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This assault only two weeks ago was led by 1,200 Australian troops backed by 560 Filippino Forces and 120 US marines.  Australia’s defence minister, Richard Marles said the military exercise aimed to promote the rule of law and peace in the region and that Australia and The Philippines would pursue plans for joint naval patrols in the South China Sea, which the Australian defense chief said may be launched soon.  Previously Minister Marles has supported naval patrols of the South China Sea in line with the United States’ call for freedom of navigation patrols, a straw man exercise as China has never indicated any desire to block naval trade routes which, in any a case, would seriously harm its own trade with the rest of the world.  The Australian-Filippino-US military assault on the “enemy-controlled” island follows a series of recent war reheasal exercises in which Australia has been a major player.  These include Talisman Sabre with 30,000 troops comprised mainly of Australian and United States troops backed by fighters, bombers, landing craft and naval forces operating in Qld  and off the coast and in NT in July/August, this year.  The Quad war exercise, “Exercise Malabar”, led by Australia was carried out from 10-21 August, this year and comprised of warships from the US, Japan and India as well as Australia supported by more than 2,000 personnel across the four nations. Exercise Malabar incorporated high-end anti-submarine, air-defence and gunnery exercises, aviation and communication operations.  These three war rehersals in July/August, this year symbolise the rapid increase in war preparations occurring and in synchronism with the ALP National Conference in August in which the dominant leadership suppressed the growing opposition from within ALP branches and membership with AUKUS and the acquisition of nuclear-propelled submarines and ensured that the conference endorsed these policies.  The shift of war exercises from Australian territory to the Philippines and South China Sea indicates the focus is on China and the territories it claims in the South China Sea. The Australian acquisition of tomahawk missiles to be fitted to our Hobart class destroyers indicates an intent to attack land-based installations as they are of no use against moving targets such as ships or planes and are therefore of no use in defence of Australian territory.  **Minister Marles has now placed Australian military assets in an operational position which could, as a result of an accident, miscalculation or intentional provocation, trigger a break out of hostilities with China with possible escalation into all- out war.**  All peace- loving people and organisations and that includes faith organisations, trade unions, ALP and other political party branches and members, community organisations including ethnic community associations, parents and citizens associations, secondary and university students, mums and dads and workers everywhere need to come together urgently and demand peace; a Vietnam Moratorium level response is needed. It pulled the political leadership of Australia into line resulting in an end to conscription and withdrawal of all Australia’s troops from the Vietnam war some 50 years ago.  Similarly, a mass movement of the Australian people can prevent a war; a war which would have devastating impact on our economy and our everyday life and may even lead to missile attacks on our continent.  Polls show a majority of Australian people want neutrality in a US war against China; 73% of Australian women want neutrality in such a war; 67% of young people want neutrality; this is a strong base upon which to build a mass movement for peace.  Bevan Ramsden | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Hiroshima and Nagasaki Day Protests** | | | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Adelaide** | | | | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Some 80 people gathered at Mukata (Hindmarsh Square) who then marched through Rundle Mall and on to Parliament House, where a number of awareness-raising speeches were delivered. Speakers included Maddie from the National Union of Students (Flinders Uni campus), Andrew Gohl (President, Australian Education Union (SA Branch)), Dr Amanda Ruler (Coordinator, Medical Association for Prevention of War (SA Branch)), David Noonan (long-term anti-nuclear activist), Tammy Franks (SA Greens MP) and Professor Al Rainnie (economist, at Uni SA Business). | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Perth** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | We had a beautiful Perth day - 22 degrees - and over 100 people turned up, swelled by passersby. IPAN, Stop-AUKUS gained members and many petitions were signed: so a successful day. The speakers were all excellent and covered the multiple problems that the acceleration towards nuclear acceptance will lead Australia. Proceedings opened with a Welcome to Country by Uncle Ben and speakers were Jo Vallentine, Quakers; K-A Garlick, Nuclear Free WA; Peter Underwood MAPW; Adrian Glamorgan, Mayors for Peace (who called for a minute's silence); Brad Pettitt, Greens; Melissa Parke, ICAN Australia Ambassador, and Ella Marchionda, NUS.   