



# IPB News

February 3, 2012

INTERNATIONAL PEACE BUREAU

*Working for a World Without War*

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The **Calendar of Events** is available as a separate document.

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For more information on the Global Day of Action on Military Spending : <http://www.demilitarize.org>  
'Making Peace' Photo-exhibition <http://www.makingpeace.org>

### 1- DISARMAMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT

- *In 2005 IPB launched a major new programme, designed to reflect widespread public concern at the rapid rise in global military spending (totaling \$1630 billion in 2010); and the evidence that weapons -- such as small arms, cluster bombs, landmines -- seriously impede sustainable development.*

#### A. MILITARY SPENDING

##### **BBC: [US to cut almost 100,000 troops](#)**

January 26, 2012 - L. Panetta, US Secretary of Defense announces his plan that will streamline US forces (troop reductions, retirement of older cargo planes and so on) and develop military technical capacities with the development of unmanned equipment, in order to meet budget cuts. Some members of the Congress fear that this plan would hinder US military capacities.

Kevin Martin, the executive director of Peace Action, considers this reduction as insufficient: "a 1% cut in military spending for next year is paltry, and of course Obama has bragged that military spending will actually increase in the coming years. Even the "cuts" that have been projected are cuts from projected increases, not from a current baseline. Overall it's very disappointing when we need to be looking at serious cuts on the order of at least 25% to the gargantuan US military budget".

##### **The Independent Institute, [US Defense Budget Needs to 'Get Real'](#)**

January 17, 2012 - Over the next decade, the U.S. military faces approximately \$480 billion in 'cuts'. But as President Obama admitted in a recent speech, the defense budget is actually projected to grow over the next ten years at a rate roughly equal to inflation. The alleged "cuts" are not reductions in absolute terms, but rather reductions of *an increase*.

Daryl G. Kimball and Tom Z. Collina, [How Obama can slash defense budget: cut unnecessary nuclear weapons programs](#)

M. Hoffman, [New strategy could presage smaller US nuclear arsenal](#)

Jan. 19, 2012 - Both articles report that US deterrence strategy can be achieved with a smaller nuclear force. It has to be linked with the Pentagon savings goals for the next decade.

**The Humanist, [Moving From a War Economy to a Peace Economy](#)**

Mary Beth Sullivan, January/February 2012 - In an excellent article, Mary Beth Sullivan traces the movement for and ideas behind economic conversion - that is, planning, designing, and implementing a transformation from a war economy to a peace economy. She highlights the work of Seymour Melman, the most prolific writer on the topic to show the benefits economic conversion would bring.

**Investing early to prevent war**

A research report made by the [Friends Committee on National Legislation](#) (US) shows that investing early to prevent war is 60 times cheaper than intervening after violence occurs. However, at a global level, punitive investments prevail over preventive investments: only \$1 is spent on conflict prevention for every \$1,885 spent on military budget. The chart "[Where do our income tax dollars go?](#)" illustrates this point by showing that 39% of income tax goes to fund past and current wars.

[>>> Read more.](#)

**[War Profiteers' News No 32, Jan. 2012](#)**

This issue covers two main stories linked to war profiteering but not strictly related to the production or sales of weapons. The first is about the mining industry in Latin America and its impact on local indigenous communities. The other looks at the concept of "homeland security" and its implications, in other words how it is used by companies to introduce greater control over the society.

UNITED STATES

**Eric Alterman, [Think Again: Is Defense R&D Spending Effective?](#)**

January 13, 2012 - This article urges readers to consider the points made by Subrata Ghoshroy, a research associate at MIT who twice spoke at IPB events, in his article '[Restructuring Defense R&D](#)'. He argues that far from defense R&D cuts having devastating effects, as propagated by many analysts, US defense R&D is in fact higher than any other nations' and not as effective or beneficial to the wider economy as widely thought.

**Cindy Sheehan, ["Love it or leave it" versus "Loathe it and stay to fight it"](#)**

January 21, 2012 - In this article, C. Sheehan, a well-known US antiwar activist whose oldest son was killed in Iraq in 2004, talks about her "tax resistance" against war.

BURMA

**Burma Campaign UK, [Budget, Not By-Elections, Next Big Test for Thein Sein](#)**

January 26, 2012 - During the next session of Burma's parliament, the government will propose its new budget. Whereas in the past, health and education were neglected compared to military investments, Thein Sein's government announced it would prioritize development for the coming years. Mark Farmaner, director of Burma Campaign UK, considers this new budget as an opportunity to assess Thein Sein's willingness to turn promises of reforms into concrete and effective changes.

EUROPEAN UNION

**[Could EU Funds Be Used to Boost Defence Spending in 2012?](#)**

January 12, 2012 - A resolution agreed upon by the European Parliament has raised the prospect that EU funds could be used to plug capability gaps in the continent's militaries. The "Lisek Resolution" focuses on how EU funding lines could address gaps in European capabilities. For instance, the report speculates that EU financial support for below average GDP nations under the European Stability Fund could be applied to struggling defence sectors in these countries as well. More directly, the EU's multi-annual Research Framework Programme (RFP) could be used to pay for defense R&D.

