

Convergence for Peace

On Saturday 14th September 2019, a diverse gathering of activists from 8 European countries met to address *Nuclear security after the collapse of the INF Treaty* in the centre of Brussels. The meeting was organized by the International Peace Bureau, International TUC, the Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation, Abolition 2000, IPPNW and INES.

More than 50 people attended the debates, coming from a wide range of perspectives including trade unions, environmental and religious groups and national peace networks. All of

them expressed their worries for European nuclear security in this new era, where signs of a new Cold War are developing.

The presentations and the debates developed a common political view where social and environmental issues converged with peace issues towards the need of improving security everywhere. ‘Rethinking security’ was on participant’s minds, where peace is linked with environment and social security. New concepts deriving from Olof Palme’s ideas around collective security emerged, like creating

everywhere “safe operating spaces for living”.

After the opening speeches by Reiner Braun (IPB) and Ludo de Brabander (VREDE), the speakers, like Owen Tudor, ITUC Vice-General Secretary, highlighted the key change in the nuclear weapons field created by the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) adopted in 2017, and the need for the workers movement to strengthen cooperation with the peace movements.

A German Greenpeace representative and many others called for common mobilizations building on peace and the environment, where the elimination of nuclear weapons are central. Speakers stressed the need to create inspiring actions in order to involve a broader range of activists including the youth like in the UK, where ‘Extinction Rebellion’ civil disobedience actions will take place alongside peace workshops and discussion organised by CND and others.

The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, ICAN, represented by an ICAN Rep, described the momentum around the calls to join the TPNW all around world, where more and more cities and local governments are signing up.

NATO, which remains a major player in promoting the role of nuclear weapons in Europe’s security, is a pretext for governments that pretend they can’t join the TPNW because they want to have a say in the Nuclear Sharing Group. But what they said did

continued on page 2



not change Trump's will to leave the Iran Deal or destroy the INF Treaty.

The next NATO summit in London this November will be a great opportunity for the peace movements to point to the hypocrisy of European governments. The counter-summit will gather activists from all over the world to focus on NATO activities.

The presence of US nuclear weapons in Europe is a key issue in the plans to renew the commitment of European states to nuclear weapons. Among the participants of the meeting, the representatives of states hosting nuclear weapons in Europe, described the impressive mobilizations against the renewal of the B61, which also implies enormous expenses to

renew aircraft carriers. They decided to organize a working group to prepare the next mobilizations around US Bases on the same dates.

The participants support the idea of having a common action in front of the US-Bases in Europe specially in Germany, Holland and Belgium

The next NPT Review Conference, starting at the end of April 2020, was on everybody's radar. IPB with partners will organize an international conference in New York, where 1000 participants are expected. The Brussels event was a kind of rehearsal, showing the need to create spaces and opportunities for the broad spectrum of forces opposing nuclear weapons to act in synergy with the climate change movements and the social movements.

A further European anti-nuclear weapons coordination and a second meeting was welcomed by many participants.

Arielle Denis, Reiner Braun
International Peace Bureau



Peggy Duff

New Title: Left, Left, Left
A personal account of six protest campaigns 1945-1965

Peggy Duff was the first General Secretary of CND and a life-long campaigner for peace.
www.spokesmanbooks.com

European call for nuclear disarmament

Free Europe and the world from nuclear weapons!

This appeal was created and supported by these following organizations.

Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation

International Peace Bureau (IPB)

International Network of Engineers and Scientists for Global Responsibility (INES)

Abolition 2000 Global Network to Eliminate Nuclear Weapons (Abolition 2000)

International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC-CSI-IGB)

International Physicians for Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW)

Remember your Humanity and forget the rest

Since the nuclear bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki 74 years ago, we humans have lived under the constant threat of nuclear blackmail and the annihilation of all living things on Earth. This homicidal power, and the outrageous amount of effort and money spent on it, is unacceptable, especially at a time when climate change is also challenging our very existence. These two existential threats – nuclear war and climate change – are the most pressing problems of our time and demand our utmost attention.

