

A Publication of the
Alliance for Democracy

Vol 7, #3

Fall 2023

Justice Rising

Grassroots Solutions to Corporate Power

Establishing Peace *In a World Without War: Part Two*

Virtually all warfare on the planet is now directed by space technology.

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Today's corporate media downplay the human cost of war.

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A peaceful way of living fosters mutual respect and accountability.

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We must take waging peace at least as seriously as the military takes waging war.

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Peace is order based on law.

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World governance is akin to rival criminal "families," or perhaps war lords.

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I am talking about not merely peace in our time, but peace for all time.

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We seriously need to rethink our national security.

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***"The issue is not issues, the issue is the system."* — Ronnie Dugger**

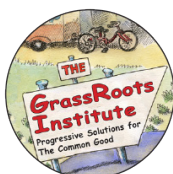


Alliance for Democracy (AfD). Since 1996, AfD has promoted systemic changes focused on liberating our culture, economy and politics from corporate domination and oppressive policies of the wealthy class. Those policies are destroying the planet with corporate profits made at the expense of people. Working with like-minded groups, AfD is building a people's movement to end corporate rule and develop positive alternatives for transformative justice.

AfD's Major Campaigns Provide Resources for Active and Concerned Citizens



Disarming Violence/Establishing Peace. At this critical time, AfD's two-part series of *Justice Rising* lays out the challenges we face to: establish peace on earth; end corporate rule by the Military-Industrial-Congressional-Complex; oppose US militarism, neo-colonialism and racism; cut the Pentagon budget and move the money to human needs and climate justice by transitioning from a war economy to a peace economy.



Grassroots Institute: Progressive Solutions for the Common Good. This AfD project organizes local community actions to help solve global problems. Based in Mendocino County, CA, it has eight working groups dealing with issues including the climate crisis, corporate pollution, fraudulent corporate eminent domain claims, recruiting candidates for local offices, water, forests and affordable housing. It also provides study guides to help communities act on Grassroots Solutions to Corporate Power, and to build an Economy for the Common Good. See grassroots-institute.org



Public Banking. As part of its campaign to end corporate domination of our political and economic systems, the Alliance is sponsoring the Massachusetts campaign to establish the first public bank in the US since the Bank of North Dakota was established in 1919. Led by an inter-racial coalition and supported by experts on the banking system, Massachusetts Public Banking is spearheading the campaign with bills under active consideration in the state legislature. AfD also actively supports public bank campaigns in California and Oregon.



There is No "Planet B." This summer's severe weather events and climate extremes demand ending reliance on oil, gas and coal. The Alliance supports cutting the Pentagon budget to create a truly green, sustainable peace economy, which can fund a massive investment in environmental restoration, and in global peace-building for present and future generations.



Water for People and the Planet. Water, as a basic human right, should remain in the public trust. AfD supports funding affordable water for all communities as reliable public services, and has vigorously campaigned against water being bottled and sold for profit. The water market should be regulated to ensure fair, transparent, and democratic access to water.

AfD Media

AfD's Corporations & Democracy radio program features lively interviews on critical issues you will not hear on corporate-owned media. Listen monthly, live on the 3rd Thursday from 7-8 PM Pacific Time, at KZYX.org. Steve Scalmanini and Annie Esposito look at how corporate rule is at odds with good public policy on a range of issues. Listeners hear what individuals and communities are doing at the grassroots to build better, more sustainable alternatives. Call AfD's office to air the program locally.



Establishing Peace In a World Without War

As we write this introduction, nuclear powers face off in Ukraine, threatening atomic annihilation; a brutal Palestinian revolt of the dispossessed activates Israel into horrible responses; the Doomsday Clock heads toward zero; and military regimes in Africa push out elected governments — establishing violence as the de facto way to make public policy.

Never has there been a more salient time to establish peace in a world without war. As seventeen year old Bianca A. Jamille from the Philippines says of her artwork to the right, “The world needs unity, peace, love, cooperation, and understanding for its people in order for all of us to be able to live our lives to the fullest.”

This issue of *Justice Rising* (JR), as well as Part I of this series, *Disarming Violence on the Path to Peace*, and our 2006 issue on *Corporate Origins of War and Grassroots Struggles for Peace*, (available at <http://www.thealliancefordemocracy.org/news-letters.html>) decry war and violence as a mechanism for creating and upholding public policy. This issue outlines how humans can make the leap to global peace, and move to democratic, non-violent, global public policy making.

On page ten we highlight Emery Reves' book *The Anatomy of Peace*, written after the horrors of two world wars. That widely acclaimed book calls out for the development of a democratic, globally sovereign institution that could end war between squabbling nation states.

Such an institution needs to have democratic control over our most pressing global problems driving nation-states to war. These include climate change, resource depletion, global pollution and migration, which parochial nation-states can not effectively resolve for the global common good.

It could also disarm global corporate power from gobbling up land and resources for corporate profits, and pushing everyone into the globalized cash economy. These corporate actions disenfranchise indigenous and peasant societies around the world, while wealthy corporate investors grow richer and the rest of the world heads toward wage slavery.

Most importantly, it could defang the power of money by globally establishing that money is not speech. This would go a long way toward disempowering the corporate-military-industrial-complex's continual drive for ongoing global war.

As Andy Strauss points out, our present system of global governance resembles the workings of “rival criminal families or war lords.” The US military, with bases around the world, acting as an imperial hit

team in that scenario, has to be the first thing to disempower in the global drive for peace.

A global democratic movement would also need to develop a peace economy. In this issue, of JR, the international social solidarity economy, known by its French acronym RIPESS, presents a viable path for moving from a war economy to a peace economy based on cooperation, mutual respect, and mutual aid rather than competition and exploitation. Their system respects racial and gender diversity, while promoting social and economic equity.

This JR also highlights existing models for creating a global culture of peace. Paul Chappell's drive to spread peace literacy is a crucial part of developing a culture of peace. His seven book series, *A Road to Peace*, lays out his approach, which is used by the Peace Literacy Institute to educate people of all ages to be soldiers of peace.

Establishing a partnership culture, which replaces our “domination-culture” of violence, male patriarchy and money as power, is another essential part in establishing a culture of peace.

The most important part of this issue is for you to take action in creating global peace. Join peace groups locally, nationally and internationally. Promote legislative measures on page nine of this issue to: create a US Department of Peacemaking; move money away from the Pentagon and into initiatives for the common good; provide the religious freedom to make sure our tax dollars do not support the military and other war efforts; and restrict the first use of nuclear weapons.

The violent milieu now encompassing the planet often portrays enemies as non-human. This is a big mistake. We need to see enemies as friends. In the leap toward peace we must recognize that we are all one human community living within nature.



graphic: Bianca A. Jamille entry in the UN Art for Peace Contest

This issue outlines how humans can make the leap to global peace, and move to democratic, non-violent, global public policy making.

Thank You

We need to thank so many people for making this issue a reality. Many thanks go to Nancy Price who initiated and oversaw the collection of articles and wrote several articles herself. David Delk has also been an important part of this issue with his wise counsel and important contributions. We are also thankful to the authors and artists whose work makes this a seminal issue of *Justice Rising*. Most important, however, are you, the readers, who will take all of this in and then act to establish Peace on Earth.

Establishing a Global Economy & Culture of Peace

By Jim Tarbell



The social solidarity economy takes the best practices of our present system and transforms them to serve the welfare of the community.

An economy and culture of peace must be built on cooperation, mutual respect, and mutual aid. It needs solidarity support for a sustainable political/economic system respecting diversity, and promoting social and economic equity. The Global Network of Continental Networks Committed to the Promotion of Social Solidarity Economy (RIPESS) is establishing this economy around the world.

Social solidarity economy (SSE) participants from Latin America, the Caribbean, North America, Europe, Africa, Asia and Oceania shocked me at the Atlanta World Social Forum in 2007. They laid out a fully-formed and functioning alternative economy I had never heard of, even though I had been writing about economics and politics for forty years. They told tales of worker-owned businesses and co-op networks that utilize innovative and highly successful financial systems to support a world where the power of money nurtures healthy and sustainable socio-economic and environmental communities, instead of corporate profits and a bulging military-industrial colossus.

Paraphrasing their website: The Global SSE movement is emerging as a rapidly growing, transformative, citizen-led alternative to market-driven capitalism. It is aimed at systemic change, building an economy and society serving people and the planet. SSE is grounded in locally rooted initiatives that are increasingly globally networked, with a broad political (but not ideological) framework.

RIPESS members address the enormous, unaddressed, social and environmental costs generated by a capitalist, neoliberal economy based on extractivism and unlimited growth of consumption and production. Today, more people are

becoming aware that capitalism has turned our lives and planet into an environmentally unsustainable and socially unjust system, unable to guarantee happiness and dignified life conditions to all persons on the planet.

In SSE, ordinary people play an active role in shaping the social, cultural, political, and environmental dimensions of life. SSE exists in production, finance, distribution, retail, consumption and governance. It transforms the social and economic system to overcome all inequalities. SSE takes the best practices of our present system (such as efficiency, use of technology and knowledge) and transforms them to serve the welfare of the community.

SSE places people, communities and the environment above capital and its accumulation. It holds a world-wide vision with shared values and principles based on reciprocity, solidarity, equity, self-determination, mutuality, cooperation; and human and Earth rights.

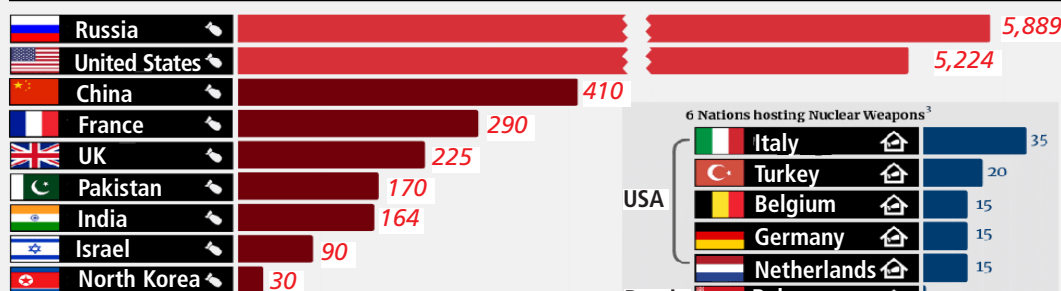
SSE's combined local and global scope gives RIPESS legitimacy to promote SSE, foster inter-continental cooperation, and advocate at different levels. RIPESS members believe in the importance of the globalization of solidarity, and the ability to build and strengthen an economy that places people and planet at the center of its activities.

