



SIE REDEN VOM FRIEDEN. SIE FÜHREN KRIEG.

**PROTESTE GEGEN „PETERSBERG II“
BONN 03.–05.12.2011**

Call to Resistance and Protest against Petersberg II Bonn, December 2011 Give Peace a Chance - Troops Out of Afghanistan!

The U.S. and NATO responded to the terrorist attacks of September 11th, 2001 by launching a war in Afghanistan. Ten years ago in December, at the Petersberg Conference held near Bonn, a provisional government for Afghanistan under President Hamid Karzai was established. Just a few days later, the UN Security Council approved the ISAF mission.

Now the German Federal Government has again issued an invitation to come to Petersberg on December 5th, 2011. The belligerent countries will gather to discuss the future of Afghanistan. Delegates from 90 countries and NGOs are supposedly meeting to discuss "prospects for peace" - but the reality looks different.

For a decade, NATO has waged a war for economic and political interests in Afghanistan on the pretext of "humanitarian intervention" and the "war on terror". The result: destroyed infrastructure, mass malnutrition; untreated disease; declining life expectancy; and growing violence against women. Year after year, the number of victims, particularly among the civilian population, increases. At the same time, people who flee from the war, destruction and misery are kept out of Europe by force, using military and police units such as Frontex.

The Bundeswehr is involved in this war and guilty of war crimes, such as the massacre in Kunduz. The annual renewal of the parliamentary mandate is opposed by the majority of the population: the Bundeswehr is not only lacking in soldiers, but has also failed to achieve a wider acceptance to wage war as an instrument of politics. In order to change this opposition, society has been increasingly militarized, on all levels. Army reform has meant that the Bundeswehr now recruits soldiers in schools, operates within the territory of Germany, and has been converted into a military intervention force.

The Federal Government announced that it will discuss "political solutions" and the "withdrawal of troops" at the second conference on Afghanistan at Petersberg. This is a farce. In reality, more Afghan soldiers and police officers will be trained to substitute for NATO troops in the war. These Afghan forces will make up the majority of the victims of war and will still be controlled by NATO to provide "security". At the same time, NATO wants to increase Civil-Military Cooperation (CIMIC) - the close integration of political, military, economic, humanitarian and policing instruments. What used to be civil is now subordinated to military aims. In this way, even "development aid" has become part of NATO's strategy.

We will not delude ourselves: what is presented as a "perspective for peace" will serve to continue international military intervention and occupation policies. War always means death, torture, rape and human rights abuses - as, for example, in Libya.

The governments of the war alliance want to continue the war in Afghanistan and are now discussing how to do it; the anti-war and peace movement wants to end the war! We demand an immediate cessation of all hostilities and the complete withdrawal of troops from Afghanistan! The funds freed (in 2011, approximately € 1.1 billion was allocated for the war from the federal budget alone) should be used to rebuild and to improve the living conditions of the Afghan population according to its needs. This is the only way to create peace in Afghanistan that deserves the name.

The anti-war and peace movement is calling for common and diverse activities in Bonn. From December 3rd to 5th, 2011, we will hold a nationwide demonstration, an international conference and will stand up against the inhumane policy of war.

Put your foot down and participate in actions of civil disobedience! With the uprisings in the Arab region and the resurgent anti-nuclear movement in this country, we are optimistic that social movements can change the world and that we can make a powerful statement against the war! Come to Bonn!