



IPB News

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INTERNATIONAL PEACE BUREAU

Working for a world without war

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

IPB has 7 websites!

MAIN SITE: <http://www.ipb.org>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/ipb1910>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/IntlPeaceBureau>

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

+ Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/home.php?sk=group_100733129991763

+ Twitter: <http://twitter.com/#!/globalday412>

'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

IPB Special Report

Occupy Wall Street: Demands to End War and Cut Military Spending



The Occupy Wall Street movement has defied all those predicting its early demise, exploding from a small protest into a worldwide movement. On October 15th, protests were held from North and South America to Asia, Africa and Europe, with over 1,500 events in 82 countries. A part of these protests was directed against super-sized military budgets (particularly in the US). They called attention to the unfairness of ever-higher military spending while spending on social welfare institutions and programmes is being cut. [>>>Read More](#)

Global Day of Action on Military Spending: [Newsletter September 2011](#)

The September 2011 Newsletter of the Global Day of Action on Military Spending (GDAMS) highlights recent developments re military budgets and bases in several countries. Foreign Policy in Focus contributors present up-to-date figures and an overview of key developments. While budgetary constraints, coupled with increasing popular pressure, have highlighted the need for military cuts in the US and Western Europe, only certain Western European countries have actually achieved reductions. Latin America and Africa, meanwhile, have seen notable increases in military budgets. The next edition will have news on the 2012 GDAMS. Back issues of GDAMS Newsletters and other activities on GDAMS are available [here](#).

UNITED STATES

Thom Shanker, [Global Arms Sales Dropped Sharply in 2010, Study Finds](#)

September 23, 2011 - The ability of the world's governments to buy new military hardware was sharply curtailed last year by strains on their national treasuries, according to a [report by the Congressional Research Service](#). Worldwide arms sales in 2010 totaled \$40.4 billion, a drop of 38 percent from 2009 levels and the lowest total since 2003. The United States remained the largest weapons supplier, and was also the main source of weapons to the developing world. See also ["Worldwide Weapons Sales 'Dropped' in 2010"](#).

UNITED STATES

[Peace Action: Send Suggestions on Military Spending Cuts to Super Committee](#)

The Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction ("Super Committee") begins hearings this week on the next round of federal budget cuts. The Super Committee has now setup its own 'suggestion box' for the public. Peace Action encourages you to visit the [Deficit Reduction Suggestion Box](#) and to demand cuts in Pentagon spending.

[Reaching Critical Will: First Committee Monitor \(Preview\)](#)

October 3, 2011 – The UN General Assembly First Committee on Disarmament and International Security is taking place from 3 Oct to 1 Nov 2011 in New York. Reaching Critical Will's First

Committee Monitor provides information to the First Committee's proceedings [here](#). The monitor criticizes the current pursuit of military security ahead of human security, investing vast sums in weapons and war while billions of people live in poverty. Texts include a report on the UNGA debate, the need to revitalize multilateral disarmament negotiations, the CCW, and an outlook on 2012.

UNITED KINGDOM

Simon Goodley, [BAE Systems Plans to Cut 3'000 More Jobs as Defence Budgets Are Squeezed](#)

September 25, 2011 - BAE's cost-cutting programme led to the loss of 15,000 jobs worldwide over the past two years, and it now plans to further cut 3'000 jobs. Most affected will be its Lancashire division, which builds the Eurofighter Typhoon jet. BAE's chief executive, Ian King, said in February that "customer budgetary pressures" resulted in significant cost and headcount reductions in 2009 and 2010, and that reduced UK govt. spending would reinforce this trend.

UNITED KINGDOM

Nick Hopkins, [Libya Conflict May Cost UK £1.75bn](#)



September 25, 2011 - The true cost of the UK's involvement in the Libya conflict could be as high as £1.75bn (\$2.7bn) – almost seven times more than government estimates. Research by Francis Tusa, editor of Defence Analysis and a respected defence analyst, suggests that the government has given a misleading picture of the costs of supporting the military operation, now in its seventh month, leading to demands for a proper spending breakdown. The data is available [here](#).