It is the perfect model for moving from our war economy to a peace economy, where cooperation replaces competition, and solidarity replaces militarism. Check them out at www.riposs.org/ and join the effort.



graphic: RIPESS

12,512 Warheads in the World



graphic: International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN)

Doomsday Clock Headed Toward Zero

Time to Take Action Establishing Global Peace

By Nancy Price

The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists was founded in 1945 by Albert Einstein and the University of Chicago scientists who worked on the Manhattan Project and the bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Created two years later, the Doomsday Clock symbolically shows how close humanity is to the point of nuclear catastrophe. The clock was originally set at seven minutes to midnight.

On January 24, 2023, the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists announced they had moved the hands of the Doomsday Clock from 100 to 90 seconds to midnight, the closest it has ever been to zero. This is “largely – though not exclusively – because of the mounting dangers of the war in Ukraine.” The press statement explained the four areas of concern for this new setting: nuclear risk; climate change; biological threats; and disruptive technologies. This was before war broke out in Israel/Palestine, threatening to engulf the Middle East in war. No doubt this will move the Doomsday Clock even closer to zero.

In *The Doomsday Clock Has Never Been So Close to Midnight: What's on the other side?*, Frida Berrigan includes the chronology of seventy-six years of the Doomsday Clock. Frida's parents, “Elizabeth McAlister and Philip Berrigan, a former nun and priest: refused to pay “war taxes,” trespassed onto military installations to protest our world-ending ways; held vigils at weapons manufacturing plants; and protested during stockholder meetings of giant weapons-making corporations. They also took care of the victims of skewed US policies by organizing soup lines and opening their doors to the unhoused.” Frida writes, “by reminding me of where the hands on the Doomsday Clock stood at any moment, my dad helped me integrate concerns about nuclear weapons into my daily life.”

Nancy Price is Co-chair of the Alliance for Democracy



graphic: Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists

On January 24, 2023, the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists announced they had moved the hands of the Doomsday Clock from 100 to 90 seconds to midnight, the closest it has ever been to zero.

Time to Ban Nuclear Weapons

Nuclear arsenals are expected to grow over the coming decade, and these weapons are many times more powerful than the bomb dropped on Hiroshima. A single nuclear warhead could kill hundreds of thousands of people with devastating humanitarian and environmental consequences. Today, nine countries possess nuclear weapons: Russia; United States; China; France; the United Kingdom, Pakistan; India, Israel; and North Korea. They have a total of 12,700 nuclear warheads with 9,400 in active military stockpiles. Five other nations host nuclear weapons, and 27 endorse their use.

With the Ukraine-Russian war and threat of widening war in the Middle East, the danger of the tactical use of small nuclear weapons increases the risk they could be used by accident, intention, or miscalculation. Often described as “smaller” or “low-yield” weapons that would cause less damage, these bombs can have yields 20 times that of the one dropped on Hiroshima. See https://www.icanw.org/nuclear_arsenals for more information.

The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), a coalition of non-governmental organizations in one hundred countries, works to stigmatize, prohibit, and eliminate nuclear weapons and supports the ratification of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). Their challenge is to build a global movement by getting politicians in the nuclear countries to sign ICAN's Parliamentary — or Legislative — Pledge supporting the TPNW, leading to all nuclear countries ratifying the TPNW.

The US and the other nuclear nations boycotted the TPNW negotiations and refused to sign. Nevertheless, the Treaty opened for signatures on September 20, 2017 and entered into force on January 22, 2022 after the fiftieth ratification. There are currently 93 signatories, 69 states parties and 4 accessed countries.



ICAN 2017 NOBEL PEACE PRIZE



End Space Weapons

By Bruce Gagnon

The 1967 U.N. Outer Space Treaty prohibits 'weapons of mass destruction' in space or on 'celestial bodies' like the moon. Virtually all warfare on the planet is now directed by space technology. Thus, filling up the increasingly limited parking spaces in various orbital regions will determine which nation has an advantage.

Anti-satellite weapons (ASAT) have been tested by India, US, Russia and China. ASAT's need no explosives. At orbital speeds, kinetic energy — one thing smashing into the other — does the job.

Elon Musk's SpaceX makes rockets and satellites to build Starlink, a broadband Internet system that once completed will cover the entire world. SpaceX has so far put 12,000 satellites into orbit and plans for 40,000 satellites in low-Earth orbit (LEO), occupying 80% of this space.

The Pentagon funds and tests Starlink for its military capabilities. Starlink satellites are being utilized by the Ukrainian military to communicate, as well as help guide drones, artillery shells, and missiles into Russian positions and at civilian targets. Very recently Musk has begun to slightly restrict the use of Starlink by the Ukrainian military as he feared that Russia might take action against the Starlink constellation.

In early 2023 China announced that it was preparing to launch close to 13,000 satellites into LEO in a move to counter Musk's SpaceX network. China stated that they intend to: "ensure that our country has a place in low orbit; and prevent the Starlink constellation from excessively preempting low-orbit resources."

NATO in 2019 announced a new doctrine calling space a 'fifth operational domain'. NATO maintains that the US-led bloc will use commercial



"Weapons of selective destruction" fall outside of the Outer Space Treaty. Thus a new treaty is urgently needed.

satellites as a military booster. Russia has issued a warning to the US-NATO that they are "exposing civilian space assets to potential attack by utilizing them for military purposes."

In early February, Ukrainian troops fired rockets from a US-made HIMARS system which hit a hospital in Novoaydar, killing 14 Russian-ethnics and injuring 24. Russia claimed that Kiev used western satellites operated by NATO personnel to target the hospital.

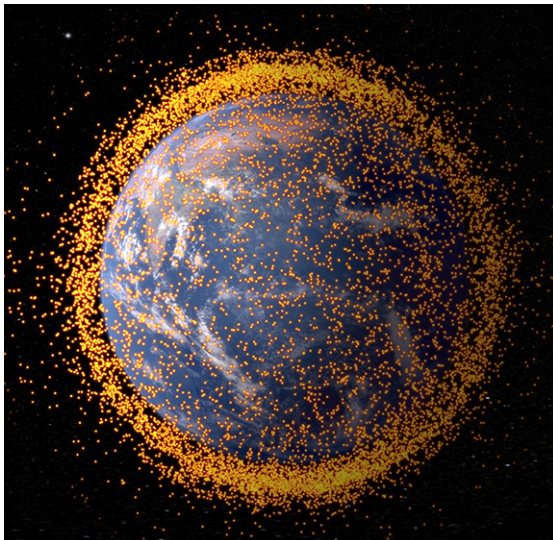
Currently, "weapons of selective destruction" fall outside of the Outer Space Treaty. Thus, a new treaty is urgently needed. Russia and China have been leading the effort at the UN to create a new treaty to ban all weapons in space for many years. But the US and Israel have been blocking such a step for peace in space. The official US line, through Republican and Democratic administrations, is "there is no problem in space, and no new treaty is needed."

Bruce Gagnon is coordinator of the Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space and lives in Brunswick, Maine. <http://space4peace.org>

Space Junk

During recent years the numbers of satellites orbiting the Earth has grown dramatically. Thousands more satellite launches have been approved by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) despite legal action by a coalition of groups (including the Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space). The FCC is violating environmental law that requires impact studies before thousands of launches.

Space orbital parking lots are getting dangerously crowded risking cascading collisions (Kessler Syndrome) which could become so severe that space flight would be impossible due to the orbiting field of debris. If this was to occur, much of life on planet Earth would go dark, as our daily activities are enabled by space satellites — GPS, Internet banking, weather prediction, cell phones, air traffic control, etc. Each launch releases toxic agents which are destroying the Earth's ozone layer. In addition, when satellites fall from lower earth orbit and burn-up on reentry they release a deadly stew of electronic particles into our atmosphere. Because of the massive escalation of satellite launches, astronomers are complaining that we are losing the night sky.



graphic: Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space

Countering War Propaganda With Critical Media Literacy

By Andy Lee Roth

From William Randolph Hearst stoking public fervor for war after the USS Maine sank in 1898 to Judith Miller reporting on Iraqi “weapons of mass destruction” in 2003, the establishment press in the US has a dishonorable history of promoting American militarism.

Today’s corporate media downplays the human cost of war while presenting defense industry flacks as foreign policy “experts.” Such coverage violates basic tenets of ethical journalism and misleads the public. For those committed to building a movement for peace, critical media literacy provides tools to counter war propaganda masquerading as news.

Censoring the human cost of war

We depend on journalism to report truth. But corporate news regularly understates or obscures the human cost of war. FAIR’s Gregory Shupak examined the 2021 US withdrawal from Afghanistan as covered in the editorial pages of the *Boston Globe*, *Los Angeles Times*, *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *Washington Post*. None acknowledged that more than 70,000 civilians had been directly killed in the US-initiated war.

The FAIR report reminded me of research I conducted with a team of students at Sonoma State University in 2007. Our study, *Covering War’s Victims*, examined 1,389 days of front-page news photographs published by the *New York Times* and the *San Francisco Chronicle*. Based on content analysis of more than six thousand images, we found a mere 3.3 percent of the front-page photos depicted the human cost of US wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Government restrictions on journalists embedded with US military units and newspapers’ self-censorship in the name of “good taste” combined to hide the human cost of war from the public’s view. “In the absence of news photos and stories that depict the sensory reality of war,” we concluded, “acceptance of war, with varying degrees of attention to its human cost, becomes much more likely.”

Presenting defense industry hawks as “experts”

Ethical journalism is characterized by transparency and accountability. Yet the nation’s major cable and network television news outlets regularly present retired military personnel as expert analysts, without informing audiences that these “experts” also serve as spokespersons or consul-



graphic: Media Lens

tants for defense industry contractors.

As Robin Andersen detailed in Project Censored’s *State of the Free Press 2023*, after Russia’s 2022 invasion of Ukraine, MSNBC, CNN, and NBC regularly featured military pundits—including Barry McCaffrey, David Petraeus, and Leon Panetta—who advocated military responses.

None of the outlets alerted their audiences to otherwise obvious conflicts of interest between the hawkish views these “experts” articulated and their personal financial interests.

