

# Peace Round-up – 31 May 2019

*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.*

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## Confronting Iran: To What End?

Paul Rogers

29 May 2019

Briefing seeks to clarify what interests Washington and its key regional allies, Israel and Saudi Arabia, see as worth risking such destruction. And what might be the alternatives?

<https://www.oxfordresearchgroup.org.uk/confronting-iran-to-what-end>

## No War against Iran.

Defending the Iran nuclear deal.

Preventing another US warfare.

The International Peace Bureau calls for worldwide protests against the planned war.

<https://www.ipb.org/ipb-statements/ipb-statement-no-war-against-iran>

## A view from inside the UK's biggest arms company

14 MAY 2019 BY ANDREW SMITH

Campaigner who attended this year's BAE Systems AGM, Arabian activist, Ameen Nemer, reflects on his reasons for going and how he found the experience.

<https://blog.caat.org.uk/2019/05/14/a-view-from-inside-the-uks-biggest-arms-company/>

## The key to global security? It's not just about security

In his 900th column for openDemocracy, Paul Rogers shows how economics and climate demand a new approach to international security.

<https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/the-key-to-global-security-its-not-just-about-security/>

## War School film screenings

A series of Special Preview Screenings have been programmed for 2019

<https://www.war.school/screenings>

## Jay Sutherland: 'militarism is a youth issue'

May 15th, 2019 (Updated May 18th, 2019)

Jay Sutherland, founder member of Scotland Against Militarism, gave the following address at the International Conscientious Objectors' Day ceremony held in Tavistock Square.

<https://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/37109>

## Quakers mark International Conscientious Objectors Day

Quakers around the country marked International Conscientious Objectors Day last week with vigils, ceremonies and arts events.

<https://thefriend.org/article/quakers-mark-international-conscientious-objectors-day>

## Glasgow City Council ditch defence industry in new ethical events policy

CAMPAIGNERS have welcome the decision of Glasgow City Council to drop defence as one of the sectors it seeks to attract to Glasgow for conferences, as part of a shake-up of events policy following a controversial arms conference held in the city almost one year ago.

<https://bit.ly/2Wbp0KF>

## Petition calling for abolition of nuclear weapons backed by SNP and Green

**MSPs** ALL SNP and Green politicians at Holyrood have now signed a global petition [that] calls on governments to abolish nuclear weapons and to adopt the 2017 UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

<https://bit.ly/2Micsg2>

## **NFLA welcomes Renfrewshire Council resolution on nuclear weapons divestment ...**

May 14, 2019 Resolution...

calls on Council pension funds to take on board the ethical concerns of possessing investments in companies involved in developing nuclear weapons.

<https://bit.ly/2W6D7w4>

## **HOW TO DISMANTLE THE ABSURD PROFITABILITY OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS**

Jon Schwarz

Nuclear weapons are more than just a terrifying threat to every living thing on earth. For decades, they've been a terrific way to make money. A new report ... illuminates how profitable it can be for multinational corporations to manufacture Armageddon and provides a roadmap for taking the money out of mass death.

<https://theintercept.com/2019/05/04/nuclear-weapons-profits>

## **MSPs back Scottish smacking ban proposals**

28 May 2019

A proposed ban on smacking children has been overwhelmingly backed in principle by the Scottish Parliament. A bill lodged by Green MSP John Finnie is designed to give children the same protection from assault as adults.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-48424484>

## **The '3.5% rule': How a small minority can change the world**

Research by Erica Chenoweth, a political scientist at Harvard University, confirms that civil disobedience is not only the moral choice; it is also the most powerful way of shaping world politics – by a long way.

<http://www.bbc.com/future/story/20190513-it-only-takes-35-of-people-to-change-the-world>

## **Reflections on Extinction Rebellion**

by Sam Walton

9 May, 2019

Extinction Rebellion (XR) deserves praise for the impact it is having in streets, in the media and in public discourse. The XR leadership should also be questioned for its approach to diversity and privilege, to climate justice, and to strategy. (This is part of a series of articles discussing XR.)

<https://peacenews.info/blog/9354/reflections-extinction-rebellion>

## **Edinburgh Quakers reflect on Extinction Rebellion day of action**

Quakers in Scotland are taking action for climate justice through Extinction Rebellion. Rosemary Hartill of Central Edinburgh Quakers reports.

<https://www.quaker.org.uk/our-work/our-stories/quakers-arrested-at-extinction-rebellion-actions-in-edinburgh>

## **What does climate breakdown have to do with our work on migration?**

There will be no climate justice if we fail to address toxic colonial legacies and build lasting new connections, writes Tatiana Garavito.

<https://www.quaker.org.uk/blog/what-does-climate-change-have-to-do-with-our-work-on-migration>

## **Extinction Rebellion and the new visibility of religious protest**

Climate change is increasingly seen as a spiritual crisis that requires a spiritual response.

<https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/transformation/extinction-rebellion-and-new-visibility-religious-protest>

## **Britain Yearly Meeting**

A 1,200 strong gathering of Quakers in London has shared their hopes and fears about the plight of the planet and how power and privilege prevent effective work for justice.

<https://www.quaker.org.uk/news-and-events/news/facing-power-and-privilege>