



Berlin, 13 April 2015

Appeal to Members of the German Bundestag: Stop the new arms race – disarmament for a sustainable future!

Already in 2010 Ban Ki-Moon warned us: *“the world is over-armed and peace is under-funded”*. For 2013 the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) calculated global military expenditures of over \$1.7 trillion. Hundreds of billions will be spent for the modernization of nuclear arsenals and the NATO summit in Wales decided to raise the level of its demand on member states' military spending to 2% of their GDP. For Germany that would amount to €53 billion per year – nearly two thirds more than today. China, Russia, Brazil, India and many other states are upgrading their defence capacity as well. The global arms race enters a new round. At the same time we can spot a lack in the financing of civil conflict prevention and resolution – and the failure in fulfilling the UN Millennium Development Goals. Nearly 900 million people worldwide are suffering from hunger, immense poverty and underdevelopment, lacking education, with disastrous health systems or without sanitation: so many urgent global questions are already too long waiting for an answer.

The UN's Green Climate Fund has set an annual target of \$100 billion. But currently there is not more than \$10 billion committed. The Fund will assist developing countries with adaptation and mitigation practices to counter climate change, especially the expansion of renewable energies, since they are not developing fast enough to satisfy the growing hunger for energy.

Without disarmament, without redistribution from the military and armament to social services, environment and human development, humanity cannot cope with the challenges ahead.

Therefore we argue for a revitalisation and an intensification of the international disarmament process. Worldwide disarmament is the order of the day.

In 2015 the Sustainable Development Goals will be adopted by the UN. These objectives for human and environmental development must be connected to the demand for worldwide disarmament.

We call upon the German government to actively promote a worldwide disarmament of nuclear and conventional weapons, in order to pave the way for a fair, peaceful and humane world.

Germany can be a role model here: No further armament – reduction of the defence budget – in our country as well. This is our responsibility.

Endorsing Members of German Parliament*:

Klaus Barthel (SPD) | Agnieszka Brugger (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen) | Christine Buchholz (DIE LINKE.) | Diether Dehm (DIE LINKE.) | Ute Finckh-Krämer (SPD) | Wolfgang Gehrcke (DIE LINKE.) | Inge Höger (DIE LINKE.) | Andrej Hunko (DIE LINKE.) | Ulla Jelpke (DIE LINKE.) | Kerstin Kassner (DIE LINKE.) | Katja Keul (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen) | Katrin Kunert (DIE LINKE.) | Sabine Leidig (DIE LINKE.) | Stefan Liebich (DIE LINKE.) | Peter Meiwald (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen) | Rolf Mützenich (SPD) | Alexander Neu (DIE LINKE.) | Frithjof Schmidt (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen) | Jan van Aken (DIE LINKE.) | Kathrin Vogler (DIE LINKE.) | Sahra Wagenknecht (DIE LINKE.) | Harald Weinberg (DIE LINKE.)

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