

FINAL DECLARATION ON THE INTERCONTINENTAL CONFERENCE PEACE, DISARMEMENT AND SOCIAL ALTERNATIVES TO GLOBAL NATO

We, the members of social organizations, movements and networks of the peoples of the Americas and Europe, gathered in Buenos Aires, Argentina, host the principles of peace and self-determination, threatened by the military, political, economic and cultural intervention from the United States and the European Union, promoters of militarism.

Through the use of force, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, main manifestation of international domination, both historically and currently, threatens peaceful relations among peoples and consumes vital resources. NATO has no place in the 21st century.

NATO has become an organization for global political and military dominance. The European Union is now a major independent power within NATO. It responds to the industrial military globalization interests, devoted to a permanent profitable arms race (Treaty of Lisbon.)

We reject the pseudo-civilizing vision of militarism, because the use of force guarantees the profit of a few at the expense of the majority, which means the perpetuation of a destructive and unfair system for all living creatures (environment.)

The United Nations is the only existing global forum to discuss and resolve the most pressing challenges of today, by peaceful means. We call for the urgent and necessary democratic restructuring and a more active performance in promoting peace and solidarity within the system of the United Nations.

We aspire to live in harmonious and respectful communities and societies, therefore:

We reject the use of military force in all manifestations, as a clear violation to international law and in particular human rights. We believe it is the time to close the School of the Americas, which is a school of torture and has only promoted coups and assassinations in Latin America.

We also reject all forms of occupation in the world, including the British occupation of the Argentinian Malvinas; and the patrolling of the US Fourth Fleet in Latin America.

We reject all cooperation with NATO. Furthermore, we demand dissolution of NATO and the dismantling of military installations and bases worldwide.

Latin America became the first Nuclear-Weapon Free Zone in the world since the adoption of the Treaty of Tlatelolco. Together with the United Nations, it can have a leading role to promote a process of negotiations towards an international convention which will set an absolute prohibition to manufacturing and possession of nuclear weapons and impose the destruction of existing nuclear arsenals, which pose the greatest threat to humanity, especially against the repeated appeal of the concept of “preventive war”, supported and applied by the government of the United States and its partners in the European Union. Thus, we also urge the European states to participate in these negotiations.

We welcome the action of many different communities which dedicate their efforts in building more just societies. Indigenous peoples, with their ancestral knowledge and their relationship with Mother Earth, as well as the courage of world’s women, must guide us to promote actions that will lead us to a more pacific world. Now, more than ever, we must coordinate our forces, with the conviction that we will only reach our goals through unity in diversity.

Buenos Aires, December 2012.