

CAAT NEWS



JULY – SEPTEMBER 2019 • ISSUE 253

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CAAT WON!

ARMS SALES TO SAUDI RULED UNLAWFUL

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(3) whether there is an independent and funct

PLUS

Arms to Saudi Arabia **P6**

Shut down DSEI **P8-9**

Arms to Hong Kong **P12**

CAAT NEWS

JULY – SEPT 2019

Needless to say it has been a very busy time at CAAT! In June we saw the Court of Appeal's unprecedented decision to stop future arms sales to Saudi Arabia, following a historic case brought by CAAT. Thanks to absolutely all of you: we couldn't have done it without your support.

This September the arms dealers will be in London for the DSEI arms fair, and campaigners from across the country will be waiting for them! If you would like to get involved in resisting the arms fair then visit pages 8-9 for more information.

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Campaign Against Arms Trade

works to end the international arms trade. The arms business has a devastating impact on human rights and security and damages economic development. Large-scale military procurement and arms exports only reinforce a militaristic approach to international problems.

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UNLAWFUL!

UK ARMS SALES TO SAUDI ARABIA ON HOLD



CAAT's legal challenge to the UK government's decision to continue to license the export of military equipment to Saudi Arabia was successful!

On 20 June 2019 the Court of Appeal ruled that UK arms sales to Saudi Arabia for use in Yemen were unlawful.

In a historic judgment, the Court found that it was "irrational and therefore unlawful" for the Secretary of State for International Trade to have allowed the sale of UK-made arms to Saudi forces for use in Yemen without making at least some assessment as to whether or not past incidents amounted to breaches of International Humanitarian Law (IHL).

As a result of this decision, the Government must retake all decisions to export arms to Saudi in accordance with the law. Until this has happened it must stop issuing new arms exports licences to Saudi Arabia and its coalition partners, UAE, Bahrain, Kuwait and Egypt, for use in Yemen

This is a landmark decision, but this is not the end.

The Government has fought our legal action every step of the way, and will continue to do all it can to keep the weapons flowing to Saudi Arabia

It immediately said it disagreed with the Court of Appeal's judgment and would seek to appeal. On 9 July it was granted permission to take

the case to the Supreme Court.

It also applied for a "stay" to allow it to carry on with business as usual until any appeal is heard. The good news is that this was denied – so any new arms sales to Saudi Arabia and its coalition partners for use in Yemen remain on hold.

After more than four years of campaigning and legal process, we celebrate this historic verdict – and thank everyone whose action and support has helped make it possible to get this far. We've achieved so much:

The government has fought our legal action of the every step of the way, and will continue to do all it can to keep the weapons flowing to Saudi Arabia

The Government has disclosed that there were 57 applications for export licences under consideration at the time of the Court of Appeal ruling, so many millions of pounds of arms sales remain on hold.

UK arms are playing a central role in the conflict and are needed to maintain the bombing campaign. By stopping their sale we can help stop the war and increase the push for peace.

Ahmad Alghobary, Yemeni freelance journalist based in the capital Sana'a, Yemen:

"Today I am so happy. Today was a very significant decision by the Court of Appeal. Government's approach to arms sales unlawful. Question from me to #UK read outside Court of Appeal today. @CAATuk will do all it can to make the UK #StopArmingSaudi. Thank you so much. #Yemen."

And we're making it harder for arms companies like BAE Systems to secure further arms deals, scuppering its planned multi-billion-pound arms deal with Saudi Arabia.

In its annual report issued in March, the company stated, "The prevailing geopolitical climate has created an unavoidable delay in translating the March 2018 Memorandum of Intent... into a confirmed order" – and as one Whitehall source told iNews after the Court of Appeal verdict, "The truth is that there isn't much sign of the geopolitical weather changing any time soon."

Turn to page 6 to read more about the next steps and what we can do to make this count.

ARMS TRADE

SHORTS

ARMS FAIRS

Glasgow City Council has removed defence from the list of sectors that it is aiming to attract to Glasgow for conferences. This follows protests against the UDT arms fair, which was held in the city in 2018.

