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**Voice No 111**

**April, 2026**

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**SYDNEY:**

**Monday, 13 April, 4.30 – 6 pm**

NSW Teachers' Federation building, Sydney

Strategies for Peace: Building global security and cooperation through local actions.

**SYDNEY:**

Public Meeting, **Friday, 17th April, 6pm AEST**: US-Israeli wars and world-wide threats. Humanity House, 10 Sheperd St., Chippindale

**BRISBANE:**

Public Meeting, **Tuesday, April 21st, 6.30pm AEST**, ETU room, cnr Merivale & Peel Sts., South Brisbane. US Nuke sub base for our east coast- NO WAY !

**NATIONAL:**

ACF Webinar: No nuclear weapons in Australia. **Tuesday 21st April, 6pm AEST**

**NATIONAL:**

AAAC Webinar: **20th May, 6.30pm AEST**. The dangerous world of AUKUS and the US military occupation - Confronting laws restricting/suppressing protest speech and actions

## **IPAN Activities**

IPAN Media Release 16th March, 2026

### **Australia must Disengage: Our future lies in independence from the US**

IPAN supports Australia's decision not to send a naval ship to the Strait of Hormuz but calls on the Australian government to:

- Disengage and recall ADF assets to Australia
- Condemn this illegal and brutal US/Israeli war against Iran and Lebanon and continued starvation and killing of Gazans.
- Concentrate on the development of an independent, peaceful, self-

reliant and sustainable Australia.

The Independent and Peaceful Australia Network (IPAN) calls on the Australian government to condemn the illegal and brutal US/Israeli war being prosecuted against Iran and Lebanon and immediately withdraw all Australian Defence Force (ADF) assets from Iran and the surrounding areas.

## **READ ON**



**IPAN Media Release 10 March 2026**

### **IPAN Condemns Australian Military Deployment to Middle East, Warns of Deeper Involvement in Illegal War**

The Independent and Peaceful Australia Network (IPAN) expresses its deep concern and strong opposition to the Australian government's decision to send an E-7A Wedgetail aircraft and 85 ADF personnel to the United Arab Emirates.

This deployment draws Australia deeper into the illegal US and Israeli war on Iran and increases the risk of a wider regional conflict.

'The government's claim that this is a 'defensive' measure to protect Australians in the UAE is a fallacy. This deployment will only increase the danger to Australians in the region and entangle us further in an illegal conflict which also endangers Australians' domestic food and

energy security', said Retired Army Major Cameron Leckie,  
Spokesperson for IPAN.

**[READ ON](#)**

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

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



# IPAN NATIONAL CONFERENCE

## 2026

SPEAKERS | FORUMS | WORKSHOPS | NETWORKING

TOPICS INCLUDE | CLIMATE CRISIS | INDIGENOUS RIGHTS | AUKUS | PALESTINE | THE WORLD |



# TIME TO BREAK FREE FROM THE US

Old Stock Exchange, Adelaide

24-26th July

Opens with public meeting Friday 24th



**SPEAKERS** (as at Feb)

**Richard Tanter** (Nautilus institute)  
**Abby Martin**  
**Senator David Shoebridge** (Greens)  
**Vivian McKenzie** (Indigenous Elder)  
**Shirley Winton** (IPAN)  
**Naek Flores** (Guahan)  
**Mike Khizam** (AFOPA)  
**Derek Burke** (IPAN)  
**Bevan Ramsden** (IPAN)

More speakers to be announced

**Public meeting**

**Friday SPEAKERS**  
**Richard Tanter**  
(Nautilus institute)  
**Abby Martin**  
**Vivian McKenzie**  
More speakers to be  
announced



**INTERNATIONAL  
KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

**ABBY MARTIN**

US journalist and filmmaker



Book now

For more info  
[ipan.org.au](http://ipan.org.au)



**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 the march to 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 session speakers' presentations enabling maximum involvement of conference participants

**Key Presenters:**

**Abby Martin** US activist Filmmaker Earth's Greatest Enemy [https://youtu.be/rphBWk15\\_h4](https://youtu.be/rphBWk15_h4)