Andy Lee Roth is the associate director of Project Censored, where he coordinates the Project’s Validated Independent News program. Roth earned a BA in sociology and anthropology at Haverford College, and a Ph.D. in sociology at UCLA. A native of California, he now lives in Washington State.

For those committed to building a movement for peace, critical media literacy provides tools to counter war propaganda masquerading as news.

Critical Media Literacy

Education in critical media literacy provides tools to identify and deconstruct news frames that present use of force as the best (or only) response to foreign policy dilemmas.

Critical media literacy raises questions about power, focusing especially on connections between corporate ownership and the production, distribution, and interpretation of media messages. Who are the story’s primary sources? Does the story include dissident views? What’s left outside the frame? “The lie in war is almost always the lie of omission,” Chris Hedges wrote in *War Is a Force That Gives Us Meaning*. The ability to determine the trustworthiness of specific news reports often hinges on examining what’s left out as much as what’s included.

The corporate media’s omissions are evidence of its broken news frame, one premised on exclusive definitions of who and what count as “newsworthy,” not to mention narrow conceptions of “power.”

By adopting critical media literacy education as an essential tool, peace activists can create and establish alternative news frames. These new frames’ specifics cannot be predetermined, but I am confident they will be constructed from respect for the dignity of all human life, appreciation of healthy ecosystems as the matrix for any life worth living, and a new understanding of power (as distinct from force) whose purpose is liberation.

Building Cultures of Partnership & Peace

By Riane Eisler

Excerpted and abridged from The Kosmos Journal, Spring/Summer 2014.

Can we build a more peaceful world where our great human potential for consciousness, caring, and creativity are realized? What would this more equitable, less violent world look like? How can we build it?

To answer these questions, my examination of social systems looks at the whole of humanity, including the thousands of years we call prehistory. This more complete picture makes it possible to see two historical social systems — a domination system and a partnership system.

Until just a few thousand years ago, archeological records show we lived in a partnership system. Archeology shows no signs of warfare; houses and burials do not reflect large gaps between haves and have-nots; and these earlier societies were neither patriarchies nor matriarchies, but cultures where women and men were equally valued in partnership.

However, archeology and myths since that time show a major cultural shift toward the domination system. Fortunately, over the last centuries there has been strong movement to reverse this shift in cultural direction back toward a partnership system.

One modern progressive movement after another has challenged the oppressive features of this dominator system. These include democratic challenges against: the “divinely-ordained” right of despotic kings to rule their “subjects;” the anti-colonial liberation movements that challenged the “divinely-ordained” right of one race or nation to rule over another; the women’s rights movement that has challenged the right of men to rule women and children; all the way to the environmental movement challenging man’s “divinely ordained” right to dominate and conquer nature.

Unfortunately, the focus of these progressive movements toward a more equitable and peaceful society has only been on dismantling the top of the domination pyramid. The primary relations between men and women, and between them and their daughters and sons, on which the pyramid keeps rebuilding itself, has remained largely in place. Since these relationships have been ignored, we lack the solid foundations for a peaceful and caring society.



graphic: Raj Phairembam

Moving toward the partnership side of the continuum requires a more democratic organization in both the family and state or tribe, where both halves of humanity are equally valued, and stereotypically feminine values such as caring and nonviolence (which are considered “unmanly” in the domination system) are highly regarded, whether in women or men.

The relationships of women and men shapes families, education, religion, politics, and economics. The social construction of gender roles and relations also shapes a society’s guiding values.

As long as boys and men learn to equate “real masculinity” with violence and control we cannot realistically expect an end to the arms build-ups that are today bankrupting our world, and the terrorism and aggressive warfare that in our age of nuclear and chemical warfare threaten our survival.

A peaceful way of living fosters mutual respect and accountability. It uses power to empower rather than disempower others. The partnership configuration is a blueprint for a more equitable, caring, and peaceful future.

We must show that the struggle for our future is not between religion and secularism, right and left, East and West, or capitalism and socialism, but within all these societies between traditions of domination and a partnership way of life.

Every one of us can play a role in the cultural transformation from domination to partnership. Working together, we can build the foundations for a more peaceful, equitable, sustainable world, where all children can realize their capacities for consciousness, caring, and creativity — the capacities that make us fully human.

Riane Eisler is a social systems scientist, cultural historian, futurist, and attorney whose research, writing, and speaking has transformed the lives of people worldwide. She is president of the Center for Partnership Systems (CPS), and Editor-in-Chief of the Interdisciplinary Journal of Partnership Studies.

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Peace Literacy

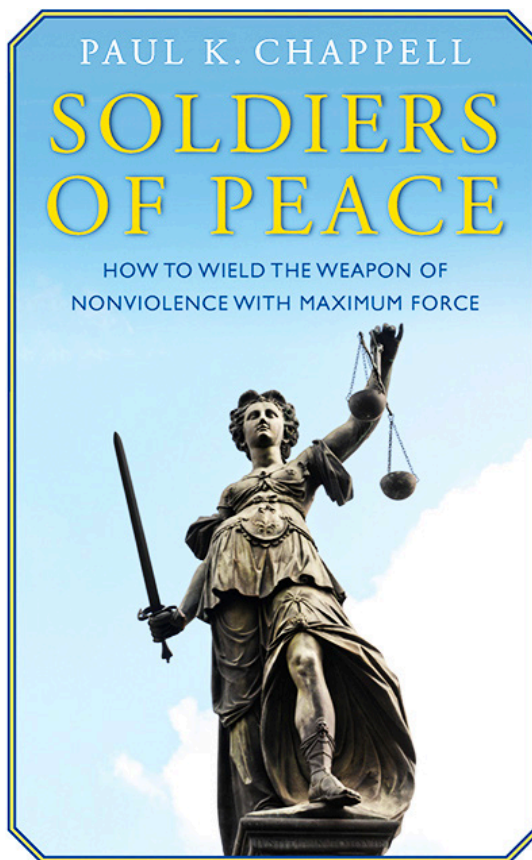
Moving from a Military Empire To a Culture of Peace

Excerpted from an interview with Paul Chappell, hosted by Zoe Weil for the Institute for Humane Education, April 2022

Peace Literacy offers a deep and accurate understanding of the many subjects relevant to the creation of a more peaceful and just world. Peace Literacy consists of the idea that peace is not merely a goal, but a competency — a literacy — similar to reading and writing, which we can learn to use with greater and greater effectiveness. In the Twenty-First Century, we can no longer settle for peace as an abstract concept or sentimental wish. Peace Literacy is a rigorous and strategic approach to peacemaking that is based on the recognition that we must take waging peace at least as seriously as the military takes waging war.

Peace Literacy consists of three basic elements:

1. The first is the development of human capacities, which we call the muscles of our humanity. One of these capacities is hope, which is like a muscle, because it requires strengthening and development, and can become more powerful in degrees. Peace Literacy cultivates realistic hope based on evidence, experience, and ideals. Realistic hope is proactive and connected to action.
The muscles of empathy and conscience drastically affect how we think and reason.
In Peace Literacy, we say that stewardship is the highest expression of the muscle of appreciation, because appreciation allows us to not take the gifts of life for granted. Gifts such as health, friendship, and democracy are fragile, and can be damaged and destroyed when we are not behaving as responsible stewards and protectors. Appreciation encourages us to never take these gifts for granted, to savor and make the most of them, and to do our best to protect them.
2. The second element of Peace Literacy is the building of skills to flex the muscles of our humanity. To offer just one example, listening is a skill that requires me to flex my muscle of discipline, to focus my mind and concentrate. In order to truly listen, I must also flex my muscle of empathy. When I flex my muscle of empathy, I am capable of hearing not only your words, but also your humanity.
3. The third element of Peace Literacy involves increasing the accuracy of our understanding of how the world works. When people with empathy and conscience don't have an accu-



rate understanding of the root causes of problems, they can cause harm. As the old saying goes, “The road to hell is paved with good intentions.”

Soldiers of peace must understand the tangles of trauma; the root causes of aggression; the critical importance of our non-physical needs such as purpose, meaning, belonging, and self-worth; the relationship between our human vulnerability and our technology; the behaviors that can reliably build shared trust between individuals, communities, and nations; the limitations and risks of waging war, and the power and potential of waging peace.

The elements of Peace Literacy can be taught in three ways. They can be taught through curriculum, scaffolded in age-appropriate ways for pre-K through adult education. They can be taught through example, when adults lead by example by practicing Peace Literacy. The third way that Peace Literacy elements can be taught is through culture. We can create a culture in a school, workplace, family, community, and society that strengthens Peace Literacy and nurtures the full development of our humanity.

Paul K. Chappell is an American activist. He is the Director of the Peace Literacy Institute. A graduate of West Point and a veteran of the war in Iraq, he created the idea of Peace Literacy after his time in the military.

We can create a culture in a school, workplace, family, community, and society that strengthens Peace Literacy and nurtures the full development of our humanity.

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JUSTICE RISING is a publication of the **Alliance for Democracy**, whose mission is to end the domination of our politics, our economics, the environment, and our culture by large corporations. The Alliance seeks to establish true economic and political democracy and to create a just society with a sustainable, equitable economy.

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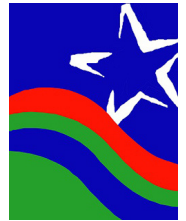
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Nancy Price and David e. Delk
Co-chairs of the AfD National Council

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Justice Rising

By Jim Tarbell



When I was a young child in the 1950s, my mother often told me that we were just at the dawn of civilization. Now, as Russia pulls out of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, Israel and Palestine engage in a full blown war, and the Doomsday Clock lurches toward zero, I am worried we are ever going to arrive at the sunrise of civilization

At times like this, we need to recall Emery Reves' analysis after World War II that nationalism, religion, capitalism and socialism are all contributing to a terrible end to civilization as we know it.

To avoid that reality, humans have to make a giant cultural shift. We have to reject the nationalist, nation-state trope that our country is better than yours, or that we are an exceptional people.

We have to deny the religious dogma that we are the chosen people with the right to dominate nature, that our god is the only god and that our god has given us the right to dominate other people and certain parts of the earth. These are all destructive concepts and threaten all life on earth as we know it.

Capitalist mythology that our resources will go on forever, that the market is the perfect arbiter, that money trickles down and that competition provides economic equality is insanity. The truth is capitalism is depleting all of our resources, and market failures are destroying all the natural systems that life depends upon. Along the way, the rich get richer, and the poor work harder and fall further into debt. Simultaneously, the 100 largest companies in all industries have concentrated power, and control way over 90% of all business.