Similar to the threat to our planet caused by climate change, the nuclear weapons situation has also reached a tipping point: a new nuclear arms race is already underway. All nine states that currently hold nuclear weapons are developing new and more

continued on page 3

Visit www.russfound.org for information on the work of the Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation and for more on the END campaigns in the 1980s | Email tomunterrainer@russfound.org for more information about *END Info* and other work towards a European Nuclear-Weapons-Free Zone and European Nuclear Disarmament



European Peace Movements meet, Brussels, 14 September 2019

elaborate nuclear weapons systems, inflaming tensions between them and with others. This continued preparation for nuclear war, the daily practice of nuclear blackmail, and the growing risk of miscalculations and accidents are bringing humanity to the brink of a nuclear catastrophe.

Furthermore, the world's fragile arms control architecture, built over five decades, is collapsing. The systematic destruction of key disarmament treaties, such as the ABM Treaty, JCPOA and the INF treaty, and with the Outer Space Treaty and negotiations on a New Start Treaty also under threat, the world is heading towards Armageddon. In particular, the collapse of the INF treaty on August 2nd, for which citizens had fought successfully in Europe in the 80's, shows the depth of this crisis. Even the NonProliferation Treaty (NPT) – which will soon be the last remaining treaty on Nuclear Disarmament – is under heavy pressure.

New US nuclear bombs (B61-12) are due to be installed in Belgium, Germany, Italy, Turkey and the Netherlands in 2020, designed with new capabilities, including guidance systems that increase the possibility of them being used. New low yield nuclear weapons are being developed which could be used in warfare, and the possibility that

nuclear and conventional weapons may be indistinguishable from one another could force a nuclear response against any kind of attack. The fact that even a 'regional nuclear war' where less than 1% of the world-wide nuclear arsenal used would still cause a "nuclear winter" is still denied by leading military professionals and the leaders of these nuclear weapon states.

We, the undersigned, are appalled by the revival of this cold war nightmare and by the waste of time and effort, as well as the irresponsibility of governments to address these major existential challenges. The military is the biggest worldwide emitter of CO₂ and any nuclear detonation would massively add to climate disruption and the destruction of the ozone layer.

The vast majority of States and people committed to a world free of nuclear weapons are challenged to act now!

We call on all states to recognize the dangers of the ongoing new Nuclear Weapons Race and take action to reverse this existential threat by opening a new era of negotiations based on a common security approach, using the logic of peace. This logic requires facilitating cooperative relationships in which violence is unlikely.

All nuclear states must stop all work on the development and

deployment of new nuclear weapons and their delivery systems, devote the financial savings to addressing urgent human needs – including mitigating the effects of climate change and the development of environmentally sustainable infrastructures and negotiate just transition arrangements with trade unions for affected workers.

We call on European governments to refuse the deployment of any new nuclear weapons or intermediate-range missiles that could deliver such weapons in Europe, as a step towards establishing a European Nuclear-Weapons-Free zone.

We call on all countries to ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, adopted by the UN in 2017, which offers a solid international framework toward the elimination of nuclear weapons and demonstrates how multilateral cooperative solutions can be found to global threats.

We call upon all Social Movements to support a European Campaign to halt the nuclear arms race and to work for nuclear and conventional disarmament. There can be no progress without major organized actions from citizens.

Building a movement

This edition of *END Info* is twice the size of previous editions. The reason for this is straightforward: in addition to covering ongoing developments 'above' us, there is much to say about what is happening 'from below'.

The 14 September meeting, covered on the first three pages of *END Info 8*, and the new call for European Nuclear Disarmament represent the first steps towards building a transnational, coordinated movement against the nuclear threat. **Get involved and stay informed!**

GUE/NGL Conference
Nuclear Disarmament
How to make Europe and the
World Nuclear Weapon Free?

International meeting of peace
movements and networks at the
European Parliament | 17 October

Programme

Welcome and Introduction

Ozlem Demiral MEP and Mick
Wallace MEP (GUE/NGL)

*The danger of nuclear weapons in Europe
and the World: the state of play*

Tom Unterrainer (BRPF), Dennis
Halliday (former UN Assistant General
Secretary), Leo Hoffmann Axthelm
(ICAN)

*How to stop the dangers: strategies, actions
and common activities to counter the new
nuclear arms race and the struggle for a
nuclear-free Europe and the world*

Ludo de Brabander (Vrede),
Christopher von Lieven (Greenpeace
Deutschland), Christian Lukenge
(Intal).