B IMPACTS OF WEAPONS ON DEVELOPMENT

UNITED STATES

Jim Lobe, [Obama Waives Aid Curbs on Militaries Using Child Soldiers](#)

October 5, 2011 - For the second year in a row, U.S. President Obama has waived a Congressionally-mandated ban on military aid for four countries that use child soldiers in their armed forces. Chad, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Yemen and the newly independent nation of South Sudan are slated to receive a total of more than 200 million dollars in military aid in 2012. Human Rights Watch criticized this decision as showing "a lack of leadership and a disregard for U.S. law".

INDIA

Armed Violence in India: Costs, Priorities, and the Geography of Murder

The [India Armed Violence Assessment](#) (IAVA), a project of the Small Arms Survey, has released two Issue Briefs that analyze the subject of armed violence in India. The first, "[India's States of Armed Violence: Assessing the Human Cost and Political Priorities](#)", gives an overview of the types of violence and the regional nature of armed violence. The second, "[Mapping Murder: the](#)

[Geography of Indian Firearm Fatalities](#)", specifically analyses crimes involving firearms, focusing on the number of people killed annually by gunfire.

Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development: [2nd Ministerial Review Conference](#)

The [Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development](#) is a diplomatic initiative launched by Switzerland and now supported by 109 states which aims to achieve measurable reductions in the global burden of armed violence in conflict and non-conflict settings. It emphasizes the global nature of armed violence: while war-related violence attracts much attention in the media, in reality far more people die as a result of armed violence in countries not formally at war.

The Geneva Declaration will hold its 2nd Ministerial Review Conference in Geneva on October 31st and November 1st, focusing on national and international efforts to reduce the negative effects of armed violence on development, and on assessing progress concerning the process and implementation of the Geneva Declaration. Meeting attendance is by invitation only.

Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction: [Eleventh Meeting of the States Parties \(11MSP\)](#)

The 11MSP will take place in Phnom Penh from 28 Nov – 2 Dec. 2011. Cambodia remains one of the most mine affected countries in the world, so it is a chance to show that the human tragedy caused by mines is an issue we still live with today. The 11MSP, therefore, can be our springboard to further action and an opportunity to state that the commitment to this cause will not end until the task is complete. More information about the Meeting can be found on the International Campaign to Ban Landmines' [website](#), and on the Anti-personnel Mine Ban Convention's [website](#).

CANADA

Project Ploughshares: [The Ploughshares Monitor, Autumn 2011](#)

Project Ploughshares' quarterly journal is now available [here](#). The leading article draws attention to threats facing the Convention on Cluster Munitions. Article 21, intended to allow signatory states to engage in military operations with non-signatory states, may allow states to implement legislation during the ratification process that would undermine the Convention. A further threat is that the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons may produce its own, significantly weaker, text on Cluster Munitions that would similarly undermine the goal of banning Cluster Munitions. Other reports cover nuclear elimination in Canada, tracking Canadian arms exports to Darfur, S. Sudan's emergence into statehood, relations between Iran and Pakistan, and Canadian

forces in Libya.



ZIMBABWE

[Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition: The Military Factor in Zimbabwe's Political and Electoral Affairs](#)

This report provides empirical evidence of the omnipresent, partisan and politicized nature of the military in the socio-political governance

Zimbabwe and how this toxic role is blocking Zimbabwe's democratic political transition. The use of the military to unleash terror in the electorate is Clausewitzian—it is aimed to deliver the political objective of keeping ZANU-PF in power and therefore the violence strategy is not random, it has a specific purpose. The report details the gradual militarization of electoral institutions, and the military's interference in electoral affairs.

2. NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

2011 World Conference against A&H Bombs

The 2011 World Conference took place in Hiroshima and Nagasaki on Aug. 3rd- 9th under the title of "A Nuclear Weapon-Free, Peaceful and Just World". It called for a start of negotiations for a nuclear weapon convention and set out actions to build up public support. An International Meeting on August 3rd to 5th included 250 delegates; the Declaration of that meeting is available [here](#).

