

Annual Report 2020

World BEYOND War is a global nonviolent movement to end war and establish a just and sustainable peace. We aim to create awareness of popular support for ending war and to further develop that support. We work to advance the idea of not just preventing or ending any particular war but abolishing the entire institution. We strive to replace a culture of war with one of peace in which nonviolent means of conflict resolution take the place of bloodshed.



World BEYOND War

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Message from David Swanson, Executive Director

In 2020, despite a disease pandemic and all the efforts of the war industry, World BEYOND War made great strides toward becoming the effective global movement of education and action it was created to be. We added a Canada organizer and a social media manager, bringing our staff to seven, while numerous volunteers picked up critical tasks.

World BEYOND War made use of the burst in online events and activism, running four very successful online courses for six weeks each, and holding countless webinars and "actionars." We built more chapters and added more affiliates in more parts of the world (18 chapters in 8 countries with 89 affiliates, and signers of our Declaration of Peace in 189 nations).

We advanced our divestment and anti-bases campaigns. Our chapters passed local resolutions and ordinances and influenced national policy discussions. We led and partnered in efforts that demilitarized local police. We were part of efforts



that moved various nations to block weapons shipments to the war on Yemen, and moved the U.S. Congress to end U.S. participation in that war -- an action that was finally accepted by President Joe Biden in February 2021 (though we would remain vigilant beyond then).

We published an improved Fifth Edition of our book *A Global Security System: An Alternative to War*, as well as a collection of poetry from around the world. We also published many of our books, guides, flyers, and fact sheets in numerous new languages, which has proven very useful in our expanding outreach. And we continued to speak to schools, civic groups, and online gatherings, consistently finding that virtually everyone can be moved in the direction of or all the way to supporting the abolition of war by the end of a discussion.

In 2020, our supporters, mostly very small donors, funded us at the same level as the year before, despite widespread economic hard times, but we spent more than we brought in. We're intent on growing, and indications in early 2021 are that our fundraising may catch up to and keep pace with our investing in peace. It will take ongoing hard work. Our activities are expanding exponentially. The new website we developed in 2020 at worldbeyondwar.org helps greatly in organizing the vast range of our activities, and -- at least for me -- in inspiring more.



Staff, Board of Directors, Advisory Board

Biographies and photos of all WBW staff, Board, and Advisory Board may be found on our website: https://worldbeyondwar.org/who

Staff

In 2020 we added two people to our staff: Rachel Small and Alessandra Granelli. Our #NoWar2018 Conference in Toronto opened up many opportunities for expansion into Canada, leading to the creation of several World BEYOND War Canada chapters, partnership with dozens of allied organizations in Canada, and collaboration on numerous Canada-specific campaigns. This rapid growth warranted the creation of a new position to take on this work, so Toronto-based organizer Rachel Small was hired as World BEYOND War's Canada Organizer, our first country-specific position. Our vision is to have hundreds of Country Organizers, so this will remain a hiring priority. Our second new staff member is Alessandra Granelli, who was hired as our Social Media Manager to improve our branding, develop a more strategic use of social media to amplify our campaigns, and expand our presence on platforms like Instagram and TikTok. Lastly, we created the position of Technology Director which was filled by Marc Eliot Stein who had been providing IT support on an hourly basis.



David Swanson

Executive Director



Marc Eliot Stein

Technology Director



Greta Zarro

Organizing Director



Alex McAdams

Development Director



Rachel Small

Canada Organizer



Alessandra Granelli

Social Media Manager



Phill Gittins

Education Director

Staff members

Executive Director: David Swanson — U.S. Organizing Director: Greta Zarro — U.S. Canada Organizer: Rachel Small — Canada

Education Director: Phill Gittins — UK

Technology Director: Marc Eliot Stein — U.S.

Development Director: Alex McAdams — Canada

Social Media Manager: Alessandra Granelli — Italy/Netherlands

Bookkeeper: Angel Reynolds — U.S.

Board of Directors: During the past year, we have added two people to our Board of Directors: Sakura Saunders, and Agneta Norberg, and six people to our Advisory Board: Yves Engler, Nina Turner, Helen Caldicott, Christine Ahn, Salma Yusef, and Christine Achieng Odera. We believe it is very important to internationalize both our Board and Advisory Board.

Board Members

Leah Bolger, President — U.S.

David Swanson — U.S.

Alice Slater — U.S.

Odile Hugonot Haber — U.S./France

Barry Sweeney — Italy/Ireland

Liz Remmerswaal Hughes — New Zealand

Agneta Norberg — Norway

Sakura Saunders — Canada

Foad Izadi — Iran

John Reuwer — U.S.

Gar Smith — U.S.

Donnal Walter — U.S.

Advisory Board Members

Mairead Maguire — Ireland

Kathy Kelly — U.S.

Maria Santelli — U.S.

Hakim Young — Afghanistan

Gareth Porter — U.S.

Ann Wright — U.S.

Medea Benjamin — U.S.

Johan Galtung — Spain

David Hartsough — U.S.

Patrick Hiller — U.S.

Christine Achieng Odera -- Kenya

Salma Yusef — Sri Lanka

Christine Ahn — U.S./Korea

Helen Caldicott — Australia

Nina Turner — U.S.

Yves Engler — Canada

Tamara Lorincz — Canada

Tony Jenkins — U.S.

Rivera Sun — U.S.

Dennis Kucinich — U.S.

Matthew Hoh — U.S.

Board of Directors



Leah Bolger

President



David Swanson



Alice Slater



Odile Hugonot Haber



Barry Sweeney



Gar Smith



Donnal Walter



Sakura Saunders



Liz Remmerswaal Hughes



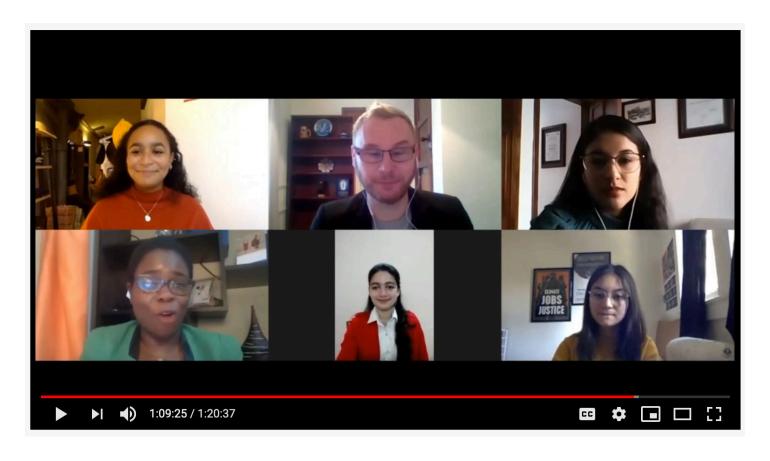
John Reuwer



Foad Izadi



Agneta Norberg



Coalitions and Partnerships

World BEYOND War is a member of numerous networks and coalitions, including: the Coalition Against U.S. Foreign Military Bases; the Divest from the War Machine Coalition; the Global Day Against Military Spending; the International Peace Bureau; the Korea Collaboration Network; the Poor People's Campaign; Overseas Base Realignment and Closure Committee (OBRACC); United for Peace and Justice; the United National Antiwar Coalition; the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons; the Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space; the Campaign to End the Selective Service System; the Demilitarize U.S. to Palestine Coalition; People Over Pentagon; Just Recovery Canada; No Fighter Jets Coalition; Canada-Wide Peace and Justice Network; Peace Education Network (PEN); Beyond Nuclear; Working Group on Youth, Peace, and Security; and the international network "No to War – No to NATO."

