

PEACE 4 THE PEOPLE

NEWSLETTER OF ILPS COMMISSION 4



Oct. 2022, Issue 22



Statement of ILPS Commission 4

UN International Peace Day on September 21, 2022

JOIN THE FIGHT AGAINST AGGRESSION AND FASCISM!!

Organize people's actions for International Peace Day, September 21! SUPPORT THE STRUGGLES OF THE PEOPLE FOR JUST AND LASTING PEACE EVERYWHERE!

US-led imperialism is in decline and on a disastrous path. The cases of Afghanistan, Yemen, Syria and Ukraine reveal the state of anarchy and furious panic it has sunken into and total disregard for human suffering and human rights. The US and its allies persist in propping up the worst states including Israel, Saudi Arabia, Ukraine and the Philippines as fascists consolidate themselves.

Provocations against Russia and China are flirtations with global disaster. After having facilitated the Right in Ukraine and threatened Russia, the US and company is blocking the possibilities of ceasefire and negotiations in favour of prolonging the carnage and destroying Ukraine. Taunting China over the Chinese territory of Taiwan and interfering, it is setting the stage for a similar tragedy there in which China may mobilize its forces to integrate Taiwan into the People's Republic of China, the US may mobilize for control of Taiwan, and the people of Taiwan will suffer extreme hardship and mass death. It is all about domination and plunder.

Building its military alliances and expanding its 100s of bases, installations and shared spaces, the US still dominates militarily. In fact, though, it has not won a war since WW2. It has orchestrated coups to bring in dictators, supported occupations that serve it or invaded regions to take direct control (Grenada, Iraq, Afghanistan). The profit motive dominates most aspects of state affairs so that the war profiteers can benefit. The US righteously violates international laws, standards and norms all the time, still ridiculously clinging to the line of self-entitlement ("exceptionalism") and is engaging of multiple forms of aggression including economic, cyber, misinformation and manipulation, collaboration with terrorists and reaction. The worldwide militarization and preparations for war must be stopped!

The people of the world are becoming more politically aware and engaged in grassroots organizing. They are getting active, taking up the cause for just peace, liberation and real democracy. Fundamental change that benefits the people will take a united, global movement that understands the exploitative and plundering nature of the global system of monopoly capitalism, its armed aggression, policies of neo-liberalism and hostility to any non-compliant nation or state. The imperialist powers will not simply give up unless the working people and oppressed, actively and, as a whole, face them and stop it. Organized masses around the world united in coordinated action can block imperialism and fascism and move towards socialism. The people cannot gamble that capitalism will develop a heart or that new faces in the capitalist countries signify signs of care. They must extend and carry on their struggles.

Imperialism as defined by Lenin is the contemporary form of global capitalism, with its monopolies dominated by financial oligarchs that economically and geographically divide the world in their quest for exponential growth and ceaseless, forceful, worldwide expansion. Military and industry are tied. They work in tandem mostly outside the political processes and even beyond the scope of the law designed to protect the rule of monopoly capital. Imperialism is an inherently irrational, violent system that operates without concern for human welfare and that has abandoned social development and human rights altogether.

The system plummets into high unemployment, inflation and slow production and hence slow purchasing every few years. The capitalist class of the US and Europe have tried again and again to resolve each crisis by social austerity measures, deregulation, increased lending and increased investment in military-related industry and war, to no avail. The result is always mass suffering, perpetual warring, various conflicts, ruin and unrest. The oppressed and socialist states pit themselves against the most powerful states, classes war and inter-imperialist rivalries go on. Now stagflation is occurring, as happened in the late 1970s. Neo-liberalism, instituted in the 1980s, could not avoid this inevitability. Brute force is the only means remaining to US-led imperialism, which will not solve anything. Its aim to gain tighter control over lands, markets and working people.

As before, capitalist states crack down on the people, turn over more land to plunderers and wreck ecology at the behest of foreign and local corporations, violating indigenous lands and rights more and more, destroying nature and farmlands, displacing communities, causing starvation, pandemics and other hardships, to which the people must respond with resistance. Misinformation is spread and racism, communal and gender bias incited to hold onto power. Cruel economic blockades that deprive working people of daily necessities are exacted to strangle societies that do not conform. US-based capitalism is sinking into permanent warring and mayhem, providing fertile ground for fascism to grow.

Comprehending the motivations, relations and machinery of the imperialist system, one sees why the questions of, for instance, Palestine's or the Kashmir's independence, peaceful reunification between North and South Korea, a resolution for Russia and Ukraine and social equality and guarantees of home and livelihood, are never settled. Despite the people's hopes, this has been the case no matter who gets into power or what narrative they tell.

