

Peace Round-up – 21st April 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

Statement regarding Coronavirus:

30th March 2020 Statement from the Network of Christian Peace Organisations

<https://nfpb.org.uk/2020/03/30/statement-regarding-coronavirus-30th-march-2020>

Eurosatory 2020 cancelled!

The largest land and landair arms fair in the world, Eurosatory, scheduled for June 2020 in Paris is cancelled!!

<https://www.stopfuellingwar.org/en/sfw-blog/100-eurosatory-2020-cancelled>

Global doctors on COVID-19 and nuclear war

Nine doctors from around the world explain why they work to rid the world of nuclear weapons - in the midst of a global pandemic.

https://www.icanw.org/global_doctors_on_covid_19_and_nuclear_war

Coronavirus: a call to EU leaders

The ongoing coronavirus pandemic has triggered seismic shifts in everyday life for Europeans, and the impact will be felt at the political level for years to come. In this video, Jude Kirton-Darling - a Quaker and former MEP - calls on Europe's leaders to uphold the EU's values of peace, justice and human rights...

<https://youtu.be/Am2cJV5LZW0>

Revealed: £1bn of taxpayers' cash to help foreign countries buy British arms

Campaigners say plan will end up fuelling conflict and human rights abuses

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/mar/28/revealed-1bn-of-taxpayers-cash-to-help-foreign-countries-buy-british-arms>

US Space Force launches first mission despite coronavirus

https://www.spacedaily.com/reports/US_Space_Force_launches_first_mission_despite_coronavirus_999.html

MSF provides relief items and adapts response for COVID-19 in Idlib

<https://www.msf.org/msf-provides-relief-items-and-adapts-response-covid-19-idlib>

Faith Communities and Coronavirus: A statement

A Statement by the Co-Chairs and Faith Communities Forum Moderators of IFN

<https://www.interfaith.org.uk/news/faith-communities-and-coronavirus-a-statement>

UK security services face some awkward questions when the pandemic is over

<https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/uk-security-services-face-some-awkward-questions-when-pandemic-over>

INVEST IN HEALTHCARE INSTEAD OF MILITARIZATION

International Peace Bureau started this petition to General Assembly of the United Nations

We, the signatories, call on the world leaders meeting at the General Assembly of the United Nations*, to dramatically reduce military spending in favor of healthcare and all social and environmental needs.

<https://www.change.org/p/general-assembly-of-the-united-nations-invest-in-healthcare-instead-of-militarization>

Resilience, radicalisation and democracy in the COVID-19 Pandemic

<https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/global-extremes/resilience-radicalisation-and-democracy-covid-19-pandemic>

UN secretary general: recovery from the coronavirus crisis must lead to a better world

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2020/apr/02/un-secretary-general-coronavirus-crisis-world-pandemic-response>

Coronavirus: Hundreds of refugees made destitute as Home Office 'too slow to act', charities warn

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/coronavirus-refugees-homeless-uk-home-office-a9439346.html>

Spiritual Resources for Care and Resilience in the Time of Coronavirus

<https://bit.ly/3cwA2hi>

Coronavirus forces postponement of COP26 meeting in Glasgow

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-52122450>

Ex Royal Navy Commanders question Trident need as coronavirus costs rise

<https://www.plymouthherald.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/ex-royal-navy-commanders-question-4011611>

NPT Review Conference Postponed

The global coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic has forced a postponement of the 10th review conference of the nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT), possibly until early 2021.

<https://www.armscontrol.org/act/2020-04/news/npt-review-conference-postponed>

How should civil society respond to Covid-19?

Can solidarity be used to guide the post-crisis recovery so that the economy works better for all of us together?

<https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/transformation/how-should-civil-society-respond-covid-19>

Engaging with conflict: a toolkit for difficult times

Conflict – whether in ourselves, in our homes, or in our communities – can be daunting. Lisa Cumming introduces a new handbook full of tips on dealing with conflict creatively and with care.

<https://quaker.org.uk/blog/engaging-with-conflict-a-toolkit-for-difficult-times>

A community across differences is a community across distances

<https://stethelburgas.org/a-community-across-differences-is-a-community-across-distances>

Gorbachev: Time To Revise The Entire Global Agenda

<https://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/WO2004/S00044/gorbachev-time-to-revise-the-entire-global-agenda.htm>

Coronavirus: Defence firm Babcock to make 10,000 ventilators

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-52059084>

Finding meaning in the worst of times

Suddenly, care for each other is the central focus of human life worldwide.

