



June 20th 2012

Information

Today the UN Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio+20, started. Among others, global sustainable development in form of Green Economy will be on the agenda of the Heads of State. The question of sustainability is closely linked to the question of global justice and to peaceful coexistence of the people. The annual military spending of 1,7 trillion US dollars hinders the struggle for global justice and against poverty, malnutrition and hunger, and the underdevelopment of broad parts of the world.

We, a group of civil society organizations, are pointing out these shortcomings at and around the UN Conference in Rio.

Introducing the project „BreadTank“

In an demonstrative act on June 19th in the Favela Santa Marta in Rio, a symbolic tank out of bread was presented to the public. The mayor of Santa Marta said: “Words have been said enough, sustainability cannot be an empty word anymore but actions need to be conducted. Disarmament must be the number one priority.”

“Without disarmament there is no sustainability and justice. Therefore the reduction of the excessive military spending must be part of the agenda at the Rio+20 conference“, said Reiner Braun, Executive Director of IALANA.



After the presentation of the “BreadTank“ small fire arms, the deadliest conventional weapons, were destroyed.

In the picture to the right, Reiner Braun destroys a revolver with a hammer.

The „BreadTank“ will be marching at the demonstration at the Global Day of Action and will be placed in front of the UN conference location.



International Appeal “Disarmament for Sustainable Development”

The signatories of this appeal demand that the governments wholeheartedly address the neglected issues of disarmament, and resolve upon a global plan for disarmament at the Rio-Summit. The freed-up financial means should be used for social, economic and ecological programs in all countries. With the help of the signatures of great personalities from the civil society, the economy, politics and science – among them many Nobel Peace Prize Laureates – we want to use this appeal to make clear that the people suffering under war and hunger are united with one voice against the continuation of the present system that is humanly, ecologically and economically destructive.

The international appeal will be presented to a high official of the United Nations on Thursday, June 21st.

Rio mais 20

*Desarmamento para
Desenvolvimento Sustentável
Um apelo internacional*



Picture above: Extract of the flyer/poster of the international appeal „Disarmament for Sustainable Development“ which is being spread in Rio.

The international appeal can be viewed and signed at

<http://www.inesglobal.com/Disarmament-for-Sustainable-Development.phtml>



Side Events at the official conference and the People's Summit

At the official conference three side events are being conducted on "Disarmament for Development", "The future of food", and "Food, agriculture and conflicts – challenges for peace".

At the People's Summit IPB and INES are among the only civil society organizations addressing militarization and the question of peace as a precondition for sustainability and justice.



Daily updated pictures of the actions in Rio can be viewed at

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/lucaswirl/sets/72157630160008832/>

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