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Voice No 109

February, 2026

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Antidotes for pepper spray

Coming Events

Become and Evolutionary catalyst: Mon 9th March, 5pm, UTS
Startups, 3 Broadway, Ultimo, NSW

IPAN Activities

IPAN National Conference 2026- Adelaide- 24-26th July, 2026

[BOOK NOW](#) (Click on "Register" box)



The banner features a blue background with a collage of diverse people. At the top, it reads 'IPAN NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2026' in large white letters, followed by 'SPEAKERS | FORUMS | WORKSHOPS | NETWORKING'. On the left is the IPAN logo, a globe with 'IPAN' above it and 'Independent and Peaceful Australia Network' around it, with the website 'ipan.org.au' below. The center text says 'TIME TO BREAK FREE FROM THE US' in large, bold, white letters, with 'Adelaide July 24 - 26' underneath. On the right, a list of topics includes 'CLIMATE CRISIS', 'INDIGENOUS RIGHTS', 'AUKUS', 'PALESTINE', and 'WORLD ORDER'. At the bottom left, it identifies 'INTERNATIONAL KEYNOTE SPEAKER US journalist and filmmaker ABBY MARTIN' with a circular portrait of her. To the right of her portrait is a small image of a book cover titled 'EARTH'S GREATEST ENEMY'. Further right, it says 'More speakers to be announced'.

Includes Climate Crisis, Indigenous Rights, AUKUS, Palestine, World Order/Disorder and the urgency to break free of the USA

[Book now with this link](#) (Click on the "Register" box)

The conference will be structured into four major topic areas over the two days.

1. Super power tensions and the March to War. How do we stop WW3?
2. Australia- Break the economic and military dominance with the US. How to organise for Australian Independence.

3. Local and regional activists - Anti-AUKUS groups, IPAN branches outline of strategy; what's worked what's not worked in the context of changing conditions
4. Developing the movement to Break Free from the US; Strengthening the movement; Climate-Indigenous-Civil liberties-Workers orgs

Workshops will follow each sessions speakers' presentations enabling maximum involvement of conference participants

Abby Martin, film maker of "The Earth's Greatest Enemy" will be one of the guest presenters at the conference.



Earth's Greatest Enemy reveals a hidden truth behind the climate crisis: the role of the U.S. military as the world's largest institutional polluter, tracing the link between war, empire, and ecological destruction. Drawing on powerful testimonies from veterans, scientists, and frontline communities, it uncovers how military operations poison ecosystems, accelerate global warming, and sacrifice the future for endless expansion. From Alaska's melting glaciers to contaminated bases across the U.S. and toxic battlefields abroad, Earth's Greatest Enemy delivers a provocative and unflinching examination of the untouchable institution playing an outsized role in the climate crisis.

FILM SHOWINGS

IPAN is organising film showings of Earth's Greatest Enemy in capital cities around Australia.

Hobart, first, on Sunday 15th March; booking details in next Voice.

Just before the IPAN National Conference in **Adelaide** on 22nd July, then **Melbourne** on 27th July, **Wollongong** on 28th July, **Sydney** on 29th July.

Booking details in the next month's edition of Voice.

IPAN Podcast: US economic dominance: we have to break free

Listen [HERE](#)



IPAN -WA - Activity plans

Members of IPAN in Western Australia gathered at the end of January for their first meeting of the year. Plans were discussed for various initiatives, such as the “Close the Bases” National Day of Action to end AUKUS and the Force Posture Agreement, recommencing regular peace vigils in the CBD in collaboration with local activist organisations, and hosting US journalist Abby Martin to screen her

new film on the ecological impacts of the US military, “Earth’s Greatest Enemy”, amongst other endeavours. It was fantastic to have such an incredible amount of energy and enthusiasm in the room for the cause of advancing peace in WA, despite the challenging state of global affairs.

AUKUS Issues

National Day of Action against AUKUS and US Bases Feb 21-22

NO TO AUKUS!

NO WAR

AGAINST CHINA!



Join us to Close US Bases, stop AUKUS and spending on war preparation

Many Australians believe the US Alliance will make them safer from attacks from unnamed enemies. President Trump has shown that firm US allies have no guarantee of 'protection' or support as he has threatened Venezuela, Canada, Denmark and other countries.

Still others believe that the sacrifices made by our soldiers dying in US wars such as Korea, Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan will make the US supportive. Again, President Trump recently dumped on that idea.