WBW frequently partners with allied peace and justice organizations such as the Rotary Action Group for Peace, Roots Action, CodePink, Veterans For Peace, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, the Black Alliance for Peace, and many others.

Education Program Highlights

Online Courses

World BEYOND War designed and facilitated <u>four 6-week on-line courses</u>:

- War Abolition 101 (Jan. 13 Feb. 23) -- the third time WBW offered this course.
- War Abolition 201 (Apr. 13 May 24) -- the second time offered by WBW.
- War and the Environment (July 6 -- Aug. 16) -- the first time offered.
- Leaving World War II Behind (Oct. 5 Nov. 15) -- the first time offered.

These courses raised almost \$40,000. The 400+ participants in these courses ranged in age (13 – 85+), educational background (from high-school students to PhDs) and context (Afghanistan, Bolivia, Cameroon, Kenya, Singapore, South Sudan, Europe, USA, and Canada, among others). Course evaluations suggest that the courses had a positive impact on participants, assisting them through increased capacity in terms of their knowledge and tools to educate about and for the abolition of war, their organizing and activism skills, leadership capacities, and their networks. Another intended benefit of these courses is that they result in increased collaboration and networking, and contribute to our work more broadly, including links to our organizing efforts. A notable example of this has been the development of a new chapter in Cameroon.

A Global Security System: An Alternative to War

In 2020, we released the fifth edition of our book, the AGSS. This edition contains revisions throughout and includes new topics that were not covered in previous editions: feminist foreign policy; infrastructures for peace; and the role of youth in peace and security. The audiobook is available for download from WBW's website, and on audible.com, Amazon, and iTunes. Many thanks to Tim Pluta, a World BEYOND War supporter & volunteer, for the narration, and TuTu Studios for the production. Abridged summary versions of the AGSS are available for free download from our website in multiple languages, including English, Norwegian, Dutch, Polish, Serbo-Croatian, Japanese, French, German, and Spanish, with many more translations to come. Thank you to countless volunteers who have worked with us to complete these translations.

Some Online Course Participants



Fulgence Twizerimana, Burundi (Teacher)



Sayako Aizeki-Nevins, USA (High school student)



Daniel Carlsen Pol, Bolivia (Founder, NGO)



Susan E. Cushman, PhD, USA (University Professor)



Jean E Steven (Climate Reality Leader)



Felix P. Danambutiyo Rokoyo (South Sudan)

Networks

In 2020, we laid the foundation for two new networks:

World BEYOND War Youth Network: A central tenet of this network is that it is co-created by, and led by, with, and for young people. The inaugural meeting took place in December. The plan is to start with a core group — to explore the purpose and related activities — before reaching out to more youth. The WBWYN feeds into a broader youth engagement strategy.

World BEYOND War Alumni Network: It is envisioned that the WBWAN will have the mission of organizing alumni of WBW online courses, increasing networking and collaboration opportunities among alumni, WBW, and other related partners. Like the WBWYN, this network will also be developed in collaboration with alumni. We will hold our first meeting in March 2021.

Knowledge Exchange and Transfer Activities

World BEYOND War and its educational work were featured at many international and national events in 2020. This was done via workshops, webinars, congresses, and conferences. Notable examples include: Geneva Peace Week (co-created, hosted, and facilitated two sessions, one on peace education, another on the role of youth in peace and security), United Nations (session on project-based learning for peace and development), the 7th International Asian Congress (panel on peace and conflict), and a keynote at Bradford University's annual peace seminar (Bradford is one of the oldest and largest peace departments in the world). In Bolivia, we helped to codesign and lead an on-line training on peacebuilding for 600+ government/civil society actors. In addition, we were asked to advise and/or contribute to several reports/research projects, including UNESCO's work on the 'Future of Education', International Alert/British Council's report on peace education in formal schools, Quakers' work on peace, and Our Shared World (a coalition of 80+ organizations in the UK looking at SDG 4.7).



Education Collaborations

2020 included the development of important relationships with key players. A notable example is Rotary. WBW's Education Director Phill Gittins was invited to be part of the leadership team which organized the first Rotary Global Conference on Peace. This was a <u>24-hour conference</u>, with over 100 speakers, 40 sessions, across three conference zones. Phill created, hosted, and spoke at 3 different panels, including the opening plenary which included high-profile speakers such as the Rotary International President. Building on this, he was invited to lead workshops and be a keynote at two other Rotary global conferences. World BEYOND War and Rotary Action Group for Peace now co-host a weekly webinar, called Youth Voices. We are also working together on a first-of-its-kind peace education and peace action project that is planned to start in June 2021.



Organizing Around the World

2020 was a year of growth and increased engagement for the global World BEYOND War network. Because of our existing nature as a decentralized online-based network with remote staff and experience with digital tools like webinars, we were able to easily adapt to organizing amidst the pandemic. Organically, we grew into a new role as a go-to hub to provide remote digital organizing support to other peace and justice organizations worldwide. We leveraged our skills and resources to amplify the work of others during this time, offering the use of our 1000-person Zoom meeting room, providing Zoom technical support for webinars, hosting online petitions and actions through our Action Network account, and providing free website design and hosting.

We built websites for organizations and networks, including the Florida Peace & Justice Alliance, the Canadian No Fighter Jets Coalition, and the Rohi Foundation in Cameroon, among others. We built out our events listings as a centralized resource for posting and finding anti-war/pro-peace events around the world. We provided online meeting facilitation support for coalitions we're a member of. We hosted 40+ webinars in partnership with other organizations on topics such as AFRICOM, the war on Afghanistan, debunking World War II myths, peace and permaculture, and much more. Thousands of people have participated in these online sessions. We also launched a self-paced free online Organizing 101 training, which provides participants with an introduction to strategic campaign planning, harnessing the media, coalition-building, intersectional movement-building, and more.

Conference

World BEYOND War hosts an annual global #NoWar conference. We change locations each year to highlight anti-war struggles in different regions of the world. In 2020, we helped to coordinate a NoCANSEC Coalition with dozens of Canadian and international allies in the lead-up to what was intended to be a weeklong #NoWar2020 Conference in May 2020 in Ottawa, Canada coinciding with CANSEC, North America's largest weapons expo, which brings together 12,000+government and military officials and weapons industry reps from 55 countries to Ottawa each year.

In the lead-up to #NoWar2020 and CANSEC, we started a #CancelCANSEC letter-writing campaign calling for the cancellation of the trade show stating that "Weapons dealers should not risk the health of the people of Ottawa in order to market, buy, and sell weapons of war, endangering the lives of people around the world with violence and conflict." 7700+ letters were sent to the five targets of the campaign - Canadian Prime Minister Trudeau, Defence Minister Sajjan, Foreign Affairs Minister Champagne, Ottawa Mayor Watson, and CADSI President Cianfarani. World BEYOND War and our allies also ramped up our media work, with a series of press releases, sign-on letters, social media graphics, op-eds, and letters to the editor to amplify the cancel CANSEC message.