**Prof Richard Tanter**, Expert on US bases in Australia

**Senator David Shoebridge** Greens spokesperson for Defence

**Vivian McKenzie** Indigenous elder fighting the nuclear waste dump in South Australia

**Rodrigo Acuna** independent Latin American affairs specialist

**Naek Fores** Guam peace activist

**Mike Khizan** AFOPA Australian Friends of Palestine Assn

**Emma Shortis** Expert on US empire (the Australia Institute)

**Humphrey McQueen** (Historian)

**IPAN speakers** Derek Burke, Bevan Ramsden and Shirley Winton



**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.

**Australia-wide screening of Abby Winter's Film : "Earth's Greatest Enemy", organised by IPAN**

**Mparntwe/Alice Springs, Wednesday 22 April, Time TBC (Earth Day)**

Alice Spring Cinema TBC  
2-hour film screening

**Adelaide: Semaphore, SA**

**Friday June 5th World, 7.00 – 10.00 pm**

**Odeon Star Cinema (World Environment Day)**

2-hour film screening followed by a Q&A panel

**Booking:** <https://events.humanitix.com/film-and-panel-discussion-with-abby-martin-film-maker-in-semaphore>

**Brisbane: Friday 5 June, 6:30pm - 9:30pm AEST**

**New Farm Cinema, 701 Brunswick St, New Farm QLD**

Earth's Greatest Enemy – 2 hour film screening and panel discussion

**Booking:** <https://events.humanitix.com/earths-greatest-enemy-film-and-panel-discussion-brisbane>

**Canberra: Friday 5 June, 6.00 pm (World Environment Day)**

**Dendy Cinema Civic**

2-hour film screening followed by a Q&A panel

**Perth: Tuesday, 21 July Time 5.45 – 9.00 pm**

Luna Leederville Cinema, 155 Oxford St, Leederville

2-hour film screening followed by short talks and Q&A with filmmaker Abby Martin

**Adelaide Wednesday, 22 July, 7.00 – 10.00 pm**

Capri Cinema

2-hour film screening followed by Q&A with filmmaker Abby Martin

**Booking:** <https://events.humanitix.com/earth-s-greatest-enemy-film-and-panel-discussion-with-abby-martin-film-maker-adelaide>

**Melbourne: Monday, 27 July Time TBC**

**Venue TBC**

2-hour film screening followed by Q&A with filmmaker Abby Martin

**Wollongong: Tuesday, 28 July, 5.30pm for 6 - 8.30pm**

**Fraternity Club, Fairy Meadow,**

2-hour film screening followed by Q&A with filmmaker Abby Martin

**Booking:** [https://actionnetwork.org/ticketed\\_events/earths-greatest-enemy-wollongong?source=direct\\_link&](https://actionnetwork.org/ticketed_events/earths-greatest-enemy-wollongong?source=direct_link&)

**Sydney, Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> June, 6.30pm, NSW Teacher Federation, 23-33**

Mary St, Surrey Hills. Tickets \$25 and \$15 concession

<https://events.humanitix.com/earth-s-greatest-enemy-sydney-nswtf->

## [film-and-panel](#)

**Sydney: Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> July, 6.30pm**, Dendy Cinema, 261 King St Newtown. Tickets: \$25, \$15 concession.

Q & A with Abby Martin; facilitator Scott Ludlam

<https://events.humanitix.com/earth-s-greatest-enemy-sydney-film-and-panel-discussion-with-abby-martin-film-maker>



### **IPAN Podcast:**

#### **US-Israel war on Iran - consequences for Australians:**

The narrow and obsessive focus by Australia's political leadership on massive spending on military "security" has been at the expense of addressing our real security concerns such as fuel, transport, housing, medical supplies and the climate crisis.

### **[LISTEN HERE](#)**

**IPAN Call on Supporters** - Donating to improve outreach and effectiveness of IPAN

Donate [HERE](#)

## **[Protests across Australia](#)**

## Hobart



Anti war activists stage protest at Anglesea military barracks in Hobart to express their disgust with Albanese's Labor govt support for the US/Israeli bombing of Iran two weeks into the war.

<https://youtu.be/pz8NsjGit4A>

## Brisbane



### **Palm Sunday Rally for Peace and Justice**

Organised collaboratively by Just Peace QLD, IPAN, RAC and Justice for Palestine; around 300 people protested the wars in West Asia and elsewhere. USA & Israel were condemned and our government was called on to condemn the illegal wars.

