

Campaign

We must rise again

CND General Secretary **Kate Hudson** writes about how we build on the success of last month's protest against Trump.



LAST MONTH'S Together against Trump demonstration was a remarkable upsurge of popular feeling against the policies of the US president. It was a powerful rejection of the extraordinary human, social and economic damage being inflicted across the USA – and the consequences of these developments elsewhere in the world. His presence in the White House means open season for racism, homophobia and misogyny. The support and succour that he brings to the far right internationally is enormously dangerous; this is a political development that must be challenged at every level.

For peace and anti-nuclear campaigners, the threats are very marked and we need to ensure that they are widely understood. There are

many reasons to oppose Trump, but his nuclear policies present dangers that no one can avoid. When he builds his wall, we can tear it down. When he puts children in cages, we can break them open. But when he presses the nuclear button, there will be no second chance. We are all confronted with annihilation.

Trump is an existential threat to humanity and the planet. He has trashed the Iran nuclear deal, and speaks of destroying North Korea when he isn't being Chairman Kim's best friend. But whatever rhetorical flourishes he may occasionally adopt, the reality is that his new nuclear posture review commits to building 'usable' nuclear weapons, and outlines more scenarios in which they could be used. He is making \$1.2 trillion

available for nuclear weapons development and modernisation. This is why we must act.

The Together against Trump demonstration gave me real hope that people will take action to stop this terrible turn in politics: to reject the brutality, hatred and sheer immorality that underpin these far right policies wherever they are found. There was a sense of coming together as a renewed movement, united, embracing all of us, to stand up for peace, justice and basic human decency.

There was a sense of that people power which we felt on February 15th, 2003, as we came together against

the war on Iraq. Many of us will remember that extraordinary day – not just protesting in Britain, but tens of millions across the world. We marched for a people that we didn't know, for a country we had never seen. But we marched for peace and justice, against the lies; ordinary people trying to make a difference, to prevent a war. We were – as *The New York Times* said – the second superpower.

And so for a time we were. But now we must rise again, and this time we must win. The stakes are infinitely higher. For this is not a war against a country, it is a war against humanity, and we will not be defeated.

Spotlight

This month:
Youth and Student CND



It's an exciting time for Youth and Student CND as they start preparing for the new academic year. The CND section is especially delighted that a University of Cambridge CND group will launch in September, good luck to you!

To make sure we have the best people to plan for the year ahead, YSCND is currently recruiting new committee members. Whether your interest is Facebook or festivals, see cnduk.org/yscndcommittee/ if you want to get involved.

Get in touch –
yscnd@riseup.net

Hiroshima & Nagasaki Days

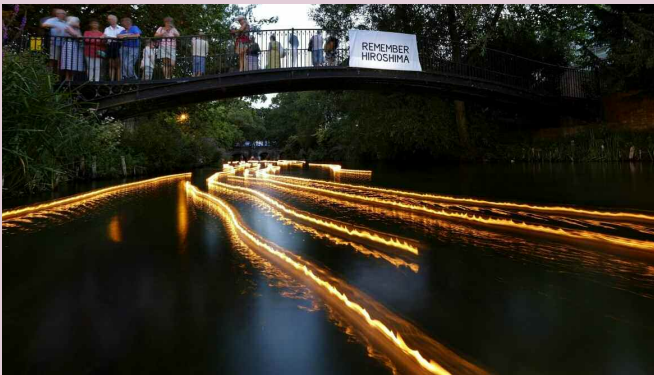


Photo: Donald Capewell

CND groups across the country are commemorating the anniversaries of the nuclear bombings of the Japanese cities Hiroshima and Nagasaki, including in Salisbury where a beautiful candle floating ceremony was held.

While most events have taken place, see cnduk.org/hiroshima-nagasaki/ for events taking place for the rest of the week.

EU's slippery slope

Campaigns Officer **Sara Medi Jones** looks at the increasing militarisation of the European Union.

CND recently attended a conference in Brussels at which organisations from Europe's peace movement were gathered. One of the main topics discussed was the creeping militarisation of the EU, and the fact that it's happening behind closed doors, without public debate. Many German campaigners in particular are worried about where this could lead, with press reports last week claiming that discussions have started in Berlin on whether to develop their own nuclear weapons. It's a slippery slope that we must avoid.