In March 2020, the announcement was made that CANSEC was indeed cancelled due to the pandemic. At the same time, our demands were picked up by national news outlets, amplifying our pressure on CADSI to discontinue its weapon shows. In light of the cancellation of CANSEC and the ongoing pandemic, we hosted three days of online webinars, instead of an in-person #NoWar2020 conference. The sessions, which attracted hundreds of participants from around the world, included Mary-Wynne Ashford's nonviolence workshop, a virtual open mic, and panels on how to shut down a weapons expo and economic conversion. #NoWar2020 was a sneak preview in anticipation of the full #NoWar2021 conference, which has now also shifted online due to the continuing pandemic.



We're continuing collaborations with Canadian and international allies in the NoCANSEC coalition as we plan for <u>#NoWar2021</u> in June 2021, which will be a virtual interactive global conference experience and counter conference to CANSEC 2021. We're drawing attention to the fact that CANSEC is a symptom of a larger problem – Canada's and the world's complicity in the global arms trade and the institution of war.

#NoWar2021 will bring together key allies to not only assist Canadian efforts to #CancelCANSEC but also to share expertise from similar campaigns worldwide in the global struggle for war abolition. Panels, discussion groups, workshops, and training sessions will cover a range of topics, such as: how to shut down a weapons expo, weapons in space, the global arms trade, war's environmental footprint, divestment, creative activism, nonviolent civil resistance, and more.



#NOWAR2021 VIRTUAL CONFERENCE: JUNE 4-6, 2021

From Weapons Fairs to War Zones: Unraveling the War Machine



https://nowar2021.worldbeyondwar.org

Chapter Highlights

Currently, World BEYOND War has tens of thousands of members across 189 countries worldwide who have signed onto our Declaration of Peace, including over 660 organizational pledge signers. We coordinate 18 chapters in 8 countries and maintain partnerships with 89 affiliates around the world. COVID didn't stop our chapters from organizing. Our new California and Cameroon chapters were both founded during the pandemic. Below are a few highlights from some of our chapters' activities in 2020.

Asheville, NC, USA: The chapter started the year off with an in-person event at the Pack Memorial Library in Asheville in January, followed by a webinar viewing party in February focused on World BEYOND War's book, A Global Security System: An Alternative to War (AGSS). The chapter also hosted a webinar featuring WBW's Executive Director David Swanson, who shared the process of passing a city council ban on militarized policing in Charlottesville, VA and how Asheville could follow suit. In September, chapter coordinator Laurie Timmermann was invited to give a series of Peace Hour presentations for the online Co-Creators Convergence Zoom Room, which was held as part of the <u>UP Convergence 2020</u>. These seven Peace Hour segments are posted on YouTube. Laurie was also featured on WPVM 103.7 FM A Better World broadcast. In November, Asheville for a World BEYOND War joined local groups in Asheville, including Veterans For Peace, Democratic Socialists of America, and the Sunrise Movement, to form a new coalition under the banner of Reject Raytheon to mount an opposition to the proposed Pratt & Whitney/Raytheon jet engine parts plant sited on 100 acres gifted by Biltmore Farms outside of Asheville. On behalf of the chapter, Laurie presented verbal and written comments to the Buncombe County commissioners on November 17, opposing the plant and the associated \$27 million in county tax waivers. The new Reject Raytheon coalition organized a protest and "die in" in memory of Yemen war victims on December 9. The coalition also had several letters published in local newspapers as part of its continuing efforts to oppose the plant.

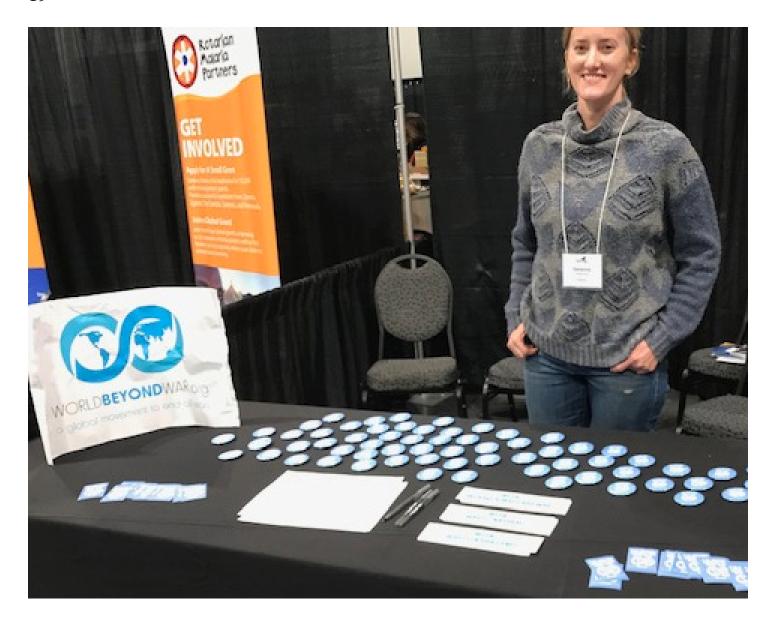
Asturias, Spain: The chapter created English audiobook versions of World BEYOND War's books, *A Global Security System: An Alternative to War* (AGSS), and the *Peace Almanac*, and translated the AGSS into Spanish. The chapter also initiated contact with Chilean peace activists, and hosted 2 webinars to discuss establishing the first WBW chapter in South America. The chapter also collaborated

with Veterans For Peace Spain to translate and disseminate educational information to the public regarding U.S. military expansion in Spain.

Berlin, Germany: The Berlin chapter was very active throughout 2020. The chapter participated in the Rosa Luxemburg Conference in Berlin on January 11 and booked an info stall there to hand out WBW material, which was then followed by the Luxemburg/Liebknecht demonstration on January 12. In March, the chapter managed the website for an initiative to oppose the Defender 2020 NATO War Rehearsals on Russia's Border, publishing the call to action in both German and English. The letter garnered nearly 7,000 signatories from around the world and was delivered to the Embassy of the Russian Federation in Berlin. The chapter participated in numerous actions in Berlin throughout the year, including a virtual Easter Peace Event on April 11, Stop Killer drones events on May 11 and October 9, an August 8 commemoration of the bombings of Hiroshima/Nagasaki, the International Uranium Film Festival from October 15-18, a "Unblock Cuba"

protest on December 12, a weekly "Hands Off Venezuela" protest, and many more. The chapter also published numerous articles, letters, and web campaigns, including a "Letter from Berlin: International Solidarity and the Corona-crisis! Call for a Global Ceasefire," "An Open Letter to Stop the Demonization of Russia," and "An International Statement of Solidarity with the Anti-Racist U.S. Rebellions." Looking ahead to 2021, the chapter is co-organizing a World BEYOND War billboard campaign in Berlin with the message "Nukes are now illegal! Now get them out of Germany." to coincide with when the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons enters into force.