Abolition 2000 Annual General Conference and International Conference of the [International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons \(ICAN\)](#)

On September 16th to 19th, Abolition 2000's Annual General Conference and the International Conference of ICAN took place in Geneva. Both events served to address the pressing need to reduce and abolish nuclear weapons, and discussed ways to achieve this aim. Reports of the ICAN conference and its presentations are available [here](#), and the program of Abolition's 2000 meeting is online [here](#). Abolition 2000 formed new working groups on: Economic Dimensions, Youth and Disarmament, and Indigenous Peoples' Issues, among others.

JAPAN

Gensuikyo: 1,029,031 Signatures for a Total Ban on Nuclear Weapons Submitted to UN General Assembly

The Japan Council against A and H Bombs (Gensuikyo) sent a 16-member delegation to the UN in New York on Oct. 2-9 and submitted 1,029,031 signatures for a total ban on nuclear weapons to Amb. Jarmo Viinainen, chair of the First Committee and Mr. Sergio Duarte, High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, on Oct. 5. The signature campaign in support of the "Appeal for a Total Ban on Nuclear Weapons" was launched on February 15, 2011, and its efforts continued despite difficulties caused by the East Japan earthquake, tsunami and Fukushima nuclear power plant disaster.>>>[More](#)

Global Article 9 Campaign to Abolish War: [September 2011 Newsletter \(#44\)](#)

The September Newsletter of the Global Article 9 Campaign to Abolish War gives an overview of its recent activities and developments in the field of war and nuclear abolition. The organizers of large-scale protests against nuclear power in Japan have launched a [petition](#) calling on the government to close existing nuclear power plants. The Japan-based international NGO Peace Boat announced the holding of a [Global Conference for a Nuclear Power Free World](#) in Japan early next year.

Ray Acheson, [Reaching Critical Will Report](#) on the High-level Meeting on Nuclear Safety and

Security

September 22, 2011 - UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon called for a high-level meeting (HLM) on nuclear safety and security, which he envisioned as a global debate on the future of nuclear energy, including “a new cost-benefit analysis of nuclear energy”. The meeting convened on 22 September, however, fell very far short of such a debate. The majority of delegations that took the floor during the HLM reiterated the importance of nuclear power for meeting their countries’ energy needs, although many states did highlight the grave dangers. [Reaching Critical Will](#) resources available [here](#).

UNITED KINGDOM

[Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament \(CND\): Trident, Jobs – and the UK Economy](#)

The CND has launched a new Trident briefing: [The Great Trident Job Threat](#). It lays to rest the misunderstanding that Trident (replacing Britain’s nuclear weapons system) is good for jobs and clearly demonstrates that the only choice for employment and growth is to scrap the Trident program. This draws on the results of CND research ([Trident, Jobs - and the UK Economy](#)) examining the employment consequences of Trident replacement. The report shows that Trident replacement will cost more jobs than it generates.

UNITED STATES

Federation of American Scientists (FAS) : [Letter](#) Urges Super Committee to Reduce Nuclear Weapons Spending

October 11, 2011 - FAS joined 48 organizations in signing a letter to US Representatives asking them to cosign Representative Markey’s letter to members of the Super Committee. Markey’s letter urges Super Committee members to increase U.S. security by reducing spending on outdated and unaffordable nuclear weapons programs. Additionally, this letter of support offers specific suggestions to Congress on how to scale back new nuclear weapons programs and help close the budget deficit.

Nuclear Age Peace Foundation: [The Sunflower Newsletter](#)

The Sunflower is a monthly e-newsletter resource providing news, information and analysis on nuclear and international security issues. The October 2011 issue covers recent issues of nuclear weapons policy and production, such as the tons of US-supplied nuclear weapons material that went missing after being exported. It also presents a report of the annual General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, several resources useful for activists, and an overview of the Foundation’s recent activities.

Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) [Statement](#) on the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT)

September 23, 2011 - States are gathering in New York at CTBT’s Seventh Article XIV Conference in New York to discuss how to facilitate the entry into force of the CTBT. WILPF has supported these efforts since the first such conference in 1999, but has made it clear that it opposes not just nuclear weapons testing, but also their design, development, deployment, and modernization. WILPF therefore strongly criticizes the CTBT’s loophole which enables nuclear weapon states to

undermine the CTBT's stated objectives of disarmament and the prevention of further nuclear weapon modernization and subsequent arms races.