When informed and aroused, the people take action to support a clear peoples' agenda that on one hand challenges imperialism and, on the other, stakes their clear rights on decent livelihoods, a sustainable planet, social justice and equity that would ensure a classless society that would yield a just and lasting peace. They must ENSURE THAT THEIR ISSUES AND DEMANDS BE ADDRESSED BEFORE GIVING UP THEIR FIGHTS. To the ILPS and Commission 4, peace does not mean acquiescence and silence. Humankind would be doomed were we to be passive and quiet as the world becomes increasingly dangerous and unsustainable and human life more precarious. Let's deepen our commitment to struggle against imperialism for just peace on September 21 and make Peace Day meaningful. The UN is ineffective; in fact, it is often a springboard to launch aggression. Build a unified struggle for a better world! The people are struggling to win and defend their rights and future. They do not stand by as the chaos, excess, violence and suffering burn up the planet. Voting periodically is not enough. Join the movement for change to preserve life and avoid extinction.

JUST PEACE NOW!

CEASEFIRES AND NEGOTIATIONS NOW!

DISMANTLE NATO, AUKUS AND ALL IMPERIALIST MILITARY ALLIANCES!

SOCIAL, NOT MILITARY SPENDING!

NO MORE WAR GAMES!

CLOSE US AND NATO BASES!

NO MILITARY AID!

NO MORE HIROSHIMAS!

END THE ARMS TRADE!

NO TO FASCISM!

SIGN THE TREATY FOR THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS!



Demonstration called by Just Peace Committee and joined by member groups of the Canada-Wide Peace and Justice Network in Greater Vancouver, BC, Canada, to fight against war and occupation in the week of the UN International Day of Peace, September 21.



###

In Memory of the Victims of Nazism, Fascism and Japanese Militarism [by Pauline Easton, *TML Daily No. 9*, August 31, 2022]

During September, we commemorate several important anniversaries related to World War II. We recall the death-defying deeds and courage of the peoples of the occupied countries and the Allied nations who joined their fight to vanquish Italian fascism, German Nazism and Japanese militarism. We pay deepest respects to the victims of these scourges of humankind.

On September 1, 1939, the German Nazis invaded Poland. The Nazi invasion of Poland signalled the beginning of World War II and of the European holocaust. In China on September 2, the people celebrate the defeat of the Japanese occupation of China in 1945. The Japanese invaded China on July 7, 1937. Their invasion unleashed the Asian holocaust about which Canadian media remains largely silent. Since 1962, the International Day of Memory of Victims of Fascism is also marked on the second Sunday of September every year. This year it will be marked on September 11.

The Whole World Honours the Victims of Fascism

World War II involved 61 nation-states and over 80 per cent of the world's population, taking a toll of more than 55 million people. Hostilities occurred on the territories of 40 states and the vast basins of the Atlantic, Arctic, Pacific and Indian Oceans. The Soviet Union sustained the biggest losses in people and material resources. Some 27 million people lost their lives, in addition to losses to its armed forces of some 8.7 million people. China is estimated to have endured the second highest number of total casualties in World War II. As many as 20 million people died in China in the Asian Holocaust, including up to 3.75 million military deaths and 18.19 million civilian deaths.



Chinese civilian victims of the Nanjing Massacre, 1937.

The Nanjing Massacre, also known as the Rape of Nanjing, was the mass murder of Chinese civilians in Nanjing, the capital of the Republic of China, immediately after the Battle of Nanjing in the Second Sino-Japanese War, by the Imperial Japanese Army. Beginning on December 13, 1937, the massacre lasted for six weeks. The Japanese militarists committed atrocities such as permitting mass rape, looting and arson. The massacre has gone down in history as one of the worst atrocities committed in the twentieth century.

In their maniacal drive to condemn Russia and the People's Republic of China as "authoritarian regimes," Canada's Prime Minister and the government of Canada and media remain silent about who liberated China from these monstrous deeds and the role of the Soviet Union in liberating Europe. Despite the tremendous sacrifices endured by the peoples of the occupied countries and their liberators, the government of Canada and the media in the service of the U.S. striving for world domination are purveyors of criminal disinformation about what actually took place and its significance today.

Canada is marching in lockstep with the United States, Britain and various European countries and NATO allies to spread historical falsifications to justify what cannot be justified as concerns U.S./NATO warmongering and crimes against humanity in the name of Canadian values, peace, freedom and democracy. The restoration of the Nazism, fascism and Japanese militarism will not solve any crisis they are facing as they plunge the world into the abyss of wars of destruction with unknown consequences.

They are erecting monuments intended to equate Nazism and communism for purposes of complying with the U.S. striving for world hegemony. This includes the rehabilitation of neo-Nazi and militarist forces in positions of power and enabling private armies and paramilitary forces to maraud, plunder and commit crimes on their behalf.