California, USA: The California chapter informally began in the early days of the COVID-19 lockdowns of April 2020, with a bimonthly online book club meeting. In July, the statewide chapter formally organized with Robert McKechnie and Darienne Hetherman as Chapter Co-coordinators. Chapter members have since been gathering online on the first and third Thursdays of the month for book club and activism discussions. The chapter's campaign focus is to pass a California Peace Budget Resolution to move money from militarism to human and environmental needs. Chapter book club discussions have been organized and led by chapter member Ross Heckmann; participants have read and discussed World BEYOND War's publication A Global Security System: An Alternative to War, as well as Valarie H. Ziegler's book The Advocates of Peace in Antebellum America. In addition, members have participated in The Peace Flag Project, a global peace art project conceived and organized by chapter member Runa Ray; the first installment of the project was put on exhibit at City Hall in Half Moon Bay, California.



California chapter member Runa Ray's Peace Flag installation

Cameroon: The new Cameroon chapter was started by Guy Feugap, after he completed World BEYOND War's online courses. Most recently, members of the WBW Cameroon chapter visited Bertoua, in the eastern region of Cameroon, to visit the Center for the Promotion of Women Entrepreneurship of L'association Femmes pour la Promotion du Leadership Moral (FEPLEM), which also works with WILPF Cameroon. The chapter met with refugee women and girls, victims of the conflict in the Central African Republic, who are working to integrate into the community and learning skills such as reading and writing in French. The chapter is supporting educational efforts like these to ensure social cohesion and reduce tensions between communities and enable these women and others to become ambassadors for peace in their communities.

Florida, USA: The year began on a high note with a visit by WBW Co-founder and lifelong peace advocate, David Hartsough, who visited Florida as a guest of the Florida chapters. David gave a series of presentations around the state and almost 300 people attended his events in The Villages. His presentations and example inspired many and added to the membership and email lists of the chapters. However, given the pandemic, the three Florida chapters - Naples, Fort Myers, and Central Florida - largely collaborated together this year in organizing and promoting online webinars and campaigns. The Central Florida chapter hosted monthly Zoom meetings with a diversity of guest speakers covering a range of topics, from nonviolent civilian peacekeeping to nuclear weapons. The Fort Myers chapter held a socially distanced event at the Seminole Chickee Hut to celebrate the International Day of Peace in September. In collaboration with other groups like CODEPINK, the Florida chapters launched the Florida Peace & Justice Alliance, a statewide effort to facilitate increased collaboration between peace-oriented organizations across Florida.

Fairfield, CT, USA: The chapter focused on education this year, learning through books, webinars, films, and first-hand experiences. The chapter partnered with the local Quakers to create a display for the International Day of Peace, and distributed yard signs. The chapter also created a "Little Free Library" focused on peace that contains assorted books, including WBW's. To commemorate the bombings of Hiroshima/Nagasaki, the chapter sponsored a film screening and discussion of The Vow from Hiroshima. Looking ahead to 2021, the chapter is planning a Zoom peace & music festival, and a Move the Money municipal resolution and divestment campaign, among other activities.



Ireland: The chapter kicked off on June 8th with a virtual open house and subsequently, established a monthly meeting time which later became weekly. The chapter decided to launch a <u>five-part online conversation series</u>, starting January 10, 2021, so the latter half of 2020 was focused on planning the events. The chapter has also established a social media presence on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

Japan: Japan for a World BEYOND War is currently coordinated by KAMBE Ikuo in Nagoya City, Aichi Prefecture in partnership with Joseph Essertier. The chapter kicked off 2020 with a New Year's Party in January to discuss WBW goals for the coming year and meet other members. Taking appropriate precautions in light of the COVID pandemic, the chapter participated in weekly demonstrations every Saturday against the new U.S. military base construction in Henoko and Takae, Okinawa, Japan. In partnership with other local activists, Kambe also organized a Henoko concert in the form of a live performance on the street in front of the Mitsukoshi Department Store in Sakae where the weekly demos against the Henoko and Takae bases are held. The chapter also participates in monthly street protests on the 19th of each month to mark the day (September 19, 2015) that the Japanese government violated Article 9 of Japan's constitution with the adoption of the "Legislation for Peace and Security" (known by activists as the War Law because it gave the government legal cover for engaging in collective self-defense, disregarding the fact that opposition parties and many citizens are against engaging in wars under the banner of the unconstitutional notion of "collective self-defense"). The chapter reached out to citizens with banners such as "Spend the military and Henoko budgets on the coronavirus," and "Scrap nuclear power plants." On August 8, the chapter memorialized the 75th year since the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki

with a <u>commemoration in Nagoya</u>. Kambe is also a prominent voice standing up for women's rights and artistic freedom, in response to threats against the artistic memorialization in Aichi Prefecture of uncomfortable facts in Japan's war history, in particular the comfort women history (the women in Japan's colonies that were sex trafficked as a reward to Japanese soldiers). Kambe is a leading activist standing up for freedom of expression to make sure this history is told.





New Zealand: World BEYOND War's Aotearoa/New Zealand chapter coordinator, Liz Remmerswaal, was as busy as ever this year. Liz's activities included representing World BEYOND War at the International Women's Day, joining the Peace Foundation's International Affairs and Disarmament committee, speaking on a WBW webinar about "preventing activist burnout," joining CODEPINK's China Is Not Our Enemy campaign committee, and running a workshop on "Creating a Ministry Of Peace" at the Social Movements, Resistance and Social Change Conference in Wellington. Liz teamed up with Annette Brownlie from the Independent and Peaceful Australian Network (IPAN) to form the Pacific Peace Network and together organized a Cancel RIMPAC webinar with representatives from New Zealand, Australia, Guam, the Philippines, and Hawaii. In conjunction with the webinar, Liz organized a local Cancel RIMPAC action, which garnered local media attention. To commemorate Hiroshima/Nagasaki Day, Liz organized an action in partnership with two local mayors and a local peace group. Throughout the year, Liz's work was covered many times by local and national press, including a feature story about the presence of soldiers in the Dannevirke Christmas parade. In 2020, Liz also launched a radio show that highlights the work of nationally prominent peace activists. Looking ahead at 2021, Liz is planning a peace film festival, campaigning for a national Ministry of Peace, and creating a "Garden for Peace" with the support of the Hastings Mayor and a \$1000 grant.

South Georgian Bay, Canada (Pivot2Peace): 2020 began with a focus on education, and preparation for the #NoWar2020 conference in Ottawa. More than twelve of the chapter's members have taken War Abolition 101, as well as numerous other WBW courses including War Abolition 201, War and the Environment, Organizing 101, and Leaving WWII Behind. As the year unfolded the chapter participated in a number of pandemic-safe actions including:

- two Canada-wide <u>protests of the federal government's planned fighter jets</u> <u>purchase</u> both covered by the local press
- four additional local fighter jet protests the chapter had a consistent presence, once a month, outside of the local MP's office
- a Peace Pledge Drive for International Peace Day on September 21 outside the federal building in the downtown core
- a <u>Remembrance Day Celebration</u> at the Cenotaph, focused entirely on peace. The chapter handed out white poppies to all, gave three brief speeches, laid a unique red and white poppies wreath (designed and created by one of the members) and sang together. The chapter had pre-arranged its ceremony with the Legion so that the traditional one would be in the morning, and the chapter's in the afternoon. Both were covered by the local press.