ISRAEL

**[Israel Needs \\$3.9 billion to Fund Arrow Plan](#)**

January 13, 2012 - Israel's Defense Ministry is grappling with the problem of funding costly plans to build a multi-layered shield against Iranian and Syrian ballistic missiles. Ministry sources say that \$3.9 billion is needed to produce

more batteries of the Arrow anti-missile system. But large sums are also needed to produce more Iron Dome systems as well as develop the David's Sling system for intercepting medium-range missiles. It's possible that Israel will turn to the United States, which already provides Israel with \$3 billion a year in military aid, for financial support.

#### SCOTLAND

#### **Scottish Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (SCND) and the Scottish Trades Union Congress (STUC): [Cancelling Trident: The Economic and Employment Consequences for Scotland](#)**

A 2007 report by SCND and STUC finds that the replacement of Trident will cost Scotland more jobs than it will provide and that, by contrast, the funds released by Trident cancellation would create a major opportunity for productive investment in Scotland's economy.

### **B. IMPACTS OF WEAPONS ON DEVELOPMENT**

#### **IANSA Women's Network Report, Why controlling small arms matters to women**

IANSA Women's Network has published the final report from the seminar "Why controlling small arms matters to women" held on 25 October in New York during the First Committee of the UN General Assembly: Disarmament and International Security. The seminar aimed at promoting women participation in disarmament and arms control processes through three aspects: women's role in parliament, the potential for the arms trade treaty to help prevent violence against women, and the gender dimension of peace programs.

#### **Life and Peace Institute, [Horn of Africa Bulletin 2012](#)**

The first 2012 issue of the HoA bulletin contains three analytical articles: the first is on the causes/factors/ issues leading to civil militarization in Somalia, the second assesses disarmament processes in the Kenya North Rift region and highlights the missteps in order to suggest a new model, and the last one focuses on the use of information technology to control the production and supply of small arms and light weapons.

#### GUINEA

#### **[VIH SIDA et Circulation des Armes](#) (French)**

In the northern town of Maali in Guinea, New Year was celebrated with an event to raise awareness among young people about HIV/AIDS and the proliferation of small arms. It was organised by the visiting Youth Council of Kedougou, Senegal, as part of efforts to promote integration between Senegal and Guinea. The president of the Senegalese group said, "We need to join forces to fight these two scourges and ensure social stability and health in our bordering countries".

#### SOUTH SUDAN

#### **[South Sudan: The Birth of a Nation and the Prospects for Peace and Development](#)**

November 3, 2011 - South Sudan's government announced the start of [several disarmament campaigns](#). Saferworld issued a briefing saying that "civilian possession of SALW remains a significant obstacle to promoting security for communities in South Sudan. But, if poorly managed, efforts to disarm populations can potentially act as a catalyst for violence between communities or result in clashes between the military and the communities that are to be disarmed". The briefing also includes recommendations on best practice for disarmament campaigns.

### **2. NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT**

#### **European Youth Delegation for a Nuclear-weapon-free World**

Ban All Nukes generation (BANg) is organizing a youth delegation to the conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty in Vienna, from 27th April to 6th May 2012. 40 young people from all over Europe will be selected to participate in the conference, learn about nuclear weapons, and meet diplomats and NGO activists. Applications close on February 24. More information [here](#).

#### **Zia Mian, [The International Panel on Fissile Materials \(IPFM\) Releases Global Fissile Material Report 2011: Nuclear Weapon and Fissile Material Stockpiles and Production](#)**

January 10, 2012 - The [report](#) provides updated estimates for global and national stockpiles of highly enriched uranium (HEU) and plutonium. In 2011, the global stockpile of nuclear weapons is estimated at over 19,000 weapons.

The global stockpile of HEU is about  $1440 \pm 125$  tons, enough for more than 60,000 simple, first generation implosion fission weapons. The global stockpile of separated plutonium in 2011 is estimated at about  $495 \pm 10$  tons.

**Tim Wright, [Study Shows Three out of Four Countries Want a New Treaty to Eliminate Nuclear Weapons](#)**

January, 2012 - A [new study](#) examines the policies of 194 governments on the question of a nuclear weapons convention—a treaty to outlaw and eliminate nuclear weapons. It shows that 146, or roughly three-quarters, support the immediate commencement of negotiations leading to such a treaty.

**Global Zero Now: [Bicycle Tour for Nuclear Disarmament](#)**

Global Zero Now has issued an invitation to join them on their international bicycle tour to protest against the nuclear threat from May 17 - June 4. The tour starts with a rally to the European Command (EUCOM) in Stuttgart-Vaihingen, continuing from there to the German nuclear deployment site in Büchel. The next destinations are the nuclear deployment sites in the Netherlands and Belgium. The tour will end in Brussels at the NATO Headquarters.