We, the people, are supposed to have the power to solve all these problems through our democratic political system. But that system is dominated by rich investors and their powerful corporations. Even the Supreme Court is in thrall to money. Its 2010 Citizens United decision made it so that we do not even know where most of the political money is coming from.

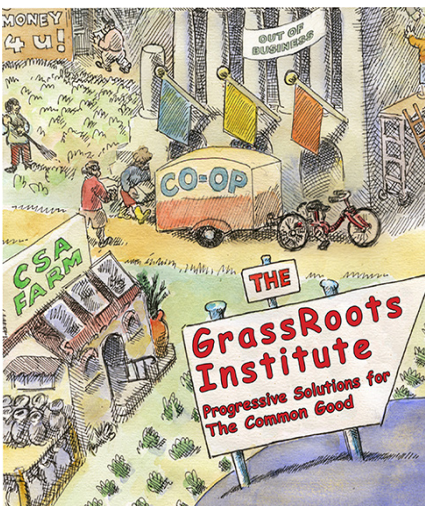
All of this has to stop before the powerful and powerless blow our dawning civilization to smithereens. We have to move toward an identity that we are all citizens of the earth, while creating a spiritual sense that we are one with nature and with each other. People have to reclaim their constitutional right to political power by getting money out of politics, and ensuring that the power of money is used for the common good. We also need to nurture an economy of cooperation, social and economic equity, while creating a partnership culture rather than a culture of domination. Finally, we have to achieve democratic, global sovereignty to establish Peace on Earth.

Achieving those visions will be the sunrise of civilization.



Cover images clockwise from upper left, is an outdoor mural in Vukovar, Croatia by Mario Matkovic, dedicated to the mothers of Vukovar. To the right of that is an image of the Lennon Wall in Prague, Czech Republic. Since the 1960s

it has been used to display dissident political messages. After the military shutdown of the Prague Spring in 1968 people posted their grievances against the authoritarian regime. After 1988 it became dedicated to John Lennon and his lyrics as a symbol of freedom relating to local and global causes. Below that is the Doomsday clock marking 90 seconds to nuclear midnight. To the left of that is a submission to the Lions Club International 2014-15 Peace Poster contest.



GrassRoots Institute Takes Action Locally

By Carrie Durkee

Many of us have been involved in studying problems of inequity caused by corporate power, and how corporate power dominates our government and communities. Understanding is a piece of the whole, but to make change there needs to be more; a collective, strategic design that results in targeted action. Our workshops are a platform for groups of concerned citizens to seek positive change. We understand the dominant cultural narrative is part of what holds the status quo in place, keeping wealth and power in the hands of the few, and limiting opportunities for the many. To counter the dominant story, we need to create a new, life-affirming vision in our own community. We work collaboratively to build trust, and confidence while moving towards specific goals that align with our values.

As has been demonstrated by recent events across the country, the power structures of white supremacy, oppression and exploitation, long unexamined, are now being challenged openly and there is room, space for new, creative, inclusive ideas to emerge, get traction, and take hold. Now it is time to engage more directly with the persistent aspects of racism that are toxic to our culture, and many people's lives. When groups of people understand their history and are willing to explore the art of new possibilities, they can lean into, move towards, dance to a new rhythm, and sing a different song. This is the kind of transformational work we embrace. See www.GrassRoots-Institute.org

Saving the Planet

From Militarism

By Cindy Piester

In November 2022, I headed out to COP 27 in Sharm el Sheikh, Egypt, as an NGO delegate with the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF). I hoped to move forward the conversation on the need for the United Nations to count all emissions, including military emissions, so that we might limit warming to the 1.5 C (2.7 F) rise above pre-industrial times by this century's end.

Our military is the world's largest institutional user of fossil fuels and the world's largest institutional producer of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Yet, thanks to the US government, these emissions have flown under the radar since the Kyoto Accords in 1997. Globally, military emissions are 5% of total annual emissions, yet reporting them remains optional, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) protocols serve to intentionally obscure any military emissions reported, by mixing them in with civilian emissions.

COP 27's opening day was also the annual International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict. Coinciding with that, WILPF partnered with the International Peace Bureau (IPB) and World BEYOND War (WBW) to release two bold letters. One called for, while the other requested, that the UNFCCC add the impacts of military emissions and military expenditures on climate to its 2023 agenda.

Our days began with informative and inspirational gatherings of feminists at the well-attended Women and Gender Constituency (WGC) meetings, where we mixed and mingled with women leaders from around the world. At times, the young feminists took the stage with rousing sing-alongs and demands to demilitarize, denuclearize, decarbonize, decolonialize, and defund militaries. Inevitably, these concerns were also included in WGC's negotiations and reports.

We must understand how quickly the planet and oceans are warming and how devastating the impacts — among them, droughts, desertification, fires, ice melt, rising sea levels, ocean acidification, catastrophic storms, hurricanes, flooding, and loss of key-stone species and biodiversity — are to life on the planet. Clearly all emissions, including military emissions, must be counted and



graphic: WILPF

reported. So, when the US State Department called an informal meeting with all US delegates at COP 27, I raised the issue that, because of pressure from the US government, military emissions were exempted from mandatory UNFCCC reporting. These emissions and their reduction targets need to be included in our Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) consistent with GHG emissions protocols.

Among other questionable reporting mechanisms: emissions from hundreds of US overseas military bases are charged to host nations rather than to the United States; emissions from overseas transport associated with military supply lines are not charged to the US Department of Defense (DoD), but reported separately as "bunker fuels;" and war-related emissions are ignored entirely. The US State Department noted these issues as concerns, and moved on. Many US delegates, however, paid careful attention. Axel Michaelowa, senior founding partner of the Perspectives Climate Group, called for solutions that included reporting military and conflict-related emissions in the Global Stocktake — a long, hard look at the state of our planet, Stocktake charts a better course for the future, and for COP 28, held in Dubai, November 30 – December 12, 2023.

Our Department of Defense with its unsustainable annual budgetary allotment and global emissions is a disaster for our country and for the world. We seriously need to rethink our national security as we speed past climate tipping points dooming our youth to triple nightmares of out-of-control climate change, unbearable debt, and permanent war.

Cindy Piester participates in the alternative media, documents US war crimes, and stands with VFP, WILPF, the Unitarians, Code Pink and justice lovers everywhere.

Young feminists took the stage with rousing sing-alongs and demands to demilitarize, denuclearize, decarbonize, decolonialize, and defund militaries.

Global Democracy is the Best Road



graphic: Bert Monterra

Anatomy of Peace

Excerpt from the 1945 best seller
Anatomy of Peace.

By Emery Reves

There is not the slightest hope that we can change the course into which we are rapidly being driven by the conflicting nation-states so long as we recognize them as the supreme and final expression of the sovereignty of the people. At ever-increasing speed we shall be

hurled toward greater insecurity, greater destruction, greater hatred, greater barbarism, greater misery, until we resolve to destroy the political system of nation-feudalism and establish a social order based on the sovereignty of the community by the founders of democracy and as it applies to the realities of today.

It is commonly taken for granted that we can never abolish war between nations, because war is in the nature of man. It is even more widely accepted that war has innumerable causes and that to try to abolish all of them would be a hopeless task. We must refuse to accept such basically deceptive statements to avoid becoming the helpless victims of this superstition. No one knows just what "human nature" is. Nor is this a relevant question. Assuming or even admitting that certain evils are part of "human nature," this does not mean that we should sit passively and refuse to investigate the conditions which cause the evils to become deadly and the possibility of avoiding their devastating effects.

Two clear and unmistakable observations emerge.

- Wars between groups of men forming social units always take place when these units — tribes, dynasties, churches, cities, nations — exercise unrestricted sovereign power.
- Wars between these social units cease the



moment sovereign power is transferred from them to a larger or higher unit.

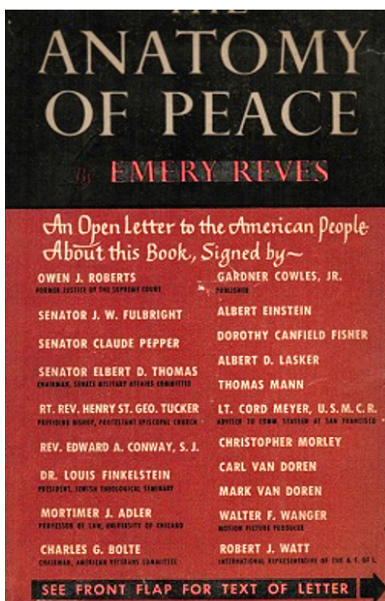
From these observations we can deduce a social law to explain each and every war in the history of all time. War takes place whenever and wherever non-integrated social units [nation-states] of equal sovereignty come into contact.

War between given social units of equal sovereignty is the permanent symptom of each successive phase of civilization. Wars always ceased when a higher unit established its own sovereignty, absorbing the sovereignties of the conflicting smaller social groups. After such transfers of sovereignty, a period of peace followed, which lasted only until the new social units came into contact. Then a new series of wars began.

Peace between fighting groups of men was never possible and wars succeeded one another until some sovereignty, some sovereign source of law, some sovereign power was set up over and above the clashing social units, integrating the warring units into a higher sovereignty.

Logical thinking and historical empiricism agree that there is a way to prevent wars between nations once and for all. There is one way and one way alone to achieve this end: the integration of the scattered conflicting national sovereignties into one unified, higher sovereignty, capable of creating a legal order within which all peoples may enjoy equal security, equal obligations and equal rights under law. Peace is order based on law. There is no other imaginable definition.

Emery Reves was an internationally known author and publisher, as well as a close friend of Churchill and others. Twenty supporters of his book from Albert Einstein to Senator J.W. Fullbright signed an open letter to the American people declaring that we must establish a global democracy or "mankind is doomed." For full text of letter see <https://tinyurl.com/mtjeruwp>



Emery Reves and Winston Churchill
graphic: Hillsdale College Press

ute for Establishing Universal Peace



graphic: gps.gov

A Democratic Path to Peace

Excerpted from Taking Democracy Global: Assessing the Benefits and Challenges of a Global Parliamentary Assembly (2005)

By Andrew Strauss

The global system is not democratically organized. Niceties aside, it consists of the most powerful political and economic elites from the world's most powerful states meeting behind closed doors to make planetary decisions. The current model for world governance is akin to the loose coordination often associated with rival criminal "families," or perhaps war lords in failed states, than it is to accepted standards of democratic decision-making. For the spirit of democracy to survive, much less flourish, in a globalized world, it is crucial that the international system be democratized. A Global Parliamentary Assembly (GPA) is becoming increasingly desirable.

