



The Honorable Rahm Emanuel  
Chicago City Hall  
121 N. LaSalle St.  
Chicago, Ill. 60602  
USA

Berlin, January 16 2012

Dear Mayor Emanuel,

On May 19th to 21st the city of Chicago will be hosting the NATO Summit as well as the G8 Summit.

On this occasion not just the leaders of NATO member states but also politically engaged people/civil society from all over the world will come to the Windy City in order to express and discuss their views.

At a speech at the European Policy Centre in Brussels the NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen stated that NATO is "committed to the enduring values of freedom, democracy and the rule of law."<sup>1</sup> In December, unveiling the NATO Summit logo, he stated that "Chicago is a city where many cultures come together."<sup>2</sup>

We are assured that diversity and democratic rights – which include freedom of speech and freedom of assembly - as well as responsibilities valued as highly by the City of Chicago as they by us. The right for diversity and especially for political diversity is at the core of democratic societies, its expression one of its prerequisites, and the non-violent engagement in one's convictions and views a citizen's duty.

We ask you to reaffirm the democratic principles by putting them into active civil engagement by issuing necessary permits for nonviolent activities during the NATO and G-8 summits.

Yours sincerely,

For the International Coordinating Committee No to War – No to NATO,

Reiner Braun

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/opinions\\_78600.htm](http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/opinions_78600.htm)

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.nato.int/cps/en/SID-63CDF0C0-0804B89D/natolive/opinions\\_82093.htm](http://www.nato.int/cps/en/SID-63CDF0C0-0804B89D/natolive/opinions_82093.htm)

“No to war – No to NATO” is an international network of groups and organizations from a wide political spectrum united in their opposition to NATO, NATO’s war in Afghanistan, and NATO’s increasingly aggressive global role. The network is committed to only use non-violent means in its activities against NATO.

The International Coordinating Committee of the network “No to war – No to NATO” consists of individuals engaged in peace groups from Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Ireland, Mexico, Portugal, Sweden, and the United States of America.

[www.no-to-nato.org](http://www.no-to-nato.org)

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