Then a  break for excellent singing from the Working Voices choir, followed by remaining speakers - Steve McCartney, AMWU WA; Elizabeth Hulm, Stop-AUKUS; and Sam Wainwright, Socialist Alliance. | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Darwin** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | There were three times as many people at this year's rally than at last year's. We tried to make peace cranes, I even asked four coy, casually-dressed soldiers passing by if they knew how to make them but they didn't respond. All we NT peace icons enjoyed the afternoon in Raintree Park against the backdrop of the D.R.A.W. banner from the 1990s. A peaceful rally as I'd promised. One person stopped for information. I gave him some paw-paw as well. (Diana Rickard) | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Sydney** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A group of people protesting in front of a building  Description automatically generated | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Hundreds attended the Sydney Hiroshima and Nagasaki day rally up significantly from previous years.Speakers and banners highlighted the demand for government signing the TPNW and opposition to AUKUS and nuclear submarines. The rally culminated in a march through the CBD ending at the defence department where wreaths were laid in memory of the victims of Hiroshima and Nagaski. Nick Deane attracted public interest with his yellow NO AUKUS submarine. | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A person carrying a yellow submarine  Description automatically generated | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Brisbane** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Hiroshima Remembrance Day, Sunday, August 6th 2023. King George Square, Brisbane.**      The Hiroshima Remembrance Day became an opportunity to bring attention to the horrors that may lie ahead for humanity, unless atomic weapons are eliminated from the arsenals held by the 9 nuclear states. Thus, some of the anti-nuclear groups represented in King George Square included the Independent and Peaceful Australia Network (IPAN), the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), Just Peace QLD, Brisbane Anti-Aukus Coalition and Wage Peace Brisbane. In addition, members of several unions (e.g., the ETU, the UQ Students Union), the Socialist Alternative Brisbane, the YES Campaign, the Communist Party of Australia, the Australian Citizens Party, and the Brisbane Combined Unions Choir, were attending, some of these in force. Overall organisation came from Mark Gillespie of the Refugee Action Collective, with the Very Reverend Dr Peter Catt, Dean of Brisbane’s St John’s Anglican Cathedral as MC of the event. Six speeches in all were followed by a march through the nearby streets of the CBD, under the watch of a small contingent of respectful police. | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Mparntwe/Alice Springs** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A collage of people holding signs  Description automatically generated | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Two events were held with the first one on Sunday the 6th of August a remembrance vigil was be held, to remember the terrible impact of the nuclear bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945.   The event provide the opportunity for reflection and included a calligraphy booth and paper crane making, with guidance from local Japanese teacher sand students from two local schools, as well as a reading of the story of Sadako. A minute’s silence was held at 8.45 am local time and reflective music was played by a local celloist.   While a small gathering, of just over 20 people, it was a meaningful event for all who attended.   The 4th Annual Yami Lester Memorial Address was then held on Monday the 7th of August  - an annual recurring event to remember the terrible impact of the atomic bombs dropped in 1945 and the British nuclear testing that took place between 1952 and 1963 in Maralinga and Emu Field (South Australia). The event is also an occasion to reflect on the opportunities offered to all Australians to create a future free of nuclear threat [**READ ON**](https://ipan.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3766f6de66f92775b3ee224d&id=e86dc89b66&e=8ef5b7f4e3) | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A close up of a logo  Description automatically generated | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A screenshot of a cell phone  Description automatically generated | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | David Bradbury in receiving this award from World Beyond War provided a short film of US wars of aggression, snippets from his films. For a quick overview of US wars of aggression including Hiroshima, Vietnam, the Chilean coup, Iraq, Afghanistan, etc  view  [**HERE**](https://ipan.