The most serious single deficiency of the global system is its propensity for political violence. The Twentieth Century was the most bloody in human history. For us not to repeat this dismal record, we need to search out alternatives to the war system of conflict resolution.

The GPA would offer disaffected citizens a constructive alternative to terrorism and other forms of political violence. Those angry about perceived injustices or by global silence about their grievances would be less likely to feel forced to choose between surrender and the adoption of desperate tactics. Citizens would be able to stand for office, champion candidates and form coalitions to lobby the parliament. Those with diverse or opposing views would be brought into a give and-take setting that would improve the chances for compromise and reconciliation. Because a parliamentary process has the ability to confer popular legitimacy

on a policy position, even those with extreme agendas will often be drawn into the process

A GPA would counter the vitality of anti-democratic extremists such as Al Qaeda. One important feature of the liberal parliamentary process has been a capacity to assimilate even those who do not share a pre-existing commitment to democracy.

A GPA would provide a democratic substitute to achieving national security through domination and violence. In a GPA there would be no unified states to counter, contain, or even attack other states. Rather, as occurs in other multinational parliaments, delegates would break national ranks to vote along lines of interest and ideology. Thus, fluid transnational parliamentary coalitions could begin to supplant conflict, including armed conflict, among states.

Andrew Strauss is the dean of the University of Dayton School of Law. He, together with Richard Falk, are long-time proponents of a Global Parliament.

The UN Culture of Peace

Seventy-eight years ago, 51 countries pledged to move beyond the parochial nation-state system to form the United Nations (UN). They promised "To maintain international peace and security, and to that end: to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace, and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace."

Yet, almost immediately the United States formed its highly secretive Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) that used acts of war to overthrow governments around the world. By the 1980s, the CIA had effectively taken over US military policy with its own private armies starting wars in Central America and Africa.

Now, after 192 countries have made the UN pledge. Russia — a UN Security Council Member — has ignored its UN promise by invading Ukraine. The Security Council makes the United Nations a non-democratic institution with a cabal of the World's most powerful nations exercising a veto over any action the UN takes.

As, Dag Hammarskjöld, the UN's second Secretary-General, wisely stated, "The United Nations was not created in order to bring us to heaven, but in order to save us from hell."

In service to that purpose the UN has long supported and advocated for establishing a Culture of Peace. Championed by long-time Diplomat Anurul K Chowdhury, *The Declaration on a Culture of Peace* calls on the entire United Nations system — all governments and all peoples — to work together to build a freer, fairer and more peaceful global neighborhood through "a positive, dynamic, participatory process where dialogue is encouraged, and conflicts are solved in a spirit of mutual understanding and cooperation."

Unfortunately, the Culture of Peace will never become a reality until all global governance organizations operate democratically, and all people come together to form a democratic global institution with jurisdiction over global issues from war to climate change.



graphic: Lions Club International



graphic: Cultureofpeace.org

Peace for All Time

An excerpt from President John F. Kennedy's June 10, 1963 commencement address at The American University in Washington, D.C.

I have chosen this time and this place to discuss a topic on which ignorance too often abounds and the truth is too rarely perceived — yet it is the most important topic on earth: world peace.

Not a Pax Americana enforced on the world by American weapons of war. Not the peace of the grave or the security of the slave. I am talking about the kind of peace that makes life on earth worth living, that enables men and nations to grow and to hope and to build a better life for their children — a peace for all men and women — not merely peace in our time but peace for all time.

Total war makes no sense in an age when great powers maintain large and invulnerable nuclear forces and refuse to surrender without resort to those forces. It makes no sense in an age when a single nuclear weapon contains almost ten times the explosive force delivered by all the allied air forces in the Second World War. It makes no sense in an age when the deadly poisons produced by a nuclear exchange would be carried by wind and water and soil and seed to the far corners of the globe and to generations yet unborn.

Today the expenditure of billions of dollars every year on weapons acquired for the purpose of making sure we never need to use them is essential to keeping the peace. But surely the acquisition of such idle stockpiles — which can only destroy and never create — is not the only means of assuring peace.

Total war makes no sense in an age when great powers maintain large and invulnerable nuclear forces and refuse to surrender without resort to those forces.

US Department of Peace and Peacebuilding

In 2001, Congressman Dennis Kucinich and 35 cosponsors introduced HR 2459 to establish a Department of Peace with these words: *"During the course of the 20th century, more than 100,000,000 people perished in wars, and now, at the dawn of the 21st century, violence seems to be an over arching theme in the world, encompassing personal, group, national, and international conflict, extending to the production of nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons of mass destruction.*

We are in a new millennium, and the time has come to review age-old challenges with new thinking wherein we can conceive of peace as not simply being the absence of violence, but the active presence of the capacity for a higher evolution of the human awareness."

Over the past five years, 47 congressional members have cosponsored Representative Barbara Lee's HR 1111 to establish a Department of Peacebuilding, pointing out that, thus far in the 21st century, nearly 1,000,000 people have died in conflict and war. Their bill will establish Offices of: Peace Education and Training; Domestic Peacebuilding Activities; International Peacebuilding Activities; Technology for Peace; Arms Control and Disarmament; Peacebuilding Information and Research; and Human Rights and Economic Rights. The Secretary of Peacebuilding shall establish a formal process of consultation in a timely manner with the Secretaries of State, Defense, and the National Security Council prior to the initiation of policies that may lead to violence and of any armed conflict between the United States and any other country.



graphic: World Beyond War

I speak of peace as the necessary rational end of rational men. Too many of us think it is impossible. Too many think it unreal. But that is a dangerous, defeatist belief. It leads to the conclusion that war is inevitable — that mankind is doomed — that we are gripped by forces we cannot control.

We need not accept that view. No problem of human destiny is beyond human beings. Man's reason and spirit have often solved the seemingly unsolvable — and we believe they can do it again.

Let us focus on attainable peace — based on a series of concrete actions and effective agreements which are in the interest of all concerned. Genuine peace must be the product of many nations. It must be dynamic, changing to meet the challenge of each new generation. For peace is a process — a way of solving problems. We have no more urgent task.

Peace need not be impracticable, and war need not be inevitable. We must conduct our affairs in such a way that it becomes in the interest [of our enemies] to agree on a genuine peace. Nuclear powers must avert those confrontations which bring an adversary to a choice of either a humiliating retreat or a nuclear war. To adopt that kind of course in the nuclear age would be evidence only of the bankruptcy of our policy — or of a collective death-wish for the world.

We seek to strengthen the United Nations to make it a more effective instrument for peace, to develop it into a genuine world security system — a system capable of resolving disputes on the basis of law, of insuring the security of the large and the small, and of creating conditions under which arms can finally be abolished.

Our primary long range interest is general and complete disarmament — permitting parallel political developments to build the new institutions of peace which would take the place of arms.

We shall do our part to build a world of peace where the weak are safe and the strong are just. We are not helpless before that task or hopeless of its success. Confident and unafraid, we labor on — not toward a strategy of annihilation but toward a strategy of peace.

For full text of speech see <https://tinyurl.com/z8b5uamv>

Killing Hope for Global Peace.

Corporate Takeover Of US Military And Foreign Policy

By Jim Tarbell

In the early 1900s, after corporate money took over our political system, Wall Street corporate lawyers became the chosen political appointees to run the US State and War Departments and later created the Council on Foreign Relations as a think tank to develop pro-corporate military and foreign policies.

In the second half of the 20th Century, the next generation of Wall Street lawyers developed the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) to serve the interests of their corporate clients and the multi-national corporate class.

Wall Street corporate lawyers Bill Donovan, Bill Casey and Allen Dulles worked to create the CIA. Donovan ran the World War II Office of Strategic Services (OSS) that morphed into the CIA, along with its staff of scions of American wealth. Casey served as Donovan's right-hand man at OSS and served as CIA Director from 1981 to 1988. Dulles met Donovan at a Republican gathering of Wall Street lawyers and soon joined the OSS as a flamboyant agent in Switzerland.

After the war, Allen Dulles and his brother John Foster Dulles worked as members of the famously corporate/imperial Sullivan and Cromwell Wall Street legal firm. They carried on that work when President Eisenhower appointed Allen Dulles Director of the CIA, and his brother, John Foster Dulles, Secretary of State in 1953. Together they made the CIA a covert military operation to benefit their corporate clients. In 1953, the CIA overthrew the democracy in Iran for the benefit of the investors in British Petroleum. The next year, the CIA ousted the elected Guatemalan President Arbenz to benefit the United Fruit Company.

As European colonial empires collapsed in the late 1950s, the Belgian corporation Union Minière, that mined copper and supplied the uranium used in atomic bombs, hired mercenaries to break away the mineral-rich Katanga province from the Congo. Days before John F. Kennedy (JFK) became president, the CIA helped assassinate the Congolese President Patrice Lumumba, who opposed the Union Minière's efforts in Katanga Province.

As the Congo exploded in war, United Nations Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld worked to bring peace to the region, which caused Dulles to say, "Dag is becoming troublesome ... and should be removed." In September 1961, Dag Hammarskjöld died in a plane crash blamed on the CIA.

Trying to get control of the CIA, JFK forced Dulles to retire. The new CIA Director, John McCone, famed war profiteer and co-founder of the military industrial giant Bechtel, took oversight of the CIA out of the hands of the corporate lawyers and into the hands of the military-industrial-complex.

Bemoaning his lack of control over the CIA, JFK moved ahead to bring peace to the world. (See *Peace for All Time*, pg. 12 of this *JR*.) He started pulling US forces out of Vietnam. He embraced a global peace where all nations "live together in mutual tolerance, submitting their disputes to a just and peaceful settlement." He built relationships with his political adversaries: Nasser in Egypt; Sukarno in Indonesia; and Castro in Cuba. He also embraced "general and complete disarmament."

Many movies and books on the assassination of JFK, implicate the CIA in his murder a few months after he made his *Peace for All Time* speech at the American University. It leads one to conclude that the murders of Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert F. Kennedy and, who both promoted global peace, may have been at the hands of the CIA. It also leads one to wonder how active the CIA and the military-industrial-complex are in shutting down all current efforts to bring about global peace.

