



## Call for International Days of Action May 14th - 20th

On May 19th - 21st, 2012, the G8 and NATO will hold summit meetings in Chicago, USA. There NATO will reinforce its new nuclear doctrine, confirm future strategies for the war in Afghanistan, plan future wars such as possible intervention in Syria and/or Iran, and deepen its global military power for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The NATO summit will jeopardize the real security of people around the world.

A broad spectrum of US and international organizations has issued calls for participation in educational events, conferences, nonviolent civil disobedience and public protests in Chicago in May. For example, highlights will be an international counter NATO Summit on May 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> and a planned nonviolent, peaceful demonstration on May 19th.\* In solidarity, we call for international days of action worldwide May 14th - 20th against the NATO war system.

While the greatest 21<sup>st</sup> century challenges facing humanity are increasing inequality and the planet's environmental sustainability, NATO enforces inequitable access to the world's resources and wealth and destroys the environment. With its "out of area" military operations in regions far beyond the borders of its member states, NATO undermines the United Nations. NATO's "if-you-want-to-have-peace-prepare-for-war" approach to the world is a recipe for endless wars, not human security.

NATO's new strategy adopted in Lisbon is the background of NATO's worldwide military actions for the profits of the first world. The war in Libya was the first application of this new strategy. It cost the lives of 50,000 Libyans. NATO's ten-year Afghanistan War, including its creation of the corrupt Karzai government and embrace of fundamentalist warlords, has shattered that nation while securing economic and strategic advantages for the United States and other NATO nations. Now NATO is promoting Afghanization of the war, driving the country still more deeply into civil war. With the threat of Al Qaeda in Afghanistan now long past and daily reports of the Karzai government's corruption, NATO's claims that it is defending human rights and nurturing civil society ring hollow. NATO is pursuing a well-trodden neocolonial path that undermines the real security of Europeans and North Americans, as well as the people of Afghanistan and other Central Asian nations.

NATO persists in arrogating to itself the "right" to unilaterally initiate a nuclear strike against any perceived threat. NATO's nuclear plans, including modernization of U.S. nuclear weapons and of the nuclear infrastructure of NATO member states, undermine the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and its Article VI commitment to eliminate all nuclear



weapons. NATO's nuclear sharing, which makes nations such as Germany and the Netherlands functional nuclear powers, also violates the NPT and thus international law.

By establishing worldwide military partnerships with non-NATO states (via the "Partnership for Peace" program) as well as with other government organizations, (such as the European Union), NATO promotes an increasing militarization of political culture. With its plans for a missile defense shield, its extensive infrastructure of foreign military bases and its aggressive interventions, NATO generates a massively excessive military budget, 75% of total global military expenditure. This money is desperately needed for social, economic and ecological programs in all countries.

### **We call for international days of action against the NATO war system**

We call for non-violent actions around the globe from May 14th-20th, for solidarity, demilitarization, abolition of nuclear weapons, non-violent conflict resolution, putting people needs ahead of profits, justice, and addressing environmental challenges with integrity.

We urge political groups and activists around the world to take action against war - to take action for mutual understanding, for meeting social needs, and for responding to environmental imperatives.

Use social media to educate your friends and colleagues about NATO's real agenda and the need to create alternatives. Write letters to your government representatives and to the editors of your local, regional or national newspaper. Organize and join conferences, seminars, public or educational events. And demonstrate your opposition to NATO by engaging in nonviolent direct action ([as the NATO Game Over actions on April 1 in Brussels](#)), including civil disobedience, as well as in nonviolent demonstrations.

The International Coordinating Committee No to War – No to NATO (ICC)\*\*

February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2012

\*\* The international network No to War – No to NATO consists of more than 300 groups and organizations from a wide political spectrum. Currently the ICC consists of:



Reiner Braun (IALANA, Germany), Claire Chastain (Collectif national unitaire OTAN-Afghanistan, France), Petros Constantinou (Stop the War, Greece), Ludo De Brabander (Vrede, Belgium), Arielle Denis (Movement de la Paix, France), Joseph Gerson (American Friends Service Committee, USA), Jana Glivická (No Bases Network, Czech Republic), Luis Gutierrez-Esparza (Latin American Circle of International Studies, Mexico), Kate Hudson (Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, UK), Hans Lammerant (vredesactie, Belgium), Judith Leblanc (Peace Action, USA), Vitor Lima (PAGAN, Portugal), Kevin Martin (Peace Action, USA), Annie McStravick (Collectif national unitaire OTAN-Afghanistan, France), Agneta Norberg (Swedish Peace Council, Sweden), Tobias Pflüger (Informationsstelle Militarisation, Germany), Claudine Polet (Comité Surveillance OTAN, Belgium), Elsa Rassbach (Code Pink, USA), John Rees (Stop the War, UK), Ricardo Robles (Portugal), Andreas Speck (War Resisters International), Michael Youlton (Campaign for a Social Europe, Ireland)

\*Further actions include:

- 4/7 Chicago Spring (Occupy event)
- 4/17 Tax Day Actions (SU!C and others)
- 5/1 May Day
- 5/12-13 [CANG8 People's Summit](#)
- 5/12 Occupy Music Fest
- 5/14-17 Potential actions by Stand Up! Chicago
- 5/18-19 [Counter-summit for Peace and Economic Justice and possible Stand Up! Chicago march](#)
- 5/18 National Nurses United rally at Daley Plaza, focused on Obama as a target
- 5/19 [CANG8 march](#)
- 5/20 IAWW march