

Peace Round-up – 28th February 2020

A selection of items from a range of sources. Inclusion here does not imply full endorsement, but is based on current concerns of NFPB and its members.

If you would like to be added to the mailing list for these mailings, please contact nfpb@gn.apc.org

Call for articles: Militarised video games

asking for your contributions for new booklet on understanding the militarised video games industry and how to counter this narrative.

<https://wri-irg.org/en/story/2020/call-articles-militarised-video-games>

Leaving the EU - The important role of faith communities at a time of transition

This short note highlights faith communities' trusted role in signposting information and as providers of community support and their vital work to unite communities, promote good relations and tackle hatred.

<https://www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/leaving-the-eu-the-important-role-of-faith-communities-at-a-time-of-transition>

Who Benefits? Trump, Iran and the Bigger Picture

Paul Rogers and Alasdair McKay

<https://www.oxfordresearchgroup.org.uk/who-benefits-trump-iran-and-the-bigger-picture>

NYC Considers Divesting From Nuclear Weapon Manufacturers

<https://champ.gothamist.com/champ/gothamist/news/nyc-considers-divesting-nuclear-weapon-manufacturers>

The climate crisis isn't just causing extreme weather. It's fuelling extreme politics, too

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/sep/19/climate-crisis-extreme-weather-extreme-politics-far-right>

Quiet diplomacy can really get Brexit done

We should be building bridges with the EU after Brexit, not making threats, argue Quakers and former MEPs Jude Kirton-Darling and Molly Scott Cato.

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2020/feb/05/quiet-diplomacy-can-really-get-brexit-done>

Climate activists fighting Boris Johnson should take a leaf out of Gandhi's book

<https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/climate-activists-should-take-a-leaf-out-of-gandhis-book>

'North England' and the need for radical change

<http://www.ekklesia.co.uk/node/29342>

Quakers were 'cool with me not believing in God' and being a political activist

<https://inews.co.uk/inews-lifestyle/people/quakerism-belief-religion-activism-modern-approach-1758232>

European citizens warn of post-Brexit discrimination

<https://www.politics.co.uk/comment-analysis/2020/02/17/european-citizens-warn-of-post-brexit-discrimination>

A Plan to turn back the clock – defence diversification

<https://www.medact.org/2020/blogs/defence-diversification>

Pentagon reveals deal with Britain to replace Trident

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/feb/22/pentagon-gaffe-reveals-uk-deal-replace-trident-nuclear-weapon>

NFLA dismayed that UK Government is planning to buy highly expensive new Trident warheads without any Parliamentary debate; it goes against UK multilateral disarmament policies

<https://www.nuclearpolicy.info/news/nfla-dismayed-uk-government-planning-highly-expensive-new-trident-warheads>

What next for Quaker conciliation work?

<https://www.quaker.org.uk/blog/what-next-for-quaker-conciliation-work>

It's time for schools to teach the climate and ecological crisis

<https://www.quaker.org.uk/blog/it-s-time-for-schools-to-teach-the-climate-and-ecological-crisis>

US staged 'limited' nuclear battle against Russia in war game

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/feb/24/limited-nuclear-war-game-us-russia>

Security Policy Review: Time for Public Debate

by Diana Francis

<https://rethinkingsecurity.org.uk/2020/02/24/security-policy-review/>

MoD plan to replace Trident warhead 'rips up' nuclear treaty

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18256586.mod-plan-replace-trident-warhead-rips-up-nuclear-treaty>

Bradford's Peace Museum gets boost for new exhibition to mark end of World War II

<https://www.thetelegraphandargus.co.uk/news/18246651.bradfords-peace-museum-gets-boost-new-exhibition-mark-end-world-war-ii>

Johnson unveils major review of foreign and defence policy

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2020/feb/25/johnson-unveils-major-review-of-foreign-and-defence-policy>

UK university training Bahrain police based at 'torture hub' where electrocutions, rape and beatings have been reported

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/huddersfield-university-bahrain-police-torture-training-degree-a9344596.html>

New CAAT report on Military Expenditure and Climate Change

The UK government spends about £46.6 billion a year on the military, according to figures provided by the UK to NATO, or 2.1% of GDP.

<https://blog.caat.org.uk/2020/02/21/new-caat-report-on-military-expenditure-and-climate-change>

Watchdog: Military will spend £3bn more than its £181bn equipment budget

Campaigners said the military was spending "extortionate sums"

<https://leftfootforward.org/2020/02/watchdog-military-will-spend-3bn-more-than-its-181bn-equipment-budget>

Mysticism or activism?

Mark Russ doesn't think Quakers have to choose between political activism and spiritual depth.

<https://www.woodbrooke.org.uk/mysticism-or-activism>

It is utter folly to be renegeing on support for the UN's nuclear prohibition treaty

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/opinion/18268372.utter-folly-renegeing-support-uns-nuclear-prohibition-treaty>

Healing a divided nation begins face to face

Lots of projects are looking for common ground across political divides, but are they working?

<https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/transformation/healing-divided-nation-begins-face-face>

Afghans Celebrate Partial Truce In Frontline Provinces

<https://gandhara.rferl.org/a/afghans-celebrate-partial-truce-in-frontline-provinces/30451747.html>

Jai Jagat 2020 Global Peace March February Newsletter

https://media.wix.com/ugd/e8031f_73f2aec4c6eb4cd989cba04a2686fedc.pdf