### **Canberra**



**It's been a busy week here in Canberra -**

**Monday** 7-9 am large Climate banners, Sanction Israel Now banner, Tax Gas exports and Ban Gambling Ads banner on Melb Ave to welcome the pollies

**Tuesday**, ditto at Melbourne Ave, then protest at the NPC for the Israeli Ambassadors presence

**Wednesday**, ditto at Melbourne Ave, except we had the Sanction Israel Now banner, No to AUKUS and Israel Still Killing Palestinians, and IPAN Break Ties with the US Alliance banners on Kings Ave going up to the Defence, with a small march up there and a small group (Margie Pestorius led) calling out the Defence Dept leadership and then a protest on the steps by the American Eagle, then marched back to the start point. No issues with police.

**Wednesday**, 5pm at the airport, Rising Tide banners against gas for the pollies leaving Canberra. Got quite a few toots in support from Cabbies and waves from people, eg Larissa Waters.

There will be a session at the National Folk Festival this **weekend**, as well as a procession with protest banners and songs - banners include the Sanction Israel Now and No to AUKUS banners.

## Sydney



Protesters at the Palm Sunday rally in Gadigal Country/Sydney marching down Pitt Street. Photo: Peter Boyle

### Sydney Palm Sunday

About 500 people joined the rally in Gadigal Country/Sydney, which had an anti-war theme, condemning United States President Donald Trump's destructive, pro-war and racist agenda.

## Melbourne



**On 14 March the No AUKUS Coalition Victoria held a Community Campaigning Workshop,  
*Help Sink AUKUS before AUKUS Sinks Australia – Sharing our Skills and ideas to broaden the peace movement and scrap AUKUS.***

The plenary Workshop Session was opened with brief presentations (by Con Pakavakis, John Shipton, Shirley Winton, Hamish McPherson and David Higginbottom), and then divided into 4 smaller theme groups.

\* **Community Activism** focused on engagement with local communities and direct action. CWA (Country Women's Association) is being approached to discuss the costs of AUKUS and war.

\* **Parliamentary lobbying** – writing letters, petitions and meetings with MPs. Labor Against War participants discussed different forms of actions.

\* **Working with Unions – Peace is Union Business**

## [READ ON](#)

### Adelaide



March 5th: The **Coalition Against the United States Empire** (CAUSE) held a rally in opposition to the U.S. and Israel's unprovoked war of aggression against Iran.

The coalition called for the Australian government to rescind its backing of the United States and Israeli war on Iran and immediately stop the involvement of Pine Gap's intelligence in the attacks.

To impose sanctions on the Israeli state, including the ceasing Australia's supply of weapons' components and the expulsion of the Israeli Ambassador.





Jeju says,  
\_ United States and Israel, immediately cease the war against Iran!  
\_ South Korean government must condemn the illegal aggression by the United States and Israel against Iran!  
\_ Jeju Naval Base must be shut down and the militarization of Jeju should be halted!  
\_ Jeju Provincial Government must cease its cooperation with the weapons manufacturer Hanwha!  
\_ Let's be in solidarity with the people of the world to put an end to imperialism and war



By Sung-hee Choi, from Jeju, South Korea, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026/ a photo by Jina

South Koreans on Jeju protest against US war on Iran

Republished from [Declassified Australia](#), 8 March 2026

## How US bases make Australia part of the Iran war

by Peter Cronau

*Australia's role in supporting the US-Israel war against Iran with the hosting of a string of US military bases across the country is a critical contribution to the US war machine.*

Australia is doing what it has done for decades when the United States wages war in the Middle East.

Australia is providing intelligence architecture, intelligence collection, communication systems, military intelligence specialists, and the political cover that helps support the assault.

Canberra says Australia is “not involved” because it is not dropping the bombs itself. That is the usual deception. But modern war is not just the aircraft over the target.

In a globally networked world, it is the satellite feed, the launch detection, the target support, the command post, the battle management platform, the submarine signals, the refuelling base, the overflight corridor, the embedded officers inside the coalition forces.

The country that provides those things is not outside the war, but is an intricate part of it.

### READ ON



Photo: Zebedee Parkes

With Acknowledgement to the Geen Left, March 19, 2026

## **61% oppose Labor's support for US-Israel war on Iran**

by Kerry Smith

New polling by the *Sydney Morning Herald* on March 19 shows most people — 61% — oppose the Iran war, with only 13% in favour. Just 29% endorsed Labor's support for the United States-Israeli strikes on Iran.

