

Campaign

Drums of War in Iran

CND Campaigns Officer **Sara Medi Jones** writes about the latest escalation in relations with Iran.



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IRAN ANNOUNCED this weekend that it will breach the landmark Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), also known as the ‘nuclear deal’, by enriching uranium above the permitted concentration. The country maintained it still wants to salvage the agreement. This comes a year after the United States unilaterally withdrew from the JCPOA, and started re-imposing heavy sanctions on Tehran.

Six countries signed the JCPOA in 2015 to curb Iran’s nuclear programme. Tehran agreed to limit its nuclear activities and let in international inspectors in exchange for an end to tight economic sanctions.

Iran should abide by its commitments to this important deal, but the ultimate

responsibility for the unravelling of the agreement lies at US President Donald Trump’s door. The US withdrew from the JCPOA at a time when the deal was working and ruling out nuclear proliferation. The European signatories (the UK, France and Germany) have been trying to save the deal since then, but have evidently not done enough. The other two signatories – China and Russia – have both blamed Washington’s withdrawal from the deal for the current situation.

The UK government has maintained it remains ‘fully committed’ to the deal, but has not offered any solution to Iran’s economic problems which are fuelling the current crisis. Iran has strongly denied it has any

intention of building nuclear weapons and the recent breach looks to be a way of trying to push the Europeans to do more in the face of American sanctions.

The UK, Germany and France have set up a new payments mechanism to allow businesses to trade with Iran without being subject to sanctions. The system, known as INSTEX, focuses on humanitarian trade. e.g. items such as food, pharmaceutical products and consumer goods. But the system could be rolled out to other industries.

Signatories are currently caught between the conflicting demands of Iran and the US. The UK, along with the rest, should not allow Trump to bully them into abandoning a deal that was working. They should step up and support Iran. The

deal was a good example of what diplomacy can achieve, and it's intolerable that Trump can rip up this success.

With the recent deployment of US aircraft in the Middle East, it is as though tensions are being ratcheted up ready for Trump's security adviser John Bolton to make the case for a new war. If we want peace in the Middle East, Iran needs international support.

This agreement was achieved in good faith after ten years of talks – the US changed the parameters by imposing heavy sanctions which is having a huge impact on Iran. Because of Trump's actions, yet again the world is a more dangerous place.

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Spotlight

This month:
Salisbury CND



Like many groups, Salisbury CND will next month mark the anniversary of the nuclear bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The group's candle float ceremony is always a very special occasion. If you're a local supporter, join them as the light fades and witness hundreds of candles floating gently down the river in memory of all the victims of nuclear weapons. Followed by a drink and chat at The Kings Head pub with like-minded people!

The group is active all year round. If you would like to get in touch, please contact 01722 321865 or email: c.lanyon@btinternet.com.

Glastonbury 2019



CND enjoyed a fantastic week at this year's Glastonbury Festival – thank you to everyone who supported us or came to say hello at our stalls! Thanks also to the CND groups working hard at the lock-ups.

We managed to sign up over a thousand new members this year, a huge achievement and fantastic boost to our campaign. Now the countdown begins for next year, which will be a celebration of the festival's 50th anniversary. Only 50 weeks to go!

Stop the trade in death

CND General Secretary **Kate Hudson** looks at why CND will be protesting against an upcoming arms fair in London.

DEFENCE & SECURITY Equipment International (DSEI) is one of the world's largest arms fairs. Supported by the Ministry of Defence and the Department for International Trade, it provides an opportunity for over 1600 arms companies to sell weapons and services to over 30,000 participants from more than 50 countries.

According to our government's official statistics, on a rolling 10-year basis the UK remains the world's second largest global 'defence exporter'. It has an estimated 12% or £9 billion share of the global defence export market which is valued at close to \$98 billion, the biggest it's been in the past decade.

Behind every pound made in this trade is the reality of death, brutality, mutilation, and destruction of communities. Behind every company or government celebrating a new order or contract, lies the sorrow of bereavement, of childhood curtailed, of peace denied.



