

Peace Round-up – 20 June 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.

UK arms sales to Saudi Arabia declared unlawful by court of appeal

Exports contributed to indiscriminate civilian deaths in Saudi-led bombing campaign in Yemen, court rules

Guardian report at <https://bit.ly/2WV81MR>

Saudi Arms sales unlawful! Email your MP

UK-made weapons have played a central role in the Saudi-led attacks on Yemen.... Now, following a legal challenge brought by CAAT, the Court of Appeal has ruled that UK arms sales to Saudi Arabia for use in Yemen are UNLAWFUL.

We need MPs to know about this ruling ...

<https://www.caat.org.uk/get-involved/act-now/unlawful>

Court of Appeal finds Government broke law over Saudi Arabia arms sales

20 June 2019 PRESS RELEASE

Campaigners have welcomed a Court of Appeal decision to overturn a 2017 High Court judgment which allowed the UK government to continue licensing the export of arms to Saudi Arabia for use in Yemen.

<https://www.caat.org.uk/media/press-releases/2019-06-20>

‘The Saudis couldn’t do it without us’: the UK’s true role in Yemen’s deadly war

Britain does not merely supply the bombs that fall on Yemen – it provides the personnel and expertise that keep the war going. But is the government breaking the law? <https://bit.ly/2XVsJIW>

Yemen: Inside a Crisis

Exhibition at Imperial War Museum North

At the forefront of a major season of programming at IWM North, Yemen: Inside a Crisis is the UK’s first exhibition to address Yemen’s on-going conflict and humanitarian crisis. Showcasing around 50 objects and photographs, many of which have been exclusively sourced from Yemen for this exhibition.

<https://www.iwm.org.uk/seasons/yemen-inside-a-crisis>

Quakers challenge using public money to support arms manufacturers

Quakers in Scotland challenge the practice of using public money to support arms manufacturers, even if that money is targeted at secondary areas such as training and development. <https://bit.ly/2IzX73q>

Iran - call for UK to act to reduce tensions and commit to nuclear disarmament

NFPB letter to Jeremy Hunt, Foreign Secretary

<https://bit.ly/2IVhHx7>

A devastated Iran could keep hurting the US – and the UK can’t be neutral

Iran could turn to asymmetric warfare if it lost its primary armed forces; and the British couldn’t but help US military embedded in its territory.

From Paul Rogers on *OpenDemocracy*

<https://bit.ly/2L3IbPN>

QCEA participation in Brussels witness

This morning [20 June], QCEA staff took part in Agir pour la Paix witness to read out the names of 36,570 people who have died trying to reach Europe since 1993 - many of them in the past few years.

<https://www.facebook.com/208820802584092/photos/a.208823449250494/1613022432163915/?type=3&theater>

At 13 I found sanctuary in Britain, now we're failing refugee children

Young asylum seekers are lonely and traumatised. Helping them could save money in the long run
<https://bit.ly/2WSuYAt>

Helping to dismantle discrimination by creating Sanctuary Everywhere

Article in Peace News from QPSW's Tatiana Garavito about three Quaker Meetings' activities as Sanctuary Meetings
<https://peacenews.info/blog/9408/helping-dismantle-discrimination-creating-sanctuary-everywhere>

Are we done fighting?

We need ways to build healthier relationships with people who have perspectives different from our own. Article on themes from Matthew Legge's [of Canadian Friends Service Committee] new book *Are We Done Fighting? Building Understanding in a World of Hate and Division*.
<https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/transformation/are-we-done-fighting/>

Do you know if your financial institution is using your money to fund the new nuclear arms race?

PAX and ICAN's report reveals 325 financial institutions around the world that are investing over \$ 748 billion to fund nuclear weapons. Here are the 5 things you need to know from the Don't Bank on the Bomb report
<https://bit.ly/2ZAGDRb>

Nuclear: Energy bills 'used to subsidise submarines'

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-48509942> Energy bills in the UK are inflated partly because households are subsidising nuclear submarines, MPs have been told.

Brexit: Military veterans call for Final Say vote on D-Day anniversary

The 122 signatories warned that Brexit will threaten peace and friendship in Europe
<https://bit.ly/2MXrdVT>

BBC Broadcasting House, 9 June 2019 featuring NFPB member Donald Saunders

talks about his motivation and experiences as a conscientious objector in the second world war. Interview starts at 39 minutes into the recording
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m0005szt>

It's time to move on from these overblown commemorations of war

Simon Jenkins
<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/jun/06/commemorations-war-d-day-europe>

No military march at York LGBT Pride as grassroots activists celebrate

Grassroots LGBTQ campaigners in York have welcomed the news that the armed forces will not be marching in uniformed blocks at the city's Pride parade tomorrow (Saturday 8th June 2019).
<https://ppu.org.uk/news/no-military-march-york-lgbt-pride-grassroots-activists-celebrate>

Injured peace campaigner wins compensation fight with help from Yorkshire lawyers

A PEACE campaigner who claimed she was deliberately run over by a car has won her battle for compensation with support from a Harrogate law firm.
<https://bit.ly/2IUnVgH>

Climate and conflict: Preparing for the storm

Dr Justine Huxley, CEO of St Ethelburga's Centre for Reconciliation & Peace, reflects on deepening societal divisions, climate breakdown and conflict, highlighting the need to move beyond denial, and tailor our responses for the coming storm.
<https://stethelburgas.org/climate-and-conflict-preparing-for-the-storm>