



# IPB News

March 2, 2012

INTERNATIONAL PEACE BUREAU

*Working for a World Without War*

## CONTENTS

1. DISARMAMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT
  - A MILITARY SPENDING
  - B IMPACTS OF WEAPONS ON DEVELOPMENT
2. NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT
3. MISCELLANEOUS
4. RESOURCES

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

Check out our website: <http://www.ipb.org>

Visit us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/ipb1910>

Follow us on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/IntlPeaceBureau>

For more information on the Global Day of Action on Military Spending : <http://www.demilitarize.org>

'Making Peace' Photo-exhibition <http://www.makingpeace.org>

New On-line course 'Disarmament for Development' Enrol now:

[http://www.uoc.edu/portal/english/campus\\_pau/formacio/ong/list.html](http://www.uoc.edu/portal/english/campus_pau/formacio/ong/list.html)

### 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.*

### SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT !

#### ON-LINE COURSE: DISARMAMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT, from March 27. OPEN FOR REGISTRATION

The new on-line course focussing on Disarmament for Development will now run from 27 March - 27 July 2012. It is organised by IPB and the [Open University of Catalonia](http://www.uoc.edu) (UOC). It will be open to adult students (university level or similar) from any part of the world. Language: English. 6 credits, 150 hours. Cost: 300 Euro. See details at: [http://www.uoc.edu/portal/english/campus\\_pau/formacio/ong/list.html](http://www.uoc.edu/portal/english/campus_pau/formacio/ong/list.html)

#### Content areas:

- ✓ Disarmament for development
- ✓ Military spending
- ✓ Military tools/weapons systems
- ✓ Military bases
- ✓ Developing D for D campaigns

These contents are based on books and other materials published or collected by the IPB since 2005.

We encourage you to pass this information on to persons or organisations who may have an interest in the subject matter, esp. those focussed on peace/conflicts, disarmament, social justice and development. Please include a reference to the course in your newsletter/calendar, and make a link to it on your website and in social media pages. Course Coordinator: Prof. Alicia Cabezudo, Universidad Nacional de Rosario, Argentina + IPB Vice-President. For more information or assistance write to: [secretariacp@uoc.ed](mailto:secretariacp@uoc.ed)

## A. MILITARY SPENDING

### Global Day of Action on Military Spending: April 17, 2012



IPB is co-organizing with the Institute for Policy Studies the second **Global Day of Action on Military Spending on April 17, 2012**. On this day, people all over the world will join together to protest against military expenditures.

#### Actions update

##### **SWITZERLAND: International Peace Bureau**

To mark the second Global Day of Action on Military Spending, we will launch an *International Appeal on Disarmament for Sustainable Development* on April 17th. This initiative is co-sponsored by the [International Network of Engineers and Scientists for Global Responsibility](#) and [Foreign Policy in Focus](#). In this appeal, we call on the governments meeting at the Earth Summit in June to agree on a global plan for disarmament and to use the freed-up funds for social, economic and ecological programs. Our aim is to find 500 well-known personalities to endorse the Appeal (if you have any suggestions, [contact us](#)).

**USA: Institute for Policy Studies in Washington, D.C.**, we've got plans underway for a Tax Day Walk of Shame. We'll stop by some of the Military Industrial Complex's biggest tax evading war profiteers and demand that they pay their share. We'll also stop by the National Group lobbying firm, which represents companies like Boeing, Lockheed Martin and General Dynamics, helping them strengthen their hold over the legislative process in Washington. And we can't forget the financial sector's involvement in the Military Industrial Complex. We'll hit up Bank of America and the U.S. Treasury to tell them just where to put those billions of dollars in low-interest loans and taxpayer guarantees: Into our Human Needs! Finally, our walk will start and end at the White House, where we'll tell President Obama that we'll believe in his change when we see it! His stated goal to cut military spending can be reached, but not if we roll over and accept that slower growth is the same thing as a budget cut! Contact: [noah.gimbel@gmail.com](mailto:noah.gimbel@gmail.com)

##### **NEW ZEALAND**

##### **Peace Movement Aotearoa, preparations for GDAMS 2012 are underway**

GDAMS 2012 coincides with the start of the [White Poppies for Peace Annual Appeal](#) which aims at finding scholarships for research into militarism, militarization and war.

#### **More actions [here!](#)**

If you're planning an event for GDAMS let us know!

##### **RIO +20 - United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development**

In June 2012, two months after GDAMS, the UN Conference on Sustainable Development will take place in Rio de Janeiro. It aims to address new and emerging challenges related to sustainable development. We are encouraging GDAMS partners to emphasize the link between Rio +20 issues and military spending. For more information on military spending and development check out [GDAMS February Newsletter](#).

