



## RESOURCE EXPLOITATION, VIOLENT CONFLICT AND MILITARISM: DRIVERS OF CLIMATE CATASTROPHE

**Join IFOR Global Day of Action on October 30th, 2021**

### Take action on Climate Change and support Peace!

The International Fellowship of Reconciliation, a spiritual based peace movement founded over a century ago to overcome war and the Culture of Violence and to implement a Culture of Peace, Justice and Truth through nonviolence, is pleased to invite all of you to join efforts to act for Climate.

Living in justice includes protecting the Earth, which is the basis of life for all living beings.

**IFOR Global Day of Action is to focus on the field of militarism and the comprehensive war system and is made out of different initiatives which can be undertaken by individuals and groups and that are connected to #compassion #accountability and #change and rooted on nonviolence<sup>1</sup>.**

**War, production of armaments, militarization of the territory, military investment, security . . . are some of the topics which can be addressed through in person, virtual, informal, institutional . . . initiatives.**

### Think, Plan, Act!

**The Global Day of Action will highlight the need for:**

- ➔ **COMPASSION** towards the victims of Climate Catastrophe, the underprivileged people...
- ➔ **ACCOUNTABILITY** for policy makers
- ➔ **CHANGE** in the policy, in the culture and in the relation with the planet hosting us.

Through actions big and small, we aim to raise awareness and call for accountability and change.

## MILITARISM DRIVES CLIMATE CATASTROPHE!

Climate change is connected to Peace issues, in particular this is evident in the field of armed conflict.

**War** has a direct impact on the ground, also causing destruction on the land, contamination, pollution and reducing or destroying crops, livestock farming and healthy water sources.

**IFOR is now urging to put the spotlight on a significant aspect that has a global impact, and that is: "The environmentally and climate destructive effects of all activities in the military sector" and on the following demands:**

- 1. Disclose the destructive impacts by the military based on hard facts,**
- 2. Data collection and full transparency on the military's carbon footprint,**
- 3. Mandatory reporting of all military GHG emissions in line with the UN Framework Convention (Paris Agreement 2015) in the respective national climate reports**
- 4. Inclusion of military GHG emissions in further climate negotiations,**
- 5. End war.**

<sup>1</sup> In continuity with the [1<sup>st</sup> Day of Action organized by IFOR in May 27<sup>th</sup> 2020 to Make Peace the New Normal](#), we will drive again for #accountability #compassion #change.

The production of weapons often requires the retrieval of often exploited resources and often involves waste products and pollution. The use of weapons itself has negative consequences for the environment. One of the most striking examples is nuclear weapons, the production, testing, storage and use of which pose a constant danger to humankind and the entire planet, to the point of devastating and irreparable consequences.

**The militarisation of the territory** and the actions of armed groups also cause devastation in the environment in which people live, leading to unbearable and harmful living conditions.

In addition, many violent conflicts are generated to gain control over resources, often in resource-rich countries, usually in the global south.

**Investment in armaments and the military** is immoral both because it is an investment in the destruction of living beings and territory and because it displaces resources needed to protect and safeguard the environment and life on the planet. There are many urgent investments to prevent catastrophes and to repair the damage already caused, and as long as security is thought to be provided by the military, catastrophe will continue.

**The security of individuals and of the planet** that hosts us is determined by “care for our common home”, by respect for the environment and for resources, and by using them sparingly and not selfishly or in the interests of the few.

**Nonviolence** highlights the need for and usefulness of alternative choices to those of a Culture of Violence, choices that engage all social actors, choices aimed at preserving all forms of life and repairing forms of injustice and inequity among the inhabitants of the Earth.

## TAKE ACTION!

- 1) **Run and join local initiatives** (see below for ideas), [register them on IFOR's platform](#) and make them visible to all interested people (read details below)
- 2) **Be active on social media**
  - a. Share the proposed IFOR graphic image of the Global Day of Action
  - b. Share the proposed IFOR graphic image on the topic of the GDoA
  - c. Publish about local actions regarding the impact of resource exploitation, violent conflict, and militarism on climate
  - d. Network with partner organizations and individuals joining the GDoA
- 3) **Be active through WhatsApp and alike platforms**
  - share graphic images and messages on the topic
  - share about local initiatives
- 4) **Participate in the streaming of the IFOR President message**

## Ideas for initiatives to be carried out during the Global Day of Action

### TO CALL FOR #ACCOUNTABILITY

- Ask your government to report on military pollution
- Make publication(s) on local situation of climate catastrophe and (also) share on IFOR channels
- Call your government for reparation in war context
- Run nonviolent actions in capital cities outside embassies or consulates of countries that are polluters/militarist
- ...

### TO CALL FOR #CHANGE

- Join international call to action on Governments to commit to meaningful military emissions cuts at COP26 such as [this one](#) and/or [this other one](#).
- Call on your government to sign and ratify the UN nuclear ban treaty
- Support conscientious objection to military tax and military service
- Organize eco pacifism initiatives to highlight the link between Climate issues and Peace issues
- ....

### TO SHOW #COMPASSION

- Organize initiatives for the victims of nuclear tests
- Plan on awareness-raising vigils
- Create symbolic reparation initiatives for the individual/group/country victims of war catastrophes
- ...

## Think, Plan, Act!

[Register here](#) your initiative and let people know about it and join you!

All initiatives will be posted on the [IFOR dedicated web page](#)<sup>2</sup> and [Facebook page](#) to invite everyone to join in the Global Day of Action on Climate Catastrophe, right before [COP26](#) starts in Glasgow, Scotland.

Share the [Facebook event](#)!

This Day of Action does not exhaust the IFOR Global Action and in many cases can represent the beginning of a specific engagement to be pursued in the medium and/or long term.

IFOR invites everyone to raise their voices for Peace and the Environment once again on November 6th, the International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict.

For more info contact [office@ifor.org](mailto:office@ifor.org)

<sup>2</sup> All actions and ongoing initiatives undertaken within the Global Day of Action will be reported on IFOR website in the [dedicated special page](#). Everyone is welcome to [register actions and initiatives](#) and afterwards to submit pictures, documents, links and presentations to [office@ifor.org](mailto:office@ifor.org) to report on the local initiatives organized within the Global Day of Action.