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3766f6de66f92775b3ee224d&id=a055f19300&e=8ef5b7f4e3) | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Students and teachers on the move opposing war and militarisation** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A group of people marching in a street  Description automatically generated | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Sydney University students march against war after rally on campus denouncing AUKUS,  March proceeded down King St  to the University of Technology | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A group of people holding signs  Description automatically generated | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A student union is calling on South Australian universities to cut ties with defence industry companies, as the University of Adelaide pens a new partnership with a major firm. As part of a National Union of Students campaign, University of Adelaide students will on Wednesday protest their institution’s ties to defence companies, turbocharged by the AUKUS submarines pact. [**READ ON**](https://ipan.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3766f6de66f92775b3ee224d&id=ea9d3753d2&e=8ef5b7f4e3) | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Australian Education Union anti-AUKUS resolutions** The following motion was passed at two AEU Victorian branches  meetings tonight - Maribyrnong and Inner City Regions.  At Inner City the vote was unanimous; at Maribyrnong there was one abstention.  Apparently there was no debate -  the motions were seen as common sense among all present.  This meeting of AEU members condemns the Nuclear Submarine Propulsion Challenge promoted by the Department of Education via their website, and run by the STEM Hub in collaboration with the Department of Defence.The government spending of $368 billion on AUKUS nuclear submarines will require whole new industries in Australia, and beginning to draw our brightest teenage students into this war industry must be opposed. A pro-AUKUS curriculum that normalises nuclear powered submarines and other military technology has no place in our schools.We resolve to refuse to refer students to this program or others like it, and we will refuse to promote it within our schools. We call on the Department of Education to cease all involvement in this and similar programs.We encourage other AEU bodies to take up this resolution and to support a formal AEU boycott of this and similar pro-AUKUS programs. | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A book and pencil and ruler  Description automatically generated | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Sign Petition [**HERE**](https://ipan.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3766f6de66f92775b3ee224d&id=40fc131e76&e=8ef5b7f4e3) | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | The National Tribune, 28th August, 2023 ****TEACHERS ACT AGAINST SCHOOLS NUCLEAR SUBS PROGRAM**** Children being taught to make weapons  Teachers are moving to boycott a new pro-nuclear-fuel brainwashing program being introduced into schools.  There’s growing momentum within unions to ban the [Nuclear-powered Submarine Propulsion Challenge](https://ipan.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3766f6de66f92775b3ee224d&id=01b3c9c343&e=8ef5b7f4e3), which is a Defence Department initiative backed by the Federal and [Victorian governments](https://ipan.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3766f6de66f92775b3ee224d&id=54324edc34&e=8ef5b7f4e3).  In a blatant attempt to normalise nuclear power and indoctrinate children into building instruments of death, the challenge asks students from years 7 to 12 to design a nuclear-powered propulsion system for a submarine.  Friends of the Earth (FoE) understands that motions calling for a boycott have already been passed in some chapters of the Australian Education Union.  One motion, passed at a recent branch meeting said: “We resolve to refuse to refer students to this program or others like it, and we will refuse to promote it within our schools. We call on the Department of Education to cease all involvement in this and similar programs.”   Teachers are organising a national action meeting to coordinate actions on the issue next Wednesday at 6.30pm VIC time via Zoom. Please invite any teachers that you know that would like to take action on this, and pass this invitation on to the progressive teacher groups in your area.   Topic: Teachers against militaisation in schools national meeting Time: Sep 6, 2023 06:30 PM Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney  Join Zoom Meeting [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84588657399?pwd=L2FxTlB5ZC9nUzlTWlhPSXBvYUxMUT09](https://ipan.