WORLD**BEYOND**WAR.org
a global movement to end all wars

HOW TO BUILD A GLOBAL SECURITY SYSTEM: AN ALTERNATIVE TO WAR

A summary version of World BEYOND War's book "A Global Security System: An Alternative to War"

English Edition

HOW TO BUILD A GLOBAL SECURITY SYSTEM: AN ALTERNATIVE TO WAR
A summary version of World BEYOND War's book "A Global Security System: An Alternative to War"
worldbeyondwar.org/alternative

1.0 Introduction

Resting on a convincing body of evidence that violence is not a necessary component of conflict among states and between states and non-state actors, World BEYOND War asserts that war itself can be ended. We humans have lived without war for most of our existence and most people live without war most of the time. Warfare arose about 10,000 years ago (only 5% of our existence as Homo Sapiens) and spawned a vicious cycle as peoples, fearing attack by militarized states, found it necessary to imitate them; and so began the cycle of violence that has culminated in the last 100 years in a condition of permawar. War now threatens to destroy civilization as weapons have become ever more destructive. However, in the last 150 years, revolutionary new knowledge and methods of nonviolent conflict management have been developing that lead us to assert that it is time to end warfare and that we can do so by mobilizing millions around a global effort.

Here you will find a summary of our book "A Global Security System: An Alternative to War (AGSS)," which outlines in detail the pillars of war which must be taken down so that the whole edifice of the War System can collapse, and the foundations of peace, already being laid, on which we will build a world where everyone will be safe. AGSS also offers a comprehensive blueprint and plan of action for ending all wars. The path to ending war and establishing the Alternative Global Security System can be achieved through three broad strategies: 1) demilitarizing security; 2) managing conflicts without violence, and 3) creating a culture of peace. These three strategies are the organizing components of our blueprint.

This summary version of our book is an essential starting point for those curious about and committed to the abolition of war. It is also an invaluable resource for policy recommendations and citizen action for a more peaceful world order. Concepts, strategies and guiding principles introduced here are explained in much greater detail in the unabridged version of our book which is available for purchase in several formats (pdf, ebook, print) via our website: www.worldbeyondwar.org/alternative.

You can also dive deeper by visiting "**Study War No More,**" our free, online learning guide designed to support study of AGSS. Developed in partnership with the Global Campaign for Peace Education, the guide can be used for independent study or as a tool for facilitating dialogue and discussion in classrooms (secondary, university) and with community groups. "Study War No More" also helps to bring this book to life by featuring videos from our "study and action partners" – leading global thinkers, strategists, academics, advocates and activists who are already developing components of an alternative global security system. Join "Study War No More," our online learning community here: www.globalsecurity.worldbeyondwar.org.

2.0 Why an Alternative Global Security System is Necessary

Modern history is so vivid in detail about warfare that we tend to assume that war is an attribute of humanity itself. American anthropologist Margaret Mead famously observed that warfare is not in our genes,

that it is in fact a human invention. Not only is there no scientific evidence of genetic predispositions to war, there is no viable anthropological evidence to suggest that our hunter-gatherer ancestors ever engaged in war making activities. In 1986 a group of scientists gathered in Seville, Spain to once and for all put the mythical notion of humanity's innate warlike nature to bed. They produced the Seville Statement on Violence[1] that challenges and refutes the many excuses of biological determinism that are often used to justify going to war.

Margaret Mead argued that war is a culturally learned behavior. She explains this by observing that:

"If a people have an idea of going to war and the idea that war is the way in which certain situations, defined within their society, are to be handled, they will sometimes go to war."
- Margaret Mead

So if war is indeed a human invention, what are we to do about it? War is part of our thoughts and is immortalized in culture through education and military monuments in town squares. Mead argues that other social inventions have faded away, but for this to happen two conditions must be met: 1) we must recognize the defects of the old invention, and 2) we must make a new one to replace it.

Regarding the first condition, we are well aware of the defects of war – indeed, there are no upsides. Some of these defects are briefly outlined below. The second condition is the focus of AGSS. With what do we replace the war system? What alternatives currently exist that are more preferable than the present? Which must still be imagined? And, once we have a clear vision of a peace system to replace the war system, how might we go about facilitating the transition from the old to the new? What must we know and what skills will we need to build it? What political and

practical strategies might we employ? What's our role in this transition?