Upper Midwest, USA: Formerly known as the Twin Ports chapter, the chapter went virtual and expanded its geographic reach to the Upper Midwest region including Wisconsin and Minnesota, due to the pandemic. In September, the chapter held a virtual "Celebration in Music" for the UN International Day of Peace. The program was co-sponsored by Northland Grandmothers for Peace, Sister Cities International-Duluth, and Veterans For Peace, Chapter 80. The program included both local and global music artists. Highlights included the participation of the Krasnov family from Petrozavodsk, Russia and a song from the international group Singing for Change. The presentation was viewed live by over 80 people from around the area and the country.

Vancouver, Canada: The chapter kicked off 2020 by organizing actions to support Kashmir and participating in a rally on February 29. On April 27, the chapter hosted an online event to discuss the film The World Is My Country with director Arthur Kanegis. On June 10, the chapter hosted an online event featuring World BEYOND War advisory board member Tamara Lorincz, which was attended by Langley City Councilors. On June 27, the chapter hosted a virtual open house where Dr Mary-Wynne Ashford talked about the negative impact of nuclear weapons. In attendance were the Mayor and Councilors from the Langley area along with supporters in Langley. The June events were part of the chapter's campaign to get the town of Langley to divest from the arms industry and fossil fuels and to support the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). To celebrate the International Day of Peace on September 21, the chapter hosted a well-attended online event featuring speakers John Foster and Allie Rougeot. On November 23, Langley City approved a resolution supporting the Mayors for Peace and ICAN city appeals to support the TPNW. After this success in Langley, the chapter started the process of getting other cities in the Metro Vancouver region to support the ICAN cities appeal and will continue work on this in 2021. Throughout 2020, the chapter also participated in other actions and events like the No Fighter jets campaign and the process for rebuilding a coordinated Canada-wide peace and justice network, both of which will continue in 2021.

Victoria, Canada: World BEYOND War Victoria co-sponsored the Bells for Peace Campaign, an effort to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki by having bells ring around world at the moment, local time, when the bombs dropped. Chapter members worked with people in faith communities. Among the venues where bells rang were Christ Church Cathedral in Victoria, where the Queen attends services, and the Peace Tower in Ottawa. With

the assistance of World BEYOND War, chapter members also presented a well-attended <u>Hibakusha Remembrance webinar</u>, featuring Tsugio Kurushima, Bill Geimer, Dr. Mary-Wynne Ashford, Dr. Jonathan Down, and youth activist Magritte Gordaneer. This event was sponsored by World BEYOND War Victoria, Victoria Multifaith Society, and the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War Canada.

PeaceFactory Wanfried, Germany: Peace activists launched PeaceFactory Wanfried as a chapter of World BEYOND War after attending the #NoWar2019 Conference in Ireland. In 2020, they founded the PeaceFactory as a registered association. The association chose this name because it wants to build a regional, supra-regional and international meeting centre in a former factory building in the small town of Wanfried. It is to offer space for education and for building personal relationships of peace activists. Wanfried is located in the middle of Germany, directly on the former West and East German border. Representatives of the two peace initiatives from the region, the Peace Forum Werra-Meißner and the Peace Initiative Hersfeld-Rotenburg, as well as Reiner Braun from the International Peace Bureau Office, joined the new association. The PeaceFactory organized a peace march with the regional initiatives on Anti-War Day in September in the district town of Eschwege. It also organized public protest rallies with the regional peace initiatives before the adoption of the federal budget, which provided for a renewed



Protest against the planned increase of the military budget in Wanfried

increase in arms spending. Peace activists organized manifestations in five towns in the district; there had not been anything like this for many years. The PeaceFactory also organized a Black Lives Matter action with the **Initiative Black and White** in Wanfried as well as in Africa with members of the initiative Black and White Ghana and the youth centre Sunyani Youth Development Association (SYDA). In Ghana, there were fears of violence in connection with the December elections. SYDA and the Black&White initiative tried to counter this by organizing a peace march. Members of the PeaceFactory contributed to the financing of the action. In several joint webinars, the initiatives mobilised together for the peace march, including a lecture by a Liberian who had fled to Ghana from the civil war in his country. He reported on the horrors of war he had experienced and warned: "We have experienced in Liberia how quickly you can get into a war, and how difficult it is to get out of it again." In connection with the peace march, the need to build sustainable peace work in Ghana and the establishment of a Ghana chapter of World BEYOND War were discussed. To this end, the PeaceFactory Wanfried organized several webinars with Black&White, SYDA, WBW's Organizing Director Greta Zarro, and various guest speakers. The PeaceFactory wants to strengthen its regional anchorage but also use its contacts in Africa to strengthen peace efforts there.



Peace march in Sunyani, Ghana, supported by PeaceFactory

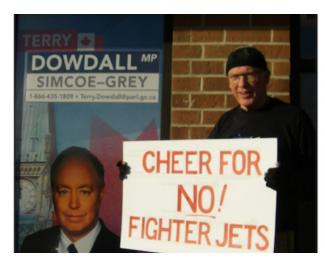
Canadian Organizing

Our Canada organizing blossomed in 2020. Building off of the successful 250-person #NoWar2018 Conference in September 2018 in Toronto, we forged partnerships with dozens of Canadian organizations, facilitated the creation of new campaigns and coalitions, and started World BEYOND War Canada chapters. In August, we hired Rachel Small as Canada Organizer, based out of Toronto, as our first country-specific organizer with a dedicated focus on Canadian campaigns.



Here are some highlights of what our Canadian peace-building efforts have accomplished in 2020:

- WBW played a key role in organizing three coast-to-coast days of action in <u>July</u>, <u>October</u>, and December. Despite the pandemic, we joined forces with allies and mobilized hundreds of people at dozens of MP offices to call for the cancellation of Canada's planned purchase of bomber jets, and oppose Canada's escalation of hostilities with China.
- Over a thousand people from across Canada tuned in live for online events we hosted including an <u>online rally for peace</u>; a <u>Defund War webinar</u>; <u>a panel</u> featuring MPs and Senators to break the parliamentary silence on Canada's planned warplane purchase; a <u>Zoom to Free Meng Wanzhou</u>; and trainings for our members and affiliates.
- WBW co-launched the new No Fighter Jet coalition to oppose Canada's \$77 billion plans to buy bomber planes and an accompanying campaign website: https://www.nofighterjets.ca





- WBW coordinated the founding of the brand new Canada-wide Peace and Justice Network, bringing together dozens of groups across the country so we can undertake new collective projects and amplify each other's efforts to end violence and build peace.
- WBW also began work in new coalitions to: 1) end the war in Yemen and stop sending Canadian arms to Saudi Arabia, 2) investigate and oppose Canada's plans to purchase its first ever armed unmanned drones, 3) pressure the Canadian government to sign on to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, and 4) map out possibilities for a campaign to push for Canada Pension Plan divestment from the war machine.
- Thousands of people took action online with us to email Prime Minister Trudeau and all Canadian MPs to: 1) say no to fighter jets and invest in a just & green COVID recovery, 2) cancel CANSEC, 3) urge Canada to join the nuclear ban treaty, and 4) support the ongoing Farmer's March in India.
- WBW has also helped facilitate the growth of and supported our Canadian chapters in taking on new education projects, hosting many events, and carrying out campaigns to divest from the war machine and build peace. For example, the Vancouver, Canada, chapter of World BEYOND War is advocating for divestment from weapons and fossil fuels in Langley, British Columbia, (something World BEYOND War has had success with in other cities), and successfully passed a resolution on nuclear abolition in Langley, in light of the recent achievement of the 50th nation ratifying the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.





