

ABOUT US:

IPAN is a network of community and church groups, trade unions, peace and anti-war organisations, and concerned individuals from across Australia, united by our support for an independent Australian foreign policy based on peaceful resolution of international conflicts.

Responding to this common goal, groups around Australia in September 2012 launched the Independent and Peaceful Australia Network (IPAN).

The network welcomes all national and local groups that support our aims, and is working to broaden the involvement of as many organisations and individuals as possible.

IPAN Affiliate Groups include (July 2018):

Alice Springs Peace Action Think Tank; Year for Peace Sandgate; Pace e Bene Australia; Quakers Australia; Ecumenical Social Justice Group Western Suburbs; Australian Western Sahara Association; Graham Smith Peace Foundation; Pax Christi(National); Spirit of Eureka; Medical Association for the Prevention of War (Australia); Australian Anti-Bases Campaign Coalition; Conservation Council of WA; NTEU (National Tertiary Education Union); NTEU Qld; Maritime Union of Australia MUA (Qld and Vic); CFMEU (Vic and Tas); Unions ACT; ETU (Vic and Qld); Lismore Remembering and Healing; Peace Bus; Friends of the EarthAustralia FOE; Alternatives to Violence Project, Queensland (AVPQ); Quaker Peace & Justice Committee, Tasmania; War Resisters-International (Hobart); Remembering & Healing Inc (Lismore); Wage Peace; Ngara Institute; Melbourne Unitarian Peace Memorial Church (MUPMC); Philippines Australia Solidarity Association (Vic); Progressive Labor Party (NSW); Just Peace Qld; AliceSprings Peace Action Think-Tank (ASPATT); SEARCH Foundation; Australians for Justice and Peace in Palestine (AJPP); Australian Nonviolence Projects; Marrickville peace Group; Basewatch; Anti-Nuclear Alliance of WA; WA Anti-Nuclear Alliance (WANFA); Byron People for Peace and Justice; Ban Uranium Mining Permanently (BUMP); Walkatjorra Walkabout; Mayors for Peace (WA); People for Nuclear Disarmament WA; St Marys in Exile; Newcastle Peace Group; Campaign for International Co-operation and Disarmament (CICD); Hunter Peace Group; Union of Australian Women (UAW); Australian Jewish Democratic Society; Safeground; Common Ground; The Pen; International Volunteers for Peace (NSW); IPAN SW Regional Victoria; Australia Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends.

CONTACT US:

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Join IPAN:

<https://ipan.org.au/membership>

IPAN AIMS

- Promote an independent Australian foreign policy, a policy that builds peace and promotes non-violent resolution of conflict in our region;
- Oppose the establishment of any foreign military bases, and the deployment of any foreign troops and/or military hardware, in Australia and the Asia-Pacific;
- Provide information, analysis, coordination and other assistance for affiliates and other NGOs, unions, churches, and community groups, to campaign on Australia's peace and security options;
- Build links with peoples and organisations in the Asia-Pacific campaigning for peace and against military bases and troops in the region;
- Promote a vision of a peaceful, just and sustainable Australia.

INDEPENDENT AND PEACEFUL AUSTRALIA NETWORK

War and the Environment *working group*



Caley Valley Wetlands at Abbot Point, Qld

We can't afford war any more



Climate and Ecosystem Collapse

Australia and the world face the two existential threats of climate and ecosystem catastrophe and nuclear war.

The militarism which is plaguing our society, and which drives us into wars which have nothing to do with the defence of Australia or with world peace, diverts us from dealing with these two existential threats.

We are facing the prospect of a hothouse earth, with the poorest people around the globe, and in Australia, suffering the most from climate extremes. We are experiencing the sixth major extinction wave of animals from insects to elephants as well as plants, including trees and forests – the oxygen producers and carbon sinks of the world.

People all over the world are suffering - from poor farmers facing drought or floods in Uganda, to communities in Alaska having to uproot totally to escape the melting permafrost and encroaching sea, to Pacific Islanders facing complete loss of their homelands, as do the poor in low lying areas, for example, in Bangladesh or Vietnam.

Global heating and climate extreme events are already adversely affecting the vast majority of us.

Furthermore these climate impacts have the real potential to lead to war, with all of its disastrous human consequences – for example the impact of unprecedented droughts in the Middle East.

Join us!

We need to work together to combat the climate and ecological crisis and to build a culture of peace.

See the website for more details on how you can get involved.



Nuclear Tensions rising

The tensions between the USA and Russia and the USA and China, as well as North Korea, continue to overshadow the peace of the world.

The threatened withdrawal of the US from the INF Treaty foreshadows a new nuclear arms race, with some in the US contemplating use of 'limited' nuclear weapons.

A conflict involving even a limited proportion of the current huge arsenals of the nuclear armed powers would lead to a "nuclear winter", with catastrophic climate and environmental impacts. In addition, many people argue that such a "limited nuclear war" would in reality rapidly escalate to an all-out conflict with even greater environmental impacts.

IPAN supports the International Campaign Against Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) and the signing of the Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty.



WAR IS COSTING THE EARTH

The culture of militarism and the influence of armaments manufacturers in Australia have grown unchecked over recent decades.

The sponsorship of courses at universities and schools, as well as sponsorship at the Australian War Memorial, by armaments manufacturers, is testament to this.

Our massive 'defence' spending eg, on submarines, commemorations, etc is questioned by military strategists and is not transparent. An independent Australia would have no real enemies and we question the need for much of this expenditure.

Further, the military is one of the largest institutional greenhouse emitters globally. Planes, tanks, ships and military vehicles use huge amounts of fossil fuels, and the destruction caused by military conflict requires huge emissions in reconstruction.

This pervasive militarism diverts attention from the need to urgently address the ecological crisis.

Currently, the Prime Minister can decide to go to war without any debate in parliament. Australians for War Powers Reform's 'Be Sure on War' campaign, is an essential step towards peace for Australia.

We, and the planet, cannot afford war any more!