**SIPRI, [Business as usual for top arms producers despite slowdown in arms sales](#)**

Feb. 27, 2012 - In its new release, the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute reveals that sales of arms and military services by the largest arms-producing companies continued to increase in 2010 to reach \$411.1 billion. It illustrates the fact that the arms industry is "shielded" from the financial crisis. See the Top 100 arms-producing and military services companies [here](#).

See also [EU arms trade booming despite crisis](#)

**RUSSIA**

**Associated Press, [Putin says Russia must replace nuclear weapons](#)**

Feb. 20, 2012 - Prime Minister Vladimir Putin advocates Russia must replace its Soviet-built arsenals with modern weapons to counter new evolving threats. He presents a new military spending plan, which includes: 28 new submarines, 50 surface ships, 100 military satellites, 400 new intercontinental ballistic missiles, 600 helicopters, 600 new war planes and 2,300 tanks. This declaration is part of his strategy to earn the support of the military defense industry for the presidential election.

See also [Putin says Russia needs strong military](#) and [Russia's Prime Minister Vows military spending hike](#)

**CANADA**

**Kenneth Epps, [What is the value of Canada's annual arms exports?](#)**

The author reports that estimates about Canadian annual value of arms exports vary from \$285 million to \$5,000 million. For him, it is therefore impossible to accurately calculate Canadian military exports .

**FRANCE**

**Mouvement de la Paix, [Bringing the issue of disarmament into French election political debate \(in French\)](#)**

In April and June 2012, there will be two major elections in France. In this context, [Le Mouvement de la Paix](#) is organizing two national days of actions on nuclear weapons abolition and military spending cuts, as well as meetings with candidates to promote a culture of peace.

**UNITED STATES**

**Mike Prokosch, [Let's put the Pentagon on a diet!](#)**

Feb. 6, 2012 - Mike Prokosch pledges that instead of imposing drastic cuts on states and cities, which has a negative impact on Americans' well-being (with the closing of libraries, schools, bus routes, etc), the Congress should "starve the beast" and stop wasting money on, useless but expensive, military programs.

**Tri-Valley Cares, [SANE Act to cut Nuke spending](#)**

Feb. 8, 2012 - 35 members of Congress introduced a bill, named the [Smarter Approach to Nuclear Expenditures \(SANE\) Act](#). It aims at canceling, freezing, and reducing more than a dozen costly nuclear programs. It would cut about \$100 billion from nuclear weapons programs over ten years.

**Tony Capaccio and Gopal Ratnam, [Pentagon takes \\$1.6 billion from Lockheed F-35 jet in biggest defense cut](#)**

Feb. 13, 2012 - The Defense Department is planning to cut \$1.6 billion from the F-35 program by eliminating 13 planned aircraft, part of \$18 billion in weapons cuts proposed in the budget sent to Congress by Obama.

**Robert Burns, [Deep cuts to US arsenal](#)**

Feb. 14, 2012 - The Obama administration is weighing options for future cuts in nuclear weapons, including a reduction of up to 80% in the number of deployed weapons.

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

### **Control Arms: Arms talks rescued from near derailment**

Feb. 18, 2012 - Progress toward the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) was nearly derailed over disagreement about decision making and civil society access. Indeed, during the fourth and final PrepCom of the ATT, conflict arose between States around the rule of consensus: some countries understand consensus as giving every country the right to veto, and others see it as a broad agreement amongst a large majority. The final document on the Rules of Procedure allows a mix of consensus and majority voting and provides for NGO access to the July negotiations. More information on [Control Arms website](#).

### **Related topics: [Control Arms Global Parliamentarian Declaration on the Arms Trade Treaty](#)**

More than 125 new members of Parliament from around the world have signed the Control Arms Global Parliamentarian Declaration on the ATT.

### **[UN officials call for comprehensive and robust arms trade treaty](#)**

Feb. 16, 2012 - During the final preparatory meeting of the conference on the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), UN humanitarian, development and human rights organizations delivered a speech presenting the key elements that must be included in the ATT in order to address the human cost of the weapons trade.

### **UNDP, Human Development Report: Recognition of WINAD, IANSA women in Trinidad and Tobago**

UNDP has invited WINAD to be one of its champions for the very first Caribbean Human Development Report themed "Human Development and the Shift to Better Citizen Security". It analyses the impact of insecurity and violence on human development, within the development context of Caribbean Small Island Developing States. The Caribbean HDR also provides recommendations on how to better address insecurity and violence. To read the report go [here](#).