The claim that Canada is not honouring Nazis but "freedom fighters against the communists," fools no one. To its utter shame, the Government of Canada no matter which cartel party has been in power, with the NDP in tow, participates in this perpetuation of historical fraud. All read from the same playbook which seeks to shamefully cover up the betrayal committed when the Munich Agreement was concluded on September 30, 1938, by Germany, the United Kingdom, France, and Italy which gave Hitler the green light to first occupy Czechoslovakia in March 1939 and then invade Poland on September 1.

The German-Soviet non-aggression pact signed August 23, 1939, was forced on the Soviet Union because Britain and France refused to enter into a defence alliance in Europe to stop the Hitlerites from invading other countries. These countries had already signed the Munich Pact with Germany on September 30, 1938. This outrageous act of appeasement and collaboration permitted Germany to annex the Sudetenland of Czechoslovakia, ordered the Czechs not to resist Nazi aggression and gave the Nazis the green light to launch further attacks across Europe.

Since 2005, on Russia's initiative, every year the UN General Assembly has approved resolutions urging an end to the glorification of Nazism and urging member states to combat practices that exacerbate contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

The General Assembly through these resolutions has expressed its deep concern over attempts to glorify Nazism, neo-Nazism and former members of the Waffen-SS in any form, including the construction of monuments and the holding of public demonstrations. The resolutions express concern over the "recurring attempts to desecrate or demolish monuments erected in remembrance of those who fought against Nazism during World War II, as well as to unlawfully exhume or remove the remains of such persons," and noted an alarming increase in racist incidents and violence globally.

Today, even the United Nations is being used to push the Anglo-American historical fraud called a rules-based international order. May the memory of those who gave their lives in the fight for freedom, peace and democracy live on in the battle of current generations for a world free of the scourge of the aggression we see today carried out by the Anglo-U.S. and European powers in the name of regime change and "responsibility to protect." It is said more people are losing their lives today as a result of the current imperialist striving for domination of the world's resources, labour, zones for investment and influence than during World War II.

The need to establish anti-war governments all over the world has never been greater. Let us do our duty to the victims of Nazism, fascism and Japanese militarism... ###

Statement of ILPS Commission 4 (July 30, 2022)

ORGANIZE TO PREVENT GLOBAL WAR AND NUCLEAR DISASTER!

The International League of Peoples' Struggles demands that all states, beginning with and especially the US, commit to denuclearization and sign the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

On August 6, 1945, the nuclear blast by "Little Boy" immediately killed 80,000 people and wiped out 90% of Hiroshima city. Three days later, on August 9, a second atomic bomb dubbed "Fat Man" was dropped on Nagasaki. All tolled, about 140,000 people in Hiroshima and 70,000 people in Nagasaki died by the end of the year due to direct effects of the bombings. In the aftermath, tens of thousands of survivors suffered various atomic bomb-related diseases. These attacks followed the US' campaign of firebombing Japan's communities for months, which caused hundreds of thousands of deaths of non-military populations.

The ILPS Commission 4 remembers these historic atrocities and works to educate and mobilize mass organizations into action for just peace against wars of aggression and counterrevolution and nuclear and all weapons of mass destruction. We organize and support actions in the broad movement for these causes and call on all people of conscience to take part.

The bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki are recognized as crimes against humanity perpetrated by US imperialism and its allies. That attack represents the first and only use ever of these weapons in war.

The use and mass production of nuclear weapons and the first-strike policy of US imperialism and its allies unleashed the dual strategies of nuclear terror and mutually assured destruction that marked the Cold War. Today they persist and are madly creating more and more dangerous weaponry, employing multiple types of aggression, stepping up their lies and propaganda, reaching further and further into waters and territories around the Earth with no concern for life. Thermal nuclear bombs (fusion, hydrogen bombs) each with a destructive capacity 1000-fold that of fission or atom-bombs, were invented and tested by 1958. Schemes to use them against China and other targets were hatched back then and are being contemplated today by reigning powers while the people and non-nuclear, non-imperialist states press for the prohibition of nuclear weapons.

NATO's 2030 Strategy, proposed in 2021 and just ratified at its 2022 Summit, confirms this fact. They want nuclear weapons on the ready and consider tactical atomic bombs not only to coerce and terrorize the world but also as an option to start regional wars and create chaos. They rationalize these intentions by portraying China and Russia as boogymen. They are expanding operations into Asia, adding military pacts, increasing the size and participation of military exercises, developing and trading more weaponry and expanding their tactics of aggression such as psy-warfare (propaganda), armed drones, cyber-tech and economic warfare. They are desperate to maintain the status quo and the system they feed off.