[Commonspace.com](#), 29/05/2019

Four activists who were found guilty of protesting against the DSEI arms fair in 2017 have taken an appeal against their convictions to the Supreme Court. The four formed a blockade outside the ExCel Centre in Docklands as it hosted the arms fair.

[Hodge, Allen & Jones](#), 01/05/2019



RUSSIA

Russian arms exports since the start of 2019 have totaled nearly \$6 billion, according to figures published by the Russia state arms company, Rosoboronexport.

[DefenceWeb](#), 11/06/2019



Credit Dmitry Terekhov / Source Flickr

CYBER WEAPONS

The head of the Serpentine Galleries, Yana Peel, resigned after the Guardian revealed that she is the co-owner of an Israeli cyberweapons company whose software has allegedly been used by authoritarian regimes to spy on dissidents.

[The Guardian](#), 18/06/2019

ART & SPONSORSHIP

German artist Hito Steyerl used her work in the Venice Biennale to call out Leonardo, one of the world's biggest weapons companies, for appropriating the name of Leonardo da Vinci. [ArtNet](#), 10/05/2019

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) military has announced a "strategic redeployment" from the port city of Hodeidah in Yemen. It has also announced a more limited "tactical retreat" elsewhere in the country. This follows speculation that UAE forces are trying to reduce involvement in Yemen.

[The Guardian](#), 09/07/2019

The United Arab Emirates has denied ownership of weapons found in Libya after a senior US senator demanded an investigation of reports that American-made missiles were seized at a base belonging to Khalifa Haftar, head of the Libyan National Army.

[Al Jazeera](#), 02/07/2019

ARMS COMPANIES

Raytheon and UTC aerospace have announced plans to merge. If the proposed merger happens then it will make it the second biggest arms company in the world.

[UTC.com](#), 09/06/2019

Saudi Arabia entered a joint venture with South Korean conglomerate Hanwha Group to produce weapons in the kingdom. This move comes at a time when the Saudi regime is focused on building its domestic arms industry.

[The National \(UAE\)](#), 01/07/2019

NATIONAL PAVILIONS AT DSEI 2017

This September will see the DSEI arms fair taking place in East London. It is one of the biggest arms fairs in the world. "National pavilions" at arms fairs host groups of companies from individual countries. Pavilions signify official support from those states, including high powered delegations.



NATIONAL PAVILLIONS WITHIN INSET

- | | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| → AUSTRIA | → GERMANY | → SLOVAKIA |
| → BELGIUM | → HUNGARY | → SLOVENIA |
| → BULGARIA | → ITALY | → SPAIN |
| → CZECH REPUBLIC | → MALTA | → SWEDEN |
| → DENMARK | → NETHERLANDS | → SWITZERLAND |
| → ESTONIA | → NORWAY | → TURKEY |
| → FINLAND | → POLAND | → UK |
| → FRANCE | → SERBIA | → UKRAINE |

Source: DSEI 2017 Official Event Guide

WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN CAAT'S STEERING COMMITTEE?



By Sawsan Bastawy

These days, there are only a small handful of organisations that meaningfully honour justice, accountability and democratic values. Campaign Against Arms Trade is one of them. That's why I'm proud to be on the CAAT Steering Committee.

Becoming a Steering Committee member is a great way of demonstrating practical solidarity with those experiencing human rights violations and

economic devastation resulting from the international arms trade.

As a Steering Committee member, you'll join a dedicated group of people with a range of expertise who are working to ensure that CAAT continues to build power. You'll be valued and supported, and given space to develop how your role as a Steering Committee Member takes shape.

For more information, please visit caat.org.uk/about/steering-committee.

WHAT NEXT

AFTER CAAT'S SUCCESS IN THE COURT OF APPEAL?

This is a significant moment, and should be a turning point in arms trade policy and practice. However, the next months will be crucial as the Government will fight every step of the way to continue selling arms to Saudi Arabia.

The Government has already obtained permission to appeal to the Supreme Court. In the meantime, the current ban on new arms sales to Saudi Arabia holds, as does the requirement on the Government to retake all of its previous licensing decisions, this time lawfully. CAAT believes that if the decisions are taken properly, then licences for equipment for use in the Yemen war would not be granted.

