DISCOURS EXPRIME LORS DU WORKSHOP N°6 LE 05 AOUT 2018 : Coupures dans les dépenses militaires au profit d'une vie humaine sereine et digne

WORKSHOP: 6. Cutback on Military Expenses to Realize a Peaceful and Decent Human Life

Under the Abe administration, defense budget has reached the record-high, while people's living continues to deteriorate. In order to realize secure, peaceful and just society, tax money should be spent to raise the level of social security and people's living, not to buy more weapons or support 6 big businesses. The participants will lean the relationship between people's life/economy and peace and security, and to broaden the basis of anti-nuclear peace movements.

I would like to express my opinion on this topic and on the french situation.

France had always given a lot of money for the military budget. But these last years, it's increasing, and because we have had recent terrorist attacks. In heads of young (like older) people the Army is beginning "loved" and "important". Because few people on the TV, few influential politicians, or during the *JDC*, the small day of "military service" for those over 16 years of age, are saying "We are not in security". Personally, I don't agree with that.

It's a paranoia that gets people to accept a lot of things. And the government uses the *Urgency State*, a transformation of laws, to arrest activist person.

Moreover, for me the real solution isn't with weapons and bombs, but above all with peace. For example, the origin and cause of terrorism are war. Civilians in Syria have suffered in the past because of the US government and have had too little food, water, etc. The war brought the terrorist, he came from a societal malaise, to settle him again by violence (except strict self-defence) would be a mistake. We can't give peace with war. It's our opinion with my friends, but it's hard to say that in my classroom. On top of that, our new Macron President wants (and started) to break our public sector, for example train, school, university, hospital, pension, ... We need money for that, not wars, not a bigger military budget.

So, we protest and fight us for another world. As Christine said, in recent months, we realized on the biggest strike in years and years. However, it still not achieved – but I HOPE AND CONTINUE!

Charlotte Démathieu, Comité 54 Sud