Finland to Host 2012 Conference on WMD Free Zone in the Middle East

October 15, 2011 - Finland has been designated as the host country for the planned conference in 2012 on a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East. UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and representatives from the USA, Russia, and UK announced the decision on Oct. 14th in New York. At the NPT Review in May 2010, the conference emerged as the one condition that would allow consensus on a final document, but is judged by many experts to be extremely difficult to realize.

3. MISCELLANEOUS

IPB congratulates Nobel Peace Prize laureates Leymah Gbowee, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf and Tawakkul Karman



7 October, 2011 - IPB sees the prize not only as an accolade for these three individuals, but also for the thousands of women who over the years and the decades and in all parts of the world have courageously raised their voices for peace, for human rights and for democratic processes – far too often without being heard by male-dominated powers. The prize this year gives long-overdue recognition to the strength of African

women, and encourages the many Arab women who are in pursuit of gender justice as well as democracy.... IPB's statement is available in full [here](#).

IPB Council Meeting and Peace-History Symposium in Potsdam (Oct. 28 – 30)

The IPB 2011 Council Meeting will take place in Potsdam, Germany, from October 28th to 30th. A timetable of events is available [here](#). The meeting is combined with a peace-history [symposium](#) on the Austrian Alfred Fried. He is one of the 13 Nobel Peace Prize winners associated with the Bureau, and the symposium intends to honor his work on the centenary of his Nobel Prize of 1911.

Wangari Maathai, [obituary](#)

September 25, 2011 - Wangari Maathai, the Kenyan environmentalist and Nobel peace prize winner, died of cancer aged 71. Her remarkable work began with the realization that communities were destroying their own resources. In 1977, she set up the Green Belt movement, and its tree-planting activities turned the tree into a symbol for the democratic struggle in Kenya. The movement became a way of challenging widespread abuses of power, corruption and environmental mismanagement. Increasingly she sided with the world's poorest people, becoming a hero of the worldwide ecological and African democracy movements. A picture gallery of her life and work is available [here](#).

Paul Rogers, Every Casualty: The Human Face of War

Sept 15, 2011 - The idea of recording, identifying and acknowledging each individual victim of

armed conflict - and holding to account those responsible - extends the principles underlying the laws of war. Yet in the higher reaches of almost every army engaged in war, a different attitude persists, where casualties are not or only reluctantly reported. Rogers argues that the recording, identifying and acknowledgment of “every casualty of armed violence” is an idea whose time has come.

World Peace Festival 2011

August 20-27, 2011 - The inaugural World Peace Festival in Berlin was proud to host an [international peace conference](#) on August 26 – 27, one of the largest peace events to date. For the first time it united leading representatives from politics, military, civil society and business to address and discuss systemic, holistic and sustainable solutions for global peace building. The conference was preceded by an arts and cultural program and film festival which were open to the general public.

Fellowship of Reconciliation USA: Militarism Watch

Militarism Watch works to increase the capacity in social change movements and academia for research that serves activism and campaigns against US militarization at home and abroad. [Militarism Watch](#) produces handouts and other resources to help increase skills on research. Aspiring and experienced researchers are invited to be project members, to learn and share skills, and to share the results of their research into aspects of U.S. militarization.

London 2012: Britain Sets Olympic Record for UN Truce Call

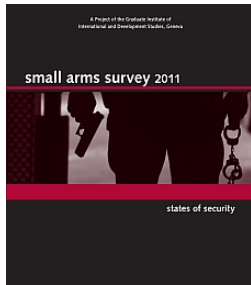
October 18, 2012 - Britain has set an early Olympic record by getting all 193 UN member states to sponsor the traditional call for a truce during the London 2012 Games. The resolution is available [here](#). The Olympic truce dates back to the 9th Century BC, where it broke the constant cycle of war between Greek city states. The custom was revived through UN resolutions in 1992 as a symbolic gesture, albeit one that is often violated. Whether Britain’s record translates into world peace during the 2012 Games is therefore questionable.