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3766f6de66f92775b3ee224d&id=25240eb121&e=8ef5b7f4e3)  Meeting ID: 845 8865 7399 Passcode: 809375 | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **ALP National Conference and ALP grass roots opposition** | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Protests outside ALP National Conference-Report by Michael Henry of Just Peace**  Far more concerning for members of anti-war groups such as IPAN, ICAN, Just Peace QLD, Wage Peace and Labor Against War (L.A.W.), was the wholehearted support of AUKUS by ministers of the ALP after the party won office on the 21st May 2022. It was clear that the ALP would move to include AUKUS support formally in their party platform, which would be discussed during the ALP National Conference, August 17th – 19th 2023. The Queensland No-AUKUS Coalition had been formed many months earlier to demonstrate to the widest possible audience the insanity of the AUKUS project. Activism on this matter was ramped up to focus on demonstrations during August 18th at the Conference Centre in South Brisbane. Hence a group of activists discussed ideas and processes designed to attract the attention and curiosity of Brisbanites and the media. A 3-metre-long model submarine was constructed from cardboard, PVC tubing and gaffer tape. It was designed to be carried to the Conference Centre from the offices of the ETU and eventually displayed on three tall poles to be visible from a distance. On one side of the submarine 7 fabric flags were attached listing the social and global projects that need urgent attention instead of spending $368 billion over 25 years:   Indigenous Funding, Education, Aged Care, Health, NDIS, Climate, Environment, Sustainable Jobs, and Public Housing. [**READ ON**](https://ipan.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3766f6de66f92775b3ee224d&id=278d16eea3&e=8ef5b7f4e3) | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | The Queensland No-AUKUS contingent was not alone. Among the hundreds of protesters were members of Wage Peace Brisbane/Meanjin, IPAN, ICAN, L.A.W., Just Peace QLD, the ETU, NTEU, CFMEU, Julian Assange Brisbane, the Socialist Alliance, Free Palestine supporters and the striking banners created by Graeme Dunstan. | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Independent Australia, 27th August, 2023  **The ALP National Conference and the march to war** By [William Briggs](https://ipan.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3766f6de66f92775b3ee224d&id=a8216919c4&e=8ef5b7f4e3)    **The**[**ALP National Conference**](https://ipan.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3766f6de66f92775b3ee224d&id=6db1b3f404&e=8ef5b7f4e3)**aimed to sideline, at least for a time, any internal opposition to its war-mongering policies.**  While the parliamentary branch got their way, the anti-AUKUS movement within the ALP will not go away nor will the growing opposition in Australian society to the developing war economy or our government’s obsequious attachment to U.S. foreign policy.  The behaviour of the leadership of the ALP was insulting to its membership. When Defence Industry Minister [Pat Conroy](https://ipan.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3766f6de66f92775b3ee224d&id=4d7b8b0d40&e=8ef5b7f4e3) described those who oppose AUKUS as an equivalent to pre-WWII "appeasers" and akin to those who backed [Robert Menzies](https://ipan.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3766f6de66f92775b3ee224d&id=f8536d241a&e=8ef5b7f4e3) at the time, it was clear just where the Albanese Government lined up and where they are headed.  [**READ ON**](https://ipan.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3766f6de66f92775b3ee224d&id=48d82f2fff&e=8ef5b7f4e3) | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Prahran Labor Party Branch (Vic.)** ‘As Labor Party members, we condemn AUKUS and its acquisition of nuclear-propelled submarines for Australia and call for Australia's full exit from the pact’ ‘We support the building of an extra-parliamentary and mass movement in Australia to oppose AUKUS and the dangerous drive towards militarism and war, and to work for an independent, non-nuclear and peaceful Australia and world’ ‘The AUKUS motion at National Conference was passed but not without significant dissent. The Prahran branch does not consider the debate settled & urges continued opposition to AUKUS within our party & the wider labour movement’ | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A screenshot of a computer  Description automatically generated | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A submarine in the water  Description automatically generated | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Coming events** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A bird with a bird on its back  Description automatically generated | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Sydney Anti-AUKUS Coalition (SAAC)**  **Join us September 15th  at Sydney Town Hall, 5.30pm to protest two years since the Coalition announced the AUKUS military alliance with the United States and Britain, including the nuclear submarine deal.** The Labor government has committed to AUKUS, this year committing in its federal budget more than $368 billion in public funds to build and acquire the submarines. The acquisition of these weapons is not “deterrence”: it is an act of military aggression in a region where there is already contestation. It furthers the likelihood of a confrontation with China in which no one would be safe from nuclear weapons. Cities and ports would be turned into military production lines and Australia’s hosting of US bases would make it a target.  