Billboards Project

In 2020, billboards and other large advertising remained a great source of excitement and outreach. In February we put up a big billboard in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, U.S. When the Democratic Party Convention was planned there in August, we put the billboard up again with the message "3% of U.S. Military Spending Could End Starvation on Earth." The convention ended up being largely virtual, but we held an on-site / online event with a Congress Member and other notables, and generated a great deal of media attention.

In November 2020, we put up a large billboard in St. Louis, Missouri, U.S., thanks to a generous donation from School Sisters of Notre Dame Central Pacific Province.

In late 2020 we made plans for billboards to go up in January 2021 in Berlin, Germany, and around Puget Sound in Washington State, U.S. In both cases, these billboards celebrated the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and urged the removal of nuclear weapons (from Washington State, and from Germany).

We've also begun advising our local chapters and affiliates on billboards that they've been putting up on their own. We've put together a PDF guide to getting the most out of your billboards, and a PowerPoint presentation on the same topic. These resources are available at https://worldbeyondwar.org/billboardsproject

Divestment Campaign

The <u>Divestment Campaign</u> is headed up by Organizing Director, Greta Zarro. World BEYOND War & CODEPINK co-manage decentralized, distributed organizing campaigns across the U.S. under the umbrella of the Divest from the War Machine Coalition. The goal of these campaigns is individual, institutional, and governmental divestment from weapons manufacturers, military contractors, and war profiteers. We facilitate the creation of city-specific "Divest Coalitions" to carry out localized divestment strategies, providing remote support to activists to run campaigns in their communities. We're currently managing Divest Coalitions in Philadelphia and Chicago, to advance municipal-level weapons divestment, as well as supporting allied groups' divestment campaigns in other locations. The Vancouver, Canada, chapter of World BEYOND War is advocating for divestment from weapons and fossil fuels in the town of Langley, British Columbia.

In 2020, we co-hosted a free <u>5-part divestment webinar series</u> in collaboration with CODEPINK. The series provided an introduction to divestment, and covered topics such as debunking divestment myths, creating a research team, and coalition-building, to equip activists with the skills to start up their own campaigns.



No Bases Campaign

The No Bases Campaign is headed up by Board President, Leah Bolger.

OBRACC: Much of the work done by the No Bases campaign this year was in collaboration with the Overseas Base Realignment and Closure Coalition (OBRACC), headed up by American University professor, David Vine, PhD, author of "Base Nation" and "The United States of War." OBRACC has members from several areas including a former Congressman, academics, retired military officers and a think tank director. The work of OBRACC takes the "inside" approach, identifying allies in Congress, drafting legislation and lobbying.

Support letter: OBRACC sent a letter outlining their support of Our Common Wealth 670 (a nonprofit organization of activists in the Marianas Islands) to the Department of Defense and the U.S. Navy, stating their concern about the Navy's failure to conduct thorough scientific research to determine the damage to local wildlife and animals. The letter also urged the Navy to cancel any planned weapons testing or training exercises until the concerns of Our Common Wealth 670 have been addressed, and it can be guaranteed that future activities will not cause direct, indirect, or cumulative environmental harm in the Marianas Islands.

NDAA (National Defense Authorization Act): We suggested that OBRACC draft legislation similar to that of last year calling for a comprehensive survey of all U.S. foreign military bases including operation costs. Last year our proposal was picked up by Rep Ilhan Omar as an amendment to the NDAA, which passed in the House, but was taken out by the Senate. The OBRACC members determined that it was too late in the year to try again, and that we would instead work hard to build Congressional support for the next NDAA.

OBRACC & AFRICOM: OBRACC had a very fruitful meeting with members of the Black Alliance for Peace (BAP) which has a campaign called "U.S. Out of Africa," that aims to shut down AFRICOM, the Pentagon's combined command for the continent. The number of U.S. military bases in Africa has rapidly increased in the last decade; there are currently 40 bases in 15 countries. Following the meeting, OBRACC decided to join BAP's efforts to shut down AFRICOM. Leah drafted a strategic plan for this effort, and sent the draft to the group for feedback. Following a meeting to discuss the plan, it became apparent that the group needed to refine the



mission and look again at how we might be most effective. Although WBW supports the efforts to shut down AFRICOM, we have since returned to the broad approach rather than such a narrow focus.

AFRICOM Webinar: WBW partnered with the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) U.S. Section, and BAP for a webinar on AFRICOM. The webinar featured WILPF women members from Nigeria, Kenya, Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Cameroon, and was enormously successful. Over 900 participants registered for the webinar, which was endorsed by more than 100 organizations. It lifted the voices of the women who were able to give first-hand accounts of the effects AFRICOM is having on their countries and identified many new allies.

Research Project: Last year OBRACC talked about finding a professional-level researcher to compile a list of bases for us to use for lobbying. The list would contain various factors such as cost, mission, environmental impact, etc., and would be a starting point for us in talking with Congressional members or Pentagon officials. World BEYOND War leveraged funds to support OBRACC's work by hiring Pat Deppen for this research assignment. Pat recently finished his master's degree in political science from Bristol University in the UK, and wrote his thesis about closing the U.S. bases in Germany. He also has experience with the activists in Okinawa. His proposal has been accepted and will begin his work in January 2021 following priorities set by David Vine and Leah.

Intern: WBW started the year off with the addition of an intern, Megan Beatty, a senior at St. Michael's College, and student of Board member John Reuwer. This is the first time the No Bases campaign has had an internship, and it was very successful on both sides. Megan worked on two projects: conducting research on the state of current no bases activism around the world to be entered into the Crowdsource document on David Vine's website basenation.us, and organizing an educational event. She originally intended to hold a live in-person event at St. Michael's College, however the COVID virus changed her plans. Instead she organized a webinar entitled "Colonialism and Contamination: Mapping U.S. Military Injustices on the CHamoru People of Guam." She moderated the webinar which featured excellent speakers and an audience of over 75. It also resulted in the identification of new contacts for the No Bases campaign for its future work.

Volunteers: Following Megan's internship, we took on two volunteers, Xeo Sterling and Tracy Williams, who picked up where Megan left off in her research of current global activism.

Mariana Islands: Greta and Leah had a meeting with women activists from the Mariana Islands (the same women for whom the OBRACC letter was written), who are working to close a live firing range. We discussed the many ways WBW can help them, and connected them to a coalition that Board member Liz Remmerswaal has formed—The Pacific Peace Network. Liz organized a webinar hosted by the Pacific Peace Network which featured activists from Guam, Hawaii, New Zealand, Australia and the Philippines.