The Medical Association for the Prevention of War (MAPW) accused Prime Minister Anthony Albanese on March 11 of seeking to “minimise and sanitise” Australia's involvement, “just as John Howard did with Iraq and Afghanistan”. The distinction between ground forces and other forms of involvement is “misleading”, MAPW said.

“In modern warfare, intelligence sharing, surveillance, logistics and interoperability between allied forces are central, not peripheral, to war-fighting.”

MAPW said it was “gravely concerned” by the country’s increasing participation in a war without legal basis or legitimate objectives, “instigated by self-interested US and Israeli military actions”. Australia was the first country to give “unqualified support” to the illegal military strikes against Iran, despite there being no “legal grounds or coherent goals”. Australian Defence Force (ADF) equipment and personnel have since been sent to the United Arab Emirates, ostensibly for “defensive” action.

The US attack on a girl’s school in Iran and the toxic black rain that follows bombed oil facilities shows the costs are mounting, MAPW said.

## READ ON

With acknowledgement to Independent Australia, 1st March, 2026

# **Iran War has exposed Australia’s vulnerabilities and misplaced priorities**

by Bevan Ramsden

**Successive Australian governments’ misplaced priority on military “security” against a fictitious threat has left Australians without adequate fuel, food and transportation security.**

The disruption to oil supplies, resulting from the U.S.-Israeli war on Iran, has exposed this vulnerability.

At time of writing, 470 service stations across Australia were without petrol or diesel and the cost of both these fuels has skyrocketed, impacting the cost and ability to transport produce from farm to supermarket. The cost of everyday foodstuffs is escalating. The recent interest rate hike has put further financial pressure on mortgage holders. Workers are being urged to use public transport or work from home to reduce demand on scarce fuel supplies. Any worsening of the situation could bring in petrol and food rationing.

Even prior to the Iran War, according to Foodbank Australia, around 20 per cent of households nationwide were severely food insecure, meaning they were skipping meals or going entire days without eating. Their report highlighted how the housing crisis is intensifying the problem, with 48 per cent of renters experiencing food insecurity, and

being forced to choose between paying rent and buying food.

One must ask why, in a supposedly rich country like Australia, so many people are struggling to survive. Why has our fuel, food and transportation security become so vulnerable to overseas war disruption?

## **READ ON**



**2 MARCH 2026**

The Maritime Union of Australia condemns the ongoing attacks on Iran by the United States and Israel as reckless, illegal acts of aggression that drag the world closer to a wider war and nuclear catastrophe.

These strikes are a gross breach of international law, an assault on Iranian sovereignty and a direct undermining of the already fragile framework of multilateral diplomacy.

Workers in Australia know that war is not an accident; it is the brutal expression of an imperialist system that puts corporate profit, arms dealers and Great Power rivalry ahead of human need.

## **READ ON**

With acknowledgement to Pearls and Irritations,

### **The lies that fuel war**

by David Shoebridge

*The Albanese government's support for the US–Israel war on Iran rests on claims about nuclear threat, humanitarian intent and non-involvement that do not withstand scrutiny.*

As US and Israeli bombs and missiles rained down on Iran, the Australian public was given a barrage of lies from our own government. There's a reason for this. When a war is so deeply unpopular as the one Trump and Netanyahu started with Iran, then those promoting it have no other option but to lie.

As the illegal war started by Trump and Netanyahu has spread across the region, with more than a million people in Lebanon being driven from their homes, with the killing and the economic chaos escalating, the lies have only become more brazen.

From Prime Minister Albanese, Foreign Minister Wong and Defence Minister Marles we have seen layers of lies stacked on top of each other as they desperately wriggle and squirm to stay on message with Washington.

## **READ ON**

### **Israel and Gaza**

Michael West Media, 26th March 2026

## **Billionaire Zionist John Gandel's influence in Australian public schools**

by [Nicole Everett](#) and [Alan Musry](#)

*Australian public school teachers and students are being influenced by Zionist lobbyists who seek to manufacture consent for the illegal occupation of Palestine and the Gaza genocide.*

The *Yad Vashem Holocaust Studies [Teacher Training Program](#) for Australian Educators*, supported by The Gandel Foundation, is a tool used to indoctrinate educators and students under the guise of Holocaust Studies in what is clearly a state vision.

This represents a view contrary to what the majority of academics and experts know and teach, and undermines the spirit of balanced and independent studies.

The Gandel Foundation, which offers the teacher training program, is chaired by Australian billionaire John Gandel and includes junket trips to Israel.