The AUKUS agreement which will provide Australia with nuclear submarines is sold as defensive, but it is to prepare for a catastrophic war with China.

The cost is massive! Nearly \$400 billion! The Government is limiting spending on NDIS, Aged Care, Public Housing, Health and Education to redirect spending to pay for the submarines. Billions are being paid to US and UK submarine production companies while we suffer lack of services.

We ask you to join on this day to campaign for:

An independent Australia which is friends with all countries

Cancellation of the AUKUS agreement

An end to Australia's involvement in US wars

Closing all US Bases in Australia

Who are we?

The Sydney Anti-AUKUS Coalition (SAAC) is a coalition of peace, political, and social justice groups.

You can contact us via our Facebook page: @SydAntiAukusCoalition

**CUT TIES WITH THE US WAR MACHINE!
RE-THINK DEFENCE - ASSERT INDEPENDENCE!**

**CANCEL AUKUS!
CLOSE US BASES!
CANCEL THE FPA!
(FORCE POSTURE AGREEMENT)**

Sunday 22 February 9-11AM

Churchill Park Lookout

Rockingham

3km March to HMAS Stirling Gates

Peron Rd, Peron

(return transport available)

**National Day of Action
Australia Out of AUKUS**

**World Beyond War 2026
Global Action #Close Bases**



**NFWA
NUCLEAR-FREE
WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

"Join us to march from Churchill Park to the gates of HMAS Stirling to mark World Beyond War's 2026 'Close US Bases' global weekend of action AND take part in the national action Calling on our government to 'Cancel AUKUS and the Force Posture Agreement (FPA) with the US'.

Apart from Pine Gap in the NT, the US has joint access to Kojarena and Harold Holt Naval Communications Bases in WA.

Under the FPA it also has open access to many northern airfields (including Learmonth and Derby in northern WA), military barracks and here on our doorstep, HMAS Stirling at Garden Island, Rockingham.

US nuclear powered submarines are due to start rotating through Stirling as of 2027. There is no end date – if the US is unable to provide the 'stop gap' US Virginia Class nuclear powered subs in the

2030's it's likely the rotations will just continue -
in part ensuring Stirling as an ongoing US base.
Australia needs to cut ties with the US war machine and the
authoritarian and dangerous Trump - to assert its defence sovereignty
Now!

Schedule:

9:00 AM Churchill Park Lookout, Rockingham – a couple of v. short
speeches, chants

9:30 AM March along the beach to Val St Jetty then continue on the
beach or via the Esplanade to the end/Palm Beach > Peron Rd, Peron

10:15 AM Arrive HMAS Stirling Gate/Entrance – chants

10:45 AM Return by car shuttle to Churchill Park

There will be a support vehicle (carrying water) tracking the march
from Val St Jetty.

Please bring hats, sunscreen and water.

And importantly bring your Voices and empty hands to carry flags,
banners and signs.”

HAD ENOUGH OF THEIR WAR MONGERING?

GLOBAL DAYS OF ACTION TO #CLOSEBASES

11AM, SATURDAY 21 FEBRUARY

DAYTOCLOSEBASES.ORG

DAY OF ACTION: KAURNA YERTA/ADELAIDE

Edinburgh Air Force Base protects global weapons makers like Northrop Grumman & Lockheed Martin. These corporations are embedded in Australia's military in a strategy to use Australian bases & tax payer funds to drive aggressive US global policies. IT MUST STOP!

MEET: 11AM, CAR PARK AT McDONALDS, ELIZABETH TRAIN STATION
WE'LL CAR POOL FROM THERE. COME BY TRAIN AND GET A LIFT TO THE SITE
This protest is part of global action by worldbeyondwar.org



Need Info? Need a lift? Got questions?
Email: batswing@protonmail.com
#weaponsouttaeverywhere #shutthemdown

JOIN US!

Feb 11th 6:30pm AEDT

Stop the
AUKUS nuclear
submarines!

Online public
meeting

Organised by

No Nuclear

Subs SA



Stop the AUKUS nuclear submarines! Online public meeting Feb 11

Organised by No Nuclear Subs SA

Wednesday February 11, 2026. 6pm to 7.15pm SA time (6.30-7.45pm Vic/NSW))

Zoom details below

Please share our facebook

event. <https://www.facebook.com/events/2299752357158550/>

Speakers:

* Dr. Margie Beavis ([Medical Association for Prevention of War](#), [International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons](#)) on the broader military context of AUKUS nuclear submarines

* Adjunct Prof. Al Rainnie (Adelaide University) on [AUKUS costs, opportunity costs and jobs claims](#).