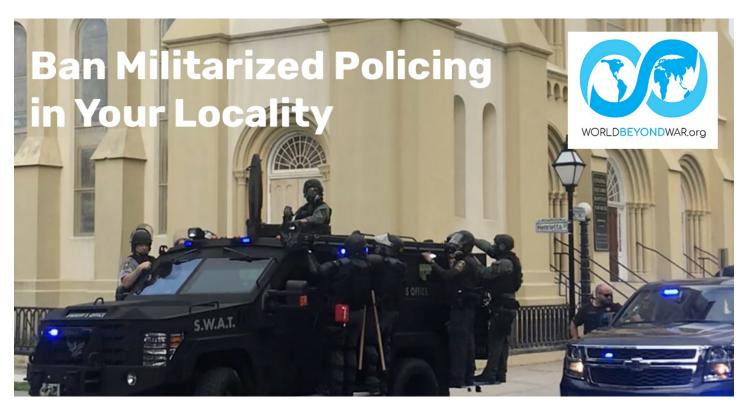
Website: As part of the complete overhaul of the WBW website, the No Bases Campaign section is being updated to make it more dynamic and eye appealing, to reorganize it in a way that is easier to find specific information, and to create an archive for articles specific to the bases. A major feature of the new page will be an interactive world map. The user will be able to click on a country or a region which will zoom in so that you can see exactly where the bases are geographically located, as well as tags and links to the database (which Pat Deppen is working on) and links to pertinent articles about that specific country and/or base in our archive. Leah has been working with Katelyn Entzeroth, a volunteer, and staff member Marc Eliot Stein. Leah hopes that WBW will eventually become the preeminent source for information about U.S. foreign military bases.

Demilitarizing Police

In 2020, anti-racist protests and activism, particularly in the United States, gave life to longstanding demands to demilitarize police departments, stop the U.S. government from providing war weaponry to police, stop police departments from obtaining war weaponry from any sources, and block police from obtaining militarized training from the U.S. government, foreign governments, or private companies. Evidence suggests that war weaponry leads to more police killings, but not a reduction in crime.

World BEYOND War put together a <u>collection of resources</u> for local campaigns to demilitarize police. WBW's Executive Director David Swanson organized a campaign that successfully lobbied the City Council of Charlottesville, Virginia, to ban the acquisition of weaponry from the U.S. government or militarized training from anywhere.

World BEYOND War is working with allies on similar campaigns in Portland, Oregon, and other cities, educating the public on the topic via webinars and media interviews, and pressing the U.S. government to do its part by ceasing to unload war weapons on police.



https://worldbeyondwar.org/policing

Media and Technology

Podcast

Led by new staff member Marc Eliot Stein, we continued with our podcast series in 2020. Episodes are published on a monthly basis and have featured discussions on topics such as youth activism on five continents, "This Is America", crises in Iran and Bolivia, hiphop & activism, and the pandemic. The podcast is intended to focus on the human and personal side of peace activism, and to feature captivating conversations with real-life stories about the kinds of work World BEYOND War is involved in all over the world. The episodes are available for free at: https://worldbeyondwar.org/podcast

Website

From January to September 2020, we carried out a complete overhaul of worldbeyondwar.org, our primary website. This began with a staff committee to make top-level decisions about priorities, followed by several months of work by Marc Eliot Stein and volunteer Connor Doherty. The new website was launched in September 2020, with regular updates and enhancements following.

We produced a bold, attractive, sleek and modern design that balances all the different activities, offerings and information WBW has to offer. Among the features of the new website:

- A compact header at the top of the page including an extensive "mega menu" designed to make it easy for a visitor to find anything on the site quickly.
- A fully consistent color palette and font set to ensure that WBW always presents a consistent look. As part of this effort, we also came up with a new and reworked logo using our official colors and fonts, and made sure to propagate the new logo to all our areas beyond the website, including social media, wearables and printable materials.
- New front page features including an improved carousel for announcements and
 events, as well as a designed section near the top of our front page that attempts
 to succinctly present the full case for ending war.

Social Media

This report compares the first six months of 2020 with the last six months after the hiring of Alessandra Granelli as Social Media Manager in July.

During the last six months of 2020, the social media strategy focused mainly on <u>Twitter</u> first, with the aim to get its engine started. Our strategy is focused on one channel at a time, to test what works and what doesn't, and then use those results to adjust the strategy accordingly.

For the social media strategy, we started creating more visual content and increased the use of videos. We also made WBW's social media channels less U.S./North America focused and more international by sharing, for instance, international news. Consequently, we have started seeing an increase in international followers, a trend that will hopefully continue with the aim of achieving a balance between U.S.-based followers and international ones.

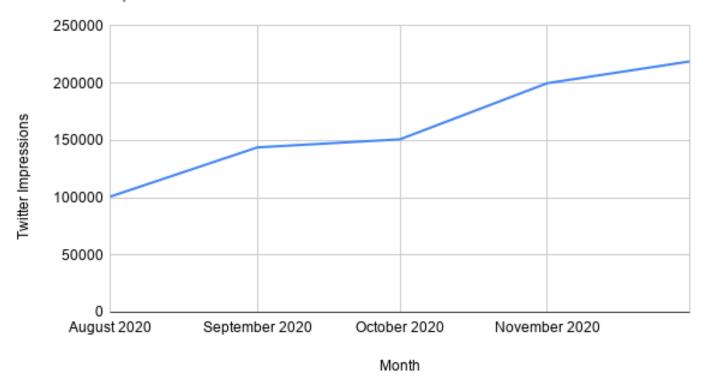
We also started posting on <u>LinkedIn</u> regularly. LinkedIn may be a more tricky channel for us given the type of communication we do -- but over time, the channel could also become a very good place to connect with researchers, academia, and people working in international institutions and NGOs. We recently started focusing on <u>Instagram</u> more too, as a second step of the strategy with the hope to achieve the same good results we have now on Twitter.

On Twitter our follower growth increases steadily, from around 60 new followers per month to around 150 new followers per month. From the average 70K impressions per month before July, we now have an average of 200K impressions per month. The engagement grew from an average of 2K per month to an average of over 5K per month.

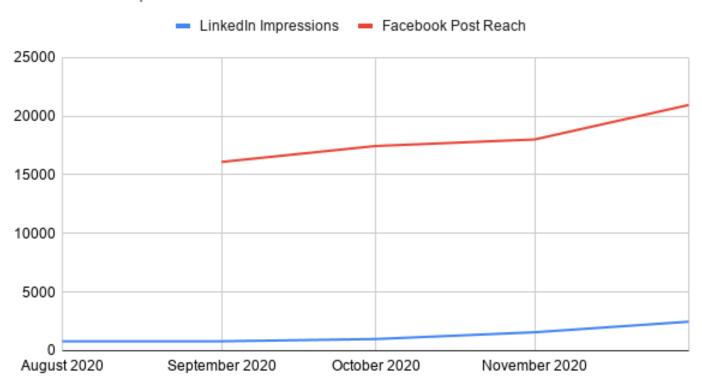
On LinkedIn, in the first six months of the year we had 10 impressions / month, now we arrived at 2480 impressions / month. Reactions went from 0 to 61 per month.

Facebook's results remained positive but didn't change a lot compared to the first six months of the year, although we had a slight increase in impressions. After Instagram, we will start focusing on Facebook (Q2 of 2021) with the aim to increase growth there too.

Twitter Impressions vs. Month



LinkedIn Impressions and Facebook Post Reach



Translations

In 2020, World BEYOND War joined Translators Without Borders and arranged to have various materials translated into numerous languages. This included the individual and organizational peace pledges (completed and available online); numerous flyers and fact sheets (completed and many of them laid out and posted online, the rest in the works); the summary version of the AGSS book (completed and awaiting graphic design); and the full texts of the Peace Almanac and the AGSS (not yet completed).