John Gandel is a long-time associate of Benjamin Netanyahu and is listed as one of his 'most valued supporters'. A leaked document declared him a 'tier 1' contact of the Israeli Prime Minister, who is currently overseeing the genocide of Palestinians in Gaza and the violent occupation of Palestinians in the West Bank.

After October 7, John Gandel publicly stated that "Israel has no choice but to go 'all out' in Gaza.

### READ ON



**Nicole Everett** is a senior school English teacher in the Northern Territory. She is co-founder of Teachers and Families for Palestine NT, and an Executive Councillor and sub-branch representative with the Australian Education Union.



**Alan Musry** was born in India and has been a teacher in New South Wales and India. He is a Jewish supporter of Palestine and a member of Jews Against the Occupation 1948. He is also a member of Teachers and Families for Palestine, Northern Territory.



FLIES DEATH

TO GAZA



**Thai Airways has secretly shipped deadly F35 parts from Sydney to Israel in the cargo hold of passenger flights - at least 68 times.**<sup>1</sup> The F35 'genocide jet' has bombed Gaza hundreds of times since October 2023, and every single jet has Australian-made parts. The genocide fleet can't fly without them.

**SEND AN EMAIL TO THAI AIRWAYS: STOP SUPPORTING GENOCIDE**

Thai Airways is complicit in Israel's genocide in Gaza.

Thai Airways can redress this breach of law and of passengers' trust by refusing to carry further F35 parts - or any other weapons - to Israel. You can do something about this. Send a letter to Thai Airways management demanding that they commit to cease carrying arms to Israel or face a widespread consumer boycott.

**SEND AN EMAIL**

This campaign was launched by Wage Peace (Australia), a WBW affiliate, and is co-sponsored by World BEYOND War. More than 3,000 letters have already been sent to Thai Airways, and we need to keep up the pressure. We need to collectively tell Thai Airways to stop supporting Israel in its attacks on Gaza.

**The Electronic Intifada - factual reporting on Palestine including Gaza**



The Electronic Intifada reports factually without the political filters and distortions of western media.

Access their U-tube reports [HERE](#)

## AUKUS



**Support this independent Inquiry HERE**

Retired Major General Michael Smith explains why it is important.

**LISTEN HERE**

IPAN is supporting this Independent Inquiry

**US alliance, "defence" and consequences**



US marines arrive in Darwin under the Force Posture Agreement

ABC News 17<sup>th</sup> March 2026

## **US becoming dominant military force in Northern Territory, report says**

The US military is on its way to becoming the dominant military force on Australia's northern shores, according to a report from the Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI).

The report, authored by John Coyne and Raelene Lockhorst, criticised what they said was an incoherent approach to Australia's defence planning that had not matched US expansion in the Northern Territory. "The US is building a functioning operating ecosystem in northern Australia while Australia risks becoming a secondary user of its own strategic geography," the report said.

"If left uncorrected, that trajectory undermines sovereign resilience, weakens deterrence credibility and risks turning alliance integration into dependence rather than partnership."



Defence Connect, 9th March , 2026

## **A less needy, more capable Australia – recognising the new American reality for allies**

by Michael Shoebridge

Australia's defence strategy must urgently reduce reliance on the United States and prioritise sovereign defence industry, as America is now politically unreliable and industrially unable to guarantee military support in a crisis, explains Strategic Analysis Australia's Michael Shoebridge.

### **READ ON**

Jacqui Lambi  
27/3/26

### **Its time for us to stand on our own two feet**

It's a scary time, families are already struggling with cost-of-living pressures and thanks to Donald trump, now we are dealing with fuel prices going through the roof. Not to mention the farmers, who need a secure supply of fertiliser and small businesses wondering how they are going to pay staff.

Today President Trump said “Australia is not great” because we haven’t sent a warship to the Strait of Hormuz. You know who I think is not great? President Trump!

In January 2026, Trump claimed NATO allies, including Australia “stayed off the front lines in Afghanistan”, this insulting behaviour has become what we expect from the country that is supposed to be our strongest ally.

A year into his second term, President Trump continues to cause chaos and mayhem, in his own country and across the world. He took the international rules-based order - which was designed to stop major conflicts, and he ripped it up.