The time has come to clear up all these questions. There is no place in a democratic society for an opaque government institution, with an unknown budget, operating for the benefit of powerful corporations and beholden to no one except corporate investors. We should terminate the CIA, open all its records for public scrutiny and make a place for global peace now!

See Part 1 of this article on page 16 of *Justice Rising* Vol 7, #2, <http://www.thealliancefordemocracy.org/jrv7n216.html>

There is no place in a democratic society for an opaque government institution, with an unknown budget, operating for the benefit of powerful corporations and beholden to no one except corporate investors.



graphic: DVP Kennedy Gallery

Establishing Peace — Groups —



Alliance for Democracy's Disarming Violence/Establishing Peace Campaign grows out of this two-part series of *Justice Rising* on *Disarming Violence on a Path Toward Peace* and *Establishing Peace in a World Without War*. This new AfD project needs your help to: end corporate rule by the military-industrial-complex; oppose US militarism, neo-colonialism and racism; cut the Pentagon budget; move the money to human needs; and transition from a war economy to a peace economy; while promoting democratic world governance, based in the grassroots to establish global peace. See www.thealliancefordemocracy.org

Democracy Without Borders (DWB) promotes the development of a democratic global governance that works toward establishing world peace while tackling other critical global problems democratically. Such global problems include: the climate crisis; human migration; global depletion of resources; global pollution; and the evasion of corporations paying their fair share of taxes. The parochial nation-state system is unable to resolve these and other problems in a manner that maximizes the global public good. DWB joins many others in proposing that the UN develop a democratically-based world parliament as a first step in establishing democratic world government. See www.democracywithoutborders.org



Peace Literacy Institute says “peace literacy is survival literacy to create a more peaceful and just world. Trauma, rage, mistrust, alienation—and the unjust systems they fuel — are the monsters we face as we struggle for the survival of humanity and our planet. Together we can educate people to be as well-trained in waging peace as soldiers are in waging war.” They provide curricular materials from pre-K to adult education, based on Paul Chappell's seven-book series about waging peace, ending war, the art of living, and what it means to be human. It is a resource for anyone who wants to understand how positive change happens on both the global and personal levels. See more at www.peaceliteracy.org

Global Women for Peace United Against NATO The 2023 NATO Summit was held in Vilnius, capital of Lithuania, July 11-13, 2022. Unable to safely organize a Peace Summit, march and rally there, activities were organized in Brussels, Belgium, home to NATO's headquarters. The International Peace Bureau, Belgium peace groups, and the new Global Women for Peace United Against NATO came together, July 6-9 for actions and events. Notably, a Global Women delegation presented the “Declaration for Peace” at NATO headquarters and at the European Parliament. Please read and sign the Declaration for Peace at <https://womenagainstnato.org/> Help circulate it to friends, colleagues and organizations, especially to those in NATO states or in NATO “partner” countries. Events, activities and working groups are women-led, but all are welcome to participate who are against NATO.



Sanctions Kill declares that “Sanctions Kill! Sanctions are War! End Sanctions Now!” As a collection of thousands of people and organizations, they provide resources to people around the world oppressed by sanctions. Sanctions are meant to punish elites, but in reality traumatize the common good. Sanctions are just as deadly as bullets and bombs, but the damage and deaths are not as visible to those outside the country. Sanctions kill by destroying economies, causing hyperinflation and unemployment so people cannot afford basic necessities.

Join NuclearBan.US and AfD to build the US Movement to get the US to sign the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. NuclearBan.US, a partner of ICAN, is working to build political support for the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). Excellent campaign materials for working with Congress and organizing at state, city and town levels are at <https://www.nuclearban.us/icanpledge/>



Warheads to Windmills is a project of NuclearBan.US, working to prevent climate catastrophe and nuclear war, by getting states and municipalities to align with the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. AfD is a Coalition member of NuclearBan.US to shift funding from nuclear weapons of mass extinction to green technologies and other pressing human needs, and to ensure human vitality far into the future. More information at <https://warheadstowindmills.org/>

Books — In a World without War

By Jim Tarbell and David e. Delk

Establishing peace in a world without war requires building a culture of peace while implementing public policy to rid the world of war. Paul Chappell and his Peace Literacy Institute published seven books in their *Road to Peace* series that establishes a clear, doable path for establishing a culture of peace.

Book five in that series, *Soldiers of Peace*, will turn us all into non-violent warriors for peace. It builds hope, one of their most important muscles of peace, by outlining the sweeping cultural transformations democracy and education can nourish. Their Peace Literacy program can instigate similar changes to our antiquated acceptance of war as inevitable.

After the horrors of both World Wars, politicians, jurists, scientists and publishers were all enthusiastic to create both a culture of peace, and public policy to make global peace a reality. Notables from Albert Einstein to Senator J. W. Fullbright endorsed the rationale

and route to international peace laid out in Emery Reves' 1945, world-wide, best selling book, *The Anatomy of Peace*. Reves, internationally known author, publisher, and close friend of Churchill and others, calls out the failures of capitalism, socialism, religion and fascism, along with the evils of

nationalism and the nation state system. He then goes on to declare "we can protect ourselves against international wars only through the establishment of constitutional life in world affairs by freely elected and responsible representatives."

World leaders planned for the United Nations to become such an institution. But the UN bogged down in the "evils of the nation-state system." It took fifty years for the movement calling for international democratic decision making on global issues to reemerge. Now that idea has been updated in *A World Parliament:*

Governance and Democracy in the 21st Century by international parliamentarian Joe Leinen and Democracy Without Borders co-founder and director Andreas Bummel. They point out that

the need for a world parliament goes way beyond just international peace. Now we need this international, democratic institution to deal with the climate crisis, migration, depletion of global resources, pollution of the earth,

multinational corporate tax evasion, and so many other world-wide problems that the nation-states can not deal with.

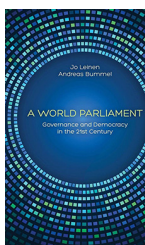
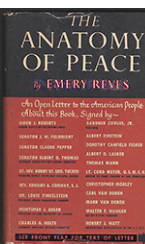
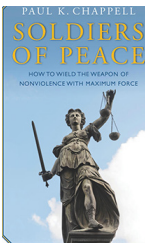
Unfortunately, the international peace movement is being stifled by multinational corporations and their allied military-industrial-complexes. Joan Roelofs lays out how this works in her book *The Trillion Dollar Silencer*. Why there is so little Anti-War Protest in the United States. She documents how corporations and their military allies have infiltrated every level of American society with unlimited funds to compromise any movement toward global peace.

Then she shows her readers on how to educate themselves and reverse the trend by hounding their politicians, joining a peace group, creating a peace culture with a national service organization, and pushing a green New Deal that will convert our war economy into a peace economy.

Medea Benjamin, probably the greatest peace organizer in the United States, and Nicolas J.S. Davies bring all this together in their seminal book *War in Ukraine: Making Sense of a Senseless Conflict*. While condemning Russia's invasion of Ukraine, they also point out that the West helped cause the conflict by reneging on promises to not expand NATO into Eastern Europe, before relentlessly pushing NATO bases toward Russia's border. The West's courting of Ukraine aims at completing that process, while ignoring President Kennedy's warning not to corner a nuclear power, leaving nuclear war as its only option, and causing the annihilation of life as we know it.

Meanwhile, Norman Solomon's new book, *War Made Invisible: How America Hides the Human Toll of Its Military Machine* is a must read. Americans don't know how the US military dominates America and the world, fighting or inciting endless wars, spending the American taxpayers tax dollars without being held accountable.

How can the US military and its corporate contractors receive more than half of federal discretionary funds while the American people are kept in the dark, unable to rise up to say "Enough is Enough?" Norman's book shows how the American "free" press hides all stories, which would inform the American people, and helps explain how and why our "free" press makes invisible the American military death machine.



Confronting Authoritarian Take-Over

By Dave Lewit

Nonviolent movements succeeded twice as often as violent armed movements, against armed authoritarian regimes.

The handwriting is on the wall. Centrist President Joe Biden notwithstanding, disaffected millions of Americans seem willing to consider the likes of Donald Trump in the 2024 election. Can pro-democracy Americans prevail?

Harvard political scientists Erica Chenoweth and Zoe Marks are not sure. They want pro-democracy people and sympathizers to be prepared and active. Their 34-page comprehensive, no-nonsense October 2022 report *Pro-Democracy Organizing against Autocracy in the United States: A Strategic Assessment & Recommendations* is essential and practical. (Find it at <https://tinyurl.com/bd3c8vvs>)

Chenoweth is well qualified: she and colleagues studied 323 significant Twentieth Century (1900-2006) revolutionary movements worldwide, finding that nonviolent movements succeeded twice as often as violent armed movements, against armed authoritarian regimes. But supporting authoritarian regimes are: “corporations; business and economic elites; media; party officials and staff; civil servants; security personnel; cultural influencers; foundations; philanthropists; religious leaders; organized labor; other elite and local authoritarians.”

Drawing on their scrutiny of these nonviolent pro-democracy, revolutionary movements, Chenoweth and Marks prescribe actions in four essential categories:

- Build and maintain a large-scale, multiracial, cross-class, pro-democratic United Front;
- Protect, hold, and build local and community power through alternative institutions;
- Build pressure to induce defections among autocrat loyalists;
- Strengthen resilience against increased state “security” or paramilitaries.

Wow, a tall order! The authors then go into important details for each action. These are helpful because they can engage the talents and drives of the mere five percent necessary for a winning movement, who otherwise might despair of the complexity of effective organized activity. Broadly, a United Front “will require a general secretariat with a federated structure. . . a resource bank that can fund legal support, strike relief . . . and other support for chapters to organize and mobilize people.” It should “develop intelligence, community power building, scenario-planning, communications, education, training, conflict resolution, and diplomacy.”

Where to begin? First may be calling out illegal, mendacious, and antisocial behavior by authorities’ agents. When too many municipal and state institu-



graphic: Peter Veres

tions become controlled by a system of white-only, law-and-order, elitist officers and their favored institutions, people seek companionate support. Some non-profit organizations can help, but face-to-face, left-populist, movement groups—anti-corporatist, ecological, localist, anti-racist, police-reforming, anti-sexist, pro-immigrant, anti-war, socialist—may be more amenable to “intersectionality’s” call for collaboration, and form alternative institutions.