This conference is an invite-only event
but it is hoped that it will mark the start
of a fruitful collaboration between the
peace movements, MEPs and their
political parties. Such a collaboration
will be vital in developing the
responses needed to halt the growing
nuclear dangers.

Common Security in Eurasia

The IPB/AEPF organised workshop on 'Challenges to Common Security Policy in Eurasia' brought together representatives from across Europe, Korea, India, Nepal, Myanmar, Japan, Hong Kong, Philippines, Azerbaijan, the US and elsewhere for an initial discussion on formulating an approach to 'Common Security'. The challenges confronting the workshop were: (1) reaching agreement on the meaning and purpose of 'Common Security' in the context of the 21st Century and (2) formulating an approach or approaches that address the varying concerns and priorities of different regions.

The major reference point for this discussion on 'Common Security' in Eurasia was the report of the Palme Commission (1982), published as *Common Security: a blueprint for survival*. There were obvious advantages and some disadvantages to having such a reference point at our disposal. The advantages are that the Palme Commission rigorously documented the



Delegates to the 'Workshop on Common Security in Eurasia', 23-24 Sept, 2019

dimensions and definitions of the concept of 'Common Security' and put forward concrete proposals for its implementation.

The disadvantages are that the Palme Commission took place in different political times and was conducted with participation at the 'state and military' level rather than at the 'peace movement' level. In this context the workshop opened with a series of presentations covering the basic elements of a Common Security policy and commentaries on the security situation in Europe and Asia. This was followed by further commentaries on whether the Common Security 'approach' is a useful or realistic basis for a new security architecture in Eurasia.

The contributions and commentaries firmly established that the risks and dangers that present themselves necessitate a totally new approach to 'security' across Eurasia. Not every commentary addressed itself directly to the question of what a 'common security' policy should or could look like and whilst some of the commentaries seemed to raise hostility rather than advocate settlement of such hostilities, the overall discussion should be considered highly constructive.

The next step is to continue the process of thinking through what a Common Security policy might look like today. Connected to this will be an important discussion on what 'political actors' can either implement such a policy or be encouraged to do so by the work of the peace movement.

This work is already underway and will be developed further by delegates to the workshop, the peace movements more widely and other social and political organisations concerned with addressing the pressing global threats.

TU

SICHERHEIT *ohne* ATOMARE ABSCHRECKUNG



COMMANDER
ROBERT GREEN

ROYAL NAVY (RETD)

VORWORT VON
VIZEADMIRAL SIR JEREMY BLACKHAM KCB MA

ÜBERSETZT VON
DR.-ING JOACHIM WERNICKE

**New Title: German translation of Cmdr
Robert Green's Security without Nuclear
Deterrence. Contact END Info for info.**

In defence of Greta Thunberg

By Jan Oberg, *Transnational Foundation for Peace & Future Research*

Greta Thunberg's speech at the UN Climate Act Summit 2019 is likely to be seen by future generations as pathbreaking or, as they say today, iconic. One of several reasons she attracts so much attention is that she combines three factors that, in these dark times, seldom go together but which – undoubtedly – people worldwide long for: knowledge (facts), passion/emotions and a commitment to nonviolence.

While politicians go populist, nationalist and militarist and many individuals tend to be obsessed with themselves, their body – looks, food, weight, ways to relate and how to show off (inner emptiness) – here is a 16-year young woman who speaks on behalf of humanity and does so as if she was Nature's appointed ambassador too.

She operates in a world in which there is more and more fakery, in which it's great to keep cool and unemotional in public (and often say nothing of interest but delivering standard, politically correct and non-provocative speeches) and in a world in which violent demonstrations and threats are considered normal modes of operation.

The nasty attacks on Greta Thunberg

But she will be attacked – and has been. Increasingly so. She is considered a huge challenge to the powers that be in a very broad sense. She is living the wrong way, doing wrong things in contravention of what she works for, or she is misguided and doesn't know what she talks about. Or she does not write her speeches herself, or that she meets the wrong people. On and on...

There are all kinds of ill-willed accusations and conspiracies about

“who is really behind her,” about being misused by her parents to get famous, about her being just a mentally sick girl you should not listen to, etc.

