



# **Global Women for Peace United Against NATO**

## **Programme of Events**

**July 6th-9th 2023**

**Brussels, Belgium**



## **LOGISTICAL INFORMATION**

- Meeting premises: **Pianofabriek** – Fortstraat 35 – Brussels
- All **times** for seminars/webinars are **Central European Summer Time (CEST = UTC+2)** – some other time zones mentioned in brackets.
- You can join the event online on Friday and Saturday. The **Zoom-link is the same** and you can join the Zoom-room **anytime**.

### **THURSDAY, JULY 6**

**12:45-14:00**

#### **MEETING IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT**

Handing over the common Declaration for Peace with first women signatories to the Member/s of the European Parliament (MEP) present at the meeting.  
Short greetings from “Global Women for Peace United Against NATO” women present from different countries.

- **MEP Clare Daly** - Left group (Ireland)
- **Accredited assistant Ota Jaksch** of MEP Özlem Demirel Left group (Germany)
- Discussion

### **FRIDAY, JULY 7**

**09.30 (3:30 am ET/12:30 am PT)**

#### **WELCOME**

**by Ann Wright** (Veterans for Peace – US) and  
**Ulla Klötzer** (Women for Peace - Finland)

**09.40 – 12.45 (3:40 am ET/12:40 am PT)**

#### **EUROPE – NATO/US THREATS AND CONSEQUENCES**

Europe, with 31 NATO member states (22 of them EU member states) is actively taking part in encircling Russia. US nuclear weapons are based across Europe. Large military exercises are polluting air and land. NATO use of DU-weapons in the 90's Balkans war have left a toxic legacy causing serious health problems among civilians and soldiers. Some NATO states are supplying these radioactive weapons for use by the Ukrainian army. Defence spending across Europe is increasing at an alarming rate.

#### **Co-Hosts:**

- Belgium: **Emmelien Lievens** – working in the Belgian peace organisation Vrede also part of the “No To Nato No to War” international network
- Italy: **Ada Donno** - AWMR Italia - Association Women of the Mediterranean Region



**Speakers (10 minutes each):**

- 09.40 – 09.50 (3:40 am ET/12:40 am PT)  
**Zeynep Gorus** - World March of Women  
*Women's NATO aspect*
- 09.50 – 10.00 (3:50 am ET/12:50 am PT)  
**Kristine Karch** - Co-chair "No to war - NO to NATO" international network, board member of INES, founding member of Ecomujer, Peace Camp Stop Air Base Ramstein Peace Award 2023  
*Move the Money from war to needs of people and planet*
- 10.00 – 10.10 (4:00 am ET/1:00 am PT)  
**Cristina Ronchieri** - Observatory against militarization of school:  
*Activities of the Italian Observatory against the militarization of schools (and the increased presence of military in teaching (a contribution to peace in Europe)*

**10.10 – 10.30 (4:10 am ET/1:10 am PT)**  
**DISCUSSION**

**10.30 – 11.00 (4:30 am ET/1:30 am PT)**  
**COFFEE BREAK**

- 11.00 – 11.10 (5:00 am ET/2:00 am PT)  
**Sophie Bolt** - Vice-Chair, Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND)  
*Nuclear weapons in Europe*
- 11.10 – 11.30 (5:10 am ET/2:10 am PT)  
**Ria Verjauw** - The International Coalition to Ban Uranium Weapons, ICBUW  
The human and the environmental cost of Depleted Uranium weapons  
**Marilina Veca** - WILPF Italy (virtual)  
*War crimes in time of peace – Depleted Uranium – the silent killer*
- 11.30 – 11.40 (5:30 am ET/2:30 am PT)  
**Angelika Claußen** - Head of the German section of IPPNW (virtual)  
*No to NATO as a climate killer - towards climate justice and human security*
- 11.40 – 11.50 (5:40 am ET/2:40 am PT)  
**Vera Zalka** - Hungarian Social Forum (HSF)  
*NATO in Eastern Europe – consequences and threats*
- 11.50 – 12.00 (5:50 am ET/2:50 am PT)  
**Skevi Koukouma** - Secretary General of the Women's Movement POÇO  
*NATOs accelerating activities in the Mediterranean*
- 12.00 – 12.20 (6:00 am ET/3:00 am PT)  
**Ingeborg Breines** - Former Chair of IPB and UNESCO Director (virtual)  
**Ulla Klötzer** - Women for Peace - Finland  
*NATOs Northern expansion – consequences and threats*