Ever since the creation of the Western European Union in 1948, the notion of a common defence policy for Europe has existed, but in practical terms, this has generally meant sharing capabilities and coordinating responses. But in July 2018, Members of the European Parliament endorsed financing independent EU defence projects for the first time, causing real concern about the militarisation of the union, which we should resist.

The new European Defence Industrial Develop-

ment Programme (EDIDP) has an annual budget of half a billion euros, with its projects including drones and cyber security. The MEP responsible for steering this development through the European Parliament called the programme a 'historic step forward for European defence'.

The EDIDP is part of the proposed European Defence Fund, a €13 billion pot to spend on war toys. The European Commission launched its plans for this fund in 2016, although most projects are yet to be approved.

In response, a coalition of 700 scientists and academics across Europe has launched the initiative Researchers for Peace, with Scientists for Global Responsibility the UK partners, calling on the EU to stop funding military research.

Dr Stuart Parkinson, Executive Director of Scientists for Global Responsibility, explains why the initiative was set up: 'The establishment of an EU military research programme points towards an unprecedented acceleration in the militarisation of the EU. Investing EU funds in

military research will not only divert resources from more peaceful areas, but is also likely to fuel arms races, undermining security in Europe or elsewhere.'

In the current unpredictable international context, countries should not be investing in new military technologies. And when produced, where will the new weapons be sold? Will the desire to make a profit lead to these new weapons being sold to repressive regimes?

Funding new research into weapons serves the arms industry, rather than the people of Europe. The EU could play a valuable role in the international community by funding research into conflict prevention and resolution instead. Security is about more than investing in the military. CND has previously highlighted the real threats facing us today, which includes climate change. Finding new pots of money to spend on defence projects will only take vital funds away from other problems which we should be tackling seriously instead.

**CND Now More Than Ever
Tour: Norwich**

August 10th, 10am-5pm
Chapelfield Gardens, Coburg
Street, Norwich.

■ Contact 01603 702775 or
sue.wright44@ntlworld.com

**CND Now More Than Ever
Tour: Norwich**

August 11th, 10am-5pm
St Peter Mancroft Church,
Chantry Road, Norwich.

■ Contact 01603 702775 or
sue.wright44@ntlworld.com

**Aldermaston Women's
Peace Camp Summer**

Party, August 11th, 4pm
Aldermaston Women's Peace
Camp.

■ Contact 07946 676761

Crawley CND Garden

Party, August 25th, 2pm-
5pm, Ifield Meeting House, 5
Langley Lane, Crawley.

■ Contact 07984 622186 or
keaveney753@gmail.com

**CND Now More Than Ever
Tour: Cardiff, September**

1st, 11am-3pm, Nye Bevan
statue, Queen Street, Cardiff.

■ Contact:
brian.jones@phonecoop.coop



CND AGM & Policy Conference

Saturday October 20th

10am-5pm

Wills Memorial Building, University of Bristol
Registration is open until October 12th, see
cnduk.org/about/cnd-conference

**Towards a nuclear-free future:
building change from the grass roots**

Sunday October 21st

10am-4pm, Wills Memorial Building, University of
Bristol. For more details see:
cnduk.org/about/cnd-conference

**Bromley Peace Council
Peace Day event**

September 21st, 7:30pm
Bromley Parish Church Rooms,
Bromley.

■ Contact 020 8460 1295

**West Midlands CND
meeting, September 22nd,**

10:30am-12:30pm, Café on top
of House of Fraser, Birmingham.

■ Contact wmcndall@gmail.com

Nae Nukes Anywhere:

**Demo at Faslane,
September 22nd,**

Assemble 12 noon
Faslane nuclear base,
Helensburgh G84 0EH.

■ Contact:
hello@nuclearban.scot

**Nuclear Disarmament and
the Churches – Reigate
public meeting**

October 19th, 7:30pm-
9:30pm, Friends Meeting House,
47 Reigate Road, Reigate

■ Contact: reigateandredhillcnd
@hotmail.co.uk



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 or
sswift64@gmail.com