Margaret Mead also alluded to a third condition that must be met for old inventions to fade away: we need to believe that social invention is possible. Getting past the pessimism that the war system imbues within us is no easy task. Futurists are keen to point out that it's difficult to imagine and construct preferred realities when our visions of the future are guided by present probabilities. The present system is so stark that a negative future seems predestined. Such a worldview shapes our thinking about what is possible. We have to shake off the humanly invented chains of the war system and militarism that shape our thinking if we are to move from probable to preferred future realities. In this task it is helpful to remember the provocative words of pioneering peace researcher Kenneth Boulding: "Whatever exists is possible." Thinking that war is inevitable makes it so; it's a self-fulfilling prophecy. Thinking that ending war is possible opens the door to constructive work on an actual peace system.

2.1 The Old Security Paradigm: Militarism and the Iron Cage of War

The legacy of two world wars and the Cold War in the last century keeps us stuck to defining security almost exclusively through military force. The military security lens is not only visible in "peace through strength" language, but also easily quantifiable in budgetary terms. According to the strongly grounded work of the War Resisters League[2] , more than 50% of U.S. federal budget outlays go into the military. Basic human needs and social services such as education or food security are not obtainable in this picture.

When centralized states began to form in the ancient world, they were faced with a problem we have just begun to solve. If a group of peaceful states was confronted by an armed, aggressive war-making state,

1. Read the Seville Statement on Violence here: http://www.culture-of-peace.info/vita/2011/seville2011.pdf

2. http://www.warresisters.org/pages/piechart.htm

it had only three choices: submit, flee, or imitate the war-like state and hope to win in battle. In this way the international community became militarized and has largely remained so. Humanity locked itself inside the iron cage of war. Conflict became militarized. War is the sustained and coordinated combat between groups leading to large numbers of casualties. War also produces and reproduces militarism, armies, arms, industries, policies, plans, propaganda, prejudices, and rationalizations that make lethal group conflict not only possible but also likely.

While particular wars are triggered by local events, they do not "break out" spontaneously. They are the inevitable result of a social system for managing international and civil conflict: the War System. The War System rests in part on a set of interlocked beliefs and values that have been around so long that their veracity and utility go mostly unquestioned although they are demonstrably false.

World BEYOND War maintains a list of common war myths and the facts that debunk them[3]. Among common war system myths are:

● War is inevitable; we have always had it and always will.
● War is "human nature."
● War is necessary.
● War is beneficial.
● The world is a "dangerous place."
● The world is a zero-sum game (What you have I can't have and vice versa, and someone will always dominate, better us than "them.")
● We have "enemies."

The War System also includes institutions and weapons technologies. It is deeply embedded in society and its various parts feed into each other so that it is very robust. For example, a handful of wealthy nations produce most of the weaponry used in the world's wars, and justify their own participation in wars on the basis of the damage done by weaponry they have sold

or given to poor nations or groups. Wars are highly organized, preplanned mobilizations of forces prepared long in advance by the War System which permeates all institutions of society. For example, in the U.S.A., war is built into the economy, perpetuated culturally in the schools and religious institutions, a tradition carried on in families, glorified at sporting events, made into games and movies, and hyped by the news media. Almost nowhere does one learn of an alternative.

While wars are often launched or continued without majority public support, wars result in part from a certain, simple mind set. Governments have succeeded in convincing themselves and masses of people that there are only two responses to aggression: submit or fight, be ruled by "those monsters" or bomb them into the Stone Age. We can end war only if we change the mindset, ask the relevant questions in order to get at the causes of an aggressor's behavior and, above all, see if one's own behavior is one of the causes. Like medicine, treating only the symptoms of a disease will not cure it. In other words, we must reflect before pulling out the gun. This blueprint for peace does that.

2.2 What Really Makes Us Secure?

Security, particularly "national security," is unfortunately defined in relation to military power and its global projection. It is necessary to shift from an anarchic state system security paradigm to one that reflects human and planetary needs. The traditional focus of security thinking has emphasized the nation state and competition for power in the international system. While it is widely recognized that the understanding of security needs to be broadened, immense fiscal resources still are put toward building stronger militaries.

