

The Canadian Peace Congress has a proud history working for world peace and disarmament, and anti-imperialist solidarity with all countries and peoples facing foreign interference, occupation and aggression. It was founded in 1949 in the aftermath of WWII and the beginning of the 'nuclear age' marked by the shameful A-bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The Peace Congress was one of the first organizations in Canada to actively campaign for comprehensive disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons.

We maintain that peace, not militarism and war, is the guarantor of democratic and human rights, and social and economic justice. Peace, international friendship and cooperation are essential pre-conditions to improve living standards, eradicate unemployment and poverty, illiteracy and disease and to restore the health of the planet.

We share the view that our country must be a non-belligerent state, with a *truly independent foreign policy* based on disarmament and the peaceful resolution of conflicts. We oppose all attempts to make Canada a military power.

War and the militarization of the



The Peace Congress supports the Bolivarian Revolution in Venezuela and rejects US efforts to destabilize its economy

economy, membership in aggressive military blocs such as NATO & NORAD, and Canadian participation in wars of intervention, occupation and 'regime change' only serve the interests of powerful financial and military elites. We demand a reduction in arms spending, and that these funds be redirected to meet the social needs of the people, such as education, healthcare, housing, universal childcare, poverty reduction and environmental protection.

We also maintain that 'a better world' cannot be achieved through competition among imperialist states to seize resources and markets, and to plunder the wealth of other peoples. The Canadian Peace Congress defends the sovereign right of *all* nations and peoples to decide for themselves the type of economic and political system that serves their needs. We support the right of peoples to resist foreign invasion and occupation, and reject military interinterventions, illegal blockades and punitive economic sanctions that harm the people and intensify international tensions.

Instead, we call for the negotiated reduction of conventional arms, for strict adherence to all nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation treaties, and for the closing of foreign military bases. The Canadian Peace Congress is also opposed to Canada's participation in Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) System, which is part-and-parcel of the 'first-strike' strategy of Washington and is sparking a new round of the arms race.

The Canadian Peace Congress opposes unilateralism in world affairs. In our view, Canada should defend and uphold the founding principles of the United Nations Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the covenants of international law, and reject

all attempts to undermine their historical and current relevance.

We oppose terrorism in all of its forms, including state terrorism. The Canadian Peace Congress deplores extremism and opposes doctrines of hatred, revenge and retribution.



The Congress and its affiliates have mobilized across Canada to oppose the US-led 'proxy' war on Syria

We agree with all those who assert that the fundamental answer to terrorism is to eliminate poverty, ignorance and oppression in all of its forms.

As a full and active member of the World Peace Council, the Canadian Peace Congress shares its vision, mission and goals, and works closely with WPC affiliates around the world. At the same time, we believe that the effort to win a new direction for Canadian foreign and defence policy – one which sets our country on a firm path to peace, disarmament and social and environmental justice – *will only be achieved through the broadest unity-in-action of the peace movement, together with our allies in the labour, solidarity and other democratic movements.* **Peace is possible if the people unite and demand it.**

We Welcome Your Involvement & Support

There are many ways you can get involved and help to build our Congress:

◆ Join one of our local Peace Councils across the country. Contact us and we'll put you in touch with our activists in your city/region.

◆ If none currently exists, we invite you to set up a local Peace Council of the Peace Congress in your community. Contact our Executive and we'll work with you to get one up and running.

◆ We also invite and welcome national or regional organizations to affiliate directly to the Congress, as "Affiliate members". Contact us for more info.

◆ Individuals are also encouraged to join the Congress directly as "Associate members". This is the best option for those living in a community or region where currently there is no local Peace Council through which to participate.

◆ Donate to the work of the Canadian Peace Congress through our website, or by sending a donation to our main address.

◆ Sign up to our contact list to receive our statements and releases, and to learn more about our various campaigns.

For more information about the activities of our organization, ways to get involved and how you can support our work in your community or workplace, please contact us!

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About the Canadian Peace Congress