* David Noonan (independent environmental campaigner) on [AUKUS nuclear waste issues](#).

* A speaker from [Stop AUKUS WA](#) on the shared threats faced in WA and SA

* Dr. Jim Green ([Friends of the Earth Australia](#))

Annette Brownlie IPAN outlining the upcoming conference plans July 24-26th

Follow No Nuclear Subs SA on [facebook](#), [instagram](#), [X/Twitter](#)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89590599831?pwd=unThfUNwHliieRESgCiH7tYNaJXLHM.1>

Meeting ID: 895 9059 9831

Passcode: 056755

International Issues

United States National Security Strategy **must trigger review of our alliance**

Annette Brownlie (IPAN Chairperson), Vivienne Glance (IPAN Member, Former IPAN Coordinating Committee Representative), Jonathan Pilbrow (IPAN Executive Officer)

The recently released [United States National Security Strategy](#) (NSS) document is a startling and dangerous outline of that country's 'America'-first, isolationist, race-based approach that is a significant shift in Washington's past approaches.

This new world view seeks to abandon multi-lateral organisations that have strived to maintain global peace since the Second World War. The actions of institutions, such as the United Nations, are described as “sovereignty sapping incursions of intrusive transnational organisations”. There is no commitment to the “international rules-based order” that our Australian government claims to support.

READ ON



Sydney Criminal Lawyers, 21st January, 2026

Albanese is Facilitating Trump's Brazen Contraventions of International Law

by Paul Gregorie

With the 3 January 2026 kidnapping of Venezuelan president Nicolás Maduro and his wife, the US Trump administration signalled the death knell of the edifice of international law established since World War II. And it must be understood that whilst western leaders, like Australian PM Anthony Albanese, have not directly been involved, their silence on the matter is active complicity.

The tearing down of international law commenced at apace in October 2023, when apartheid Israel began an industrial-scale genocide on the Palestinians of the Gaza Strip, with western allies framing this mass murder of civilians as “self-defence”, while US president Donald

Trump and his hench-secretaries have since spent the last 12 months leading up to the crescendo that is Venezuela.

READ ON

US dominance and the alliance



With acknowledgement to Pearls and Irritations, 30th January, 2026

US economic dominance: why we must break free

by Bevan Ramsden

Foreign corporate ownership now dominates Australia's key industries, draining wealth offshore and limiting democratic control over economic priorities. Reclaiming sovereignty requires a fundamental rethink of ownership and public power.

US corporate dominance of our economy is depriving Australians of the benefit of our abundant resources and denying our government sovereign control over our economy. It's time to break free.

That we, Australians, live under the military, economic and cultural domination of the United States is a fact of life and to our great disadvantage. Whilst much has been written about the military

domination expressed through subservience to the US alliance and embracing its sub-sets – AUKUS and the Force Posture Agreement – less is known of US economic domination and its disastrous impact on our everyday life. But it helps explain why a wealthy country has so many poor, homeless and workers struggling to keep their heads above the financial waters.

[READ ON](#)

Democratic Rights/ Freedom of Speech

With acknowledgement to Pearls and Irritations, 23rd January, 2026

Bad laws are the worst sort of tyranny – and this one ticks every box

by Greg Barns

A sweeping new bill to combat antisemitism, hate and extremism was rushed through federal parliament this week with minimal scrutiny and major rule-of-law flaws. Its vague definitions, retrospective reach and expanded executive powers risk undermining rights, due process and democratic accountability.

The ever relevant English politician, lawyer and political philosopher Edmund Burke told his constituents in Bristol, nearly 250 years ago – “Bad laws are the worst sort of tyranny.” How right he was then and how right he is now.

A case in point is the extraordinary *Combating Antisemitism, Hate and Extremism (Criminal and Migration Laws) Bill* that passed federal parliament in less than 24 hours this week. It’s got all the evils in it – no procedural fairness; vague meanings; retrospectivity; reversal of the onus of proof and on its goes.

Tyranny is not too strong a word to use about this shoddy, appallingly drafted, and dangerous piece of legislation. Legislation that has all the hallmarks of being dictated by power hungry desperate politicians to overworked parliamentary drafts people

[READ ON](#)



What sort of country has secret police who, without even needing a warrant from a judge, can interrogate 14 year old children?