---

3. A comprehensive list of war myths and arguments to debunk them can be found here: https://worldbeyondwar.org/inevitable/

2.2.1 Human Security & Common Security

Human security and common security are alternative frameworks that challenge the old paradigm. **Human security** is people centered and emphasizes physical safety, economic and social well-being, respect for the dignity and worth of human beings, protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms. Human security is achieved through sustainable development, environmental justice and meeting people's basic needs.

Conflict management as practiced in the iron cage of war is self-defeating. In what is known as the "security dilemma," states believe they can only make themselves more secure by making their adversaries less secure, leading to escalating arms races that have culminated in conventional, nuclear, biological and chemical weapons of horrific destructiveness. Placing the security of one's adversary in danger has not led to security but to a state of armed suspicion and as a result, when wars have begun, they have been obscenely violent. **Common security** acknowledges that one nation can only be secure when all nations are. The national security model leads only to mutual insecurity, especially in an era when nation states are porous. The original idea behind national sovereignty was to draw a line around a geographical territory and control everything that attempted to cross that line. In today's technologically advanced world that concept is obsolete. Nations cannot keep out ideas, immigrants, economic forces, disease organisms, information, ballistic missiles, or cyber-attacks on vulnerable infrastructure like banking systems, power plants, and stock exchanges. No nation can go it alone. Security must be global if it is to exist at all. In its briefest form, the meaning of common security is: **no one is safe until all are safe.**

3.0 Why we think a peace system is possible

Thinking that war is inevitable makes it so; it's a self-fulfilling prophecy. Thinking that ending war is possible opens the door to constructive work on an actual peace system.

3.1 An Alternative System is Already Developing

As previously mentioned, evidence from archeology and anthropology now indicate that warfare was a social invention about 10,000 years ago with the rise of the centralized state, slavery and patriarchy. We learned to do war. Yet, for over a hundred thousand years prior, humans lived without large-scale violence. The War System has dominated some human societies since about 4,000 B.C. Beginning in 1816, with the creation of the first citizen-based organizations working to end war, a string of revolutionary developments has occurred. We are not starting from scratch. While the twentieth century was the bloodiest on record, it will surprise most people that it was also a time of great progress in the development of the structures, values, and techniques that will, with further development pushed by nonviolent people power, become an Alternative Global Security System. These are revolutionary developments unprecedented in the thousands of years in which the War System has been the only means of conflict management. Today a competing system exists—embryonic, perhaps, but developing. Peace is real.

By the mid-nineteenth century the desire for international peace was developing rapidly. As a result, in 1899, for the first time in history, an institution was created to deal with global-level conflict. Popularly known as the World Court, the International Court of Justice exists to adjudicate interstate conflict. Other institutions followed rapidly including the first effort at a world parliament to deal with interstate conflict, the League of Nations. In 1945 the UN was founded, and in 1948 the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was signed. In the 1960s, two nuclear weapons treaties were signed – the Partial Test Ban Treaty in 1963 and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty which was opened for signature in 1968 and went into force

in 1970. More recently, the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty in 1996, the landmines treaty (Antipersonnel Landmines Convention) in 1997, and in 2014 the Arms Trade Treaty were adopted. The landmine treaty was negotiated through unprecedented successful citizen-diplomacy where NGOs, together with governments, negotiated and drafted the treaty for others to sign and ratify. The Nobel Committee recognized the efforts by International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) as a "convincing example of an effective policy for peace" and awarded the Nobel Peace Prize to ICBL and its coordinator Jody Williams. The International Criminal Court was established in 1998 and entered into force in 2002. Laws against the use of child soldiers have been agreed on in recent decades.

3.2 Nonviolence: The Foundation of Peace

As these peaceful changes were developing, Mahatma Gandhi and then Martin Luther King Jr., and others, developed a powerful means of resisting violence, the method of nonviolence, now tested and found successful in many conflicts in different cultures around the world. Nonviolent struggle changes the power relationship between oppressed and oppressor.