### **International peace activists support locals in challenge to Korean/US base**

The anti nuclear campaign group [Trident Ploughshares](#), founded by Angie Zelter - MacBride Peace Prize recipient in 1997, is supporting, among other international groups and individuals, villagers in their fight to stop the building of a US nuclear base on Jeju, nicknamed the "Island of World Peace". On February 24-26, the [Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space](#) organized a conference in Gangjeong village on the theme "Jeju for Island of Peace". Activists from all over the world discussed the controversial missile defense deployments in the island. More information on Jeju islanders' resistance [here](#).

### **International Coalition to Ban Uranium Weapons, [Studies on depleted uranium biological effects](#)**

[ICBUW](#) has just posted two presentations on depleted uranium's biological effects. The first one is based on in vivo (animal) studies; the second one is based on in vitro studies (test tube). Both support the argument that depleted uranium is biologically harmful.

### **Explosive Remnants of War**

#### **SWITZERLAND :[ATS, Tons of munitions stored inside Swiss Lakes](#) (in French)**

Feb. 3, 2012 - Until 1967, the Swiss army had dumped 8,210 tons of munitions in several lakes. Recently, the authorities renounced the option of taking them out because the process was considered too dangerous for the environment. Another round of discussions will be held in 2016.

#### **RELATED STORIES: (1) US Dep. of State, [Dangerous depots: the growing humanitarian problem posed by aging and poorly maintained munitions storage sites](#)**

Jan. 23, 2012 - Since the 1990s, there have been an increasing number of catastrophic explosions at arms storage facilities. This fact-sheet sheds light on the vital role of proper maintenance, storage and safeguarding of conventional weapons and munitions. It lists the major accidents at munitions depots from 1995 to 2011 in order to illustrate the dangers of this type of storage, which has the potential to create more casualties on an annual basis than landmines and explosive remnants of war.

**(2) ITALY: Carla Goffi and Ria Verjauw, Sardinia: "the trash of the military and weapons industry"**

Several areas in Sardinia have been used for military and industrial activities linked with weapons testing and the destruction of old weapons arsenals. In this report, the authors present their conclusions following their visit in Sardinia and their interviews with the different stakeholders (families, experts, authorities). They highlight the effect of weapons testing and the destruction of unutilized stocks of weapons on the island and its inhabitants. For more information contact [Carla Goffi](#), Mouvement Chrétien pour la paix.

## **2. NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT**

**Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (PNDD), [Support diplomacy, not force, to prevent nuclear proliferation in the Middle East](#)**

[PNDD](#) is calling for actions in order to support the UN-sponsored diplomatic approach to prevent nuclear proliferation in the Middle East, including the 2012 Conference on Establishing a Middle East Zone Free from Nuclear Weapons and all other Weapons of Mass Destruction. Report any actions you take to [alyn@pnnd.org](mailto:alyn@pnnd.org). The Joint Parliamentary Statement for a Middle East Zone Free from Nuclear Weapons and all other Weapons Of Mass Destruction is available [here](#).

**Thalif Deen, [Peace activists push for nuke abolition summit in 2015](#)**

Feb. 13, 2012 - A coalition of anti-nuclear peace activists and NGOs is launching a global campaign for a summit meeting of world leaders calling for the abolition of nuclear weapons in 2015. It has been proposed by [Soka Gakkai International](#) to organize this summit in Hiroshima and Nagasaki in order to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the nuclear bombings. This campaign is consistent with other NGO initiatives that are promoting the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, such as Mayors for Peace [2000 vision campaign](#), [Hiroshima for Global Peace Plan](#).

**Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, [Doomsday clock moves 1 minute closer to midnight](#)**

Jan. 10, 2012 - As political processes seem inadequate to make progress on nuclear weapons reduction and proliferation, and address climate change, the [Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists](#) has decided to move the hands of its Doomsday Clock to five minutes to midnight.

### **ARGENTINA**

**Rory Carroll, [Argentina accuses the UK of deploying nuclear weapons near Falkland Islands](#)**

Feb.10, 2012 - Argentina claims the UK has created a major security risk by sending a nuclear-armed submarine to the South Atlantic near the disputed Falkland Islands. Argentina's foreign minister has highlighted the fact that this region is covered by a nuclear prohibition treaty. The UK refuses to discuss the claims. These events occur while the tensions between the two countries have recently risen with the approach of the 30th anniversary of the Falklands conflict. **See also [Falklands dispute: Britain dismisses "militarizing" claims, Argentina claim "information" on nuclear weapons](#)**

### **JAPAN**

**The Mainichi Daily News, [12,000 rally in Tokyo against nuclear power](#)**

Feb. 12, 2012 - An antinuclear civic group led by Nobel literature laureate Kenzaburo Oe and other celebrities held rallies in Tokyo and Niigata Prefecture to call for the abolition of nuclear reactors in the aftermath of radiation leaks at the Fukushima No. 1 power plant.