Great if Greta also took up the huge military destruction of the environment

Greta undoubtedly knows where she wants to go in the future. At the moment, she is strongest on diagnosis and prognosis, so to speak, but one would wish she had a bit more of Gandhi's constructive program, of treatment: What shall we do (and not only abstain from), who can do it, how and when can it be done – in short, a strategy.

Secondly, I for one would hope that she would attempt to become a kind of bridge-builder between the two huge challenges humankind is facing – environmental destruction (about which there is a lot of talk) and large-scale war, including nuclear war (about which there is woefully little and unqualified talk).

The two are intimately connected. The military pollutes the cities, agricultural lands, seas and the air – both for exercise, training and transport in peace time and directly, of course, in times of war. It shuffles soldiers and matériel around the world, mostly on a rotational basis – by air, sea and land. It consumes incredible amounts of oil – as does, at the earlier stages, the production and export of weapons.

And there is the whole field of environmental warfare – technologies for deliberately destroying the environment of the enemy.

And should just one nuclear weapon be used – by accident or deliberate political decision – we can forget about most, if not all, of what Greta Thunberg



and the millions of environmentalists are struggling to preserve. The climate consequences of that will dwarf all we subsume under “climate change” and environmental destruction today.

A 2019 study concludes, among other things, that “the US military is one of the largest polluters in history, consuming more liquid fuels and emitting more climate-changing gases than most medium-sized countries. If the US military were a country, its fuel usage alone would make it the 47th largest emitter of greenhouse gases in the world, sitting between Peru and Portugal.”

As the headline goes: US military is a bigger polluter than as many as 140 countries – shrinking this war machine is a must.

It would be great if Greta Thunberg would point her finger at that major environmental destroyer – which does this violence to Nature in order to be able to do violence to everything else where it operates.

Violence against Nature is fundamentally connected to violence against humans, societies, countries, and cultures. And that fundamental connector is the – basically Western – civilisational acceptance of and obsession with the mentality, research, technology and policies of violence.

Burning passion and detachment

Fortunately, Greta seems totally unimpressed with her status of intellectual and political celebrity, created in just about a year. I'm reminded of Gandhi's statement that

continued on page 6 ...

“A burning passion coupled with absolute detachment is the key to all success” – where detachment means detachment from the fruits of the action, to not do things in order to become rich or famous or otherwise benefit oneself.

I hope with all my heart that she and her parents will remain strong and “detached” and stay the course for the cause. That the nasty critics will not be able to wear her down. Fortunately, she seems strong and perhaps her Asperger “problem” is actually a help here.

The world needs Greta more than it needs the majority of its present decision-makers.

So let us wish her luck and support her cause. She brings hope, knowledge, passion and – yes, anger too – into global politics.

It could well be that Greta Thunberg develops into a modern day Gandhi-in-the-making. I would not exclude it and I am sure Gandhi would have welcomed her into his ashram.

Abridged from the original.

See www.transnational.live for more information

XR Peace blockade at the October Rebellion 7-18 October 2019

Join XR Peace – a coalition of organisations for peace and justice, including CND – as they hold one of the sites in the October Rebellion. This is a coming together of movements to resist the twin existential threats of nuclear weapons and the climate emergency.

As we block the road we will have workshops, teach-ins and exhibitions, choirs, musicians, comedians, academics, story tellers and speakers making the links between nuclear weapons, militarism and the climate emergency. Come for a day or the whole two weeks.

Rebel for Peace and the Planet.

See <https://rebellion.earth/event/international-rebellion-begins-7-october-2019/> for more information.

The Militarisation of the European Union

The establishment of a European Defence Fund (EDF) was first suggested by the European Commission in the Proposal for a European Defence Action Plan of 30 November 2016. In the implementation of this project, in a first step, a total of 90 million euros were allocated for defence research until the end of 2019. In addition, on 18 July 2018, the Council and the European Parliament (EP) passed the proposal for a “Regulation establishing the European Defence Industrial Development Programme aiming at supporting the competitiveness and innovative capacity of the EU defence industry” (EDIDP) and endowed this programme with 50 million euros for the years 2019–2020

The proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the European Defence Fund (EDF Regulation) is the most recent effort to expand the EU’s capacities in the area of defence policy. In the years 2021–2027, 13 billion euros are to be allocated to the Fund from the budget of the EU.