Nonviolence scholar Gene Sharp's consent theory of power illuminates that all government power rests on the consent of the governed and that consent can always be withdrawn. Herein lies the true power of nonviolence. As we shall see, it changes the social psychology of the conflict situation and thus erodes the will of the oppressor to continue injustice and exploitation. It renders oppressive governments helpless and makes the people ungovernable. There are many modern instances of the successful use of nonviolence. Gene Sharp writes: "A vast history exists of people who, refusing to be convinced that the apparent 'powers that be' were omnipotent, defied and resisted powerful rulers, foreign conquerors, domestic tyrants, oppressive systems, internal usurpers and economic masters. Contrary to usual perceptions, these means

of struggle by protest, noncooperation and disruptive intervention have played major historical roles in all parts of the world."[4]

Erica Chenoweth and Maria Stephan have demonstrated statistically that, from 1900 to 2006, nonviolent resistance was twice as successful as armed resistance and resulted in more stable democracies with less chance of reverting to civil and international violence. In short, nonviolence works better than war.[5] We also know now that countries are more likely to experience the onset of nonviolent campaigns when there is a greater amount of mobilization globally - nonviolence is contagious![6]

Nonviolence is a practical alternative. It informs and shapes all of the strategies outlined in our blueprint. Nonviolent resistance, coupled with strengthened institutions of peace, now allows us to escape from the iron cage of warfare into which we trapped ourselves six thousand years ago.

4.0 Outline of an alternative global security system

No single strategy will end war. They must be layered and woven together to be effective. As will be apparent, choosing a World BEYOND War will require us to dismantle the existing War System and create the institutions of an Alternative Global Security System and/or to further develop them where they already exist in embryo. Note that World BEYOND War is not proposing a sovereign world government, but rather a web of governing structures voluntarily entered into, and a shift in cultural norms away from violence and domination.

4. Sharp, G. (1980). *Making the abolition of war a realistic goal*. Cambridge, MA: The Albert Einstein Institution. Available at: https://www.aeinstein.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/MakingtheAbolitionofWaraRealisticGoal-English.pdf
5. Chenoweth, E, & Stephan, M. (2011). Why civil resistance works: *The strategic logic of nonviolent conflict*. New York, NY: Columbia University Press
6. "Contagious Nonviolence": http://communication.warpreventioninitiative.org/contagious-nonviolence/

4.1 How Systems Work

Systems are webs of relationships in which each part influences the other parts through feedback. Point A not only influences point B, but B feeds back to A, and so on until points on the web are wholly interdependent. For example, in the War System, the military institution will influence education to set up Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) programs in the high schools; the high school history courses will present war as patriotic, inescapable and normative; while churches will pray for the troops and parishioners will work in the arms industry, which Congress has funded in order to create jobs to increase their likelihood of re-election. Retired military officers will head the arms manufacturing companies and get contracts from their former institution, the Pentagon, and/or make up many of the so-called media experts on war and peace issues. A system is made up of interlocked beliefs, values, technologies, and above all, institutions that reinforce each other. While systems tend to be stable for long periods of time, if enough negative pressure develops, the system can reach a tipping point and can change rapidly.

4.2 Components of the Alternative Global Security System

As previously mentioned, the Alternative Global Security System outlined here is pursued through three broad strategies: 1) demilitarizing security, 2) managing conflicts without violence, and 3) creating a culture of peace.

Demilitarizing Security
This component identifies the strategies and approaches necessary for demilitarizing the current system.

Managing Conflict Without Violence
Here we explore possible reforms to existing institutions and approaches to maintaining security – and, where current options are deemed ineffective or insufficient, we propose alternative possibilities. These are the tools essential to pursuing a nonviolent approach to security.

Creating a Culture of Peace
Our system also depends upon identifying and establishing the social and cultural norms, values and principles of peace to guide our actions and vision of a more preferred world order. These principles also function as a litmus test to assess the validity of current and alternative approaches and proposals.

Developing these components is not necessarily to be pursued sequentially – or separately - as advancements in one area will almost certainly have reciprocating influences in other areas. Strategies will need adjusting as we observe these influences and impacts. It should be noted that many of the approaches could easily be situated within more than one category – their current placement reflects what we think to be the most logical and practical interrelationships.

