



2018/07/08 10-18h Brussels Counter Summit “No to war – No to NATO”

Make Peace Great Again

8 July 2018, 10-18h, Brussels

Institut libre Marie Haps, Brussels

Plenary lectures, workshops, podium discussion,
culture

Introduction

As the world becomes more dangerous, the need for discussions and actions for peace has never been more vital. With militarism on the rise, the need for a global people's alternative – of justice, sustainability and peace – has never been more urgent.

NATO is pressing its members to spend 2% of GDP on military budgets to fund wars and aggression. Since last year increased military spending became an obligation for most EU members in the framework of PESCO (Permanent Structured Cooperation), even though EU member states submit to strict austerity policies. How we can organize more effective opposition and new strategies for conversion? Questions we want to discuss at the counter summit.

In addition, NATO's role as a nuclear-armed alliance continues, with B61 nuclear bombs, currently being upgraded to the B61-12, to make them more 'usable'. A nuclear free world is our vision and dream. The ban treaty creates new opportunities for the peace movement to discuss.

NATO's expansion is against international security. This continued expansion has contributed to international tension as Russia sees itself increasingly surrounded by US and NATO bases. What to do for a new politics of common security in the 21st century?

More questions than answer. The counter summit will be a good possibility for an intensive, solidarity and controversial discussion.

You are welcome to join this International Peace Conference and to participate in the plenary lectures, workshops, podium discussions, ... An opportunity to meet other peace-loving people from NATO and other countries.



Program of the counter summit:

10.00 Welcome

Naïma Regueras (CNAPD, Belgium, tbc) / **Kristine Karch** (No to War – No to Nato, Germany)

10.30 – 12.00 Opening plenary:

- **NATO: global military alliance for war, intervention and military spending**
Joseph Gerson (AFSC, USA)
- **Nuclear weapons: the biggest danger**
Arielle Denis (ICAN & IPB, France)
- **European Militarization (PESCO) & military spending (2%)**
Sabine Lösing (MEP, GUE/NGL, Germany)
- **Russia and NATO - how to overcome the policy of confrontation?**
Boris Kagarlitski (Institute for Globalization and Social Movements, Russia)
- **The Anthropological Challenge of Women is Opposition to War and Militarism**
Giovanna Pagani (WILPF, Italy)
- **The role and importance of enemy pictures**
Anne Morrelli (prof. ULB, Belgium)

Every lecture 10 minutes, followed by a short discussion between the speakers and the participants.

12.00 – 12.10 Coffee break

12.10 – 1.10 Plenary: information to actions and campaigns against NATO and military spending

Three minutes each plus one-minute question

Moderation: **Kate Hudson** (CND, UK); **Reiner Braun** (IPB, Germany)

1.15 – 2.00 lunch break

2.00 – 3.30 Workshops

The workshops combine analytic elements with the discussion of strategies and actions. Most workshops will be in English, with (limited) translations when possible. Simultaneous translations in workshop 8.

1. **NATO strategy and abolition of NATO, including disarmament, nuclear weapons free world:** *Marie-Jeanne Vanmol (Vrede vzw, Belgium)*
2. **Europe of Peace:** *Judith Benda, Claudia Haydt (European Left, Germany)*
3. **Women and war: white masculine military culture and its implications for the rest of humankind :** *Kristine Karch (No to War – No to Nato, Germany)*
4. **Drones and automatization of weapons:** *Dave Webb (CND, UK)*
5. **Arms export:** *Wendela De Vries (Stop de Wapenhandel, Netherlands)*
6. **Military bases** *Michael Youlton (The Irish Anti-War Movement, Ireland), Gunda Weidmüller (Stopp Air Base Ramstein, Germany)*
7. **Future actions for Peace, including preparation of NATO actions 2019 :** *Yves-Jean Gallas (Mouvement de la Paix, France)*
8. **Nuclear weapons: Nouvelle Bombe & Nouvel Bombardier | New Bomb & New Bomber :** *Claudine Pôlet (CSOTAN, Belgium)*

3.30 – 3.45: Break

3.45 – 5.30 final session

Short impressions from the working groups with the focus on: what to do (max. 15 min.)
Moderation: *Ludo De Brabander (Vrede vzw, Belgium)*

Podium discussion:

“Future non-violent actions against war, NATO and militarization – for peace, justice and disarmament”

Discussion about common activities including EU elections, NATO anniversary 2019, end of World War I, modernization of nuclear weapons and B61, no to fighter jets F 35, and 2% of GDP for military spending.

Panelists:

Pat Elder (*World Beyond War, USA*), **Oleg Bodrov**, (*Green World, Russia*), **Katrien Neyt** (*ABVV/FGTB, Belgium*), **Édith Boulanger** (*Non à l’OTAN, Non à la guerre, France*), **Ewa Groszewska** (*Social Forum of Exchanging Opinions, Poland*) **Reiner Braun** (*IPB, Germany*)

Moderation: **Ann Wright** (*Codepink, USA*) & **Lucas Wirl** (*Ialana, Germany*)

5.30 closing remarks

Ludo De Brabander (Vrede Belgium) / Kristine Karch (No to War – No to Nato, Germany)

Logistical information

Counter summit “No to war – No to NATO”

Brussels 2018, July 8th, 10 am to 6:30 pm

Institut libre Marie Haps

Aarlenstraat / rue d’Arlon,11 – 1050 Brussels- Belgium

Metro: 2 & 6 – stop Troon

Bus: E – AUDERGHEM Herrmann-Debroux – stop Ixelles Luxembourg

& Bus 34, 38, 80, 95 – stop Luxembourg

The participation fees (coffee and a small lunch included) are €10/pp and €5/pp students and solidary tarif. This will have to be paid at the entrance.

Please register with email to info@no-to-nato.org

www.no-to-nato.org

<https://www.facebook.com/NotoWAR.NotoNATO>

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<https://www.stopnato2018.org/>

Download: [counter summit flyer-web.pdf](#)

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