.7% from a year earlier, the government of the Muslim-Croat Federation said in a statement.

## Impacts of Weapons

### Ban Uranium Weapons

UK veteran launches Change.org petition calling on UK and US to stop opposing DU resolutions and to take responsibility for Iraqi clean-up. Ben Griffin, a veteran who served with the Parachute Regiment and UK special forces has launched a new petition in response to the recent UN First Committee vote on DU.

### New factsheet - The Impact of Mines/ERW on Children

The latest factsheet, produced annually since 2009, provides an update on casualty data and assistance to child survivors in 2013. Children, especially boys, are one of the largest groups of survivors of landmines, unexploded cluster munition remnants and other explosive remnants of war (ERW).

## MAKING PEACE

### Photo Exhibition – Latest news



### **Making Peace in the USA**

As we take a look back and thank all the cities who have presented Making Peace in 2014 including *Strasbourg (France)*, *Sarajevo (Bosnia & Herzegovina)*, *Basel (Switzerland)* and *Cape Town (South Africa)*, we would like to take this opportunity to ask friends and colleagues in the USA – whether IPB Members or not - to work with us in presenting Making Peace across the country in 2015 and 2016. Planned US venues so far include: Washington D.C., New York, Chicago and Seattle, with a special presentation at the 15th World Summit of Nobel Peace Prize Laureates planned for Atlanta in November 2015.

Hosted by Nobel Peace Laureate Mohammed Yunus and President Jimmy Carter, and chaired by Ted Turner, the Atlanta Summit aims to be the largest-ever gathering of Nobel Peace Laureates, attracting high-profile state and business leaders, celebrities and the world's media.

*Cape Town opening of Making Peace with FW de Klerk (former President of South Africa) and Prof Rocky MD Ralebipi-Simela (CEO / National Librarian of the National Library of South Africa). 6 November 2014.*

*Photo credits: Sue Kramer*

### **Next year**

2015 will be a memorable and perhaps emotional period for many people as it marks a number of important anniversaries, including the atomic bombing of Japan, the end of the Second World War and the subsequent founding of the United Nations in 1945; not forgetting the end of the war in Vietnam in 1975, spurred-on by massive anti-war demonstrations. For these reasons we feel it important that Making Peace be seen by as many people as possible and especially youth, so as to remind us not only of the horrors of war but also of the huge amount of work that has been, and is still being, done by so many to promote peace around the world. While Making Peace will remain on show in Cape Town until the end of January, it can be seen in other European cities including Linköping (Sweden) and Ieper (Belgium) between February and October 2015. The Making Peace team is also working hard to present this important exhibition in Germany as part of commemorations marking the 70th anniversary of the end of the Second World War.

Please contact us if you / your organization would like to get involved in Making Peace: [help@makingpeace.org](mailto:help@makingpeace.org).  
[www.makingpeace.org](http://www.makingpeace.org)

## NUCLEAR WEAPONS

### The Unaffordable Arsenal

Top US government officials are in agreement that current plans to rebuild our nuclear arsenal (to the price tag of at least \$355 billion over the next decade and up to \$1 trillion over the next 30 years) are overly ambitious and likely unaffordable. The Arms Control Association (ACA) has released a report on just this issue, urging the

"executive branch, Congress, and the American public to rethink current plans to rebuild U.S. nuclear forces in the years ahead."

#### Nuclear Weapons Spending Plans Enormously Costly

The Obama Administration is taking a hard look at whether it needs to replace the air-launched cruise missile, outgoing Assistant Secretary of Defense for Nuclear, Chemical & Biological Defense Programs Andrew Weber told reporters as he prepared to leave his position after five years.

#### Seeing a New Future for French Nuclear Site, After the Toxic Dust Has Settled

Formerly top secret, Fort de Vaujours was a key site for France's nuclear arms program, with core components of the country's first atom bombs developed in the 1960s. Scientists blew up more than half a ton of uranium in 2,000 explosions at the fort, which is nine miles from central Paris. There were no full nuclear detonations at Vaujours, but parts of the fort were coated in radioactive dust.

#### Civil Society Statement to UN on Nuclear Weapons and the International Security Context

Over 100 organizations have signed the Civil Society Statement to the UN First Committee on Nuclear Weapons and the International Security Context: "The growing risks of great power war and use of nuclear weapons make the abolition of nuclear weapons all the more imperative. It is far more likely to succeed if linked to economic equity, democracy, climate and environmental protection, and dismantlement of highly militarized security postures.

#### Dhanapala to Receive IPS Award for Nuclear Disarmament

Jayantha Dhanapala, a former U.N. under-secretary-general for disarmament affairs (1998-2003) previously IPB former president and a relentless advocate for a world free of nuclear weapons, was the recipient of the 2014 International Achievement Award for Nuclear Disarmament sponsored by Inter Press Service (IPS) news agency.

#### Greenpeace Champions the Marshall Islands

Kumi Naidoo, Executive Director of Greenpeace International said, "We stand with the people of the Marshall Islands in their fight to rid the world of nuclear weapons. Having seen their land, sea and people poisoned by radiation, they are now taking to task the nine nuclear-armed nations for failing to eliminate this danger which threatens humanity at large."