However, the International Trade Secretary's statement to the House of Commons shows that the Government doesn't accept the judgment. He emphasised that "changing the process as set out by the Court does not necessarily mean any of the decisions would be different." Transparency and ongoing scrutiny will be crucial to hold the Government to account.

- **Make sure your MP knows about the Court of Appeal's decision.** Ask them to write or speak to the new International Trade Secretary calling for Yemeni lives to be prioritised over arms company profits, and end all arms sales to Saudi Arabia and all UK support for the war in Yemen. caat.org.uk/unlawful
- **And find answers to the arguments we most frequently encounter at** caat.org.uk/saudi-faqs

Wider change is needed

We are frequently told how "rigorous" and "robust" UK rules on arms sales are. But this case – and the Government's response to it – makes it clear that the Government is not seeking to control arms sales. The UK government prioritises arms sales over the lives and human

rights of Yemenis and over its own commitments on arms controls.

There needs to be a real shift in UK foreign policy with human rights and sustainable development at its heart, rather than the profits of arms companies. The opposition parties at Westminster are united in calling for an end to arms sales to Saudi Arabia so a change in government might make some difference in this case, but wider change is needed.

Transparency and ongoing scrutiny will be crucial to hold the Government to account

September's DSEI arms fair (see pages 8–9), and particularly the Festival of Resistance on Saturday 7 September, is your chance to press for this wider change. DSEI is a publicly visible expression of the UK government's support for arms sales. Saudi Arabia, and other governments with bad human rights records, will undoubtedly be there, as will the major arms companies.

Background

Tens of thousands of people have been killed in the conflict in Yemen. Schools, hospitals, weddings, and funerals have been bombed and Yemen faces the world's worst humanitarian crisis. There is overwhelming evidence of repeated breaches of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) by the Saudi-led coalition in Yemen.

The UK is a major arms supplier to Saudi Arabia – and UK-made weapons, supplied with the support of the UK government, are playing a central role in the bombing raids. CAAT's legal case argues that the continued export of UK-made arms for use in the conflict in Yemen is in contravention of the UK's own rules on arms exports. These say that export licences should not be given when there is a clear risk that the items might be used in the commission of a serious violation of IHL.



Credit Darren Johnson

INTERNATIONAL ARMS SALES TO SAUDI ARABIA

“We will not be complicit in what is happening in Yemen.” These were the words in a statement from Italian union leaders. They were speaking in support of dock workers, who had refused to load electricity generators onto a Saudi Arabian ship with weapons on board in a protest against the war in Yemen.

It wasn't just Italy where arms companies were unable to have their cargo loaded. Within the space of a fortnight, two French

ships had to leave without weapons, following dockside protests by human rights groups. People are taking actions across Europe and beyond, and it's having a big impact on arms dealing governments and public opinion.

Across Europe more governments are taking action to curb arms sales to the Saudi

regime. This has taken a lot of work from campaigners across the continent. Lots has been done, but there is a lot more to do.

The arms industry is a global industry, with a global impact. Our resistance has to be global as well. That is why we work in support and solidarity with anti-arms campaigners around the world.

Across Europe more governments are taking action to curb arms sales to the Saudi regime. This has taken a lot of work from campaigners across the continent



BELGIUM

On 14 June, the Wallonais Conseil d'État (a top court) annulled 5 export licenses for arms sales to Saudi, which they had previously suspended in 2018. These include the gun turrets for Canadian armoured vehicles being sold to Saudi.

Earlier, in May, the presiding minister of the Walloon region suggested that they were likely to refuse arms sales to Saudi, and possibly suspend existing licenses, if they were likely to be used in Yemen.



DENMARK

In November 2018 the Danish government suspended arms sales to Saudi Arabia. In January it followed this up by blocking arms sales to United Arab Emirates due to its involvement in the war in Yemen.



GERMANY

The German government suspended arms sales to Saudi Arabia following the murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi in October 2018. This was strongly opposed by arms companies and others arms exporting governments, including the UK. In February 2019 the then Foreign Secretary, Jeremy Hunt, publicly lobbied the German government to reverse the ban. In March 2019 it announced that it would make exceptions to allow the sale of fighter jet parts for use in Yemen.



ITALY

In June, the Italian chamber of deputies voted to halt transfers of bombs and missiles to Saudi and the United Arab Emirates. The bill is not legally binding, i.e. not a law, but it is generally considered to be politically binding.