Over the decades since the horrific bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki that killed over 200,000 people by the end of 1945, the death and sickness toll directly related to nuclear weapons development, stockpiling and testing mounts. Indigenous people, various workers and military personnel have been suffering. In North America and the South Pacific,

indigenous nations and their sovereign land rights have been attacked because of testing and uranium exploration and mining. Uranium enrichment and plutonium production sites are fatally toxic. The survivors and their many friends and allies never rest in their efforts to get justice and educate and agitate against the nuclear industry and the industry of war.

With its policy justified by the deterrence argument, NATO prohibits its 29 member states to sign the 2017 UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), which came into effect with signatures by 50 Treaty parties in September 2020. That position has inevitably led opponents to the US alliance to arm themselves with nuclear weapons as a defense (North Korea, Iran, China...). By June, 2022, however, 62 states had signed the TPNW and numerous mass organizations were supporting it. It was a major concern of the peoples' summits and demonstrations against NATO in Europe, North America and elsewhere in June 2022.

While the ILPS supports and participates in certain campaigns such as calls to close US bases outside the US and efforts to dismantle NATO, it remains an expression of the anti-imperialist movement bringing together mass organizations who share an understanding of the global system and its inherent contradictions as the main cause to most violence and conflict. It brings together all key sectors and causes to cooperate, develop a common analysis and carry out a common political agenda with a course of action aimed at challenging imperialism and building alternative societies.

The anniversaries of the nuclear bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki must be honoured and the memory of the victims of these horrific crimes against humanity kept alive. It is a time to voice a commitment to the prohibition of nuclear weapons forever and say never again. The ILPS declares the deterrence argument false and denounces all justification for wars of aggression and counter-revolution and all chemical, biological, nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction.

Furthermore, the ILPS rejects the NATO 2030 Strategy as it is a strategy of aggression, militarization and domination that is provoking military responses, stimulating more and more direct military engagement and putting the world at a greater and greater risk of world war three. We demand the closure of all foreign bases and the return of foreign military personnel to their home countries.

We call working people and all peace and justice minded people to take action to call to action to challenge the US and NATO states' monopoly on nuclear weapons and demand they make good on their promise of nuclear disarmament. NATO must reverse its decision to reactivate its nuclear arsenals and take them off the table. All 29 NATO member states plus all NATO partners must sign the nuclear prohibition treaty and shelve their nuclear weapons before universal de-nuclearization can be considered.

The ILPS strongly supports the global campaign against nuclear weapons. We support the international peace movement and its key demands. All out to demonstrate for just peace on August 6 and 9, 2022!

SUPPORT THE TREATY FOR THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS!

NO MORE HIROSHIMAS!

ORGANIZE AND FIGHT AGAINST FASCISM AND IMPERIALISM!

UNITE IN ACTION AGAINST IMPERIALISM!

###

Mobilize against aggression and fascism on Europe/Canada Remembrance Day!

CEASEFIRES AND NEGOTIATIONS NOW!

DISARM NOW! NO NUCLEAR WEAPONS!

World war could ignite any day now. The biggest flame is the Ukraine inferno, fanned by the Donbas people's referendum to decide whether their already autonomous territory inside the state of Ukraine will become part of the Russian Federation.

As the United Nations International Day of Peace on September 21 and United Nations Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons on September 26 passed, and the UN General Assembly were discussing the Ukraine and other conflicts, the war mongers kept up their rationalizations for militarization and war. The consensus among many state officials of non-nuclear states to support a nuclear weapons ban is growing, however. Sixty-three UN member states compose the Treaty parties. Five more countries just signed the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons which the UN ratified in 2020; the new signatories are Barbados, Burkina Faso, Equatorial Guinea, Haiti and Sierra Leone, while the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Dominican Republic have ratified the Treaty, bringing the number of states who have signed and acceded to it is 71 as of the writing of this newsletter.

The need for de-escalations, negotiations, disarmament and understanding could not be more urgent. Nuclear may break out over the Ukraine as both the US and Russia are warning each other, especially as Russia may be motivated to retaliate against the US/NATO's increase military aid to Ukraine. NATO pledged active use of nuclear weapons as part of its 2022 Strategy, which was ratified at its Summit in June 2022. These are thermonuclear warheads, with 10 times the power of atomic bombs. The US, France, Britain and Russian Federation possess thousands of nuclear missiles, while a few states have a handful, including India, Pakistan, the DPRK and China.

Devastating military conflicts are dragging on and increasing in number while the arms trade and militarism are on the rise. We are faced with mass deaths, starvation and displacement and obliteration of biological and social ecologies. The US imperialist tactical of hybrid war carry out war by every means. Propaganda, racism, economic policies, cyber tech and nuclear blackmail are all part of the arsenal of war. Economic sanctions are today being a great cause for deprivation and insecurity; we oppose such tools of war, too, just as we oppose war profiteering.