**12.20 – 12.45 (6:20 am ET/3:20 am PT)  
DISCUSSION**

**12.45 – 13.30 (6:45 am ET/3:45 am PT) LUNCH  
PREPARATORY MEETING DURING LUNCH FOR THE STREET EVENT**

**13.30 - 14.15**

**NATO HEADQUARTERS (HQ)**

The Women's Declaration for Peace will be handed over to **Anette Parviainen**, Political Affairs and Security Policy Division, by a group of 10 women from Australia, Belgium, Cyprus, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Italy, UK, US. Greetings and discussion.

**13.30 - 15.30 (14.00 Nairobi/Kenya time) (7:30 am ET/4:30 am PT)**

**NATO IN AFRICA - WEBINAR**

The Africa webinar will include speakers from Ghana, Ivory Coast, Morocco, South Africa, United States and Zimbabwe. UN Decade for People of African Descent began on January 1, 2015 and ends on December 31, 2024. Speakers will reinforce the UN Decade message calling for "Recognition, Development, Justice" in addition to ending military operations of NATO and AFRICOM.

**Co-hosts:**

- **George Friday** (virtual): National Field Organizer for the Bill of Rights Defense Committee/Defending Dissent Foundation since 2008. One of the founding members of Move to Amend in 2009, member of the National Peace Action Board and WILPF US Board.
- **Ernest Gibson Kpordotsi**, co-founder and Director of Programs and Projects at the Bureau of African Peace in Ghana and the Global Peace Association of Ghana. Board member of the International Peace Bureau.

**Speakers:**

- **Nomazotsho Memani**, former Member of Provincial Legislature in South Africa 1994-1999, Activist Lawyer, Advocate of the High Court in South Africa. A member of the ANC, ANCWL - provides legal services on pro bono.
- **Dr. Gnaka Lagoke**, Assistant Professor of history and of Pan-Africana Studies at Lincoln University (PA). He is also a founding member of the Convention for Pan-Africanism and Progress (CPP), [www.cpp-ubuntu.org](http://www.cpp-ubuntu.org).
- **Edwick Madzimore**, Founding Director of WILPF Zimbabwe Section and the Alternate Regional Representative for WILPF Africa.
- **Khadija Ryadi**, Moroccan human rights defender, winner of the UN Prize for the cause of human rights in 2013; Coordinator of the CMODH.



**15.30  
COFFEE BREAK**

**17.30 (11:30 am ET/8:30 am PT)  
SIDE EVENT - PROTEST ACTION: INVEST IN PEACE  
(20 min by metro from Pianofabrik to the Albertina Square)**

**Belgian and international peace and woman organisations** are calling for a protest action against NATO plans to further increase military spending at the upcoming Vilnius summit in July.

Rising military spending cannot be justified while budgetary needs for nurseries, public transport, education, reception of asylum-seekers, health care, climate change mitigation and adaptation,... are so high.

We call on policymakers to curb rising military spending and make human security a priority by investing in social and environmental protection.