AUKUS allows more U.S bases, more rotations of potentially nuclear armed subs, and B52 bombers.    We need to learn from history and stop the next war before it starts: Australia’s participation in US-led wars in Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan has been disastrous for those countries.  Join the movement to stop AUKUS and demand peace and climate action. Sign up to Sydney Anti-AUKUS Coalition. | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A blue and red sign  Description automatically generated | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | This **ANU forum** is called "**AUKUS Two Years On: Why Should You Oppose It?"** The forum is on **21 September at 6pm in the Copland Theatre at ANU.** There will be three speakers, Allan Behm from The Australia Institute, an ANU staff member specialising in Australia's foreign and defence policy, and the Education Officer of the ANU Student Association. The speeches will go for 30-36 minutes, then there will be a round of discussion for questions or comments before we throw back to the speakers at the end. | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **REMEMBERING the Chilean Coup** **50 years since the US instigated coup against the Chilian Government of Allende** Records show Australian's secret service ASIS was involved in supporting this coup against this democratically elected government **Remembrance function:** Tues 12th September, Open from 9.45 am to 5.20pm NSW Parliament, Jubilee room and Theatre **All welcome; FREE** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A blue background with white text and paper cranes  Description automatically generated | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | DETAILS of this function: [International Day of Peace Vigil Boorloo (Perth)](https://ipan.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3766f6de66f92775b3ee224d&id=6f105fc3fd&e=8ef5b7f4e3) | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | The Raising Peace online peace festival returns to celebrate the International Day of Peace for 2023.  For three days from 21-23 September we are bringing you a series of speakers and workshops discussing the ever more important topic of how we can contribute to a peaceful world. More details [**HERE**](https://ipan.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3766f6de66f92775b3ee224d&id=fcee894386&e=8ef5b7f4e3) | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Report on successful Pacific Peace Network's Australian Tour** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | From July 30th to the 4th August 2023 during the largest ever US led Talisman Sabre exercise in Australia with over 30 thousand troops participating, a delegation of Pacific Peace activists participated in a one day conference in Brisbane then went on to speak at events in Sydney Canberra and Darwin.  Talisman Sabre exercise in 2007 held in the mid Qld Shoalwater Bay training region has a history of opposition during Peace Convergences over the years bringing people from a range of Pacific States to  witness US and Australian troops training for war and sharing their own experiences of war and US bases.  During the Pacific Peace conference in Brisbane on Saturday July 29th First Nations’ women, Monaeka Flores (Guåhan) and Shinako Oyakama (Ryukyu/Okinawa), Arama Rata (Aotearoa), Karina Lester (South Australia), and Tiana Hippolite (Pacific Diaspora), spoke clearly to over 80 conference attendees about the destructive impact of imperialism, colonisation and war, and the exploitation of their people and environment through nuclear testing, establishment of US military bases, military exercises on their lands, and war waste, as well as their people’s resistance and activism in opposition to the continuing occupation of their lands for military purpose. [**READ ON**](https://ipan.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3766f6de66f92775b3ee224d&id=b421aa3fb6&e=8ef5b7f4e3) | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Report from Australians Against Political Prosecutions (AAPP)** | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Richard Boyle’s appeal hearing decision**  Richard Boyle’s appeal re the failure of his public interest disclosure defence under the Public Interest Disclosure (PID) Act was heard in the SA Supreme Court on Wednesday 9 August. The decision on the appeal will be handed down hopefully before too long and we hope also that this time it will recognise that his disclosure was in the public interest. [**READ ON**](https://ipan.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3766f6de66f92775b3ee224d&id=89ab333085&e=8ef5b7f4e3)  [**The Human Rights Law Centre launched Australia’s first dedicated legal service for whistleblowers**](https://ipan.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3766f6de66f92775b3ee224d&id=78f9522d10&e=8ef5b7f4e3) **last Wednesday 24 August.