The people need to organize and mobilize more in a wide and united global movement to end aggressions and occupations. **We need to build understanding and share information. For this reason, Commission 4 will host a webinar on hybrid war, with a stress on economic warfare the propaganda supporting it, on Europe Armistice Day, November 11, 2022 (06h00 PDT, 09h00 EDT). Stay tuned for details.**

We also strongly encourage peoples' organizations to plan peace actions in their areas on November 11. Let us honour the day with building the movement for just peace!

###

Hiroshima and Nagasaki Anniversary Actions

Just Peace Cmte and friends Vancouver, Canada on August 6



Surrey, Canada: Picket against Abbotsford Airshow Aug. 7
Canada-Wide Peace and Justice Network organizations



Quakers in Ottawa, Canada, on August 6



IPAN in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia



###

SOLIDARITY MESSAGE FROM AWC-JAPAN

ON THE OCCASSION OF THE 77TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ATOMIC BOMBINGS ON JAPAN

On the occasion of the 77th anniversary of the atomic bombings on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, we AWC-Japan express our heartfelt solidarity to all our friends in Vancouver and the rest of the world who are fighting for nuclear abolition and world peace. We are also holding an anti-war and anti-nuclear rally today, August 6, in front of the Atomic Bomb Dome in Hiroshima.



The two atomic bombs killed so many people. More than 210,000 people in the two cities died by the end of 1945. Survivors have suffered from severe aftereffects. It is a horrendous crime against humanity.

Surprisingly, the U.S. government, which dropped the atomic bombs, has still neither apologized for nor compensated the victims. In addition, it continues to build up its nuclear capability, including the development of small or tactical nuclear weapons. We strongly denounce the U.S. atrocities 77 years ago as well as present expansion of its nuclear posture.

A-bomb victims were not only Japanese. For example, around 40,000 Koreans died instantly in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. They were the dual victims of Japanese imperialism's forced transport to Japan and the U.S. imperialism's atomic bombings. We must not forget such kind of historical facts.

We have second and third generation of A-bomb survivors in our membership. The genetic effects of radiation have not been "proven" but cannot be denied. They are standing on the front lines of the anti-war and anti-nuclear struggles in Japan, despite their health concerns. For them and us, the atomic bombings are not a matter of the past, but of the present..

In one aspect, the U.S. atomic bombings on Hiroshima and Nagasaki were a miserable result of inter-imperialist war. Therefore, after the World War II, many Japanese people have demanded nuclear abolition and world peace, not war. The Japanese government's attitude, however, is the exact opposite.

The Japanese government has not ratified the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. The reason is that 'Japan must be protected by the U.S. nuclear umbrella'. This is a really shameful attitude. Furthermore, the Japanese government is now drastically developed its own military posture under the nuclear-armed U.S.-Japan military alliance. It includes planned double increasing of the military budget and moves toward an amendment of Article 9 or a peace article of the Japanese Constitution. We also point out that one of the reasons why the Japanese government try to maintain nuclear energy despite the Fukushima nuclear disaster in 2011 is to keep technical capability for Japan's own nuclear armament.

We fight against imperialist wars of aggression and expansion of nuclear posture in solidarity with peoples of the world. We believe that only people can stop war and war crisis. Let us fight together for lasting peace in the world.

August 6, 2022
AWC-Japan

** The AWC-Japan (Asia-Wide Campaign against the US-Japanese domination and aggression of Asia' is a people's organization in Japan) has long committed people's campaign against war, nukes, US bases and neoliberal policies. The AWC-Japan is a member organization of the ILPS.*

###

INDIGENOUS PEOPLE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST NUKES: Report on "Weapons Watch" project

Only two nuclear bombs have ever been used offensively in warfare against the people of another country. In this case, they were used by the military of the US against innocent civilians in Japan, leveling the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and irradiating the area that still affects people today.

Yet, the nuclear arms race has never stopped and only picked up speed in recent years. Every step of the production and supply process affects people, from radioactive mining, nuclear testing, waste disposal and use of depleted uranium in battlefields, it is mostly indigenous people and the people of oppressed and colonized nations that are affected the most.



The US and Russia together possess **over 90%** of all nuclear weapons. This fact reveals the **immediate danger of NATO's eastward expansion** and in particular the current war in Ukraine. Since the start of 2022, nearly **2000** warheads between the two countries have been kept on **high alert**.

Will NATO Expand North?

European countries by year they joined NATO



Map excludes NATO members the United States and Canada
Source: NATO



statista



The **colonial and militaristic legacy** of nuclear production must end! On Indigenous Peoples' Day, the Resist US-Led War Movement calls for an end to all uranium mining on indigenous lands, **justice and restitution** for all nuclear irradiated communities, and the **immediate dismantlement** of all depleted uranium and nuclear-powered weaponry!