**19.30 – 21.30 (1:30 pm ET/10:30 am PT)  
SIDE EVENT - GLOBAL NATO OR GLOBAL PEACE?  
organized by No to war No to NATO & Belgian peace organization**

Hybrid, public panel discussion. Just a few years ago even powerful leaders declared NATO 'obsolete' or 'brain-dead'. Since the Russian invasion of Ukraine the credibility and legitimacy of the western military alliance seems greater than ever before. Finland, formerly a neutral country, became a new member. Sweden will soon follow. Political opposition to the massive arming of Ukraine - which keeps the war going, rising military budgets and the militarisation of Europe is virtually non-existent within NATO states. Led by the US, NATO is increasingly casting itself as a global player both to defend democracy and the interests of its members. The global reach of NATO and its powerful members nourishes new tensions with rival powers like Russia and China. Its nuclear-armed status raises the terrifying prospect of nuclear war. The NATO summit in Vilnius is meant to confirm and strengthen the global power of NATO and the influence of its military industrial complex. This comes at the expense of an alternative security architecture based on good neighbourliness and human security.

NATO's unilateralism is undermining the multilateral political system as enshrined in the United Nations Charter.

We'll discuss the main problems of NATO and explore how the peace movement can be strengthened to achieve a non-militarised international security system based on justice, solidarity and sustainability with respect for people and the environment.

How to counter Global NATO and strengthen the peace movement?



**With:**

- **Ludo De Brabander** (Vrede uzv – Belgium)
- **Ann Wright** (Veterans for Peace – US)
- **Reiner Braun** (IPB – Germany)
- **Sophie Bolt** (CND – UK)

**Moderator: Lode Vanoost** (De Wereld Morgen – Belgium)

Followed by Q & A and discussion with public

**SATURDAY JULY 8**

**10.00 – 12.00/12.30 (18.00 Canberra/Australia)  
ASIA PACIFIC WEBINAR– PACIFIC AGAINST MILITARISM**

The webinar was recorded on July 1 as a part of the Pacific Peace Network series.

**Co-hosts** present in Brussels:

- **US: Ann Wright** - Pacific Peace Network, IPB council member, Code Pink, Veterans for Peace
- **Australia: Dragana Zivancevic** - Raising Peace Network

**Speakers:**

- 10.00 – 10.10

**Joy Enomoto** - virtual Asia Pacific moderator from Hawai'i Peace and Justice  
*Welcome, Introductions and Overview*

- 10.10 – 11.20

**Dr. Melinda Mann** - a Darumbal and South Sea Islander woman and winner of the 2020 Tracey Banivanua Mar PhD prize for her exceptional thesis on Indigenous young people's educational transitions.

**Mililani Ganivet** - was raised in Tahiti, but left at age 17 to earn a BA and MA from the Sorbonne. As a graduate student at the University of Hawai'i, she has researched the histories and legacies of French nuclear tests. in French Polynesia.

**Monaeka/Naek Flores** - a queer CHamoru artist and organizer from Guåhan. Naek is core member of dynamic community organizations that focus on CHamoru self-determination, environmental justice, and the protection of sacred sites: Prutehi Litekyan – Save Ritidian and Independent Guåhan.

**Judy Ann Miranda** - from the Philippines, Secretary General, Partido Manggagawa Vice Chairperson, Women's Day Off; Convenor, Women Workers United Full time labor organizer, engaged in union and community education, women and youth committee formations and labor rights campaign. Took part in the Women World Conference and International Trade Union Conference Against War and Exploitation 2022. Labor leader, activist, human rights defender and feminist.



**Sung-hee Choi** - she joins the struggle opposing the Jeju navy base and militarization of Jeju. She has worked for the village international team, Gangjeong Peace Network, Association of Gangjeong Villagers Against the Jeju Navy Base, People Making Jeju a Demilitarized Peace Island, Inter-Island Solidarity for Peace and Jeju Climate Peace March. She is also a Korean board member of Global Network against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space. See [savejejunow.org](http://savejejunow.org)

**Shinako Oyakawa** is an indigenous Ryukyuan mother, activist, writer, co-director of Association of Comprehensive Studies for Independence of the Lew Chewans (ACSILs) and part time lecturer of Okinawa University. Shinako specializes in language revitalization, de-militarization and de-colonization of the Ryukyu islands. Shinako has attended UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) and Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP) to report colonized situation of the Ryukyu islands.