Report: Workshop on Gender, Peace, and Security

The Programme on Gender and Global Change of the Graduate Institute, Geneva organized a workshop on September 27 titled “What if Patriarchy Is the Big Picture?”. Three panels discussed the subjects of gender equality in pre-conflict, conflict, and post-conflict environments. Additionally, a roundtable discussion was held to consider future opportunities for convergence between academics and practitioners on the subjects of gender, peace and security. The report is available [here](#).

4. RESOURCES

Small Arms Survey 2011



The *2011 Small Arms Survey: States of Security* considers the growth of the private security industry and its firearms holdings worldwide; private security use by multinational corporations; emerging weapons technology; legislative controls over civilian possession of firearms; and trade in small arms and light weapons. The small arms trade is estimated at nearly \$7.1 billion per year. Case studies provide original research on ongoing security challenges in Côte d'Ivoire, Haiti, and Madagascar.

Digital Updates on Arms Trade

Participants in the "War Profiteering and Peace Movement Responses" [conference](#) held in Barcelona Sept 29 - Oct.2, 2011 agreed to share info on different aspects of militarism. The following links provide information and updates on the arms trade and the armament industry:

Campagne tegen Wapenhandel (English version), information on the international arms trade:

<http://stopwapenhandel.org/English> and facebook page:

<http://www.facebook.com/stopwapenhandel>

European Network Against Arms Trade, information on the European arms trade and arms production: ENAAT-subscribe@yahoogroups.com (subscribe),

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ENAAT/> (mailing list webpage)

Drone Wars UK, weblog on drones: <http://dronewarsuk.wordpress.com/>

Boycott, Divestment & Sanctions, military rels. with Israel: Armstrade@lists.bdsmovement.net,

<https://lists.mayfirst.org/mailman/listinfo/armstrade> (mailing list)

War Resisters' International, war profiteers' news: http://wri-irg.org/publications/war_profiteers (online newsletter), <http://lists.wri-irg.org/sympa/info/warprofiteersnews> (mailing list)

International Peace Bureau, Global Day of Action on Military Spending, campaigns on military spending: <http://www.ipb.org/>, <http://www.demilitarize.org/>

Andrew Feinstein, "The Shadow World: Inside the Global Arms Trade"

Feinstein's new [book](#) reveals the corruption and the cover-ups behind weapons deals ranging from the largest in history - between the British and Saudi governments - to BAE's controversial transactions in South Africa, Tanzania and eastern Europe, and the revolving-door relationships that characterize the US Congressional-Military-Industrial Complex. Desmond Tutu praised it as "peeling back the veil of secrecy behind which the global arms trade undermines accountable democracy, socio-economic development, and human rights, causing suffering across the world."

[International Action Network on Small Arms \(IANSA\) Women's Network: Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation Manual "Make Room for Peace"](#)

October 4, - The IANSA Women's Network, focused on the connections between gender,

women's rights, small arms and armed violence, draws attention to a new publication by the [Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation](#), "*Make Room for Peace – a guide to women's participation in peace processes*". It provides practical assistance to third parties aiming at supporting sustainable peace processes. The recommendations apply to both national and international stakeholders. The manual can also be used as a tool for women's organizations advocating women's participation. It is available [here](#) in Arabic, English, French, Russian and Swedish.

Keith McHenry, "Hungry for Peace", The Food Not Bombs Movement



This new book passionately makes the case for taking action to end hunger, poverty and war. It provides shocking evidence that our future is in peril if we sit by and do nothing. It contains practical information on how to start a local Food Not Bombs group, how to organize meetings, tours, gatherings and successful campaigns of nonviolent direct action. It is available for download [here](#). The [Food Not Bombs Movement](#) has worked for nearly 30 years to end hunger and has supported actions to stop the globalization of the economy, and end restrictions to the movements of people, exploitation and the destruction of the earth.

Movement for the Abolition of War: New Movies

Movement for Abolition of War (UK) now has four 15-minute DVDs as well as their own [War No More](#), which comes with teacher's notes. They were made in Czechoslovakia between 1959 and 1982 at a time when Europe was still divided. But still today they are ideal as discussion-starters. *'The Big If'* shows how the world could meet the challenges of hunger and sickness if only we redirected the vast sums spent on our global military to better uses. Contact their London address for more info...>>>[here for the New Movies](#)

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