As corporate and government institutions depend more and more on digital controls, physical proximity of local people may encourage “economic cooperatives, fresh food provision, public health institutions, mutual aid, community safety, strike funds, and other forms of cooperation that dramatically reduce the reach, impact, and legitimacy of the authoritarian state.” To promote defections they emphasize “mapping” of authoritarians’ structures and networks to identify key persons and links to overlapping neutral or pro-democracy groupings. Partnering with foreign resistance groups can provide moral authority for local movements, partly by engaging certain international agreements.

But Chenoweth & Marks outline so much more than we can discuss here. For the short and longer terms we must survey what resistance structure we have, and quickly build a more deliberate, comprehensive “pro-democracy infrastructure.”

We know that our movement, our United Front, must be nonviolent. Mahatma Gandhi’s nonviolent movement was top-down — personally driven. Politically, it failed. He had heart and drive, but lacked social infrastructure. Martin Luther King had Gandhi’s drive, and engaged existing organizations like churches as rudimentary infrastructure. Chenoweth and Marks offer a spreadsheet with dozens of critical infrastructure elements, but lack participatory fire — drive, staging, and progressive dynamism. A Trumpist president in 2024 may be a slap in the face — a sting for serious infrastructure building.

Dave Lewit is Professor Emeritus and frequent contributor to Justice Rising. He is the Ombudsman of the Alliance for Democracy.

Finding Common Ground

Against the Border-Military-Industrial Complex

By Nick Buxton

In February 2023, Biden announced that his Administration would accelerate deportations and mobilise ‘record resources’ to secure the US border. In the same month, he prepared the largest Pentagon budget in history — \$853 billion.

Despite huge polarization and gridlock on Capitol Hill, there are two arenas where the Democrats and Republicans more often agree — military spending and borders. The latter may come as a surprise. Certainly Biden’s rhetoric (and that of the Democrats) has been different to the hateful racism of Trump, but his administration has largely continued Trump’s exclusionary border and migration policy. This is a long-term trend. Border and military spending have consistently risen under both Democrat and Republican administrations. The budgets of the US Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) and Immigration Customs Enforcement Agency (ICE) have increased by more than 6,000 percent since 1980. US military spending today is more than the next nine largest country spenders (including China and Russia) combined.

So why is the approach of both parties so similar on both borders and the military? In part, it shows the effectiveness of the politics of fear in mobilizing public sentiment against external and internal threats. But it is also responding to an industry, which has proved highly successful in lobbying for more spending and contracts, and that pushes for policies that constantly escalate militarization. The power of the arms industry on Capitol Hill is well known. But it is similarly true of the border industry. In the run-up to the 2020 election, the 15 leading border industry corporations contributed as much to Democrats as Republicans (totalling \$26 million) – and in the wake of Biden’s election have continued to win lucrative contracts.

In fact, the two industries are increasingly merged. More than half of the leading border industry corporations are weapons manufacturers: Boeing, Elbit Systems, General Atomics, General Dynamics, Leidos, Lockheed Martin, L3Harris, and Northrop Grumman. All of these firms have set up divisions to provide border technology, are actively lobbying for contracts, taking advantage of the way migration control is increasingly militarized. The subsidiary of Israeli arms firm Elbit for example, has built over 50 major surveillance

towers along the US-Mexico border; General Atomics provides CBP with many of its drones, many of which were also deployed in Afghanistan.

The militarization of US borderlands has meant that the experience of a migrant crossing the desert in Arizona is increasingly similar to that of a villager in a US-engaged conflict overseas such as Afghanistan or Somalia. Both are innocent victims crossing a battleground – treated as a threat, surveilled by the latest corporate technology, watched by militarized state agencies and in danger of losing their life.

This is the long-term impact of the military-industrial-complex on US democratic life. It has not only led to a powerful industry, subsidized by taxpayer money. It has perhaps more disturbingly entrenched a militarized response to every crisis – from conflicts overseas to migration to climate change. Most of these crises can not be resolved through militarism – indeed it is most likely to exacerbate the problem. The US, for example, spends 11 times as much on border militarization, and about 30 times as much on the military as it does to providing the climate finance to the poorest countries that could help people cope with climate disasters. In neither case do these resources tackle underlying causes of conflict or migration; they merely seek to control or arm the US against the consequences.

This is a self-defeating and immoral approach that will compound the injustice of the climate crisis. However, it also threatens the fabric of US democracy as weapons that were once trained outside are increasingly turned inwards. As we move into a world of greater insecurity due to geopolitical tensions, the climate crisis, and deepening inequality, we need urgently to change direction. We need politics that address the causes of our systemic problems, not its consequences. The first step is to bring our movements together and realize that the struggle for democracy, migrant justice and peace are all connected.

Nick Buxton is knowledge hub coordinator for the Transnational Institute and an experienced communications consultant, researcher and publications editor.

The first step is to bring our movements together and realize that the struggle for democracy, migrant justice and peace are all connected.

MORE THAN A WALL
Corporate Profiteering and the
Militarization of US Borders



graphic: Transnational Institute

Cut Military Spending & Move Funds To Domestic Needs: Take These Actions Now to Establish Global Peace

By David e. Delk

1. Ask your congressperson to join the House Defense Spending Reduction Caucus. Take action now at <https://www.codepink.org/dsrcaucus>.
2. Call on your US Representative and US Senators at their local or DC office to co-sponsor the federal legislation listed below to reduce the size and impact of the US military.

Find your US Representative and US Senators and their contact information at <https://www.congress.gov/members/find-your-member>

Call on your US Representative and US Senators at their local or DC office to co-sponsor the federal legislation listed here to reduce the size and impact of the US military.

People Over the Pentagon Act (HR 1134)

The People Over the Pentagon Act of 2023 is legislation proposed in the United States Congress that would reduce the amount authorized to be appropriated for the Department of Defense for fiscal year 2023 by one hundred billion dollars (\$100,000,000,000).

First introduced into Congress by Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA), it has 20 co-sponsors as of July 2023. The bill has not been introduced into the Senate yet. Please ask your Senators to introduce it now.



graphic: David e. Delk

Restrict First Use of Nuclear Weapons Act of 2023 (HR 669)

This legislation proposes that it is the policy of the United States that no first-use of nuclear strike should be conducted absent an official declaration of war by Congress. First introduced in Congress by Rep. Ted Lieu (D-CA), it has 33 co-sponsors as of March 2023. This bill has not been introduced into the Senate yet this session; however, it has been in the past with 8 Democrats as co-sponsors.



graphic: David e. Delk



ALLIANCE FOR DEMOCRACY

Dept. of Peacebuilding Act of 2023 (HR 1111)

This legislation would create a Department of Peacebuilding, dedicated to peacebuilding, peace-making, and the study and promotion of conditions conducive to both domestic and international peace and a culture of peace. This bill will require Departments of Defense and State to consult with the Department of Peacebuilding concerning nonviolent means of conflict resolution when a conflict between the United States and any other government or entity is foreseeable, imminent, or occurring. This bill has 33 co-sponsors. It has not been introduced into the Senate yet.



graphic: Global Dimension

Religious Freedom Peace Tax Fund Act (HR 4529)

Introduced in the 2022 Congressional session, this bill needs to be reintroduced into the current Congress. The purpose of this legislation is to affirm the religious freedom of taxpayers who are conscientiously opposed to participation in war. It provides that the income, estate, or gift tax payments of such taxpayers be used for nonmilitary purposes, to create the Religious Freedom Peace Tax Fund to receive such tax payments, to improve revenue collection, and for other purposes.

Dismantle the Globalized Military & Bring Peace to the World

By Nancy Price

After WWII, twelve countries founded the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in 1949 to provide collective security against the Soviet Union and the spread of communism. NATO should have closed its doors 35 years ago when, in the late 1980s, Soviet Premier Gorbachev brought an end to the Cold War with his policies of Glasnost (openness) and Perestroika (restructuring) and signed the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF Treaty) with President Reagan.

Refusing to allow the Soviet military to intervene in Eastern European democracy movements in Poland, Czechoslovakia and other places, Gorbachev brought the foundational basis of NATO to an end.

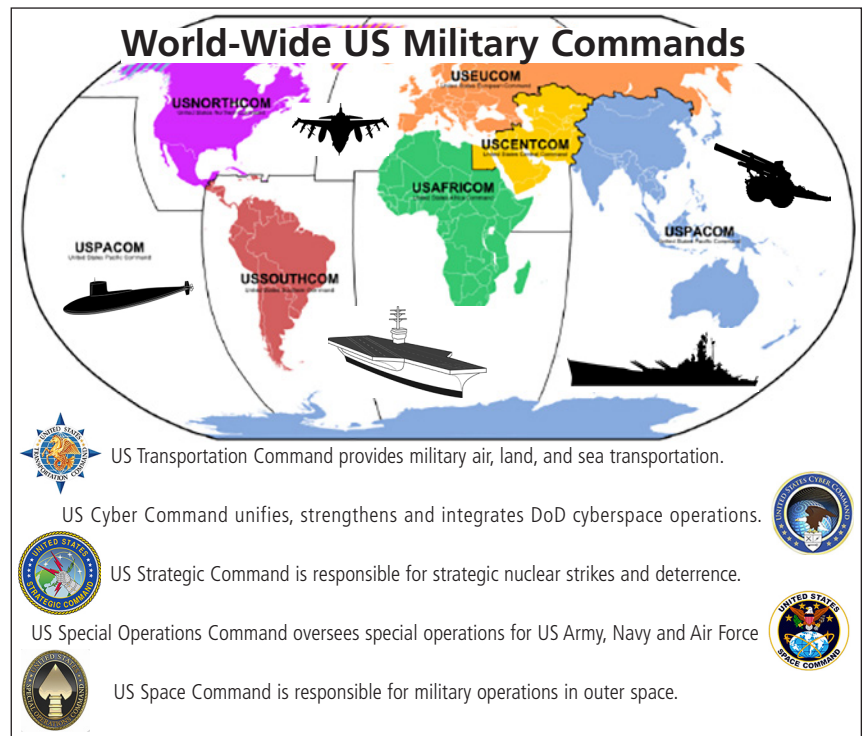
But NATO refused to die. From the late 1990s on, nineteen countries, mainly from Eastern Europe, became new members. Finland became a member in 2023 after Russia invaded Ukraine. Now NATO has increased to 31 countries.