**READ ON**

## **Nuclear issues**



**No nuclear weapons in  
Australia  
CIVIL SOCIETY  
DECLARATION**

**In 2026, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons Australia invited Australian and Pacific Island civil society organisations to sign on to the “No Nuclear Weapons in Australia Declaration”. More than 150 organisations are calling on the Albanese government to prohibit the entry, transit or presence of nuclear weapons in Australian territory, waters and airspace, uphold Australia’s commitments to a nuclear weapons-free world, and sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.**

**READ THE DECLARATION HERE**

**IPAN has signed this declaration**



## **AUKUS Safety: the hidden threat**

by Dr Tony Webb

Largely un-reported to date has been the potential threat to health and safety of a wide range of workers and the public from the AUKUS program. Little noticed has been the creation of a Australia Naval Nuclear Power Safety Regulator (ANNPSR) that will have oversight of all aspects of construction, operation, maintenance, decommissioning, and management of long lived, highly radioactive wastes from the AUKUS submarines.

This new regulator, reporting to the Department of Defence, sits apart from the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA), reporting to the Department of Health, that governs radiation exposures to workers cross a wide range of other occupations - medical, industrial, nuclear, and radioactive waste management - and exposures to the public more generally.

**READ ON**



## **Australian Conservation Society**

Fifteen years ago today, a massive earthquake and tsunami smashed into Japan's east coast, triggering a nuclear disaster at the Fukushima power plant.

Vast amounts of radioactive contamination were suddenly released into the environment and around 150,000 people were forced to flee their homes and the poison that inundated them.

Fukushima shows why nuclear power has no place in Australia - and why we should stop fueling global nuclear risks through uranium exports.

**Will you add your name to our petition calling for a nuclear-free Australia?**

**[SIGN HERE](#)**

## **Democratic Rights/ Freedom of Speech**

Western Australia Government introduces new laws

**Race hate protests targeted, peaceful rallies protected under reform**

New laws to be introduced to Parliament this week by the Cook

Government will give WA Police the power to refuse a permit to protest if it's likely to promote hate based on factors such as religion, race, disability, gender, sexuality or ethnicity.

## **Democracy at a Crossroads: Why the Peace Movement Must Reclaim Our Future**

by David Higginbottom

On Saturday, 9 May 2026—the 125th anniversary of the first sitting of the Australian Parliament—a major national event will take place at the Melbourne Town Hall. Titled Democracy at a Crossroads: Reclaiming Our Future, the gathering aims to bring together a broad coalition of civil society groups to confront the systemic crisis facing our democratic institutions.

IPAN is proud to be an official partner organisation for this landmark event. We are supporting it because the core issues on the agenda go straight to the heart of IPAN's mission: the fight for an independent and peaceful Australia.

### **READ ON**

IPAN will have a dedicated stall at the Melbourne Town Hall, and we strongly encourage all members and supporters to attend. For those outside of Melbourne, we encourage you to join via the online video link, or to organise a local forum or watch party to coincide with the national launch.

Event Details:

- Date: Saturday, 9 May 2026
- Venue: Melbourne Town Hall (and available via online livestream)
- Tickets &

Info: [www.crossroadsconversation.com.au/events/reclaiming-democracy-together](http://www.crossroadsconversation.com.au/events/reclaiming-democracy-together)

Let us come together to reclaim our democracy and build the collective power needed to secure an Independent and Peaceful Australia.



## **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**



**NSW Parliament to hold Inquiry into  
Greens Human Rights Bill**

**JENNY LEONG MP**  
Member for Newcastle

**THE GREENS**

**Congratulations to the 120+ member organisations  
of the Human Rights Act for NSW Alliance &  
Legislative Assembly crossbench who have just  
secured an Inquiry into a Human Rights Act for NSW!**

This inquiry into the Greens Human Rights Bill will give community members and organisations the opportunity to join the public

conversation about how we can better protect and promote human rights in NSW.

## 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

### SYDNEY

#### Strategies for Peace: Building global security and cooperation through local actions

This discussion with 2 US peace activists will look at ways we can work for peace in the current climate, especially for the abandonment of dangerous policies such as AUKUS

**Monday, 13 April, 4.30 – 6 pm**

**NSW Teachers' Federation building, Sydney**

See the Humanitix link for more information and to book your place: <https://events.humanitix.com/strategies-for-peace> .