ALTERNATIVE GLOBAL SECURITY SYSTEM OUTLINE & OVERVIEW

Component	Demilitarizing Security	Managing Conflict Without Violence	Creating a Culture of Peace
Primary Function(s)	1.Demilitarize security. 2.Establish alternative security frameworks and alternative thinking that should shape the new system	1.Establish and reform institutions for managing international and civil conflicts	1.Establish normative frameworks, values and principles to guide the vision and assess alternative approaches to security 2.Establish operating principles for a culture of peace

Sub-Components, Approaches & Action Steps	•Identify / Establish Nonviolent Norms & Alternatives to Military Intervention
	
	  -Shift to a Non-Provocative Defense Posture
	
	  -Phase Out Foreign Military Bases
	
	  -Dismantle Military Alliances
	
	  -End Invasions & Occupations
	
	•Disarmament
	
	  -Conventional Weapons (reduction / elimination)
	
	  -Outlaw Arms Trade
	
	  -End Drone Use
	
	  -Phase out WMDs (nuclear, chemical, biological)
	
	  -Outlaw Weapons in Space
	
	•Create a Peace Economy
	
	  -Realign Military Spending (economic conversion)
	
	  -Establish an Economics of War Prevention
	
	  -Create a Stable, Fair and Sustainable Global Economy
	
	  -Democratize International Economic Institutions
	
	  -Create an Environmentally Sustainable Global Aid Plan
	
	•Reconfigure the Response to Terrorism
	
	•Increase the Role of Women in Peace and Security
		•Shift to a Pro-active Security Posture
		
		•Strengthen International Institutions and Regional Alliances
		
		•Reform the UN
		
		  -Reform the Charter
		
		  -Reform the General Assembly
		
		  -Reform the Security Council
		
		  -Provide Adequate Funding
		
		  -Increase Capacities for Conflict Forecasting & Early Management*
		
		  -Establish Pro-active Mediation Teams*
		
		  -Align with Indigenous Movements
		
		  -Reform Peacekeeping Operations*
		
		•International Law
		
		  -Strengthen the International Court of Justice
		
		  -Strengthen the International Criminal Court
		
		  -Encourage Compliance with Existing Treaties
		
		  -Create New Treaties*
		
		  -Establish Truth and Reconciliation Commissions
		
		•Support Nonviolent Intervention: Utilize Civilian Peacekeeping Forces*
		
		•Create a Nonviolent, Civilian-Based Defense Force*
		
		•Explore Alternative Approaches to Humane Global Governance
		
		  -Establish Principles of Humane Global Governance / Explore Alternative Models
		
		  -The Earth Federation & The Earth Constitution
		
		  -Global Emergency* Assembly*
		
		  •Identify / Increase the Role of Global Civil Society and International NGOs
			•Establish a Culture of Peace
			
			  -Tell the New Story
			
			  -Acknowledge Change
			
			•Nurture Planetary / Global Citizenship
			
			•Spread and Fund Peace Education and Peace Research
			
			•Cultivate Peace Journalism
			
			•Utilize Religion as a Tool for Building Peace

5.0 Demilitarizing security

Our approach to demilitarizing security requires a rethinking of what makes us secure and alleviating our dependence on militarized approaches. We advocate for several essential strategies to move away from dependence on military intervention as a means to security. Many of these strategies are transitionary: shifting to a non-provocative defense posture, phasing our foreign military bases, dismantling military alliances, and ending invasions and occupations. Disarmament efforts are the backbone of this system component – thus we outline several rationales and strategies to support General and Complete Disarmament (GCD). Conventional, chemical and biological weapons, weapons of mass destruction, weapons in space, drones, and the arms trade are addressed here. As the present system is so deeply entrenched in the military-industrial-corporate-academic complex, we also address the challenge of transitioning to a peace economy. Here we identify strategies for economic conversion; creating a stable, just and environmentally sustainable economy; and democratizing international monetary institutions. Our system also supports the adoption of more effective nonviolent, demilitarized responses to terrorism. Finally, we conclude this section by highlighting the important strategy of increasing the role of women in peace and security decision making, planning and peacebuilding efforts.

5.1 Strategic Policy and Action Recommendations

Transitionary Recommendations:
- Advocate all countries to shift to a non-provocative defense posture that requires the immediate phasing out of foreign military bases; dismantling military alliances; and ending all invasions and occupations.
- Encourage full compliance, from all countries, to existing disarmament treaties.
- Encourage individual, group, and institutional participation in divestment campaigns.