**The Nuclear Resister - January 2012**

In its January 2012 e-bulletin, the Nuclear Resister reports on anti-war and anti-nuclear related arrests in the USA and elsewhere. >>> [Read more.](#)

AUSTRALIA

**ICAN Australia urges Prime Minister to support nuclear ban**

Jan.26, 2012 - ICAN Australia calls on the Prime Minister to support the endorsement of a nuclear weapons convention. This appeal has already been signed by 700 recipients of the Order of Australia, including foreign ministers, former prime ministers among other well-known personalities. Full list [here.](#)

SOUTH KOREA

**[South Korean Women's Statement on the 2012 Seoul Nuclear Security Summit](#)**

In an impassioned plea for peace, twenty-two women's organizations in South Korea make their case for a better world by asking for the banning of nuclear weapons and the closing down of power reactors in the region. 'We South Korean women believe nuclear weapons and power reactors are a matter of life or death. They threaten our lives, the lives of our families and all living creatures.'

UNITED STATES

**USA Today, [Hanford: America's nuclear nightmare](#)**

January 25, 2012 - P. Eisler reports that the US government faces enormous problems in building a treatment plant to stabilize and contain 56 million gallons of nuclear waste resulting from the first plutonium production during World War II. The project is both the most costly and the most complicated environmental cleanup ever attempted: its budget has tripled compare to the original estimates and the plant's start-up date has been delayed to 2019 because of design problems and concerns about the risk of an uncontrolled nuclear reaction inside the plant. Nuclear wastes are currently stored in underground tanks, which constitutes a high risk for the public and the environment in this area.

### **3. MISCELLANEOUS**

**IPB's annual Nobel nomination**

February 1, 2012 - For its annual Nobel nomination IPB has nominated the [Control Arms campaign](#), a worldwide civil society coalition launched in 2003 by Amnesty International, Oxfam and the International Action Network on Small Arms, in order to secure the adoption of an Arms Trade Treaty. Talks and negotiations on this topic have been proceeding at the UN for several years, and there is every hope that a successful outcome will be achieved at the conference in July. IPB is "convinced that the award of the Peace Prize to Control Arms would be entirely in conformity with the terms of Alfred Nobel's will." Individual Board members have also made nominations for: Federico Mayor; Gene Sharp; Cora & Peter Weiss.

**[IFOR's new International Coordinator](#)**

Dec. 21, 2011 - Francesco Candelari was appointed as the new International Coordinator of the [International Fellowship of Reconciliation](#) as from mid-January. He'll be in charge of the International Secretariat, located in Alkmaar (The Netherlands).

#### **International Crisis Group, Conflict Minerals in DRC**

Jan. 18, 2012 - Reports by the United Nations group of experts and several national and international NGOs have shown that natural resources were, and still are, fuelling conflict in Eastern DRC. For more information, read [ICG's new Key Issue page](#) on conflict minerals, detailing the current situation and what is being done to control it.

#### **IPB representative argues for Culture of Peace**

Jan. 19, 2012 - At UN Headquarters, Cora Weiss, IPB's UN representative, delivered a presentation on the Culture of Peace which was well received and led to a lively discussion. She highlighted the key elements required to build a culture of peace: ensuring human security, improving participation, and paying attention to unseen and unheard people. Moreover, she stressed that the number of death wasn't relevant to illustrate the need for a culture of peace: technology has led to clean wars, military spending is outrageous, and the circulation of small arms is hindering this peace culture.

#### **[Okinawa anti-bases delegation makes an impression in Washington, D.C.](#)**

January 30, 2012 - A 24-member delegation from Japan visited Washington, D.C; to oppose the presence and new construction of U.S. military bases in Okinawa.

#### **Craig Whitlock, [Philippines may allow greater US military presence in reaction to China's rise](#)**

January 25, 2012 - As a direct reaction to China's rise as a military power and its claims over disputed territories, the Philippines is negotiating with the Obama administration about expanding the American military presence in the island. These talks are a great opportunity for the USA which is seeking to strengthen its influence in the Asian region.

## **4. RESOURCES**

#### **[New Book: Alfred H. Fried \(German\)](#)**

A new biography ('Alfred H. Fried: Friedensaktivist - Nobelpreisträger') has been devoted to former IPB Council member Alfred H. Fried, who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1911 and was one of the leading figures of the early German-speaking peace movement. IPB held its council meeting in October 2011 in conjunction with a [symposium](#) on Alfred Fried. Together with Bertha von Suttner, responsible for the creation of the Permanent International Peace Bureau in 1891, he started a peace journal, called 'Die Waffen Nieder!' (Lay Down Your Arms).

#### **[Photo Essay: A Lethal Legacy — Small Arms Flows and Communities in Urban and Rural Kenya](#)**

In Africa, an estimated 100 million small arms and light weapons are in circulation fuelling ongoing conflict over resources in impoverished areas and exacerbating the impact of violent crime. The photo essay, by photographer Gwenn Dubourthoumieu, traces the trail of devastation left by small arms and armed violence in urban and rural Kenya, exemplifying global challenges.

#### **New Research Note from the Small Arms Survey: [Regulating Armed Groups from Within: A Typology](#)**

This research note looks at how internal regulations offer a key to understanding the dynamics of armed groups—and to curtailing their abuses. It provides a typology of different internal regulations, including oaths, standing orders, operation orders, military manuals, internal organization documents, and penal or disciplinary codes.

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