- 11.20 – 11.30

**Hanaloa Hēlela** - a native Hawaiian who is active in many cultural issues as well as the Red Hill toxic fuel spill

- 11.30 – 11.35

**Joy Enomoto** - Asia Pacific virtual moderator

**11.35 – 12.30**

**LIVE IN BRUSSELS**

Questions from the Zoom audience, further discussion about the Asia Pacific and NATO.

**12.30 – 13.30 Lunch**

**13.30 – 15.00 (09.00 Buenos Aires/Argentina, 06.00/Costa Rica)**

**NATO's GROWING PRESENCE IN LATIN AMERICA**

**Speakers:**

- **Rosa Elva Zúñiga López** (Mexico), feminist popular educator, secretary general of the Council for Popular Education in Latin America and the Caribbean - CEAAL.
- **Julieta Daza** (Colombia/Venezuela), member of Juventud Rebelde Colombia and a political and social activist living in Venezuela;
- **Laura Capote** (Colombia) journalist, member of the OBSAL (Observatory on the Latin America's and Caribbean Conjuncture) of the Tricontinental Institute, and of the IEALC – UBA (Workgroup on Colombian Critical Thinking)
- **Facilitator: Kristine Karch**, Co-chair "No to war - NO to NATO" international network, board member of INES, founding member of Ecomujer, Peace Camp Stop Air Base Ramstein Peace Award 2023.



**15.00 – 15.30 - Greetings**

**GREETINGS FROM UKRAINE, RUSSIA, AFGHANISTAN, AND MORE**

**Speakers:**

- **Nazia Noory** (Afghanistan), Civil Society member, Gender Youth activist (UNWomen), Founder of Afghan Women Alliance for Peace and development (AWAPD) and member of WILPF
- **Nadiia Yefymyshch** (Russia/Ukraine), born in the USSR. Nationality Komi. Graduated from Kyiv State University, stayed at the university as a lecturer. Was head of an educational project in Kyiv, the Russian Center for Science and Culture. Participated in a "Human rights education" project, Council of Europe and European Youth Center in Budapest. Moderator in "Prevention of women trafficking". 2018-2021 Deputy Chairman of the Council of National Minorities of Ukraine.

**15.30 – 16.00**

**COFFEE BREAK**

**16.00 – 17.30/18.00 (10.00 Washington/US, 07.00/Los Angeles/US)**

**STOPPING US and CANADA'S PARTICIPATION in NATO's WARS**

The US and Canada are key members of the war organization NATO. Activists from the US and Canada will discuss their countries' history of involvement in NATO and in the wars in Europe and Afghanistan and call for the end of war-mongering NATO.

**Co-Hosts:**

- **US: Ann Wright** - Retired US Army Colonel and former US diplomat who resigned in 2003 in opposition to the US war on Iraq
- **Canada: Alley McDonald** (virtual) - National Coordinator for Canadian Voice of Women for Peace

**Speakers (10 minutes speaking):**

- **Medea Benjamin** - American political activist who was the co-founder of Code Pink
- **Joseph Gerson** - Director of American Friends Service Committee's Peace and Economic Security Program in New England
- **Rebecca Irby** - Founding Partner & Executive Director at PEAC Institute





- **Tamara Lorincz** - PhD candidate in Global Governance at the Balsillie School of International Affairs at Wilfrid Laurier University. Member of the Canadian Voice of Women for Peace and the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom / Canada Section
- **Shivangi Misra** - Chairperson of International League of Peoples' Struggle, Canada and an international human rights lawyer based in Ottawa, Canada.

**18.00 – 18.30**

**GRANDE FINALE: HOW TO MOVE ON - NATO SUMMIT/75 YEARS - 2024**

**Collective action: We are global, we say No to NATO!**

Messages of support received from around the world will be presented to the audience. In conclusion, all women present in Brussels will deliver their global testimony in saying "No to NATO!"

**SUNDAY JULY 9**

**10.00 – 13.00**

**PLANNING FURTHER COMMON ACTIVITIES**

**Global Women for Peace United Against NATO** planning meeting for further common action, statements etc. Meeting premises will be announced in Brussels.