Transformative Recommendations:
- Make transition steps toward General and Complete Disarmament a fundamental requirement of all future disarmament treaties and agreements.
- Develop comprehensive strategies for economic conversion to aid the shift from a military economy to a pro-peace, sustainable economy.
- Assure full consideration of ecological and environmental security concerns in all security decision making (require short and long-term environmental assessments).
- Democratize international monetary institutions.
- Require a first response that is nonviolent, rooted in the rule of law, to all acts of terrorism (whether it be state sponsored terrorism or terrorism from below).
- Further increase the role and participation of women in peace and security decision-making and peacebuilding processes in compliance with UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820.

6.0 Managing conflict without violence

This component of our global security system comprises the tools and institutions necessary for assuring security and managing conflict nonviolently. Our strategy here seeks a balance between reforming existing institutions and establishing new ones. We acknowledge the weaknesses inherent in the United Nations system, especially its emphasis on collective security and the challenges of overcoming national self-interest. While these are tremendous, essentially deal-breaking obstacles, the UN is currently our primary form of global governance. At the same time, many functions of the UN, especially outside the security decision making bodies, provide hope. Thus, our strategy carefully considers several reforms to strengthen UN security functions. International law provides another key function in our system. While limited in enforceability within an anarchic nation state system, international law is an essential nonviolent tool for managing disputes and conflicts. To strengthen international law, we propose a handful of reforms to

improve the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the International Court of Justice (ICJ); explore possibilities for enforcing existing treaties and creating new ones; and recommend the establishment of truth and reconciliation commissions and other alternative justice / peacebuilding approaches. We also firmly acknowledge the limited functioning of a system comprised of nation states and identify strategies for greater participation of civil society in the functioning of our security system. Several civilian peacekeeping forces are already serving vital roles in managing conflict in zones of violence around the world. We also consider the potential of Gene Sharp's vision of establishing Civilian-Based Defense Forces (CBD). CBD is a bold, nonviolent alternative that can make invading a country very unappealing. It also supports a cultural shift in thinking about security and would require training all citizens in strategic nonviolent methods of resistance. Finally, we propose a few alternatives to current approaches to global governance and invite citizens to consider the essential principles and functions that should guide a preferred, peaceful, world order.

6.1 Strategic Policy and Action Recommendations

● Demand further study of United Nations reforms supporting a paradigm shift from collective to common security.
● Pursue democratic changes to UN Security Council composition and permanent member veto.
● Develop better conflict forecasting and management tools.
● Establish rapid response peacekeeping and peacebuilding teams.
● Increase UN funding commensurate with current military funding.
● Strengthen enforceability and increase compliance to international law.
● Increase the role of global civil society in peace and security decision making and action.
● Study, explore feasibility, model and design large scale training for Civilian-Based Defense (CBD).

● Explore and model new proposals for humane global governance.

7.0 Creating a culture of peace

Article 2 of the UN Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace observes that "progress in the fuller development of a culture of peace comes about through values, attitudes, modes of behaviour and ways of life conducive to the promotion of peace among individuals, groups and nations." These are the essential elements pursued by this component of our system. A culture of peace also helps us to establish the vision and guiding principles of the world we prefer and desire. In our engaged activism it is easy to direct our energy almost entirely toward resistance to that which we oppose; this is done at the expense of reflecting on and designing the alternatives. Frameworks previously explored, including common security, human security, ecological security and nonviolence comprise the ethical and normative criteria for assessing the alternative approaches and strategies described throughout this book. In this section we begin to identify and tell the "new story" and peaceful evolutions that have been emerging. These positive trends give us hope and inspiration that peaceful change is indeed possible. Educational efforts supporting planetary citizenship establish a foundation of interconnection and interdependence on our shared planet. Formal and non-formal peace education and peace research are primary tools for writing the "software" of our peace system. In this section we also introduce and advocate for responsible peace journalism; a proactive approach to news reporting that emphasizes illuminating the underlying causes of conflict, frames conflicts in terms of their complexity, and seeks to publicize peace initiatives commonly ignored by the mainstream press. Finally, we examine the role and potential of religion as a tool for peacebuilding – rather than a cause of violence.

