Beat: Politics

War-Veterans and the International Community - Report of the Board

Peace-Conference hosted in Moscow

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Wisuschil - Media & Law - From April 26th to April 29th 2019 the International Conference "War-Veterans and the International Community - for Peace and Friendship in the World" took place in Moscow. For the first time, leaders and representatives of international public associations arrived in Moscow:

“Veterans for Peace“, “Global Network against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space“, “Scientists for Global Responsibility“, “Peace Council of Sweden“, “War Resistance League“, “Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament in Britain“, International Network of Engineers and scientists for social responsibility (INES), anti-military organizations, representatives of foreign churches, social institutions and women's organizations, veterans of the wars in Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan - from the USA, Sweden and the United Kingdom, Nepal and other countries of south - east Asia. The conference was held with the active participation and support of: “Union of Officers“, All-Slavic Union ICOO, VRYO Union of Officers, member of the Presidium of the All-Slavic Union and member of the PPS NPSR, Vladimir Sadkov, Molotov Club, Karelian organization “Veterans for Peace“ of other organizations.

As a result of the Conference, visiting foreign guests of Moscow, St. Petersburg and Crimea, organizing a number of events and meetings with representatives of public associations and ordinary citizens - representatives of foreign delegations accepted and made public in foreign media, their Statement - accepted there with interest and attention in certain circles of the public. It was sent recently to us, it was translated, taking into account the peculiarities of the translation, from English to Russian.

Statement: As an international delegation of 25 people, we visited Moscow, St. Petersburg and three cities in the Crimea (from April 25 to May 9). We came to learn, listen and - with the help of civil diplomacy - to build a bridge of friendship. Every day we participated in meetings with Russian journalists, activists of public associations, academicians, ordinary citizens and received first-hand information, a historical perspective. Russian people greeted us openly, with warmth and cordiality.

We came because we were worried about how Russia demonized Russia in the United States, and NATO´s provocations create military confrontation around the world, including threats to use nuclear weapons in America. After the collapse of the USSR in 1991, the United States and NATO surrounded Russia with their bases, the so-called "anti-missile" installations, increased "war games" (exercises) on the country's border, and their warships increased the number of military operations in the Black Sea.

The numbers do not lie. The population of Russia is only 144 million people, the average earnings are $ 400 a month or $ 13 a day. Their annual military budget is 60 billion and less. The US military budget - from 800 billion. More than eight hundred US military bases are scattered around the world. Russians refer to their country with such sincere and deep love, which is difficult for Americans to understand. This is love born of centuries of history, culture and religious beliefs. Love born in suffering and sacrifice in defense of their homeland.

On May 9, in St. Petersburg, on Victory Day, we joined the spirit of solidarity with 1.2 million relatives and those who went through the war of 1941-1945, through the defense of the territories of the former Soviet Union, when the Americans and Russians were still friends and rallied against the occupation and invasion of fascist Germany. (It is worth remembering that 28 million Soviet citizens gave their lives in the fight against the Nazis) Our statement is to put an end to the demonization of Russia, call off US / NATO warships from the Black Sea, stop the escalation of military preparations on the borders of Russia and build a bridge of friendship and diplomacy.

Signed by: leaders and representatives of organizations: “Veterans for Peace“, “Global Network against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space“, “Scientists for Global Responsibility“ and other organizations:

Dave Webb, Convener, Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space, Leeds, England - Leeds, England.

Bruce K. Gagnon, Coordinator, Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power, Brunswick, Maine - Brunswick, Maine, SSCA.

Subrata Ghoshroy, Board Member, Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space, Boston, Massachusetts - Boston, Massachusetts, USA.

The United States of America, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA.

Mary Beth Sullivan, Board Member, Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power, Brunswick, Maine - Brunswick, ME, SSCA

Rev. Bill Bliss, The Neighborhood of the United Kingdom of Christ, Bath, Maine - Maine, SSCH.

Lincoln Bliss, New York City - New York, SSCHA

Raymond Bliss, Freeport, Maine - Maine, SSSHA.

El Segundo, California - Cathleen R. Deppe, Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power Station, El Segundo, California.

Shreedhar Gautam, Secretary General, Nepal Council for World Affairs, Kathmandu, Nepal - Kathmandu, Nepal. Leslie Harris, Veterans for Peace, Flower Mound, Texas - Texas SSSHA. John Harris, Veterans for Peace, Flower Mound, Texas - Texas USA. Cindy Heil, Asheville, North Carolina, United States. Yosi McIntire Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space, St. Petersburg Augustine, Florida - St. Augustine, FL, USA. The Cuban Friendship Association, Global Network Against Pagliuca Augustine, Florida - St. Augustine, FL, USA.

Ipswich Massachusetts - Ipswich, Massachusetts, SSHA. Carrie Schuchardt, House of Peace, Ipswich Massachusetts - Ipswich, Massachusetts, USA. Alexander J. Walker, Veterans for Peace, El Segundo, California - El Segundo, California, USA World War II, United Kingdom, Gainesville, Florida, United States. Sally Warrick, Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space, Gainesville, Florida- Gainesville, Florida, USA. Prabhu Ray Yadav, Treasurer, Nepal Council for World Affairs, Kathmandu, Nepal - Kathmandu, Nepal.

This, albeit a short statement, confirms that there are forces in the United States and other countries that are aware of geopolitical threats - hanging over the world and Russia by the ruling circles of the United States and their allies. Up to the possibility of unleashing a nuclear war on the planet. The main thing that representatives of the foreign public, especially from the United States, took out of their trip to Russia is the understanding that Russia is not a threat to the United States, that it is necessary to move from confrontation with Russia and its demonization to a constructive dialogue, including with the participation of public institutions.

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