On World Indigenous Peoples Day in August of 2022, which took place between the twin commemorative dates of the nuclear bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the Resist US-Led War Movement produced a visual statement outlining the current state of the nuclear arms race in the context of continued NATO expansion, the historical effects this has had on indigenous and oppressed nations around the world and who have profited from the never-ending nuclear arms and energy race.

This post was made via a project called Weapons Watch, a project of the Resist US-Led War Movement to keep all eyes on the war industry and its role in encouraging demand for US-led wars around the world. Each post features the facts, figures and outrage needed to isolate the war profiteers and build a mass movement to end the conditions that

inevitably lead to wars.

*Subscribe to Resist US-Led War's Facebook page, and check out the post here: *<https://tinyurl.com/Resist-Nukes>
###



Tens of thousands of South Koreans demonstrated on August 13, during the first round of military drills Aug. 8-14. This “military drill” was described as preparation for a larger 11-day U.S.-South Korean military operation Aug. 22 to Sept. 1. [Credit: Xinhua]

###



Taiwan [<https://news.pts.org.tw/article/593349> C. Chuang on August 3, 2022]

The ILPS is the International League of Peoples' Struggles, an anti-imperialist alliance. peoplesstruggle.org
Due to the attacks on the ILPS and the efforts to shut down its website, this is an alternative ILPS site to ilps.info
Commission 4 is concerned with wars of aggression and counter-revolution and nuclear weapons and all weapons of mass destruction. Peace4@vcn.bc.ca

FIGHT AGAINST WARS OF AGGRESSION! END IMPERIALIST WARS! FREE THE PEOPLE!

ILPS has joined this international campaign, becoming a member of the International Coordinating Network along with several coalitions and sectoral formations. The campaign successfully launched on May 21.

Imperialist wars rage throughout the world. Thousands of people are dying, directly by armed attacks or due to the resulting famine, destruction of homes, and devastation of land, water and food systems. Millions of others are forced to flee their homelands. While using militarism and war to secure control over territory, natural resources, and markets in a multi-polar world, imperialist powers and their propaganda machines obscure the history of the roots of these conflicts and the competing economic and geo-political interests at stake. Still, people's movements to defend themselves and assert their collective democratic rights, self-determination, and social and national liberation continue to burn! As more wars break out and the people face intensified repression, it is more important now than ever to strengthen movements to fight against imperialist war and free the people!

Commission 4 Webinar on November 11 (06h30 PDT, 09h30 EDT):

END THE ILLEGAL US SANCTIONS! --a forum on US-led hybrid war highlighting the deadly consequences of its economic warfare on socialist states, liberation struggles and national sovereignty. **Support the people harmed and fight against economic warfare!**

Speakers:

Barbara Waldern, Head Coordinator of ILPS Commission 4, on US sanctions

Azza Rojbi of Fire this Time Movement for Social Justice and the Yemen campaign of Mobilization against War and Occupation [Saudi air raid near Yemeni hospital war crime: Analyst \(presstv.ir\)](#)

Arnold August, independent journalist, author and lecturer on Cuba and Venezuela <http://www.arnoldaugust.com>

No registration necessary. At the time of the event, just click here:

Topic: Barbara Waldern's Zoom Meeting

Time: Nov 11, 2022, 06:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84404681909?pwd=cm5Jd1piQ1EyR0w4ZkpjNDlGMldFdz09>

Meeting ID: 844 0468 1909

Passcode: 661290

One tap mobile

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+19294362866,,84404681909#,,,,*661290# US (New York)

Meeting ID: 844 0468 1909

Passcode: 661290

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kvaxadpeb>

Commission 4's commentary on the current state of the world crisis

(Discussion of Professor Jose Maria Sison's article, "On the World Situation" published Sept. 26)

The global system of monopoly capitalism, with the US as the superpower dominating it, is now in a phase of stagflation causing monumental losses to workers and corporations worse than the stagflation of the early 70s. Production and consumption slow down while prices soar, causing greater inequality, unemployment and underemployment, loss of business and escalating debt. It is a culmination of decades of overproduction and over-consumption, declining investment in workers and families, social programs and basic infrastructure, increasing investment in the US and allied military and fatal reliance on debt, interest manipulation and the over-supply of money. A very moldy, yet hard crust of a super-rich club of multi-billionaires does not want to give up; far from it, they are doubling down and committing to fighting to sustain the status quo to the bitter end. Half of the world's net wealth belongs to the top 1%, the top 10% of adults hold 85%, while the bottom 90% hold the remaining 15% of the world's total wealth.

