



# IPB

## International Peace Bureau

IPB Newsletter - January 18, 2013



## Introducing 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.

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".

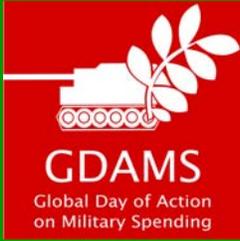
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### Global Day of Action on Military Spending 2013: First GDAMS Newsletter is out

GDAMS 2013 will be on April 15. To sign up for the GDAMS newsletter, please join our [Google group](#). Have a look at the first newsletter [here](#). For more news and updates visit [www.gdams.org](http://www.gdams.org), **like GDAMS on Facebook**, and follow us on [Twitter](#)!

### The Middle East without Weapons of Mass Destruction - Civil Society Input December 14-16, 2012, Helsinki

December 17, 2012 - **IPB and Finnish peace organizations** organized a conference in Helsinki in December in order to **support governments in the task to create a WMD-free zone in the Middle East**. Throughout 2012, there has been a series of conferences on this issue by NGOs and civil society actors in different parts of the world. One purpose of this conference in Helsinki was to collect the results and suggestions of these.

The participants at this civil society conference **are outraged at the decision** of the conveners of the **official governmental Conference** on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction to 'readjust the timing' of the Conference and **to not conduct it in 2012**.

## 1. DISARMAMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT

### 1.1. MILITARY SPENDING

#### GREECE

#### Judy Dempsey, [Military in Greece Is Spared Cuts](#)

January 7, 2013 - **NATO defense expenditures** have **declined by more than \$56 billion compared** with 2009. Practically all of those cuts happened in Europe, reducing defense spending there by an average of 15 percent. Speaking at a meeting of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly in Prague, NATO's secretary general, **Anders Fogh Rasmussen** said that among the European allies, **"only two devoted more than 2 percent of the gross domestic product to defense."**

One of those countries was **Greece**. That seems astonishing given that Greece is in a deep economic and financial crisis and Greece's economy has shrunk by 25 percent over the past two years.

## ISRAEL

### Space Daily, [Doubling the money for Israel's missiles](#)

December 14, 2012 - **Israel's defense industry** got **two big boosts** in December. First, some **U.S.** senators want U.S. President Barack Obama's administration to at least double its funding request for Israel's anti-missile systems to \$680 million.

Secondly, **India**, a major buyer of Israeli weapons systems, wants a "buy and build" deal on Rafael Advanced Defense Systems' Iron Dome weapon that scored an 86.3 percent kill rate against Palestinian rockets in November.

Obama has asked Congress to approve \$99.9 million for "Israel cooperative programs" in fiscal 2013.

## JAPAN

### AFP, [Defense Spending: Japan Plans \\$2.1B Military Spend](#)

January 8, 2013 - Japan plans to spend **\$2.1 billion on its military** over the next few months as part of a huge stimulus package, a defense ministry official said Jan 9, amid **growing concerns over a rising China**. The cash is in addition to the regular military spending for 2012-13 and is separate from a boosted budget request for next fiscal year that ruling party policy makers called for on Jan 8.

## UNITED STATES

### David Alexander, [House approves bill authorizing \\$633 billion in defense spending](#)

December 20, 2012 - The **U.S. House of Representatives** approved the **final version of the annual defense policy bill**, authorizing **\$633.3 billion in defense spending** for 2013, easing limits on satellite exports and providing more Marines for embassy security. The Republican-controlled House approved the 2013 National Defense Authorization Act by a **vote of 315-107**. The measure must still be approved by the Senate before it can go to President Barack Obama to be signed into law.

## 1.2 IMPACTS OF WEAPONS ON DEVELOPMENT

### Koohan Paik and Jerry Mander, [Jeju Island: On the Front Lines of a New Pacific War](#)

December 14, 2012 - On the small, spectacular **island of Jeju**, off the southern tip of **Korea**, indigenous villagers have been putting their bodies in the way of **construction of a joint South Korean-US naval base** that would be an environmental, cultural and political disaster. If completed, the base would hold more than 7,000 navy personnel, plus twenty warships including US aircraft carriers, nuclear submarines and destroyers carrying the latest Aegis missiles - all aimed at China, only 300 miles away.



### **Control Arms, [Nov/Dec 2012 Bulletin](#): Planning for conference on ATT underway**

December 21, 2012 - Staff and members of the Control Arms coalition are working hard to prepare for the **ATT Final Conference** that will take place from **18-28 March 2013**. The coalition has recently launched a small grants program that will provide support to coalition members for their advocacy work and outreach. The ATT Legal Network has been undertaking an analysis of the draft treaty text that was produced in July, and a **global Week of Action** has been scheduled for **11-17 March**.

### **Control Arms, [NGO Aide Memoire for March 2013 ATT Conference](#)**

January 7, 2013. The UN Office of Disarmament Affairs has just released the **Aide Memoire for NGO attendance** to the **Final Diplomatic Conference on the ATT** in March 2013. If your organization has NOT previously been accredited to any of the PrepComs and/or to the July Diplomatic Conference, you will need to accredit your organization in order to attend the March conference. The deadline to apply for accreditation is **January 31, 2013**. To apply, fill out an online accreditation form available [here](#). All accredited organizations can register their NGO participants online [here](#). The deadline to register to attend the conference is **March 8, 2013**.

For questions, please contact [katherine@globalactionpw.org](mailto:katherine@globalactionpw.org).

