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SPECIAL EDITION

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The IPAN Coordinating Committee wishes you and yours peace and goodwill for the festive season with the hope that the efforts of so many, world-wide, for peaceful resolution to conflict may be influential in the New Year in moving governments away from war and war preparations towards peaceful and mutually beneficial co-existence.



**Towards an
Independent and Peaceful Australia
CHARTING OUR OWN COURSE**

IPAN in Canberra, 22-24th November

Public Meeting, Conference, Inquiry Report Launch in Parliament House

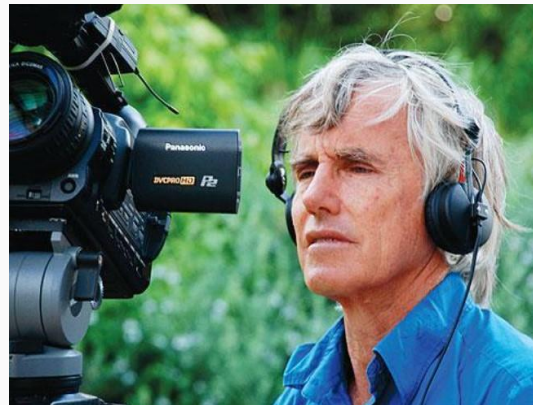


Margaret Reynolds opens IPAN Public Meeting, 22nd November at the Australian Christian Centre, Canberra and introduces Tjanana Gorging Goreng and David Bradbury's film "The road to war".



**Tjanana Gorging
Goreng - ATSI
Communities-
Welcome to
Country**

David Bradbury's film,
'The road to war" can
viewed [HERE](#)



Richard Broinowski, former
Australian diplomat addressing
the IPAN Public Meeting, 22nd
November. Dr Emma Shortis,
author of "Our exceptional
friend" and Dr David Brophy,
author of "China Panic"
joined Richard Broinowski in the
evening's presentations.

Richard Broinowski's presentation can be viewed [HERE](#)

Dr Emma Shortis' presentation can be viewed [HERE](#)

Dr David Brophy's presentation can be viewed [HERE](#)



Points made at the Public Meeting

(With acknowledgement to David Purnell's notes)

There is a fundamental problem with the history of this country, where the first nations have been undermined by a western narrative that places priority on the values of the invader. The 'Anglosphere' represented in AUKUS is only too transparently biased against indigenous peoples.

There is no reflection on what has happened in the wars we have been seduced into by our powerful friend USA.

The change of federal government brought a sense of relief about the way our leaders behave, but did not change the optics of the underlying xenophobia, directed at China now. Public opinion has moved strongly against China and in favour of the US-Australia Alliance as a result.

US hegemony is no longer viable. We must persuade the US that it cannot continue to behave as before. China will continue to rise.



The IPAN People's Inquiry Report

Annette Brownlie and Jonathan Pilbrow proudly brandishing IPAN's People's Inquiry Report which represents an historically unique compilation of submissions by 283 Australians plus a questionnaire responded to by 1,000 Australians, from all walks of life providing, for the first time, an Australian community view on Australia's involvement in U.S.-led wars, the consequences and the alternatives.

A copy of the report can be ordered in hard copy [HERE](#) or a soft copy [HERE](#)

Conference Wednesday 23rd November

Charting our own course: Next steps to an independent and peaceful Australia



**Report on campaign
in support of Julian
Assange, by Con
Pakavakis**
View [HERE](#)

Free Julian Assange Resolution

The following resolution moved by Con Pakavakis was passed unanimously by the Conference:

"The charges, treatment and continued detention of Julian Assange are extraordinary and explicable only as political persecution. His treatment has not been 'normal. It is extreme, illegal, denies his human rights and is threatening his life. The legal process is being used as punishment. The political nature of the charges and illegal activities by UK and US authorities are grounds for his immediate release and for dismissing the extradition request. This IPAN Conference therefore calls on the Australian Parliament to declare the case against Julian Assange political and ask for his immediate release and the denial of the extradition request."

Conference panel on *AUKUS and the threat of war against China*



Dr Emma Shortis
author of "Our
Exceptional Friend"
View [HERE](#)



Dr David Brophy
author of "China
Panic".
View [HERE](#)



**Dr Vince
Scappatura** author
of **The US Lobby:
US- Australia
Leadership
Dialogue**
View [HERE](#)



**Prof. Richard Tanter
of the Nautilus
Institute & an
authority on Pine
Gap and other US
bases in Australia
View [HERE](#)**

Conference panel on *IPAN Inquiry Report Findings and Recommendations*



**Dr Alison
Broinowski former
Australian diplomat.
Inquiry Panel leader
on Foreign Policy
and President of
Australians for War
Powers Reform
View [HERE](#)**

Dr Alison Broinowski's presentation can be downloaded [HERE](#)



**Dr Vince
Scappatura author
of The US Lobby:
US- Australia
Leadership
Dialogue and IPAN**

**Panel Leader on
Defence**

View [HERE](#)