In this phase, contradictions are sharpening, militarization is increasing, and fascism is organizing in response to the deep crisis. This time around, it marks the end of the supremacy of US imperialism. Its greatest rivals, China and the Russian Federation are overtaking it as big economies. China and Russia have been forming their own economic, trade and diplomatic alliances. It is a highly dangerous time. Imperialist states are clamping down on people's movements, especially labour, while the US camp in particular is opposing socialism in other countries and engaging in war on many

fronts (military, economic, diplomatic, propaganda, technology). Meanwhile, extraction, energy and arms industries are getting more aggressive, and shipping and supply problems are developing, both as a result of the economic downturn and economic sanctions. The US is reacting to its predicament generally with more violence, unwilling as it is to accept its fate.

Professor Jose Maria Sison, Chairperson Emeritus of the International League of Peoples' Struggles, explains the sharpening contradictions.

The major contradictions in the world capitalist system are intensifying. They include those between monopoly capital and labor in the imperialist countries, those among the imperialist countries, those between the imperialist powers and the oppressed peoples and nations, and those between the imperialist powers and the countries assertive of national independence and socialist program and aspirations. ["On the World Situation," September 26, 2022]

Prof. Sison explains the hostility of the US and Canada and most states of Europe against Russia and their interest in supporting the Ukraine-Russia war. At the moment, the consensus of the traditional imperialist powers is that Russia is the weakest of the new imperialist powers because its previous Soviet industrial prowess has disintegrated and lagged behind in industrial development and its oligarchy depends on the production of energy, raw materials and agricultural products (wheat, corn, barley, and sunflower oil) in exchange for foreign manufactures.

However, the traditional imperialist powers continue to be wary over Russia's stockpile of nuclear weapons and missile delivery systems. They hope to weaken Russia economically and politically by violating their own dogma of neoliberalism and adopting sanctions against Russia and by instigating proxy wars against it on the basis of the expansion of NATO. Thus, the US and the EU have pushed Ukraine to serve as their pawn in their proxy war against Russia and have taken the initiative in imposing sanctions against Russia.

Though China may appear to be enjoying stability and growing wealth, it has to deal with its own internal contradictions. Sison writes, "As a result of the US-China contradictions, China has suffered internal economic and financial setbacks and adverse consequences on its Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)." It is safe to assume there is also some international social unrest, from pro-US elements and capitalist rivalries inside the country as well as discontent with labour, civil and social conditions.

The process of overproduction and exponential expansion of markets and profits simply cannot go on forever. Even high-ranking liberal experts of the US establishment including military figures are issuing warnings. Take US foreign policy critic US Senator and retired Colonel Richard Black, the former US Marine Corps intelligence officer and UN Special Commissioner in Iraq, Scott Ritter, and economics critic Jeffrey Sachs as examples.

Coming to the fore are spokespersons of the "soft Right" and libertarian movement oppose war and fascism. The soft Right believes that capitalism is a viable system that would be humane and prosperous for the majority if only the greediest players were removed, and the correct legislation brought in. Libertarians oppose war and fascism but go by the mantra of "free speech" that allows fascist voices to organize and be heard, while they oppose formal governments and state regulation of all kinds.

Prof. Sison, on the other hand, advises the ILPS and other progressive activists to (1) build communist parties, (2) support the trade union struggles, (3) support national liberation struggles and aspiring socialist states such as Vietnam, Venezuela and Cuba, and (4) build the popular front against war, fascism and nuclear armaments. He believes that the current conditions are ripe for revolution.

In this light, Commission 4 celebrates the founding of the International People's Front on September 28, 2022.

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TeleSur: Restored Venezuela-Colombia Ties a Blow to US

Venezuela and Colombia's restoration of diplomatic ties clearly illustrates the United States' waning influence in Latin America. The restoration of relations between the two countries is a "strong and convincing sign that the foreign policy of the United States has experienced an undeniable setback in Latin America and the Caribbean," Fernando Rivero pointed out. President Maduro received the credentials of Colombia's Ambassador to Venezuela Armando Benedetti, marking the full restoration of diplomatic relations. Washington's interests in the region have recently suffered innumerable setbacks, said Rivero, highlighting the notorious public failure of the last Summit of the Americas. [As reported in afgj.org Sept. 2/22]

MONTH OF ACTION AGAINST AFRICOM

SEPTEMBER 19, 2022—October 1, 2022, was the 14th anniversary of the launch of the U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM). Yet, jihadist [terrorist violence](#) on the African continent has increased since the founding of AFRICOM and NATO's destruction of Libya resulting in civilian casualties and instability, which the West has used as pretext and justification for the continued need for AFRICOM. Since its founding, coups carried out by AFRICOM-trained soldiers have also increased.

That is why the Black Alliance for Peace (BAP) organized an International Month of Action Against AFRICOM in October. This is an effort to raise the public's awareness about how the presence of U.S. military forces exacerbates violence and instability throughout the continent.

