War Causes Climate Disruption, Climate Disruption Causes War.

Our organizations are launching a new campaign to address the significant and toxic connection between war, militarism, and fossil fuels. We call on all people, organizations, and elected officials to join us. Sign on here: https://forms.gle/rnsAvyrC6BrNDKqz9

The US military is the world's largest institutional consumer of fossil fuels and a contributor to global climate change[1]. In addition, all militaries around the world are exempt from the emissions reduction goals of the Paris climate agreement[2]. And those costs and impacts are not evenly distributed. Countries in the global north spend 30 times (3000%) more on their militaries than on climate action and environmental protection. And they are led by the United States which spends more than $1 trillion each year on its military, more than the next seven largest military budgets in the world, combined[3].

But it is not simply the existence of a fossil-fueled military industrial complex that concerns us. We see clearly that fossil fuel use in this age of climate disruption leads directly to war and militarized conflict, and vice versa. And we know that specific areas of conflict and war are at this very moment being fueled by the greed of corporations and governments to extract and burn fossil fuels:

- The first US gulf war in 1991 emitted 131 million tons of global warming pollution and was widely decried as a war for oil — something even US officials admitted at the time[4].
- The conflict between Russia and Ukraine began with disputes over shipments of fossil fuels to Europe, at times stoked or encouraged by the United States[5]. But the war between the two countries has become a full blown climate and environmental disaster, emitting more than 230 million tons of global warming pollution as well as water, air, and chemical pollution[6] Ukrainian activists have documented how Russia and other nations that rely on fossil fuel exports slide toward authoritarianism[7].
- Israel's genocide in Gaza emitted more than 32 million tons of global warming pollution. And the discovery of major natural gas fields off the coast of Palestine were a driver of the conflict[8].

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[1] https://www.motherjones.com/environment/2022/10/pentagon-climate-change-neta-crawford-book/
[2] https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/warfares-climate-emissions-are-huge-but-uncounted/
[3] https://www.nationalpriorities.org/campaigns/us-military-spending-vs-world/
[4] https://www.merip.org/1991/07/oil-and-the-gulf-war/
[5] https://www.osw.waw.pl/en/publikacje/osw-commentary/2018-06-18/nord-stream-2-divides-west
[6] https://peaceandplanetnews.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/PPN-15-sm.pdf
[7] https://razomwestand.org/en/article/how-oil-and-gas-revenues-fund-wars-and-violate-human-rights-new-report
[8] https://afsc.org/chevron-fuels-israeli-apartheid-and-war-crimes

- And now comes the Trump administration, which has proposed the [largest expansion of military spending](#)[9] *and* the [biggest expansion in fossil fuel extraction and export in US history](#)[10]. The regime's recent [lawless attacks on various boats in the Caribbean and Pacific](#)[11] are only preamble to what appear to be plans for all out war with Venezuela - a conflict which [they have already acknowledged centers on "seeking control of oil fields."](#)[12]

These are only examples, but they paint a clear and concerning pattern: **War fuels the climate crisis, while fossil fuels and climate disruption feed war. And Donald Trump is supercharging both, to the detriment of all people and communities around the world**. That includes here in the US where people face militarized police, the deployment of military and national guard forces in our communities, rising energy prices and a cost of living crisis, and a cascade of climate fueled disasters from fires to floods. These negative impacts [disproportionately impact frontline communities, including people of color, low-income households, and other vulnerable groups who are often already facing environmental injustices](#)[13].

We call on elected leaders to take action NOW:
- Cut the Pentagon budget by [roughly 10%](#)[14], and re-allocate the funds to healthcare, education, housing and climate action. Continue with reductions as a US world peace initiative reduces armed conflicts internationally.
- End all US fossil fuel subsidies, [valued at more than $350 billion](#)[15] [over a 10 year period](#), and invest that money in peace and clean energy.
- Require the US military to publicly document and report its emissions to the UNFCC, and produce a plan to reduce them 50% by 2030, and to 'net zero' by 2050 - in line with other US climate commitments.

Signed,

Sign on here:
(signers list will be updated periodically, last update Jan 9 2025)
- 198 methods
- Beyond Extreme Energy (BXE)
- Institute for Policy Studies (IPS) Climate Policy Program

- 350 Bay Area Action

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[9] https://www.cfr.org/expert-brief/will-trumps-big-beautiful-defense-spending-last

[10] https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2025/mar/06/big-oil-investigation-congress-republicans

[11] https://www.thenation.com/article/world/trump-venezuela-pentagon/

[12] https://www.newsweek.com/trump-admin-plan-seize-venezuela-oil-10991857

[13] https://www.climaterealityproject.org/frontline-fenceline-communities

[14] https://www.sanders.senate.gov/press-releases/sanders-initiative-to-cut-pentagon-by-10-secures-half-of-the-senate-democratic-caucus/

[15] https://oilchange.org/publications/paying-for-climate-chaos-us-subsidies-fossil-fuels/

- 350 Conejo / San Fernando Valley
- 350 Salem Oregon
- 350Hawaii
- Animals Are Sentient Beings, Inc.
- Between the Waters
- Church Women United in New York State
- CleanEarth4Kids.org
- Climate Crisis and Militarism Working Group of Veterans For Peace
- Climate Justice Alliance
- CODEPINK
- Concerned Citizen
- Earth Ethics, Inc.
- Fox Valley Citizens for Peace & Justice (Illinois))
- Healthy Ocean Coalition
- Las Vegas Veterans for Peace
- Long Beach Alliance for Clean Energy
- North American Climate, Conservation and Environment(NACCE)
- Nuclear Energy Information Service (NEIS)
- Oil and Gas Action Network
- Oil Change International
- Peace, Justice, Sustainability NOW!
- Port Arthur Community Action Network(PACAN)
- Progressives for Climate
- Protect Our Water, Heritage, Rights
- Sane Energy Project
- Save the Pine Bush
- Sisters of Mercy of the Americas Justice Team
- Solarize Albany
- sustaintahoe.org
- Terra Advocati
- The Enviro Show
- The People's Justice Council
- Third Act Virginia
- Veterans for Peace
- Veterans For Peace - Western North Carolina (099)
- Veterans For Peace Baltimore Phil Berrigan Memorial Chapter
- Veterans For Peace Chapter 69, San Francisco
- Veterans For Peace, San Francisco Chapter 69
- Werp Funds
- Womens International League for Peace and Freedom Milwaukee branch
- XR Pdx
- Youth United for Climate Crisis Action (YUCCA)
- Zero Hour