Given that the EU is often referred to as the ‘most successful peace project in history’, why on earth has the EU made this level of investment and why on earth is it moving in the direction of militarisation? These developments came about after the Brexit referendum result and have intensified as the US has increased global tensions through the sabotage of the INF and other arms control treaties.



**New Title: Peace! Now!
Everywhere!**

Edited by Michael Müller, Peter Brandt and Reiner Braun.

Essential for German readers!

As Roland Kulke, from the *Transform! Europe* network points out (see note), “Since the Brexit decision, the only political project that the neoliberal elites in the EU and its member states are pursuing is the multidimensional militarisation of the EU. In his ‘State of the Union Speech’ on 12th September 2018, [European Commission President] Juncker discussed only one new project for the EU: preparing the EU as a global player in hard politics.”

Whereas Europe was once a “seedbed of alignments”, there is now only one major ‘alignment’ at work: in the direction of the US and its instrument NATO. The militarisation of Europe will operate under the ‘umbrella’ of this alignment and will be wholly dominated by US/NATO priorities. This will be the reality of the EU becoming a “global player in hard politics”.

These moves must be resisted.

See https://www.transform-network.net/fileadmin/user_upload/a5-militarisation-en-screen3.pdf for a collection of articles and essays from the *Transform! Europe* network.

US 'missile shield' nears completion



Defence Blog, an 'online military magazine', reports that the US 'missile shield' installation at the Naval Support Facility Redzikowo is nearing completion. The report states that: "Once construction is completed, the Aegis Ashore site in Poland will expand a defensive capability that protects NATO European territories, populations and forces against ballistic missiles launched from outside the Euro-Atlantic region."

As Katarzyna Kubiak points out (see *The Spokesman 142*): "The United States never publicly offered Russia an inspection of the ground-based Mk-41 launcher in order to counter [Russia's] INF Treaty-related accusations."

We should be clear that the Aegis Ashore launchers, stationed close to Russia, are not intended to 'defend Europe'. Rather, they are a provocation that only increases dangers and tensions. Not only that, but it looks entirely possible that the installations breached the now-sabotaged INF Treaty.

US missiles out of Europe!

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No to NATO - No to War

Donald Trump will be joining NATO leaders in London in December 2019 at a time of mounting instability and confrontation. His aggressive 'America first' foreign policy has caused havoc around the world. He has escalated the NATO presence in Afghanistan, torn up the Iran nuclear deal, scrapped the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces treaty, and ramped up tension with Russia and China. Contempt for international law is central to his approach.

NATO has always been a vehicle for the imposition of US interests in Europe and we oppose the increasing militarization of Europe, closely linked to NATO. But in the past two decades

NATO has become increasingly global in its expansionary approach. At this year's summit, Trump will be pushing NATO to be more interventionist still whilst pushing member states to foot the massive bill for advancing US interests.

Since 1999 NATO has added thirteen new member states in Central and Eastern Europe and is now 'deepening cooperation' with Georgia and other central Asian states. It is participating in the US's 'pivot to Asia' designed to aggressively assert US dominance in the Pacific.

NATO backs some of the most authoritarian regimes in the world, contributing to the spread of reactionary and racist politics. Its more and more aggressive stance threatens further war, destabilization and migrant crises. Its militarism is a major contributor to catastrophic climate change.

Any effective movement against war and for peace and justice has to confront the NATO military alliance. We invite you to join us in London at the international counter-summit on 30 November and on the demonstration on 3 December.