Your country, Australia! Stop the bill to make these police state powers permanent.

Sign the petition: Repeal, *don't* expand, ASIO's authoritarian secret police powers

[SIGN HERE](#)

After witnessing Parliament's shockingly authoritarian overreach in January in forcing through a law in just 24 hours that can ban groups and jail members, retrospectively and even without a crime being

committed, the Citizens Party has today launched a petition to stop an equally authoritarian bill from the Albanese government that makes Australia a permanent police state.

The bill is the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2025, which expands the interrogation powers that turned ASIO into Australia's secret police in 2003, and repeals the sunset clause to make those powers permanent.

These are powers that caused political consternation in 2002-03, and provoked Labor Opposition Leader Simon Crean to accuse Prime Minister John Howard of establishing a "police state".

Petition Summary

We therefore ask the House to:

1. **Reject the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2025; and**
2. **Repeal all of ASIO's secret police powers enacted since 2003 and return to the principle of civilian policing under independent judicial oversight.**

SIGN HERE

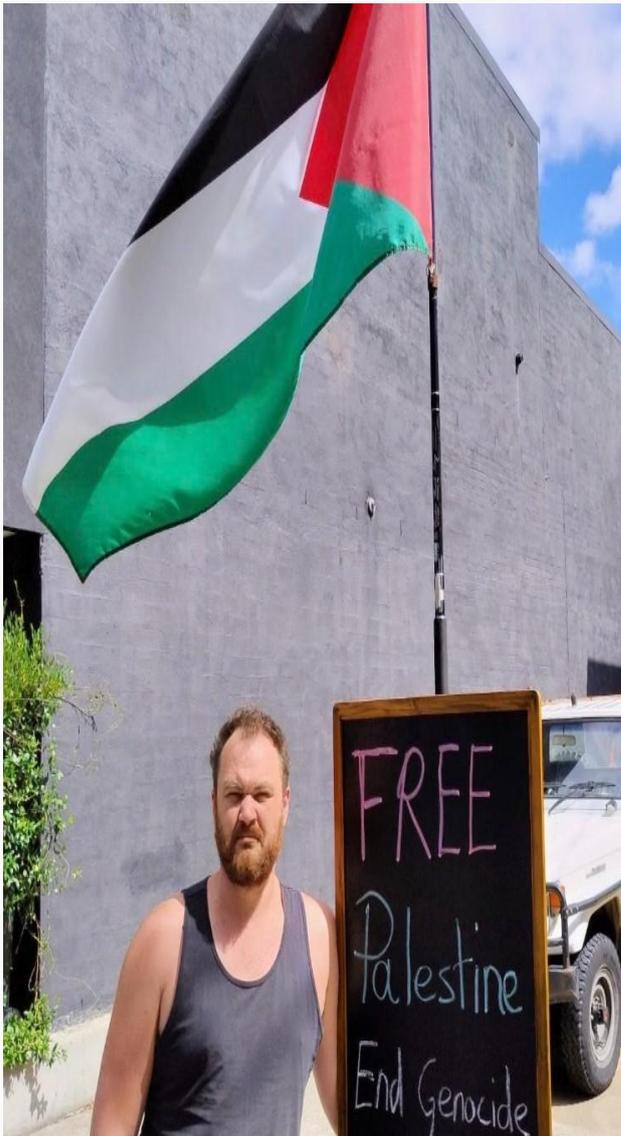


Nick Hanna: Lawyer Fighting Chris Minns' Anti-Protest Laws

If ever there was a politician that saw each tragedy as an opportunity for an authoritarian clampdown, it's Chris Minns. In the wake of the Bondi massacre, Minns and co wasted no time pretending there was a connection with the Harbour Bridge protests for Palestinian human rights. After trying to block that protest, he's now imposing limitations on ALL protests.

Nick Hanna is a lawyer who aims to stop the erosion of our civil liberties in New South Wales. He's challenging the new protest changes, and while the battle may be akin to something like David and Goliath, he believes the future of our democracy is at stake.

[View HERE](#)



With acknowledgement to Michael West Media, 27th January, 2026

Tweets and bombs. Both get you arrested

by Kim Wingerei

A Sydney Palestinian activist has been arrested and charged with “inciting violence” against politicians on social media. For a tweet. What’s the scam?

