



BRISBANE DECLARATION

We, representatives of the 40 groups that make up the Independent and Peaceful Australia Network (IPAN), together in Brisbane for our second annual meeting, make the following declaration:-

- 1. We reaffirm our belief that Australia urgently needs an independent foreign policy. This policy should de-escalate rather than inflame the regional tensions that have been provoked by the US military build up in our region; by war rehearsals, and by the integration of Australia's military forces, defence facilities and defence industries into the US global war machine.**
- 2. We call on the Australian Government to re-assess Australia's alliance with the USA, sharing the late Malcolm Fraser's view that it is having a negative impact on Australian independence.**
- 3. We are convinced that the US military "Pivot" into Asia-Pacific, that is moving a high percentage of US military forces, arms and bases into our region, increases the likelihood of war in our region.**
- 4. We condemn our governments' unfettered military spending on warfare in general, and US-initiated wars in particular.**
- 5. We abhor our government's unequivocal pandering to US military policies and adventurism, which expose our nation to threats and treat our neighbours with disdain.**
- 6. We condemn the stationing of US marines in Darwin and call for their removal at the earliest possible opportunity.**
- 7. We are concerned that the US-Australia military alliance and the successive Australian Governments' subservience to US global war policies and strategies will drag us into another major war.**
- 8. We are resolved to draw attention to the communications facility at Pine Gap, emphasising the crucial role it plays in the alliance, during its fiftieth year of operation in 2016.**
- 9. We are committed to building links, friendship and solidarity with peace organisations and movements throughout Australia and our region.**

This declaration made on the traditional lands of the Turrbal people, in Brisbane, on July 9, 2015 - as 34,000 service personnel from Australia, the US, New Zealand and Japan were beginning rehearsals for war in the 'Talisman Sabre 2015', military exercises.