### **Campaign Against Arms Trade, ["The arms trade is an evil of our time" -- Right Livelihood Award 2012 Acceptance Speech](#)**

December 13, 2012 - On December 7, 2012, **CAAT** received an "Alternative Nobel Prize" from the **Right Livelihood Foundation** in a ceremony held in the Swedish Parliament. This award recognised CAAT's "innovative and effective campaigning against the global trade in arms."

For the full ceremony, see <http://youtu.be/NqZogil7HH4>. Find the speech [here](#).

### **Helmut Lohrer, [International Congress on Social and Health Effects of the Global Arms Trade, May 30 - June 2, 2013, Germany](#)**

January 10, 2013 - Heckler & Koch, one of Europe's leading small arms producers, is based in the little town of Oberndorf, Germany. Its weapons are exported wherever sales are possible. In **Villingen-Schwenningen**, not far from Oberndorf, an **international congress on the issue of small arms** will take place from **May 30 to June 2, 2013**. Organised by **IPPNW** in cooperation with the **campaign "AktionAufschrei – Stoppt den Waffenhandel!"**, experts and members of many organizations will discuss the effects of these weapons. International guests from, among other countries, Kenya, Iran, Nepal, Switzerland, India, Australia and the USA will share their knowledge and know-how.

## **Campaign Against Arms Trade, Large increase in EU arms exports revealed – but annual report is untransparent, incomplete and unpublicised**

January 10, 2013 - The "Fourteenth **Annual Report on Exports Control of Military Technology and Equipment**" reveals that in 2011 **European Union** countries licensed **arms exports valued at 37.5 billion euro** – an increase of almost one fifth on 2010. The largest and fastest growing markets for weapons were in the Middle East and Asia, including countries embroiled in the uprisings of 2011, while Saudi Arabia replaced the USA as the largest customer. The report was published on 14 December 2012, without a press release from the EU Council or an announcement on the European Parliament website. Groups from the **European Network Against Arms Trade (ENAAAT)** are discussing the report and its shortcomings.

## **2. NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT**

### **Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, CND welcomes report on Trident & Barrow employment**

December 13, 2012 - The **Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament** today welcomed the findings of a 'timely and significant' report into the Trident Alternatives Review and the future of Barrow (for the full report, [see here](#) and for evidence submitted, [see here](#)).

The report, produced by the **Nuclear Education Trust (NET)**, makes a clear case for the publication of the Lib Dem-led review into alternatives to "like-for-like" replacement of the Trident nuclear weapons system, which the government has so far refused to commit to. It also concluded that while Barrow is heavily dependent on BAE Systems as an employer, the economic impact of an option other than like-for-like replacement is not 'a "binary" choice between 6,000 employed or none'.

### **Sergio Duarte, How to Revitalize Disarmament Efforts**

January 9, 2013 - States have reached an **impasse over disarmament issues**. The standoff is particularly apparent at the **Conference on Disarmament**, which was meant to be the single multilateral forum for negotiating disarmament when it was created. The body has **not achieved a single agreement for over fifteen years**.

This prolonged lack of results has justifiably increased global skepticism, particularly within the security community, about the effectiveness of existing multilateral institutions that address disarmament, nonproliferation, and international security.

### **UNRCPD, 24th United Nations Conference on Disarmament Issues**

January 9, 2013 - The **UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific**, in partnership with the City of Shizuoka and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, will be organizing the **24th Annual UN Conference on Disarmament Issues** in Shizuoka, Japan from **30 January 2013 – 1 February 2013**. The Conference will host a number of distinguished speakers addressing

topics including Humanitarian Issues and Nuclear Weapons, Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones, Small Arms and Light Weapon Control, Nuclear Safety and Security, Current Situation and Challenges to the Nuclear Disarmament and Non-proliferation Regime, Role of Civil Society, and Disarmament and Non-proliferation Education. This year, the Conference will also feature a Special Session to include the participation of Japanese student groups.

### 3. MISCELLANEOUS

**Jaine Rose, Campaigner: [Wool Against Weapons](#)**

January 11, 2013 - As a protest against the U.K's ongoing involvement with nuclear weapons, and the money UK government is intending to spend in 2016 on these, [Wool Against Weapons](#) is a **campaign launched in October 2012**, that calls out to **knitters** to join and help knitting a **7-mile-long Peace Scarf** to run between the [Women's Peace Camp](#) at Aldermaston (Nuclear Weapons Establishment site) and Burghfield in Berkshire (where Nuclear Weapons are made). The scarf will be knitted between now and **August 16, 2014**, a day of action against nuclear weapons and high point of the campaign.

### 4. RESOURCES

**[Facing Finance launched its first Dirty Profits Report in Berlin](#)**

December 10, 2012 - Facing Finance's [Dirty Profits Report](#) covers **companies and financial institutions benefiting from cluster munitions, nuclear weapons, human and labour rights violations** as well as **environmental damages**. Leading European financial institutions are heavily invested in high-risk business activities/corporations that violate human rights. This is why the NGO-campaign Facing Finance chose to unveil their report Dirty Profits **on the International Day of Human Rights**.

**Global Campaign for Peace Education, [Newsletter \(January 2013\)](#)**

January 9, 2013 - The **Global Campaign for Peace Education (GCPE)** e-newsletter provides a monthly bulletin of news, events, action alerts and reports of **peace education activities and developments** from around the world. You can sign-up to receive the newsletter and review back issues [here](#). It is available in several languages on the web [here](#). Main topic this time: "[Within Reason: Critical Reflections on Connections Between School and Social Violence](#)" by David J. Ragland.

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