

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES OF THE COOPERATION FOR PEACE

For millions of people, war is the reality of their everyday lives. On average, 40 armed conflicts per year threaten the fundamentals of their very existence. Everyday violence prevents them from living their lives in dignity.

Together with global injustice, poverty, destruction of the environment and waste of natural resources, war and violence are part of a vicious cycle that is threatening the entire humanity.

To break this vicious cycle we, the undersigned of this declaration, unite under the umbrella of the **Cooperation for Peace** in Germany.

We stand up for:

- a world where armed conflicts are no longer a means of politics, and preventive methods and strategies are developed for civil solutions of crises and conflicts; such methods and strategies shall not be part of any military concepts;
- a world where international law shall be the only legitimate instrument for the solution of international conflicts; international law shall be further developed and strengthened;
- comprehensive disarmament;
- a consistent fight against causes or consequences of war, such as poverty, injustice and the destruction of the environment;
- non-violent, world-wide fight for and defense of human rights and democracy.

We shall stand up for these principles in a non-violent, dedicated way. Any initiative, group or organization which agrees with us on these principles is welcome to work and cooperate with us.

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Die Grundsatzklärung haben unterzeichnet: ■ Aachener Friedenspreis e.V. ■ Aktionsgemeinschaft Dienst für den Frieden (AGDF) ■ Aktionsgemeinschaft Friedenswoche Minden ■ Bildungs- und Begegnungsstätte für gewaltfreie Aktion KURVE Wustrow ■ Braunschweiger Bündnis für den Frieden ■ Bremer Aktion für Kinder (BAKI) ■ Bund demokratischer WissenschaftlerInnen (BdWi) ■ Bund für Soziale Verteidigung (BSV) ■ Bundesverband Bürgerinitiativen Umweltschutz (BBU) ■ Christen für gerechte Wirtschaftsordnung (CGW) ■ Deutsche Friedensgesellschaft – Vereinigte KriegsdienstgegnerInnen (DFG-VK) ■ EUCOMmunity ■ Evangelische Arbeitsgemeinschaft zur Betreuung von Kriegsdienstverweigerern (EAK) ■ Evangelisch-methodistische Kirche in Deutschland – Friedensausschüsse ■ Frauen in Schwarz Hamburg ■ Frauen in Schwarz Köln ■ Frauennetzwerk für den Frieden e.V. ■ Friedensforum Münster ■ Friedensgruppe Altenholz ■ Friedensinitiative Nottuln e.V. ■ Friedensrat Müllheim ■ Forum Ziviler Friedensdienst (forumZFD) ■ Gewerkschaft Erziehung und Wissenschaft (GEW), Hauptvorstand ■ Infostelle für Friedensarbeit, Meckenheim ■ IALANA (International Association of Lawyers against Nuclear Arms) ■ IFIAS (Institute for International Assistance and Solidarity) ■ IPPNW, Deutsche Sektion der internationalen Ärzte zur Verhütung des Atomkrieges / Ärzte in sozialer Verantwortung ■ Internationale Frauenliga für Frieden und Freiheit ■ Internationaler Versöhnungsbund – deutscher Zweig ■ Komitee für Grundrechte und Demokratie ■ Koordinierungsausschuss der Friedensbewegung in der Region Ingolstadt ■ Lebenshaus Schwäbische Alb ■ Leserinitiative Publik e.V. ■ Menschen für den Frieden, Anti-Kriegsbündnis Düsseldorf ■ Mönchengladbacher Friedensforum ■ NaturwissenschaftlerInnen-Initiative "Verantwortung für Frieden und Zukunftsfähigkeit" ■ Netzwerk Friedenskooperative ■ Netzwerk Friedenssteuer ■ Ökumenisches Friedensnetz Düsseldorf Christinnen und Christen ■ Ökumenisches Zentrum für Umwelt-, Friedens- und Eine-Welt-Arbeit, Berlin ■ Pädagoginnen und Pädagogen für den Frieden (PPF) ■ pax christi – Deutsche Sektion ■ Rhöner Friedenswerkstatt im UNESCO Biosphärenreservat, Künzell ■ Sichel-schmiede, Werkstatt für Friedensarbeit in der Kyritz-Ruppiner Heide ■ Ver.di-Jugend ■ Werkstatt für Gewaltfreie Aktion, Baden ■ Würselner Initiative für den Frieden



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Kooperation für den Frieden



Cooperation for Peace

» ***Security, stability, human rights, democracy, prosperity, reconstruction etc. are the catchwords that are used to justify the deployment of military forces. Civil resources and organizations are integrated into the war effort, and the whole package is sold to the public using professional PR-strategies.***

Not only do we need to withstand any legitimating of wars. Together with non-violent methods of conflict prevention and solution, a just social and economic order is a precondition of a world without wars.

Therefore, the peace movement has many points of common interest with other social movements – also on an international level.

The specter of the German peace movement is very broad, both in terms of organizations and substance. This contributes to a wide range of approaches and allows setting peace agendas in various social areas. Common goals and consensus beyond short-time opposition to war can establish a good basis for fruitful cooperation.

At the same time, many groups experience a lack of human and financial resources.

Campaigns and large-scale actions have better prospects, if they are conducted by a coalition of several organizations or carried out at the same time.

Groups and organizations of the “Cooperation for Peace” aim to develop political positions in a dialogue between equals and to carry out common actions and campaigns on this basis. The organizations of “Cooperation for Peace” are working for an active peace movement, which is able to think in long terms and strategically on one hand, and to act rapidly and efficiently, after democratic decision-making, on the other hand.

» Participation

Organizations, networks and initiatives can participate in the „Cooperation for Peace“, but no political parties.

» How we work

Every other month, the Cooperation Council with app. 10 elected members from different organizations shall meet to maintain continuity of work. Decisions are made in consensus. Subcommittees can be established, if required.

On the annual plenary conference, three to five speakers are elected, which represent the decisions in public and within the member organizations. If necessary, they decide rapidly and in consensus.

A Strategy Conference shall take place once a year.

» Financing

Membership fees shall be determined by the plenary conference. Each member pays for the cost incurred by his/her activities. For concrete actions, a special financing plan shall be developed and an organization shall be determined, which will be responsible for the finances.