7. 1 Strategic Policy and Action Recommendations

● Encourage adoption of local, state, and national plans of action supporting the achievement of the principles of the UN Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace.

● Support the development of curricula encouraging understanding of planetary citizenship.

● Provide increased funding for peace research.

● Advocate for the universalization of peace education into all formal and non-formal settings and teacher training institutions.

● Support responsible media outlets that promote peace journalism.

● Get the word out on the "new story" that is emerging.

● Encourage religiously motivated peacemaking and peacebuilding.

8.0 Accelerating the transition: building the world beyond war movement

What we have outlined as the Alternative Global Security System is more than a concept; it lays out the foundation for World BEYOND War, a global, grassroots network of volunteers, activists, and allied organizations advocating for war abolition and the establishment of a just and sustainable peace. We follow a two-pronged approach of peace education and nonviolent direct action organizing to dispel the myths of war, educate about its alternatives, and advocate for structural and cultural change. The strength of our movement depends on having a diversity of support from people all over the world coming together for a singular cause: peace. To that end, over 500 organizations and 75,000 individuals from more than 170 countries have signed our Declaration of Peace, pledging to work nonviolently for a World BEYOND War. Our decentralized, volunteer-run structure, consisting of World BEYOND War chapters and affiliated groups

around the world, is designed to facilitate global collaboration and bottom-up decision-making.

The World BEYOND War Declaration of Peace

I understand that wars and militarism make us less safe rather than protect us, that they kill, injure and traumatize adults, children and infants, severely damage the natural environment, erode civil liberties, and drain our economies, siphoning resources from life-affirming activities. I commit to engage in and support nonviolent efforts to end all war and preparations for war and to create a sustainable and just peace.

Sign the Declaration of Peace at
www.worldbeyondwar.org/individual

In building a movement for war abolition, our work addresses the entire institution of war, setting us apart from past models that opposed only specific weapons or a particular war on the grounds that it isn't being run well or isn't as proper as some other war.

8.1 Coalition-Building

Our holistic approach prioritizes multilateral coalition-building, or "fusion organizing." This involves building cross-sector collaborations with those that ought to oppose the military industrial complex due to its widespread social and ecological impact: environmentalists, the faith community, ethicists, public health advocates, mental health professionals, economists, journalists, historians, labor unions, civil libertarians, internationalists and world travelers, and good government groups. Additionally, there are opportunities for partnership with proponents of measures that could be funded if war dollars were re-allocated, such as advocates for

education, healthcare, housing, arts, science, renewable energy, and infrastructure reform. This broad-based coalition work aims to overcome a common issue in activist circles of working in "single-issue silos." AGSS offers a unifying language wherein different social movement organizations can align, without losing their organizational or movement identity.

8.2 Peace Education Programs

Peace education is one prong of our two-step approach to change-making. Education is a critical component of an alternative global security system and an essential tool for getting us there. Our programs educate both about and for the abolition of war. World BEYOND War offers numerous tools and resources for engaged learning. Our educational resources are designed to be distributed widely to popularize support for war abolition. To that end, we work with volunteers in our network worldwide to organize World BEYOND War book clubs, discussion groups, film series, and guest lectures. Our website, WorldBeyondWar.org, serves as a free information hub for the war abolition movement. It houses militarism maps, charts, graphics, talking points, articles, and videos to help people make the case that wars can, should, and must be abolished. We also offer online courses, a free educational webinar series, a Speakers Bureau, and "Study War No More," a free online study and discussion guide that accompanies AGSS. Bolstering our educational efforts is our global billboard project. Funded primarily by small-dollar donors, our roadside billboards, bus shelter posters, and subway advertisements amplify the war abolition message in the public eye.