**  **Caitlin Reiger, CEO of Human Rights Law Centre:** “The launch of the Human Rights Law Centre’s Whistleblower Project is a landmark moment for whistleblower protections in Australia. While there is so much that Australians know thanks to the courage of individual whistleblowers, we need to be concerned about what we don’t know - and what stories may never be told - because people are too afraid and unsupported in speaking up.   [**READ ON**](https://ipan.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3766f6de66f92775b3ee224d&id=ceafe8ca85&e=8ef5b7f4e3) | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | David McBride’s trial starts on 13 November in the ACT Supreme Court. David McBride is facing 5 charges, some for breaching the Defence Forces Act including theft of government docs, 3 charges of talking to journalists (Crimes Act) and talking to journalists not in the course of his duties. He faces 60 years jail. His disclosures were clearly in the public interest and the prosecution should be dropped now!  **Support David McBride - Rally at 9am outside the ACT Courts, Monday 13 November**  **MC Mary Kostakidis             Speakers:**  **Former ACT Attorney-General Bernard Collaery**  **Greens Senator David Shoebridge**  **Kieran Pender, senior lawyer, Human Rights Law Centre**  **Dr Sue Wareham, President MAPW**  **Former Reuters correspondent Dean Yates** | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Talk of a plea deal for Julian Assange [Crikey](https://ipan.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3766f6de66f92775b3ee224d&id=9f2a3bc7b5&e=8ef5b7f4e3) - US Ambassador Caroline Kennedy has said that WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange could get a David Hicks-style plea deal with the US that would see him return to Australia… Law expert at the ANU Don Rothwell told the paper the US could downgrade Assange’s 17 espionage charges for a guilty plea — he’s already done four years in a UK prison, and the rest of the sentence could be done in Australia. But Assange fans might say it’s hard to imagine him ever pleading guilty, or going to the US to do so.” [**READ ON**](https://ipan.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3766f6de66f92775b3ee224d&id=519db9ce82&e=8ef5b7f4e3) | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **IPAN Information sheet explaining the implications of the US-Australia Force Posture Agreement and why it must be terminated** | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **The US-Australia Force Posture Agreement seriously undermines Australia’s national sovereignty.**  **It allows the US to control our military.**  **It puts us on the path to war, most likely against China**  The US-Australia Force Posture Agreement (FPA) was signed in 2014, following the 2011 announcement by President Obama of the US military “Pivot to Asia”. It lasts for 25 years and can be terminated by either party with one year’s notice.  Article II states: “…this Agreement **provides the necessary authorisations for the United States to conduct mutually determined activities under the Force Posture Initiatives in, from or through Australia**.  Article IV of the FPA states: “United States Forces and United States Contractors shall have **unimpeded access to and use of** Agreed Facilities and Areasfor activities undertaken in connection with this Agreement”  and: “Australia hereby grants to the United States **operational control of** Agreed Facilities and Areas**.”**  The FPA has thus enabled:  •    Basing in Darwin of 2,500 or more US Marines each year - **not under Australian control** - taking their orders from US Indo-Pacific regional command in Darwin); establishment of a US Airforce operations centre in Darwin.  •    training with the Australian Defence Forces and taking part in the Talisman Sabre war exercises (apparently focused on a potential war against China).   \* transiting and stationing of US aircraft at the Tindal and Darwin RAAF bases.  This includes the stationing of six **B52 bombers.** Some B52s are capable of carrying nuclear weapons and can fly to China and back without refuelling on the ground  \*   setting up storage depots for fuel, spare parts, bombs and other munitions in the NT and in Bandiana (Vic) (proposed).  **Down load** complete information sheet [**HERE**](https://ipan.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3766f6de66f92775b3ee224d&id=ba1100c2c5&e=8ef5b7f4e3)  **Join action** calling for the termination of the Force Posture Agreement at **ipan.org.au** see **Campaign to abolish Force Posture Agreement** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | U.S. nuclear-capable B52 bomber taking off from RAAF BaseDarwin under access arrangements of the FPA.  (Photo: NT News | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Informative articles** | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | With acknowledgement to Pearls and Irritations, 8th August,2023  **AUSMIN death knell for diplomacy** By Daryl Guppy  The AUSMIN talks confirmed Australia’s status as a client state of the United States. Its shift has taken years but this is a significant change from the previous status of a friend, or ally, because it hands a significant slice of Australian sovereignty to a foreign power. The degree of military integration foreshadowed by Secretary of Defence Lloyd Austin and enthusiastically endorsed by Australia’s Defence Minister Richard Marles suggests that future decisions around conflicts in the region will be made by America and rubber stamped by Australia. This surrender has a significant impact on Australia’s relationship with China and on the way Australia is able to influence and shape its relationship with Asia. Australia is important in the region, although perhaps not as important as it like to imagine. In many ways the AUSMIN talks further isolate Australia from the region and make Australia less relevant in the formulation of regional decisions. [**READ ON**](https://ipan.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3766f6de66f92775b3ee224d&id=4d17c766b7&e=8ef5b7f4e3) | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | With acknowledgement to Pearls and Irritations, 1st September, 2023  **Albanese’s fealty to America: Shouldn’t we be white hot with rage?** By [Mike Gilligan](https://ipan.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3766f6de66f92775b3ee224d&id=95085026ed&e=8ef5b7f4e3)  Sep 1, 2023Like Paul Keating, Australians should be angry. Australia’s security is at risk. No other nation is so foolish, so self- delusional, so divorced from the basics of statecraft, nor so feckless with its citizens’ security in pursuit of America’s objectives. Shouldn’t we be white hot with rage at this government’s abdication of sovereignty?  Australia’s security is in trouble, of our own leaders doing. The recent Labor Party conference confirmed our plight. We have been told that the dominating motive of Prime Minister Albanese is electoral success. All else, including national security, is subjugate. Dicey, especially when the malaise goes beyond politics, to ignorance. [**READ ON**](https://ipan.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3766f6de66f92775b3ee224d&id=51ee300549&e=8ef5b7f4e3) | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | With acknowledgement to The Guardian  **Supporting US military against China could draw Australia into nuclear war, expert warns**  **America’s deterrent against Beijing is diminishing while the military threat to Australia increases with Aukus, Sam Roggeveen argues**   Australia is making itself a bigger military target for China and risks being drawn into a war that “could end in nuclear catastrophe”, a [leading defence analyst](https://ipan.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3766f6de66f92775b3ee224d&id=8c864d7e48&e=8ef5b7f4e3) has argued. [Sam Roggeveen](https://ipan.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3766f6de66f92775b3ee224d&id=b55f1d3635&e=8ef5b7f4e3), the director of the Lowy Institute’s international security program and a former Australian intelligence analyst, issues the stark warning in an essay published on Monday. “Australia has taken the decision to bring US combat forces, and its military strategy to fight China, on to our shores,” Roggeveen wrote in the latest edition of the Australian Foreign Affairs journal. [**READ ON**](https://ipan.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3766f6de66f92775b3ee224d&id=cda8e944f4&e=8ef5b7f4e3) | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | With acknowledgement to Pearls and Irritations, 25th August, 2023  **The Voice: walking with the Australian people for a better future** By [Henry Reynolds](https://ipan.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3766f6de66f92775b3ee224d&id=7f68975cb6&e=8ef5b7f4e3)  “For me, indigenous recognition won’t be changing our constitution so much as completing it.” – Tony Abbot, 2015. When on the 7th of February 1788 the British claimed the eastern half of Australia they left us with two abiding problems. They assumed that the First Nations were not in actual possession of their own homelands and that they had neither laws nor customs which could be given formal recognition. As a result they departed from what had been customary practice in North America of respecting what was called Indian title to traditional property and determining that the indigenous tribes held a form of internal sovereignty. They were ‘domestic dependent nations’ with whom many treaties were negotiated. The anomalous situation in New South Wales was noted by Jeremy Bentham, the leading political philosopher of the time. He wrote in 1792 that there had been no negotiations with the Aborigines and no treaties had been drafted and signed. He predicted that this would create enduring problems.’ The flaw’, he wrote,’ is an incurable one.’ [**READ ON**](https://ipan.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d3766f6de66f92775b3ee224d&id=99f497bc9c&e=8ef5b7f4e3) | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **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.   I**n 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](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.**Disclaime**r: 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."   |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Copyright © 2017 IPAN, All rights reserved. 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