

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

15 April 2013



Global Day of Action on Military Spending



WILPF supports this campaign as part of our *Challenging Militarism* program and WILPF's overall aim of universal disarmament.

The Global Day of Action on Military Spending (GDAMS) raises awareness of global military expenditure. Each year in April the **Global Day of Action on Military Spending** coincides with the release of the *Stockholm International Peace Research Institute's (SIPRI)* annual figures on world military expenditures.

On this day people all over the world will again come together for the *Global Day of Action on Military Spending*. We have recently been inspired by the success of the *Arms Trade Treaty* which heralds a beginning toward reducing and controlling arms sales throughout the world. Meanwhile, news broadcasts regularly cover the deepening social crisis caused by ongoing and ever deepening austerity measures in so many countries, caused by overspending, corruption and greed. We are faced with a small, elite group of obscenely rich individuals as against an ever increasing number of people living in abject poverty, despite all the calls for the UN Millenium Development Goals to be realised by 2015.

In 2011, global military spending surged to US \$1.74 trillion. In Australia military spending is currently \$25 billion a year and rising. Given the crises facing the planet — economic, environmental, health, food— we must create a global movement to shift this money to human needs. There are millions of individuals who support this point of view. Over 80% of Australians don't want more of their taxes spent on the military.

ACTION : Share this notice with others

Visit the GDAMS website www.demilitarize.org

Join WILPF women in supporting a peaceful and just world. (contact us via email : wilpfaustralia@wilpf.org.au)