On January 20, Theo Nolan-Isles tweeted an offer of a free beer to anyone who “intentionally causes physical pain to any politician who voted Aye to the passage of the ‘Combating Antisemitism’ hate speech bill”. While not directly inciting violence, but perhaps condoning it – albeit in jest – Theo is nevertheless in jail.

In May 2024, Zionist David Wise was charged and found guilty of placing a bomb on Theo’s car because he was offended by the display of a Palestinian flag. The man had also directly threatened Theo, “Enough! Take down flag! One chance!!!!”

Despite the obvious connotations, the perpetrator was not charged under the Terrorism Act. Both Theo and the bomb maker were charged with “using a carriage service to menace, harass, or offend and encouraging the commission of crimes.”

MWM does not condone inciting violence of any kind and recognises that doing so is in bad taste. We also recognise that bomb-planting and offering free beer are different acts.

Fund Raising to Support Theo

Recently, Theo was arrested over social media posts that authorities claim encouraged violence, though he insists they were satirical. He was denied bail and is now in custody, facing difficulties in maintaining contact with his legal team due to overcrowding in correctional facilities. This has made it incredibly hard for him to mount a proper defense.

Funds raised will go directly to cover his legal expenses, ensuring he has access to the representation he needs. Your contribution can make a real difference in helping Theo navigate this challenging time. Thank you for considering this.

[DONATE HERE](#)

[Palestine/Gaza](#)

David Shoebridge denounces visit to Australia of Israeli President Herzog



[Listen HERE](#)

Thousands protest in capitals across Australia against the visit to Australia of the Zionist President of Israel, Herzog.



Police use violence to disperse anti-Herzog visit protesters in Sydney



Pepper spraying of protesters by police

[View video](#) of police brutality at Sydney Protest against President of Israel Herzog's visit

David Shoebridge says of the police action: "Do we believe our own

eyes or Labor's lies about the police violence and vicious attacks unleashed on peaceful protest in Sydney last night. Watch this and decide for yourself.

[View HERE](#)

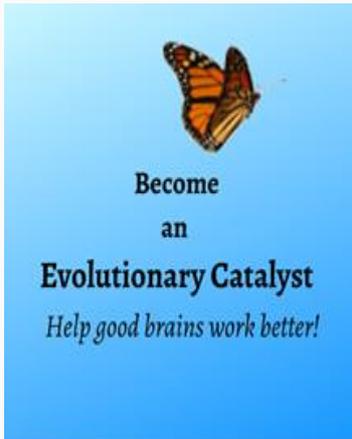
Antidotes for pepper spray

The best antidotes for pepper spray include rinsing with water, using dairy products like milk, and applying baking soda or commercial decontamination products.

Effective Remedies for Pepper Spray Exposure

1. **Rinse with Water:** Start by flushing the affected area with cool, clean water. This helps to dilute the capsaicin, the active ingredient in pepper spray, but may not be sufficient on its own due to the oil-based nature of capsaicin.
2. **Use Dairy Products:** Dairy products, particularly whole milk or yogurt, can effectively neutralize the burning sensation. Capsaicin is oil-based, and dairy helps to break down the oils. You can apply milk directly to the skin or soak a cloth in it and place it on the affected area.
3. **Baking Soda Paste:** Mixing baking soda with water to create a paste can help neutralize the acidity caused by pepper spray. Apply the paste to the affected skin for a few minutes before rinsing it off.

Coming Events



Become an Evolutionary Catalyst

Monday, March 9

2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

UTS Startups

3 Broadway, Ultimo

For details:

Andrew Gaines FRSA

andrew.gaines@evolutionarycatalyst.net

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Voice is produced and edited by the Media Group of the IPAN co-ordinating committee. It is produced for IPAN affiliates to:

**provide a medium for communication of their campaigns and activities*

**provide a medium for discussion of issues central to IPAN's objectives*

**provide affiliates with details of co-ordinating committee activities, media releases, lobbying activities and other actions taken on behalf of IPAN*

** provide information on issues/events relating to IPAN's objectives*

Contributions to Voice, in information or comment, should be emailed to :

[Ipan.australia@gmail.com](mailto:ipan.australia@gmail.com) and limited, if possible to 200 words.

The Media Group takes editorial responsibility for choice of content and is responsible to the IPAN co-ordinating committee. **Disclaimer:** Voice publishes a range of articles which reflect the broad movement for an independent and peaceful Australia but not all articles will necessarily reflect IPAN's position."

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