It reconfigured itself into a multinational military organization dedicated to expanding global capitalism and defending corporate access to markets and resources around the world. NATO member countries commit to spend 2% or more of GDP for operations and missions, provide troops, and carry out joint military exercises. This evolution of NATO's role has led to huge protests across Europe.

Over years, NATO has expanded its reach by utilizing its "dialogue and cooperation" process and "Individual Partnership and Cooperation" program to develop long-term strategic relationships with countries around the world. These include strategically located countries like: Mongolia located between China and Russia; South Korea facing off against North Korea; Japan, Australia and New Zealand, connected with the Indo-Pacific region; and Colombia, the first Latin American partner.

The US Global System of Commands

Two years before NATO was founded and the



beginning of the Cold War, the US Department of Defense (DoD) embarked on creating a Unified Command Structure encompassing the whole world. They organized these "unified combatant commands," on geographical areas of responsibility, and on areas of functional responsibility. The Unified Command Plan aligns the missions, responsibilities of each Command with US national security and foreign policy goals.

As an example, the Space Command works with allies and partners to plan, execute and integrate military space power into multi-domain global operations in order to deter aggression, defend national interests and, when necessary, defeat threats.

The US Unified Command Structure and NATO, along with allies and partners form the military backbone of a global commercial empire that includes the World Trade Organization, multiple bi-lateral and multi-lateral free trade agreements, the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, G-20 and G7. Our tax dollars fund this global Unified Command at a rate that far exceeds the 2% of GDP members of NATO provide.

The US Unified Command Structure and NATO, along with allies and partners form the military backbone of a global commercial empire



NATO 75th Anniversary

On July 9-11, 2024, NATO will celebrate its 75th Anniversary in Washington, DC, and peace groups will organize a welcome. We can expect many presidents, prime ministers, foreign secretaries, and weapons dealers to attend. Let's give them a proper welcome! There will be a Peace Summit, Saturday, July 6 and No to NATO/Yes to Peace Rally, Sunday, July 7, and other actions in the days before and after this weekend. A peace walk from Maine to Washington, DC., with events along the way, is being planned (<https://peacewalk2024.org/>). For resources and to learn more and spread the word, go to <https://worldbeyondwar.org/nonatoyestopeace.org>. Scroll down and after "Images" there is an excellent short video "Everything you didn't know about NATO." If you'd like to attend the summit, the rally or both, and be informed of webinars and zoom calls before these events go to <http://nonatoyespeace.org>. If you want to receive emails, be sure to opt-in to emails.

The Costs of War & Challenges of Peace

By Linda Garrett

When the guns are silenced, the numbers of dead, wounded, missing, refugees and displaced are tallied. But the social devastation in the aftermath is incalculable, the trauma is trans-generational. Vukovar, Croatia is an example of the enduring legacies of war.

The Russian invasion of Ukraine and the Balkan wars of the 1990s have similar characteristics. Both had economic and ideological roots and in both national identity determined destiny — are you Ukrainian or Russian? Serbian, Croatian, Bosnian? In simple terms, the essence of each conflict was the desire of one country to dominate — to “liberate Russians” or “liberate Serbs” — and the other to separate.

Destruction of the multi-cultural town of Vukovar in 1991 was the prelude to the ethnic-religious-nationalist nightmare about to be unleashed in the Balkans. A 1995 settlement ended the violence but realpolitik agreements signed in far-away places do not provide solace for the millions of civilians and combatants, — and their communities — forever changed by the brutality and psychosocial trauma of war. Nor do they prevent post-war profiteering, corruption, political opportunism, and long-term violence from land mines, unexploded ordnance, and the proliferation of black market weapons.

Decades later Vukovar resembles its pre-war Baroque charm, but multi-cultural community life was shredded in 1991. Flowers adorn tidy but empty streets. Young people abandon the war-time trauma at first opportunity; elderly survivors

isolate in their homes. Croats and Serbs self-segregate in neighborhoods, schools, bars and restaurants. Anti-Serb sentiment is strong in the Croat-majority town, where identity still trumps community. The town's many war memorials honor Croats but there is no recognition of Serb victims.

During the time of Yugoslavia, inter-ethnic friendships and marriages were common across religious and ethnic lines. Young people interviewed after the war said they weren't aware of their



graphic: Kami, www.wanderlust.pl

“identity” until 1991 when they asked their parents, “What am I?” With the collapse of Yugoslavia everyone was forced to choose: Serb or Croat. The option of neutrality — Yugoslav — no longer existed; the Serbo-Croatian language was “purified” to the point where pronunciation, slang words and idioms reveal identity.

There are levels of social segregation in Vukovar. Status depends not only on ethnicity, but also participation: Were you a defender, an aggressor, a partisan? A victim? A perpetrator? A relative of a missing person? Were you a remanée or a returnee? Were you a survivor, a casualty, a first responder, a collaborator, an informer, an infiltrator? Post-war, everyone was labeled and those labels passed on to the children and grandchildren who inherited not only the trauma of war but also their place in society.

For ex-combatants the possibility of “normalcy” is complicated by PTSD and the paucity of mental health professionals. One Croatian said he had been “addicted to the adrenaline of combat,” which he replaced post-war with drugs and alcohol. Others from his unit resorted to criminal activities, domestic violence and suicide.

In the end two separate narratives of responsibility, of victims and perpetrators, are discussed over kitchen tables and taught in segregated schools. For Croats, Vukovar is a national symbol of heroic resistance to Serbian aggression. Until Serbia provides information on the 1800 Croats still missing, reconciliation is not on anyone's agenda.

The over arching, most shameful and enduring crime was then, and is now, the unleashing of ethnic violence and nationalism. Croat-Serb and Ukrainian-Russian relations will be tarnished for generations to come: “They kill us and we kill them,” Ukrainian President Zelensky said in the early months of the invasion. “I just don't understand war.”

Linda Garrett is a human rights activist and investigator who interned at a Vukovar NGO in 2006 and returned many times between 2007-2011. She is the co-author of Vukovar Both Sides Now.

The over arching, most shameful and enduring crime was then, and is now, the unleashing of ethnic violence and nationalism.

Steps Toward Peace

- Decommissioning of weapons; clearance of land mines and unexploded ordnance;
- Communal reconstruction projects, gardens, playgrounds, cultural and sports events;
- Multi ethnic local government administration with emphasis on inclusion of women;
- Formation of an inclusive Peace Committee comprised of local religious, educational, cultural leaders, again with priority on women;
- Immediate and long term access to mental health support for civilians and combatants, adults and children;
- Pedagogical and emotional support for teachers;
- Ceremonies and memorials to honor all victims
- Transparent, timely process of truth, justice and accountability;
- An accounting of all missing combatants and civilians with full information from both sides of the conflict.



John Lennon Graffiti Wall, Prague, is named after the musician who became a symbolic figure for peace and freedom. The Wall provided Czech protesters a message board for a better world. John Lennon's iconic song *Imagine* bid his listeners to imagine a world without nation states, wars, or religion, where everyone lived as one, in a brotherhood of man, and a world at peace. The full lyrics are at <https://tinyurl.com/yc4jfwbx> John Lennon and his partner Yoko Ono are credited with creating the song together in a cooperative effort that provides us all the opportunity to imagine a global peace. We have to imagine it before we can create it. photo: Prague FM



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Why You Should Care

Doomsday Clock Headed Toward Zero

Nuclear powers squabbling in Ukraine, along with the failure of nation states to deal with climate change; biological threats; and disruptive technologies, have prompted the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists to move their Doomsday clock to 90 seconds to midnight. The closest it has ever been to zero in the seven decades since it was created by the nuclear scientists who developed the first nuclear bomb. Never has life, as we know it, been closer to annihilation.

Imperial Press is Promoting a War Culture

Once again corporate media is beating the drums of war. They use war hawks as foreign policy experts and fail to clearly describe the horrors of war, encouraging our youth to join the army that turns them into killing machines, which damages them for life. In the process corporate media discredits and disregards global peace efforts. They portray critics of war as siding with the enemy and as traitors to the nation. Now US military and the British government are labelling war critics as terrorists and banning their critiques on social media.

MIC Suppresses the Peace Movement

The Military-Industrial-Complex (MIC) pervades all levels of society to nullify any possibility of a creditable peace movement ending the prosecution of global war. They place war industry production in every congressional district. Military personnel play an active role throughout civil society. They finance multiple efforts to glorify war and hinder peace efforts. When that has not worked, they resort to covert actions including assassinating peace makers and fomenting regime change when sovereign nations do not embrace corporate/imperial war policies.

Authoritarianism Imperils Democracy

Authoritarianism is on the rise and war is the ultimate tool of authoritarians. If authoritarians, from Trump to Putin to DeSantis, can coerce people into believing that an authoritarian patriarchy can solve all of our social ills, then our democracy is in danger and demagogues will take over public policy for their own good rather than the common good. The ultimate outcome will be that war and violence will rule the world, and rationality, empathy, science and nature will perish as will life as we know it.



What You Can Do

Become Peace literate

Become a volunteer for peace to confront our culture of war. Help spread Peace Literacy around the world by joining the efforts of the Peace Literacy Institute (www.peaceliteracy.org) and become more serious and effective in establishing peace than global militaries are at prosecuting war. Then join the international effort to democratize global decision making and take it out of the hands of the war lords.

Be Media Literate and Spread the Word

Become a discriminating media researcher. Check out Project Censored and their material on critical media literacy. Also see their annual publication on the most important censored stories of the year. Follow this up by researching the geopolitical forces driving war and the human, environmental, economic and social costs of war. Take all of this information and become part of the alternative media world, by using print, video, and podcasts to spread the truth you have discovered.

Help the Transition from War to Peace

Support Congresswoman Barbara Lee's effort, (HR 1111), to establish a Department of Peacebuilding. Call your Congressperson and get them to join the 47 cosponsors. Their bill will establish Offices of: Peace Training; Peacebuilding Activities; and Arms Control and Disarmament. Simultaneously get the US to stop all covert assassinations and coups d'etat, and open up all past records of such activity.

Promote Cooperation & Partnership

Become part of the international Social Solidarity Economy (RIPESS), based on cooperation, mutual respect, and mutual aid. See RIPESS.com. Combine this with embracing the reemergence of the ancient partnership culture based on gender equality, economic equity, and an absence of warfare — vanquishing authoritarianism and war as we know it.