<https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/transformation/finding-meaning-worst-times>

Church leaders united in response to Covid-19 pandemic

<https://ctbi.org.uk/church-leaders-united-in-response-to-covid-19-pandemic>

COVID-19: From Ceasefire to Divestment and Disarmament

<https://www.wilpf.org/from-ceasefire-to-divestment-and-disarmament>

COVID-19 and local peacebuilding

<https://www.peacedirect.org/publications/covid19andpeacebuilding/>

Navigating uncertain waters: Covid-19 and inequality

Isolation, disruption and confusion have interrupted many of our lives. Kékéli Kpognon and Andrew Lane chart a way through by focusing on those who have been surviving these conditions for years.

<https://www.quaker.org.uk/blog/navigating-through-uncertain-waters>

‘Spend on community, not military’

<https://thefriend.org/article/spend-on-community-not-military>

Coronavirus threat to global peace and stability, UN chief warns

Antonio Guterres says Covid-19 represents ‘fight of a generation’

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/apr/10/coronavirus-threat-to-global-peace-and-stability-un-chief-warns>

The problem with saying we're "at war" with the coronavirus

In this crisis, we must choose words that help us build the safe and peaceful communities we all deserve.

<https://www.afsc.org/blogs/news-and-commentary/how-to-talk-about-covid-19-pandemic>

Coronavirus: How the Arms Trade is Making You Sick | Andrew Feinstein

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zhe7JZ0K0xo>

UK arms sales and support for the Saudi regime must end, says CAAT

<http://www.ekkleisia.co.uk/node/29498>

Pandemic Patchwork: Threads from 13 countries

Across Europe, governments are reducing the speed at which the Covid-19 virus spreads in order to save lives, whilst keeping necessary parts of the economy functioning. The pandemic and government responses vary widely and are affecting us all in different ways.

<https://qceablog.wordpress.com/2020/04/13/pandemic-patchwork-threads-from-13-countries>

GDAMS 2020 STATEMENT: HEALTHCARE NOT WARFARE

The COVID-19 pandemic crisis has shown the world where humanity's priorities should lie.

http://demilitarize.org/media_news/gdams-2020-april-10-may-9-healthcare-not-warfare

Zoom Exhaustion is Real. Here Are Six Ways to Find Balance and Stay Connected

<https://www.mindful.org/zoom-exhaustion-is-real-here-are-six-ways-to-find-balance-and-stay-connected/>

Paper Cranes - a story for our times told by storyteller and Quaker Cindylou Turner-Taylor

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zgsQEpcwUzA>

Defence review paused as Covid 19 exposes hollowness of 'defence' policy

<https://www.ppu.org.uk/news/defence-review-paused-covid-19-exposes-hollowness-defence-policy>

How the tiny coronavirus makes the world's mightiest navy pointless

<https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/how-the-tiny-coronavirus-makes-the-worlds-mightiest-navy-pointless>

Why using the language of war is counterproductive in our global public health crisis: some reflections from self-isolation

<https://bit.ly/2xJSR1M>

Statement from The Peace Museum

Due to the current circumstances surrounding coronavirus (Covid-19) see below the statement from The Peace Museum Team detailing our current focus and how the museum is coping with the changing environment.

<https://peacemuseum.org.uk/statement-from-the-peace-museum>

What can we learn about ourselves and the planet during lockdown?

Maud Grainger shares her response to how Covid-19 is impacting the environment and ourselves.

<https://www.woodbrooke.org.uk/what-can-we-learn-about-ourselves-and-the-planet-during-lockdown>

Mikhail Gorbachev: When The Pandemic Is Over, The World Must Come Together

<https://time.com/5820669/mikhail-gorbachev-coronavirus-human-security/>

'Unready Scotland' and the current emergency

David Mackenzie, assistant secretary of Scottish CND and a member of the Nukewatch network, argues that the ongoing pandemic has highlighted Scotland's lack of preparation for a civil emergency

<https://sourcenews.scot/david-mackenzie-unready-scotland-and-the-current-emergency/>

Ventilator from old car parts? Afghan girls pursue coronavirus-fighting prototype

<https://www.latimes.com/world-nation/story/2020-04-19/ventilator-from-old-car-parts-afghan-girls-pursue-coronavirus-fighting-prototype>

China may have conducted low-level nuclear test, US claims

State Department report points to activities at China's Lop Nur test site last year, though it does not have proof

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/apr/16/china-may-have-conducted-low-level-nuclear-test-us-report-claims>

Scottish CND Backs Calls for Military Stand-down During COVID-19 Emergency

<http://www.banthebomb.org/index.php/news/2081-military-stand-down-during-covid-19-emergency>

'War' narratives and COVID-19 -- Cynthia Enloe

As the world responds to the consequences of COVID-19, QCEA (Quaker Council for European Affairs) is publishing a series of interviews with leading experts which explore the pandemic's impact on peace and security.

<https://youtu.be/Gaif6mTwFw8>