**No to Trump
No to NATO**

**International Counter-Summit
30 November
Demonstration
3 December**

See <https://www.no-to-nato.org> for more information

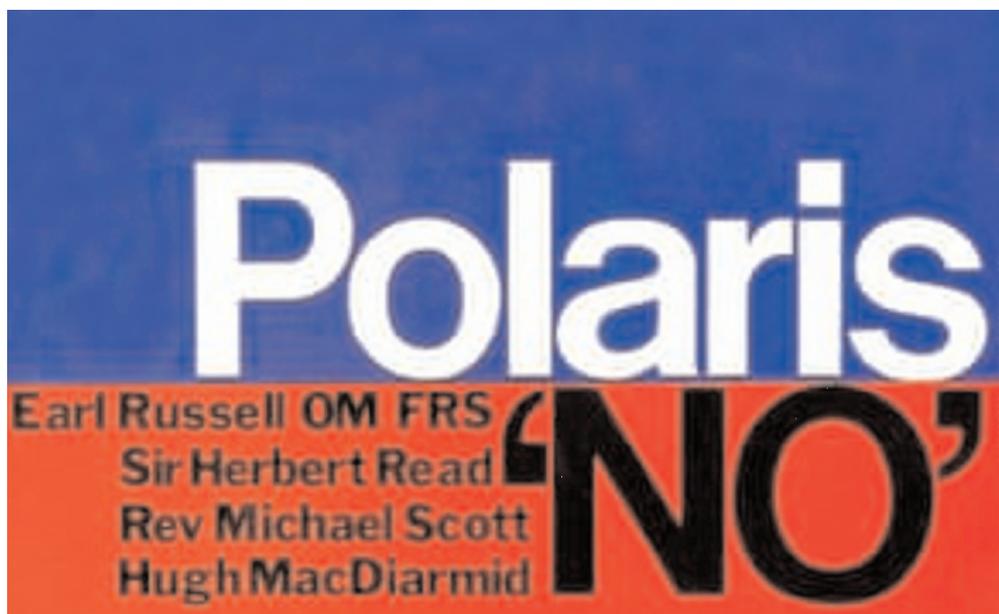
Robin Fior Call to Action / Abril em Portugal

The designer Robin Fior worked to keep the peace. Beginning in the late 1950s, his striking posters and elegant typography presented the public face of CND, the Committee of 100 (of which he was one), and the Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation at its formation in 1963. There are many good examples of the Spartan typographical rigour and peculiar linguistic humour that characterise his graphic work. Later in the 1960s, he became artistic director of Pluto Press.

When Robin moved to Lisbon, in 1973, to join the cooperative design group PRAXIS, he could not have imagined that the Carnation Revolution would take place there just one year later. Robin quickly became an active participant in the Portuguese cultural and political scene.

Robin Fior's personal collection from his period in Portugal was recently donated to the Calouste-Gulbenkian Foundation's Art Library. It is the starting point for this exhibition, which presents a selection of objects designed by him, in England and Portugal, between the 1960s and 1980s. These objects are accompanied by comments from other designers, architects and writers, who were involved in the history of their production.

Curator: Ana Baliza
Calouste-Gulbenkian Museum,
Lisbon, 8 November - 3 February
2020





21ST CENTURY SECURITY: CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

20th of October 2019, St Thomas' Hospital, London

Our security and well-being are being severely challenged by climate change, the start of a new Cold War and the huge and widening gap between the 'haves' and the 'have-nots'. The systematic destruction of arms control treaties and disregard for international law by some world leaders have led to a new nuclear arms race and widespread concerns about national and global security. These problems are interlinked with a growth in the politics of nationalism, self-protection and prejudice. This meeting, jointly organised by CND and the IPB, will feature activists and experts from around the world, providing a global take on the problems we are facing.

To ensure our survival, humanity must come together, organise and cooperate on a global scale never seen before. Citizen activists of the world can show the way and modern communications technologies can help us achieve a global voice. But we must be aware of what we are facing and we must start now.

visit www.cnduk.org or www.ipb.org for further information

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European Nuclear Disarmament: *A New Statement*

Endorse here:
<https://goo.gl/forms/aOKywwL4kw1q6LMb2>



The Revolt of the Children makes the links between the climate and nuclear crisis.
Download: <https://docdro.id/TdB25Zv>



The Spokesman

Journal of the *Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation*

Keep the Peace

The Spokesman 143

Bertrand Russell 50th Anniversary

Pugwash, BRPF and Tom Unterrainer on **Iran** | Helena Cobban on **Chemical Weapons** | Robert Forsyth on **Nuclear Australia** | Zhores Medvedev on **Chernobyl** | Ken Coates on **Bertrand Russell** | Peggy Duff on **CND** | Bertrand Russell on **Byron** | Daniel Jakopovich on **Yugoslavia** | John McDonnell on **Europe** | NPT Dossier **and much more**

128 Pages | A5 Paperback | ISBN 978 0 85124 8820

www.spokesmanbooks.com

Keep the Peace

The next issue of *END Info* will be published in the first week of November. Please send information, news items and reports to tomunterrainer@russfound.org.