In addition, we translated the messages on numerous shirts and other products in our store into several languages and created new online stores for them.

We also made increased use of language interpreting for our online events.

We expect new developments in this area in the years ahead.



(日本語) グローバルな安全保障システムの 構築:戦争をなくすために

World Beyond War 簡略版 A Global Security System: An Alternative to War (AGSS)の要旨は、戦争をなくすための 核心 となる。戦争システムを構成するものを取り払 い、打ち壊し、あらゆる人が安心して暮すことの できる 平和への礎をきずくとなるものである。 あらゆる戦争を なくすための包括的な行動計画を AGSSは提案する。



(srpskohrvatski) KAKO IZGRADITI **GLOBALNI SISTEM BEZBEDNOSTI: ALTERNATIVA RATU**

Rezime knjige " Globalni sistem sigurnosti: Alternativa ratu" pokreta Svet IZVAN rata Ovde ćete naći rezime naše knjige "Globalni sistembezbednosti: Alternativa ratu" (AGSS), koji podrobno navodi stubove rata koji moraju biti uklonjeni da bi se čitava gradjevina Sistema rata srušila.



(Français) COMMENT BÂTIR UN SYSTÈME DE SÉCURITÉ GLOBAL **ALTERNATIF À LA GUERRE**

Un résumé du livre de "World Beyond War" Une alternative à la guerre Donc à travers ce document, vous trouverez un résumé de notre livre: "Un système de securité global alterna if à la guerre" (SSGA), qui décrit en détails





Italiano Español Português Русский 한국어

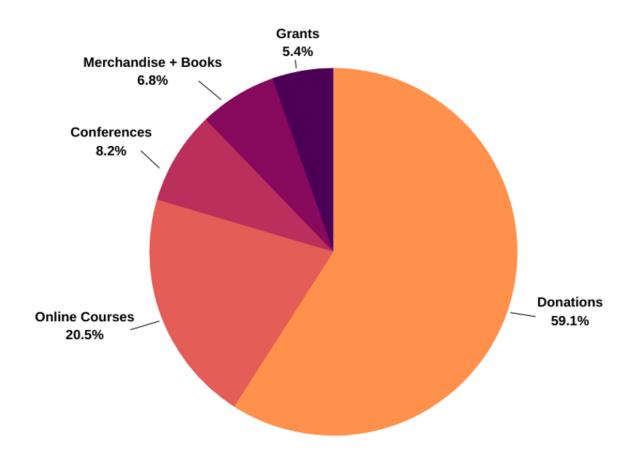
राश्ना। 日本語. Française Deutsch English

Development

2020 was an incredibly difficult year for many organizations and individuals. The pandemic brought with it a collective concern of economic insecurity and yet, despite this and the overall loss of some of our revenue because of it, World BEYOND War was able to accomplish an incredible amount of work, and experienced its greatest organizational growth yet.

Income

2020 INCOME



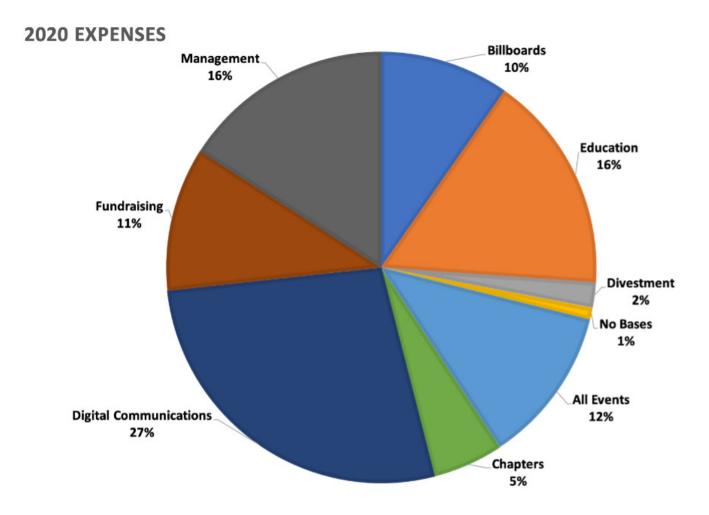
World BEYOND War was the proud recipient of a \$6,500 grant from the Barrett Family Foundation, \$2,500 grant from the Jubitz Family Foundation for our work in 2020, and just recently another \$2,500 for our work in 2021, a \$2,000 grant from the Charles and Mary Crossed Foundation, a \$1,500 grant from Home Rule Globally, and a \$500 grant donation from the Santa Fe Community Foundation—all of which supports our 2020-2021 programming. With sustainable and on-going support from foundations, World BEYOND War is able to more clearly project revenue for upcoming years.

This is critical to expanding global programs and strategic efforts for abolishing war. The majority of World BEYOND War's income is from individual donations (\$105,307). Another is in grants (\$9,500). Additional income comes from online course registrations (\$36,822), chapter dues (\$550), conference tickets (\$12,273) and sponsorships (\$2,497); and sales of books, t-shirts, scarves, etc. (\$12,331). Total 2020 income: \$188,533.

Individual donations to World BEYOND War are both one-time and recurring. The average monthly income from recurring donations in 2020 was \$3,963. The number of recurring donors at the end of 2020 was 153. World BEYOND War is extremely grateful to every volunteer and donor particularly this past year. Although we don't have room to thank them all, and many prefer to be anonymous, we greatly appreciate the support of all our supporters.

In 2020 we were supported by Home Rule Globally, Jubitz Family Foundation, James R. and Mary Jane Barrett Foundation, Arc of Justice, Voices for Creative Nonviolence, Alms Committee of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Helen Alexander, Robert Barkley, Medea Benjamin, Amy Blumenshine and Michael Troutman, Barbara Briggs-Letson, Stephen Clemens, Carol Crossed, Charles and Mary Crossed Foundation, Christopher Fite, Gabriela Iaz, Charles and Angeliki V. Keil, Kathy Kelly, Kit Kitterage, Robin Lloyd, Wayne Martinson, William McLaughlin, Krishen and Geeta Mehta, John Melrose, Arthur Milholland, Josh Mitteldorf, Thomas Muller and Rebecca Fisher, John Reuwer and Laurie Gagne, Daniel Riehl, Deb Sawyer, Peter Selby, Walter Singer, Shau Sumar, John Vechey, Donnal Walter, Roger Waters, Nancy Weaver, Paddy Welles, and many others.

Expenses



Our total expenses for 2020 were \$247,345, 70% of which was for employee compensation. It should be noted that our staff has grown to include seven staff members plus a bookkeeper and researcher. Though this is far and away our biggest expense, unlike most non-profit organizations, all of the staff work remotely so we have no office expenses. All of our employees have been hired part-time which has enabled us to hire more people, and prudent use of volunteers and interns has kept this budget item as low as possible. Our exceptional staff is the reason why WBW has grown so rapidly.

In addition to costs related to specific activist campaigns, we typically use our conferences and other events as fundraisers as well—which offsets some of the overall expenses. However, because of the pandemic, we had to cancel this past year's conference which led to a loss of some revenue we typically count on. Our No Bases campaign is led by WBW Board President, Leah Bolger, who volunteers her time which accounts for the low expense of this category.



a global movement to end all wars