Despite its rhetoric, the purpose of AFRICOM is to use U.S. military power to impose U.S. control on African land, resources and labor to service the needs of U.S. multinational corporations and the wealthy in the United States. It also serves as a major boon to "defense" contractors.

[AFRICOM](#) is a direct product of NATO via the U.S. European Command (EUCOM), which originally took responsibility for 42 African states. In 2003, NATO started expanding; four years later, in 2007, EUCOM commander James L. Jones, who was also NATO commander of operational forces, proposed the creation of AFRICOM. NATO has become a huge global axle in the wheel of the military industrial complex, which includes more than 800 U.S. military bases around the world as well as joint bases or relationships with almost all African countries. These are all controlled by the U.S. empire for realizing the U.S. policy of [Full Spectrum Dominance](#), which is driven by the ferocious appetite of international finance capital.

NATO continues today in the form of AFRICOM facilitating wars, instability and the corporate pillage of Africa. This hypocrisy explains why 17 African nations abstained from the March 2 United Nations resolution condemning Russia. One African state, Eritrea, even voted no. Their experiences with NATO and AFRICOM ensure skepticism of self-proclaimed noble motives.

Motives such as bill [H.R. 7311](#), the "Countering Malign Russian Activities in Africa Act", a racist affront to African sovereignty designed to dictate what bi-lateral relations African states are permitted to have.

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On October 22, 2022, "Cross-country for peace" - "Vredesloop Ieper" run took place in the town of Ieper (Ypres), which was bombed and completely destroyed during WW One, and where poisoned gas was used to kill "enemies" on a large scale for the first time in history. Hundreds of youngsters participated. The Dutch word for peace is "Vrede". The slogan in the picture "Vrede = Nato weg uit België uit Oekraïne" means "Peace = Nato away - from Belgium - from Ukraine".

JOIN ILPS COMMISSION 4

-unite, mobilize, cooperate for just peace and against wars of aggression, counterrevolution and WMD

Commission 4 is the section of the ILPS that is concerned with organizing for just peace against wars of aggression, wars of counterrevolution, nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and all weapons of mass destruction.

As the ILPS is an anti-imperialist alliance, particularly aimed against US-led monopoly capitalism, our perspective is grounded in the anti-imperialist analysis that the ILPS is developing as it observes and engages in mass struggle. Commission 4 does its part to organize and unite in anti-imperialist and democratic struggles, exposing and opposing imperialist positions, measures, exploitation and oppression particularly in relation to the military-industrial complex (the war-based economy) and its aggression, militarization and military pacts. We research, share and teach our information and perspective. We promote just peace and peace negotiations that benefit the people.

Our basic concepts

1. Just Peace is peace negotiated with the people and that addresses matters of social, economic and legal justice to correct injustices that result in conflict.

2. Peace Negotiations bring about just peace through addressing the people's demands as opposed to false narratives. For example, foreign occupation and aggression must be ended and the perpetrators held accountable. Also, national liberation must be recognized and facilitated. Furthermore, plans for land redistribution and resolutions to poverty and social inequality must be created. Just peace is not merely a ceasefire.

3. US-led imperialism's global strategy We understand the context. The US is still the leading aggressor and one extending a multi-faceted strategy to defend and sustain the global system of exploitation, domination and plunder. As it is actively hostile to democracy, independence and any kind of socialism, it is therefore expanding, increasing militarization and partnering with reaction, terrorism and fascism.

Contact ILPS Commission 4 today: peace4@vcn.bc.ca

ILPS COMMISSION 4 wants to grow!

Our focus for 2022:

- the military-industrial complex
- the imperialist nature of the UN Security Council

- how military and political pacts (especially NATO, ANZUS and AUKUS), arms manufacturing and trade/ military contracts, and policies interconnect with the imperialist system
- fascism and the nation-state

Our Activities

- support for ILPS global and regional campaigns and discussions
- support and participation in broad, mass actions and campaigns: examples,
 - *End the War on and Sanctions against the people of Yemen
 - *Ceasefire and negotiations in Ukraine now; de-escalation and foreign troops out
 - *US, Out of Africa! (Shut down AFRICOM)
 - *Terminate the US-South Korea-Japan military exercises around the Korean Peninsula
 - *Stop the use economic coercive measures (sanctions) as weapons against the people
 - *Stop US military/ NATO expansion and global US-led hybrid warring; close the bases
- statements on significant days and events
 - *International Peace Day, Hiroshima and Nagasaki Commemorations, Armistice Day, special responses - forums
- a regular Commission 4 newsletter "Peace 4 the People" and special releases
- internal organization (regional studies and analysis, process-building, theoretical development, assessments, development of organizational tools such as our Guide and essays)