From: <<u>w.de.vries@stopwapenhandel.org</u>> Date: Thu, Jan 19, 2023 at 11:38 AM Subject: [climatesecurity] Invite to London for antimilitarist action on 21st April To: Climatesecurity <<u>climatesecurity@lists.riseup.net</u>>

From Angie <<u>reforest@gn.apc.org</u>> XRpeace <<u>xrpeace@gn.apc.org</u>>

Dear Friends in the Anti-Militarist and Peace movements. And please network this to other peace groups!

I am writing to request your solidarity and presence in London from 21st April 2023 onwards. It has been some time since we have asked for such support. When the European anti-militarist network was more active we often came to each other's aid and support and were active in many European countries – maybe you remember our 'War Starts Here Lets Stop It Here' actions?

Many social change movements are coming together to surround the UK Parliament from 21st April for as long as we can and for at least 10 days but hopefully for 100 days. We need internationals and especially Europeans to join us as policy changes here in London (one of the major global financial centres) affect everyone and you can can talk about this from your perspectives much better than us. You will be able to talk to the press and join us in peoples' assemblies that will take place during the event.

The UK peace movement will be part of this surrounding of the UK Parliament. You can see our XR Peace website and especially our invite to our XR Peace member organisations at

https://xrpeace.org/2022/12/23/april-2023-surround-westminster-with-demands-for-a-sustainable-future/). XR Peace is now inviting you, our international peace colleagues, to join us. Please come.

Extinction Rebellion initiated this project under the name of 'The Big One' but alliance building has now spread and the name is likely to change to something more self-explanatory like 'Act Now For The Planet' or 'Build a fair and sustainable world'. The event will be co-owned by many different groups including those working on climate justice, debt relief, refugee support, ransforming the money and financial structures, public ownership not private profit, democratisation, human rights, de-intensification of farming, renewable energy, anti-militarisation, civil rights, etc etc. All of these issues, and many more, are linked by underlying concerns for the future of life on our planet. This is our chance to bring us all together to demand our right to a peaceful and sustainable world.

XR Peace groups are now beginning to mobilise as we want a conspicuous presence with our demands for stopping wars, arms trade and militarisation and why this matters for the climate and biodiversity.

Please spread the word and if you are willing to come to London let us know so we can be in discussion with you and so you can join in our planning and decision making. We will, of course, be helping to find accommodation and other practicalities once we know what the take up will be.

We are also in the process of deciding on the 2 or 3 demands that the peace and anti-militarist movement will add to the list of joint demands that each social change movement will be adding to the demands being sent to the UK Parliament. If you have suggestions to go into the pot please send them to us.

For more information please contact me at <u>xrpeace@gn.apc.org</u>, love and peace, Angie Zelter.

Angie Zelter's latest book can be seen at http://tridentploughshares.org/activism-for-life-a-new-book-by-angie-zelter/

"Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies,in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed. This world in arms is not spending money alone. It is spending the sweat of its laborers, the genius of its scientists, the hopes of its children." Dwight D. Eisenhower

McSorley explained that, "The taproot of violence in our society today is our intention to use nuclear weapons. Once we have agreed to that, all other evil is minor in comparison. Until we squarely face the question of our consent to use nuclear weapons, any hope of large scale improvement of public morality is doomed to failure."

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