**Workshop session on *Inquiry Findings,
recommendations and campaigning approaches***



**View report back
session [HERE](#)**

Conference panel on *Defence Policies*



**Michelle Fahy,
Academic &
researcher on war
economy, one of
the authors of State
Capture Report.**

View [HERE](#)

Michelle Fahy's presentation can be downloaded [HERE](#)



**Dr Albert Palazzo,
Military historian
with writings on
Armed Neutrality
and the Military**

response to the
Climate Crisis. View
[HERE](#)

Dr Albert Palazzo's presentation can be downloaded [HERE](#)

***Conference panel on How to win: Collaborative
activism for peace and climate action***



**Mary Kostakidis-
Journalist MSM and
SM - critiqued the
current MSM
blocking of full
news coverage &
advised on using
SM platforms more
effectively. View
[HERE](#)**



**Tim Hollo from the
ACT , The Greens
Institute -IPAN
connecting through
transformation-
action- View [HERE](#)**

Tim Hollo's presentation can be downloaded [HERE](#)



**Dimity Hawkins,
ICAN**

View [HERE](#)

Dimity Hawkins presentation can be downloaded [HERE](#)



**Janet Baille- Qld
Nurses & Midwives
Union- Activism in
refugee & climate
movements, health
& implications of
war. View [HERE](#)**

Janet Baille's presentation can be downloaded [HERE](#)



**Paul Peterson- Qld
MUA trade unionist
on Peace is Union
Business.**

View [HERE](#)



**Andrew Irvine- Qld
NT ETU trade
unionist working on
union media.**

View [HERE](#)



**Lachlan Clohesy - ACT
NTEU, academic and trade
union organiser; has worked
in advocacy and engagement,
local activism in universities.**

View [HERE](#)

Lachlan Clohesy's presentation can be downloaded [HERE](#)

Conference Resolution (passed unanimously)

This 2022 IPAN Conference calls on the Federal Government to pursue a genuinely independent and peaceful foreign policy and build relations with nations in our region and beyond based on mutual respect and mutual benefit to create an Asia-pacific Zone of Peace.

To this end, this conference urges the Federal Government to:

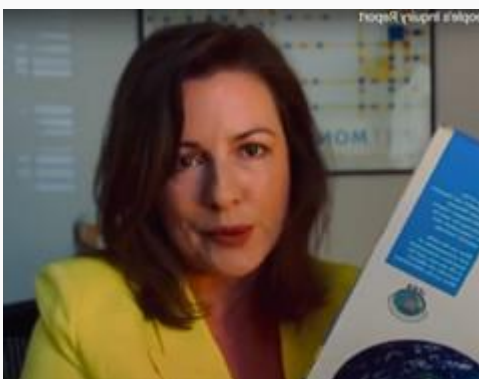
- Cease preparations with the United States for war against China
- State that Australian territory and our ADF will not be used to support such a war

- Cancel the proposed acquisition of nuclear-powered submarines
- Sign the Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons
- Re-prioritise spending from war preparations to instead address urgent climate and social needs

Launching of IPAN's People's Inquiry Report in Parliament House- Thursday, 24th November



Senator David Shoebridge tabled the People's Inquiry Report in the Senate in Wednesday 23rd November. Listen [HERE](#)



Kellie Tranter, Chair of IPAN's People's Inquiry speaking at the Launch of the Inquiry Report in Parliament House. Listen to her speech [HERE](#)

Obtain a copy of the IPAN People's Inquiry Report [HERE](#)



History made in this place

Launching of IPAN's People's Inquiry Report, "Towards an Independent and Peaceful Australia- Charting our own course" in Parliament House committee room, 24th November, 2022

View Video [HERE](#)



War Profiteers Trail

Wage Peace, IPAN and XR participated in a walk and protest outside BAE and Lockheed Martin Offices in Canberra on Thursday 24th November, 2022 preceding the People's Inquiry Report Launch in Parliament House

**IPAN MEDIA RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE 10 December, 2022**

- **AUSMIN announcement to expand US militarisation not in Australia's security interests**
-
- **IPAN People's Inquiry Report calls for Australia to step back its joint war preparations with the United States**
-
- **Call for an immediate cessation to further American military expansion and a public inquiry into the implications of the US Force Posture Agreement for Australia's security and sovereignty.**

The Australia-US Ministerial Consultations (AUSMIN), held this week in Washington DC, announced that the US will expand its military presence in Australia, including more rotations of US forces across all three military domains, air, land and maritime, further tying Australia to US preparations for conflict with China.

However, a landmark report (The IPAN People's Inquiry) which gave ordinary people a chance to voice their concerns about the US alliance and Australian defence and foreign policy, found that many are concerned about increasing US militarisation making Australia an unnecessary target of America's foes, and especially China. The AUSMIN announcement this week is at odds with the findings of the IPAN report.

