

April 26, 2021

### **Orgs Condemn United States' Ranking in Global Military Spending**

Once again, the United States tops one of the world's most infamous rankings lists— top military spenders. In 2020, the United States' spending on the military and nuclear weapons made up 39% of the global total, according to an annual report released today by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. This is the third year in a row that the United States' spending has increased.

As 38 organizations that work in the United States, we are continually disappointed by the members of Congress and presidents that choose to purchase weapons and wage warfare at the expense of our communities and our children's futures.

Our political leaders' militaristic foreign policy choices and blatant disregard for the domestic needs of taxpayers have fueled the growth of the bloated Pentagon budget year after year. In 2020, our nation faced crises ranging from a pandemic to disastrous wildfires, evidencing the urgent need for investment in public health and climate change instead of F-35 warplanes and new nuclear weapons. The misallocation of our resources into militarized spending has weakened our nation's ability to respond to the things that affect people's day-to-day wellbeing.

Even as it becomes increasingly apparent that militarized spending isn't the answer to today's global problems, the Biden administration proposed increasing the 2022 discretionary defense budget to a whopping \$753 billion. Members of Congress must do better. We call on them to significantly decrease spending on the military and nuclear weapons for FY2022 and to re-allocate that money into true national priorities like public health, diplomacy, infrastructure, and addressing climate change.

Signed:

+Peace

Alliance of Baptists

American Friends Service Committee

Beyond the Bomb

CODEPINK

Campaign for Peace Disarmament and Common Security

Center for International Policy

Christian Peacemaker Teams

Climate Crisis and Militarism Project of Veterans for Peace

Coalition on Human Needs

Columban Center for Advocacy and Outreach

Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, U.S. Provinces  
DC Dorothy Day Catholic Worker  
DC Peace Team  
Dominican Sisters of Sparkill  
East Lansing, University United Methodist Church  
InterReligious Task Force on Central American and Colombia (IRTF Cleveland)  
LP Indivisible  
Leadership Conference of Women Religious  
Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns  
Massachusetts Peace Action  
National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd  
National Priorities Project at the Institute for Policy Studies  
Outrider Foundation  
Passionist Solidarity Network  
Pax Christi USA  
Peace Action New York State  
Peace Education Center  
Pennsylvania Council of Churches  
Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association  
RootsAction.org  
Sisters of Mercy of the Americas – Justice Team  
The United Methodist Church – General Board of Church and Society  
Washington Office on Latin America  
Win Without War  
Women’s Action for New Directions  
World BEYOND War  
World Beyond War – Florida Chapters