## **3. MISCELLANEOUS**

**Institute for Public Accuracy, [Nobel Peace Prize Jury under investigation](#)**

Feb. 1, 2012 - The Nobel Foundation has been asked to respond to allegations that the Peace Prize no longer reflects the will of its founder Alfred Nobel. According to Norwegian peace researcher Fredrik

Heffermehl, the prize committee has forgotten the original purpose of the prize, which was to decrease the role of military power in international relations, and has widened the scope of the prize to include environmental, humanitarian and other efforts.

See also from Associated Press [Nobel Peace Prize Jury under investigation as deadline closes](#).

### **2012: Celebrating the International Criminal Court's 10th Anniversary**

On 1 July 2002, the Rome statute entered into force, creating the first permanent international court to prosecute war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide. The ICC's 10th anniversary is a symbolic milestone that will be celebrated throughout 2012. [The Coalition for the ICC](#) invites its members and partners to share their ideas or documents relevant for the planning of the celebration. Suggestions can be sent to [advocacy@coalitionfortheicc.org](mailto:advocacy@coalitionfortheicc.org)

### **INES ANNUAL REPORT 2011**

The International Network of Engineers and Scientists for Global Responsibility is dedicated to the abolition of nuclear weapons, the promotion of responsible and sustainable use of science and technology and the implementation of ethical principles in science education. The report sums up the activities of INES in order to apply conscience to the work of scientists and engineers and to awaken citizens everywhere to the urgent need to use science and engineering for constructive rather than destructive purposes.

### **Global movement to create a non violent world launched**

On 11 Nov. 2011, 93 years after the armistice of WW1, the People's Charter to Create a Nonviolent World was launched. The movement aims at ending violence in all of its forms. The Charter is available [here](#).

### **Vacancy: Secretary-General of Pax Christi International**

Pax Christi International is in search of a new Secretary General who will be based at the Pax Christi International Secretariat in Brussels (Belgium).

### **New website: Network for a NATO-Free Future**

The Network for a NATO-Free Future was established to oppose and to take advantage of the NATO and G-8 summits to be held in Chicago May 19-21. It calls for complete withdrawal of all US and NATO troops from Afghanistan; the withdrawal of all foreign deployed US troops/ bases/ nuclear weapons/ missiles defenses; substantial reductions in US and NATO military spending to fund our communities and to meet human needs; the restitution of the UN Charter and International Law as means of resolving international disputes; and an end to NATO.

## **4. RESOURCES**

### **ISRAEL**

#### **New Profile - Movement for the Civil-ization of Israeli Society, [Making militarism visible](#)**

This powerful and pedagogical online exhibition aims at providing the viewer with an understanding of how Israeli society perceives and justifies its military mindsets. It also highlights how the presence of guns is part of daily life including in education, parenting, gender roles and advertising.

#### **John Gittings, [The Glorious Art of Peace - from the Iliad to Iraq](#)**

John Gittings, former Guardian journalist, demolishes the myth that peace is dull and that war is in our genes. He provides a comprehensive history of the arts of peace, from ancient times to the 21st century.

#### **Lawrence S. Wittner, [Working for Peace and Justice - Memoirs of an Activist Intellectual](#)**

In this absorbing memoir, Wittner traces the dramatic course of a life and career that took him from a Brooklyn boyhood in the 1940s and 1950s to an education at Columbia University and the University of

Wisconsin to the front lines of peace activism, the fight for racial equality, and the struggles of the labor movement. Author of the monumental 3-volume global history *The Struggle Against the Bomb*.

**Andrew Brown, [Keeper of the Nuclear Conscience - the life and work of Joseph Rotblat](#)**

A fascinating biography covering all aspects of the life of scientist and peace activist Joseph Rotblat: from his work as a Polish-Jewish nuclear scientist working on the Manhattan Project, to becoming one of the prime architects of the anti-nuclear movement, a founder of Pugwash, and a Nobel peace laureate.

**UNIDIR, [Resources on the Arms Trade Treaty](#)**

UNIDIR's resource list collects relevant conferences and publications which address the importance of establishing a legally binding instrument on common international standards for the transfer of conventional arms. It is a toolbox for anyone interested in supporting the preparatory process of the ATT.

**New Report: Institute for Economics and Peace, [Economic Consequences of War on the US Economy](#)**

This report analyses the macro-economic effects of government spending on war and the military since World War II. It summarizes the effect of financing the wars on consumption, investment, taxes, government deficits and inflation by examining 5 periods - World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars.

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