**SYDNEY**

# Public Meeting

Friday 17 April 6 pm

## US-ISRAELI WARS & WORLDWIDE THREATS

### Hike oil prices, make fuel scarce, kill children

#### ABOLISH PETROL EXCISE TAX

*Households pay 83% of all petrol excise. Big monopoly corporates get huge rebates. Foreign mining companies pay almost nothing. Parliament could abolish fuel excise in a day. A permanent cut would reduce inflation and threats to raise interest rates rises. Cut fuel prices 52c a litre NOW.*

#### FREE PUBLIC TRANSPORT NOW

*Victoria and Tassie already have fare-free public transport. Help people save fuel and money, and ease fuel shortages.*

#### STOP BACKING US AGGRESSION

*Stop using US war bases here for the US-Israeli War. Close US Pine Gap spy base that targets the Middle East. Withdraw the Australian spy plane and personnel from the Persian Gulf. Join Spain, France and Italy, and ban US military use of our country for the war against Iran, Lebanon and Palestine or anyone else. **US war bases here make us a target. Get rid of them. End Australian involvement in US Wars. Independence for Australia!***

## US Imperialism

### More than Death & Prices Soaring

Dr Joe Collins - political economist

Dr Christian Ciaconte – Political Economist – An era of Imperialist crisis

Host: Lindy Nolan - retired teacher unionist



Friday 17 April 6pm

Humanist House

Organised by: Spirit of Eureka NSW

10 Shepherd St Chippendale

spiritofe@tuta.com

BRISBANE

# US Nuke Sub Base for our East Coast?

# NO WAY!



**Learn of the dangers of hosting a US nuclear submarine base in Brisbane.** The \$30 million per day plan for AUKUS includes an attack submarine base in either Brisbane, Newcastle or Wollongong.

The Government has been very secretive about the decision on the site—just as they were with the AUKUS plans originally.

**Hear speakers from each city discuss campaigns against these bases.**

- Cameron Leckie (Brisbane)
- Lynda Forbes (Newcastle)
- Peter Rathborne (Wollongong)

Strong community opposition has been built in Newcastle and Wollongong regions.

Learning from their experiences, we will build the campaign for Brisbane. The campaign needs to be widespread if **we are to successfully stop this madness.**

**Get on board to help build our campaign!**

<https://events.humanitix.com/no-east-coast-us-base-public-meeting>

**Public meeting: Tuesday April 21**

6:30pm for 7:00pm start

ETU room, cnr Merivale & Peel St

South Brisbane

For details contact IPAN:

[ipan.australia@gmail.com](mailto:ipan.australia@gmail.com)

Phone Ross Gwyther: 0408 782 983

Book a  
free place  
now:





Join us for an upcoming ICAN webinar where we'll bring together voices from across the Pacific region to talk about what the declaration is asking for, what it means for Australia's place in the Pacific, and what we can do together keep the pressure on.

### **REGISTER HERE**

As nuclear armed states continue to disregard international law and tear up the rules based order, the Nuclear Weapon Ban Treaty is only becoming more vital.

**Australian Anti-AUKUS Coalition**

**[National Webinar, 20th May 2026, 6.30pm AEST](#)**

**The dangerous world of AUKUS and US military occupation**

**Confronting laws restricting/suppressing protest speech and action**

**[BOOK HERE](#)**



**Facilitator:** Kelli Tranter



Sen. Rex Patrick



Lawver Nick Hanna



Arthur Rorris



Joraen Dovle

**Opening a new level of federal authoritarianism, a new Federal Police unit has been created to intimidate and deter demonstrators protesting against AUKUS.**

The **AUKUS AFP Command** has been established under the Australian Federal Police (AFP), in conjunction with the Department of Defence. The **AUKUS AFP Command's** powers cover the security of AUKUS operations, extending to wider US military activity elsewhere. Its activities are of considerable concern since among its roles is "Public Order Management" listing of "munitions" which include tear gas, pepper spray, rubber bullets and real firearms.

**Is this the Australia we want for ourselves, our children and the world?**

Since 2003 and 9/11 a raft of laws have been passed by successive Australian governments attacking our civil and democratic rights, including freedom of speech and political protest. Some of these laws have been used against the environment movement. More laws have been passed recently aimed at suppressing the huge upsurge of outrage against Israel's genocide in Gaza, including draconian anti-protest laws in several states, and "hate laws" by the Federal Government.

## READ ON

*www.ipan.org.au*

**Email: [ipan.australia@gmail.com](mailto:ipan.australia@gmail.com)**

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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