



Agréé Association Nationale de la Jeunesse et d'Éducation Populaire

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**MARCHING FOR PEACE – STOP THE WAR – STOP VIOLENCES
TO EXPRESS OUR WILLINGNESS TO LIVE IN PEACE
IN A WORLD OF SOLIDARITY, JUSTICE, BROTHERHOOD
LET'S WALK TOGETHER FOR PEACE ON SATURDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER 2016**

The aspiration of the peoples to live together in peace, in solidarity, justice and brotherhood, is huge. We are convinced that none of our differences of belief or affiliation to any philosophical, political, religious or even trade-union sensitivity represent an obstacle to the expression of this joint ambition.

We are appalled by the relentless increase of military expenditures, which have moved from \$1144 billion in 2001 to \$1773 billion in 2015¹. They stimulate a dangerous and immoral arms trade, while the UN budget for peace operations is only \$8.7 billion. Even more, the fight against climate change requires important resources, as well as the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

We are outraged to know that only 5% of the global military spending for 10 years would allow, according to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), to resolve the main problems of humanity (water supply, hunger, illiteracy, major illnesses...).

We are aware that war is always a failure. It leads to chaos and gives birth to monstrosities of which victims are civilian populations thrown out upon the roads of exile.

At a time when many political voices offer to increase from 40 to 60% expenditure on the production of new nuclear weapons in France, isn't it the right moment to state that our aim to see the development of a culture of peace² is incompatible with a new rise of nuclear weapons expenditure, in France and worldwide?

Finally, we are convinced that, when a war is developing, when military expenditures are increasing and peace is threatened, it is necessary to take action in order to obtain social, economic, cultural and peaceful policies inspired by both the Charter of the United Nations and the eight areas of the culture of peace defined by UNESCO², so as to build a world of justice, solidarity, brotherhood... of Peace!

That is why we are calling to participate to the **Peace marches** that will take place on Saturday, 24 September 2016, in many cities in France, organized by the "En marche pour la paix" (Marching for peace) Collective.

¹ Sipri in USD exchange rate for 2014

² See reverse the content of the culture of peace

WHAT IS THE CULTURE OF PEACE?

*"We the peoples of the United Nations,
Determined to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war..."*
Charter of the United Nations, 1945

As defined by the United Nations, **the Culture of Peace is a set of values, attitudes, modes of behavior and ways of life that reject violence and prevent conflicts by tackling their root causes to solve problems through dialogue and negotiation among individuals, groups and nations** (UN Resolutions A/RES/52/13: Culture of Peace and A/RES/53/243: Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace).

For peace and non-violence to prevail, we need to:

1- Foster a culture of peace through education

By revising the educational curricula to promote qualitative values, attitudes and behaviors of a culture of peace, including peaceful conflict resolution, dialogue, consensus-building and active non-violence. Such an educational approach should also be geared towards the following purposes:

2- Promote sustainable economic and social development

By reducing economic and social inequalities, by eradicating poverty and by assuring sustainable food security, social justice, durable solutions to debt problems, empowerment of women, special measures for groups with special needs, environmental sustainability...

3- Promote respect for all human rights

Human rights and the culture of peace are complementary: whenever war and violence dominate, there is no possibility to ensure human rights; at the same time, without human rights, in all their dimensions, there can be no culture of peace...

4- Ensure equality between women and men

Through full participation of women in economic, social and political decision-making, elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence against women, support and assistance to women in need, ..

5- Foster democratic participation

Indispensable foundations for the achievement and maintenance of peace and security are democratic principles, practices and participation in all sectors of society, a transparent and accountable governance and administration, the combat against terrorism, organized crime, corruption, illicit drugs and money laundering...

6- Develop understanding, tolerance and solidarity

To abolish wars and violent conflicts, we need to transcend and overcome enemy images with understanding, tolerance and solidarity among all peoples and cultures. Learning from our differences, through dialogue and the exchange of information, is an enriching process...

7- Support participatory communication and the free flow of information and knowledge

Freedom of information and communication and the sharing of information and knowledge are indispensable for a culture of peace. However, measures need to be taken to address the issue of violence in the media, including new information and communication technologies...

8- Promote international peace and security

The gains in human security and disarmament in recent years – including nuclear weapons treaties and the treaty banning land mines – should encourage us to increase our efforts in negotiation of peaceful settlements, elimination of production and traffic of arms and weapons, humanitarian solutions in conflict situations, post-conflict initiatives...

Source: UNESCO