The recent victory of Campaign Against Arms Trade in the courts was a big step forward, rightly acclaimed. The Court of Appeal ruled that the government has failed to properly assess whether there have been breaches of International Humanitarian Law in arms sales to Saudi Arabia for use in Yemen. The government was forced to stop issuing new arms export licences and must suspend existing licences.

But this is by no means an isolated incident. As a recent report by research charity Action On Armed Violence (AOAV) shows, the UK is selling weapons to many countries engaged in human rights abuses. Every year, the Foreign and Commonwealth

Office publishes a list of countries of concern over their human rights records yet the UK has granted arms exports to 29 of the 30 countries on the 2017 list over the previous decade.

The government claims to take its export control responsibilities very seriously, yet Bahrain, Colombia and Saudi Arabia, all on the FCO's list, were named by the Department for International Trade as 'core markets' for 'defence and security opportunities'.

Nuclear is part of this too. Arms companies are profiting from huge sums being spent on new nuclear weapons – and many of these will be present at DSEI.

It's time to put a stop to this trade in death and potential annihilation. Please join us to protest at the anti-nuclear day at DSEI on 4th September: let's call out BAE Systems and Lockheed Martin for their role in Trident and its replacement. Remaining silent is not an option.

For a full, updated list of events, see cnduk.org/events/

West Midlands CND

meeting July 13th, 10:30am

Friends of the Earth Warehouse
Café, Birmingham B5 5TH

■ Contact wmcndall@gmail.com

Abingdon Peace Group

meeting July 16th, 8pm

The Northcourt Centre,
Abingdon OX14 1QD

■ Contact 01235 526265 or
sallyreynolds@btinternet.com

A New Lucas Plan:

Merseyside CND meeting

July 17th, 1pm

Jack Jones House, 2 Churchill
Way, Liverpool L3 8EF

■ Contact 07394 810871 or
mcnd@care4free.net

**Chernobyl: Survival and
the Future July 19th**, 3pm

Room 1.2 Dugald Stewart
Building, University of Edinburgh

■ Contact information@cnduk.org
or 020 7700 2393

Oxford CND meeting

August 15th, 6:45pm

Oxford Town Hall, Oxford

■ Contact 01865 248357 or
oxfordcnd@phonecoop.coop

**No Nuclear Day at DSEI
Arms Fair**

September 4th

ExCel London, Royal Victoria
Dock E16 1XL

■ Contact enquiries@cnduk.org
or 020 7700 2393

Oxford CND Benefit

Concert September 7th,

7:30pm, Friends Meeting
House, Oxford

■ Contact 01865 248357 or
oxfordcnd@phonecoop.coop

Hiroshima and Nagasaki

On 6 August 1945, the US dropped an atomic bomb called 'Little Boy' on Hiroshima in Japan. Three days later a second atomic bomb ('Fat Man') was dropped on the city of Nagasaki. These are the only times nuclear weapons have been used in war.

Memorial events are planned across the UK for Hiroshima Day on the 6th August and Nagasaki Day on the 9th August. For a full list of events, see: www.cnduk.org/remembering-hiroshima-and-nagasaki/ (and please let us know if your event isn't listed).



Global Dangers Tour

We live in increasingly unstable times, where nuclear dangers are growing alarmingly. CND is highlighting these dangers in a national tour this year: get involved.

Upcoming dates include the Isle of Wight (July 26th), Derby (Aug 6th), Reigate (Sep 12th), Birkenhead (Sep 13th) and Oxfordshire (Sep 21st).

■ For more information or if you are interested in hosting a visit, please contact enquiries@cnduk.org or 020 7700 2393.

Peace Camps

Aldermaston Women's

Peace Camp Second weekend
of every month.

■ Tel: 07946 676761
info@aldermaston.net
www.aldermaston.net
@Peace_women_AWE

Faslane Peace Camp

Permanent. A814,

Shandon, Helensburgh,
Dumbartonshire G84 8NT.

■ Tel 07376 188216
faslanepeacecamp@protonmail.com

Menwith Hill vigil

Every Tuesday 6-7.30pm.

■ For more info contact Sarah –
01765 600928/
sswift64@gmail.com