### IPB ACTIONS

1. Signed joint statement disarmament: Civil Society Statement to the United Nations First Committee on Nuclear Weapons and the International Security Context, which was endorsed by 100 organizations – international, national, regional and local, in 11 countries (plus 8 individuals identified for organizational purposes only). This powerful statement underscoring the urgency of current nuclear dangers was presented to the First Committee on 28 October

2. Signed campaign on transparency re-election of United Nations / Secretary General  
1 for 7 Billion is a global campaign supported by organisations and individuals committed to getting the best UN Secretary-General

3. IPB intern Julina Canga attended the Swisspeace conference at Bern on Resilient Societies  
Read the report here.

4. IPB Sec-Gen Colin Archer and Intern Julina Canga attended the Geneva PeaceBuilding Platform annual meeting.

3. Reminder: INVITATION: IPB's MacBride Peace Prize goes to the Marshall Islands: Award ceremony + Forum  
Vienna, 5 December 2014

The following 2 announcements relate to important events on the eve of the ICAN conference (Dec 6-7) in Vienna:

(1) Public Forum: The Marshall Islands' Nuclear Zero Lawsuits, organised by IALANA, to be held in the afternoon of Dec 5. (2 – 5:30 pm)

(2) Sean MacBride Prize Ceremony: organised by IPB and Austrian partners, to be held in the evening of Dec 5. (7 - 9pm). All are welcome! For background, see the original MacBride prize announcement from 6 August, HERE.

#### 4. Coming up:

*IPB to participate in Nobel Peace Laureates summit, Rome, Dec 12-14*

*IPB Sec-Gen Colin Archer invited to speak at Future of Human Rights Forum, Dec 10, Geneva*

*IPB to launch Global Campaign on Military Spending - watch this space!*

*IPB Co-President Reiner Braun to speak at 4th World Congress of the global union UNI, Cape Town, 7-10 Dec.*

### RESOURCES

#### New Remote Control Report: Cyberspace: An Assessment of Current Threats, Real Consequences and Potential Solutions

The lack of legal clarity and the highly securitized debate around cyber issues may have destabilizing effects, including increased surveillance on citizens and a 'cyber arms race' between states, a new report warns today. Cyberspace: An Assessment of Current Threats, Real Consequences and Potential Solutions, commissioned by the Remote Control project, finds that cyber security is becoming increasingly important to states' national security strategies.

#### Who's bankrolling the bomb? New Edition: Don't Bank on the Bomb

*Don't Bank on the Bomb* identifies financial institutions that invest heavily in companies involved in the US, British, French, Indian and Israeli nuclear weapon programmes. Updates were published by PAX, a partner of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, in October 2013 and in November 2014.

#### Report: Pollution Politics – power, accountability and toxic remnants of war

There is growing acceptance that certain military materials and practices can cause environmental damage with the potential to affect civilian health and interfere with post-conflict recovery. While the impact of explosive remnants of war is comparatively well documented, and increasingly well managed, less attention has been focused on toxic materials released during military activities.

#### Banning Nuclear Weapons: The Humanitarian Facts

An evidence-based understanding of the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons has become the driving force behind a renewed State and civil society demand for effective action to prohibit and eliminate nuclear weapons. The facts about nuclear weapons and the consequences of their use have been the subject of three international conferences starting in 2013—in Oslo, Nayarit, and Vienna.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### What's the environmental impact of modern war?

War changes our parameters. In the face of actual or perceived threat, acts that would normally be abhorrent become acceptable and even routine. One of the first of our sensibilities to be discarded is the protection of the environment, says Catherine Lutz, a professor on war and its impacts at [the Watson Institute for International Studies](#).

### The Pentagon Comes Up Short on Climate

The Pentagon recently released a [new report](#) sounding the alarm on the national security threats posed by climate change. Like previous reports on the subject, this one makes clear that Department of Defense (DoD) planners believe that global warming will seriously challenge our nation's military forces.

### Cross the Lines Nov 2014 - WPP reports from New York & Delhi

The Women Peacemakers Program, in cooperation with Justice and Peace and Vluchtelingen Organisaties Nederland (VON), is organizing a panel discussion about Women Peace and Security in the Netherlands. Next year it is the 15th anniversary of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, which presents a great opportunity to take a closer look at this resolution within the Dutch context.

### Mayors for Peace awarded the 7th No Gun Ri Peace Prize/Human Rights Prize

On September 18, 2014, Mayors for Peace was awarded the 7th Peace Prize/Human Rights Prize by the No Gun Ri International Peace Foundation based in South Korea. The rationale for the award is that with its '2020 Vision,' Mayors for Peace has committed to activities promoting the abolition of nuclear weapons in cooperation with more than 6,000 member cities and peace NGOs.

### 35 armed movements adopt a declaration to better protect civilians in armed conflict

From 17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> November, Geneva Call held in Geneva its Third Meeting of Signatories to the *Deeds of Commitment* and gathered 70 high-level representatives – political leaders, commanders and officers and legal advisers – of 35 armed non-State actors (ANSAs) coming from 14 different countries including Syria, Burma/Myanmar, Sudan, Philippines and Somalia. Most are signatories to at least one of Geneva Call's *Deeds of Commitment*, but some non-signatory ANSAs also attended.

### School of the Americas Morphs Into US Training Industrial Complex

Since its inception in 1946, the SOA - or as critics often referred to it, "[the School of Assassins](#)" - has epitomized America's peculiar brand of "outsourced imperialism." The list of leaders dispatched by the SOA, the catalogue of criminal indictments and the not-insignificant death tolls tallied in SOA-linked civil wars and so-called "counter-insurgencies" is, for lack of a better word, impressive.



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.



### **IPB is in need of support! 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". For more information, please contact: Victor de la Barrera, Treasurer - [victor@ipb.org](mailto:victor@ipb.org) - Tel: +41 (22) 731 6429



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