The announcement continues the expansion of the US Force Posture Initiatives that first established a permanent rotational presence of US forces in Australia in 2012, formalised in 2014 by the 25-year Force Posture Agreement (FPA). The agreement not only includes a 2500-strong Marine force in Darwin but also grants:

- Unimpeded access to Australia's airbases and related facilities for US jet fighters and bombers, as well as access to Australian ports for US ships and submarines
- Access to 'agreed facilities' for US forces and contractors to conduct training, transit, support and related military activities, including the deployment of forces and defence material as the parties may agree.

"Without any debate or public consultation, Australian leaders committed this country to becoming a major base of US military operations in the Indo-Pacific during a time of rising regional tensions. Since the FPA was first signed, Australia has bent over backwards to accommodate greater rotations of all types of US

military forces, including multi-billion dollar defence facility upgrades to base more lethal US power-projection elements, such as the recent revelation of up to six nuclear-capable B-52 bombers," stated IPAN Spokesperson, Dr Vince Scappatura.

The AUSMIN communique affirmed that the US will continue to distribute more forces to more locations across Australia, increase weapons stocks, and undertake further infrastructure development to sustain long-range US military operations. Further rotations of US bombers and fighters, and future rotations of US Navy and US Army capabilities were also committed.

In a novel but concerning development, the communique announced that Japan will be invited to increase its defence participation in the Force Posture Initiatives in Australia. This is part of a wider effort to foster a web of bilateral defence relationships among US regional allies to contain China.

"IPAN urges the Australian government to step back from these joint war preparations with the United States. A war with China would have disastrously unimaginable consequences for Australia and regional peace, security and prosperity. The huge expenditures envisaged for these war preparations must be reprioritised to meet the most serious threat to Australia, namely climate change, and to address urgent social needs including health, education, and affordable housing," stated Dr Scappatura.

The IPAN People's Inquiry Report, which dares to imagine citizens placed alongside national security elites at the centre of Australia's

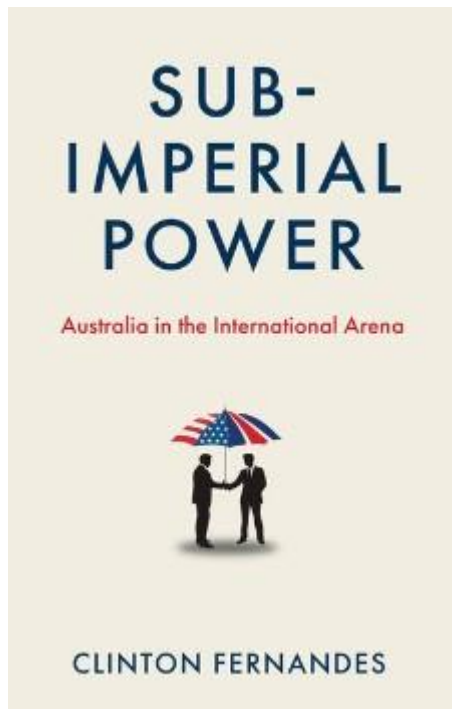
defence and foreign policy decisions, provides a baseline for government to assess the efficacy of decisions and actions, and for applying reason, diplomacy and common sense to our alliance relationships and security interests.

The FPA can be terminated with one year's notice, requiring US forces to leave Australia. The increasing militarisation of Australia since the Force Posture Initiatives were announced undermine our security interests and, in IPAN's view, should be terminated.

"Australian leaders have a habit of treating Australians with contempt when it comes to the US alliance and major defence decisions. The US Force Posture Initiatives, AUKUS, B-52 bombers – all of these decisions were made without the proper democratic debate.

IPAN calls on the Australian government to cease any further American military expansion in Australia and to conduct a public inquiry into the implications of the US Force Posture Agreement for Australia's security and sovereignty", says Dr Scappatura.

AUSMIN push to step up US military presence is out of step with the Australian people



Aukus will lock in Australia's dependence on US, intelligence expert warns

Clinton Fernandes argues in provocative new book the security pact will make it impossible to have an independent defence policy

The Aukus deal will lock in Australia's dependence on the US and make it impossible to have an independent defence policy, a former Australian army intelligence officer has warned.

In a provocative new book to be released this week, Clinton Fernandes argues the true character of Australia's relationship with the US is "a transactional, dramatically unequal one". He argues the rhetoric about mateship is merely "window dressing".

Book review from The Guardian, 2nd October, 2022

RAPID PUBLIC RESPONSE

In the event of an imminent major military conflict, military invasion or war actually breaking out, IPAN organisations in the following states, urge everyone to rally :

In Melbourne, outside the State Library in Swanston St, Melbourne, from 5pm that evening- bring banners and placards - family and friends

In Adelaide, on Parliament Steps at 4.30 pm that evening – bring banners and placards – family and friends.

In Newcastle, at the Clocktower, Hamilton, 4.30pm that evening- bring banners and placards and tell family and friends

In Canberra, on the median strip at the corner of London Circuit and Northbourne Ave.

In Brisbane, at King George Square, 5 pm

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 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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Our emailing address is:

ipan.australia@gmail.com

Our mailing address is:

IPAN

PO Box 573

Coorparoo, Qld 4151

Australia

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