8.3 Nonviolent Direct Action Campaigns

Our strategic war abolition campaign is broken down into short-term and intermediate advocacy goals, understood as partial steps along the way towards replacing 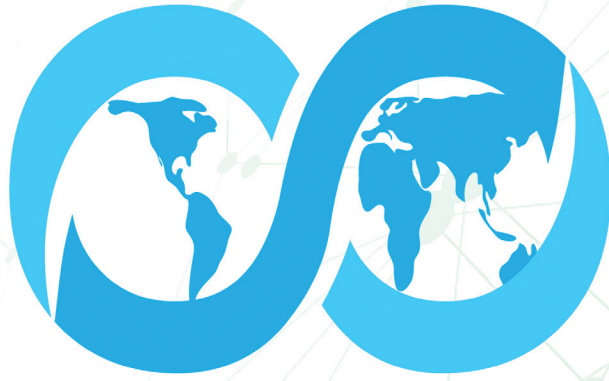the war system. These goals are accomplished through nonviolent direct action organizing campaigns, which include weapons divestment, counter-recruitment, close bases, and global justice. These campaigns operate in tandem to our peace education programs, serving both as tools for policy change and continued education and awareness-building. As a hub for educational campaign materials, organizing training, and promotional assistance, World BEYOND War teams up with activists, volunteers, and allied groups to plan, promote, and amplify pro-peace campaigns worldwide. Visit our website for a list of current campaigns.

9.0 Conclusion

War is always a choice, and it is always a bad choice. It is a choice that always leads to more war. It is not mandated in our genes or our human nature. It is not the only possible response to conflicts. Nonviolent action is a more effective choice because it defuses and helps resolve conflict. But the choice for nonviolence must not wait until conflict erupts. It must be built into society: built into institutions for conflict forecasting, mediation, adjudication, and peacekeeping. It must be built into education in the form of knowledge, perceptions, beliefs and values—in short, a culture of peace. Societies consciously prepare far in advance for the war response and so perpetuate insecurity. Why would humans continue on this path? Even pre-conflict prevention is more effective and less costly than post-conflict violence protection. In other words, preventing war is less costly than cleaning up after war. And that does not even include the human suffering and trauma that can be avoided.

Some powerful groups benefit from war and violence. The vast majority of humans, however, will gain a lot from a World BEYOND War.

For peace to prevail, we must prepare equally far in advance for the better choice. If you want peace, prepare for peace.

WORLD**BEYOND**WAR.org
a global movement to end all wars

A GLOBAL SECUR
AN ALTERNATIV

MANAGING CONFLICT
WITHOUT VIOLENCE

REFORM THE UNITED NATIONS
- Reform the Charter
- Reform the General Assembly
- Reform the Security Council
- Provide Adequate Funding
- Conflict Forecasting / Early
- Conflict Management

GLOBAL CIVIL SOCIETY / NGOS
- Pro-active Mediation Teams
- Align with Indigenous Movements
- Reform Peacekeeping Operations
- Civilian Peacekeeping Forces
- Civilian Based Defense

SHIFT TO A PRO-ACTIVE SECURITY POLICY

INTERNATIONAL LAW
- Strengthen the International Court of Justice
- Strengthen the International Criminal Court
- Encourage Treaty Compliance
- Create New Treaties
- Establish Truth and Reconciliation Commissions

STRENGTHEN INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS & ALLIANCES

GLOBAL GOVERNANCE
- Establish Principles of Global Governance
- Earth Federation / Constitution
- Global Emergency Assembly

CREATING A CULTURE OF PEACE

[SECURI]TY SYSTEM: [ALTERNATI]VE TO WAR:

RELIGIOUS PEACEMAKING

ESTABLISH A CULTURE OF PEACE
- Tell the New Story
- Acknowledge Change
- Planetary / Global Citizenship

PEACE RESEARCH

PEACE EDUCATION

PEACE JOURNALISM

DEMILITARIZING SECURITY

NONVIOLENT NORMS / ALTERNATIVES TO MILITARY INTERVENTION
- Shift to a Non-Provocative Defense Posture
- Phase Out Foreign Military Bases
- Dismantle Military Alliances
- End Invasions and Occupations

RECONFIGURE RESPONSE TO TERRORISM

CREATE A PEACE ECONOMY
- Realign Military Spending
- Establish Economics of War Prevention
- Create Sustainable, Fair, Just Global Economy
- Democratize International Economic Systems
- Create Environmentally Sustainable Global Aid Plan

INCREASE ROLE OF WOMEN

DISARMAMENT
- Reduce / Eliminate Conventional Weapons
- Outlaw Arms Trade
- End Drone Use
- Reduce / Eliminate WMDs
- Outlaw Weapons in Space

15