UNITED STATES



The US government is by far the biggest arms dealer in the world. It is a long-time supporter of the Saudi regime. Despite this, the Senate and House of Representatives have both supported a bipartisan motion calling for an end to US support for the Saudi-led war. This is likely to be vetoed by the Trump administration.

In September one of the world's biggest arms fairs plans to return to London.

DSEI is a "one stop shop" for the arms trade, where the biggest arms companies can rub shoulders with the world's worst regimes and sell them the most lethal weapons. Guns, bombs and missiles are on display, along with the ships, tanks and warplanes that fire them: a trade in death, facilitated by the UK government.

Together, we can stop it!

In 2017, rolling creative actions and blockades around DSEI disrupted the set up of the London arms fair, forcing the arms trade into the public eye. Will you help make 2019 even bigger?

Whether you can drop by for the day, a few hours, or the whole week; whether you're keen to hold a banner, organise a creative direct action, act as a legal observer, or make cups of tea for other activists, you can help stop DSEI.

You can make a difference!

Arms fairs have been successfully challenged by people power! The DPRTE arms fair has now been forced out of three cities – Bristol, Cardiff, and Birmingham – under pressure from protests. The 2008 Asia-Pacific Defence and Security Exhibition was cancelled due to "the cost of security". In 2019 Glasgow City Council promised it would never host another arms fair again.

Ordinary people have stood up to the might of the arms trade and won! Please join them!

If you would like to know more contact Siana and Kirsten in CAAT's events team events@caat.org.uk / Tel: 020 7281 0297

Or keep an eye out on the CAAT or Stop the Arms Fair Twitter (@caatuk & @StopTheArmsFair) and Facebook pages

DSEI 5 KEY FACTS

Number of companies exhibiting

1600 companies, including the world's ten biggest arms companies

Numbers of attendees

35,000 expected

Location

Exel Centre, Newham, East London.

VIP list

Military delegations have been invited from Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Egypt, Turkey and Israel, all countries with a poor record on human rights and involved in ongoing wars.

Sponsors

Top "Platinum" sponsors are BAE Systems and General Dynamics, both closely connected to the Trident Replacement Project.



STOP THE ARMS FAIR RESISTANCE



Campaigners planning their actions for 2019



Campaigners enjoying the sunshine, while blocking an arms trade vehicle

ARMS FAIR! STOP DSEI!



Finding out more about the issues

2-8 SEPT

JOIN THE STOP DSEI WEEK OF ACTION

Each day of the week of action is themed with a different issue that is linked to the arms trade. Put the dates in your diary, and drop us a line to get involved in supporting a working group on any of the following days:

- **Monday 2nd Sept:** Stop Arming Israel
- **Tuesday 3rd Sept:** No Faith in War
- **Wednesday 4th Sept:** No Nuclear
- **Thursday 5th Sept:** Conference at the Gates
- **Friday 6th September:** Climate Justice
- **Saturday 7th Sept:** Festival of Resistance – Local Democracy and International Solidarity
- **Sunday 8th Sept:** Borders & Migration

If you want to support a day of action, or you'd like to be part of organising but you're not sure how yet, get in touch. We'll let you know how to get involved.

9-10 SEPT

VIGILS: STAND IN SOLIDARITY

There will also be vigils to mark the first days of the arms fair, remembering the many victims of the wars and aggression fuelled by the arms trade.

- **Monday 9th Sept:** Eve of the Arms Fair Silent Vigil
- **Tuesday 10th Sept:** Wreath Laying in Victoria Dock

3-13 SEPT

ART THE ARMS FAIR

In parallel, the award-winning artists of Art the Arms Fair will be bringing back their exhibition to London (**3rd-13th Sept**), exposing the arms trade through art.

The goals are to use art to make the arms fair and its results visible; to amplify the voices of artists and communities affected by conflict; and to create a positive alternative to the world that the organisers of DSEI would like to create.

FESTIVAL OF MAKING REMOVES BAE SPONSORSHIP

Earlier this year, the Festival of Making announced BAE as a sponsor. Local campaigners took action and forced BAE to end its support “by mutual consent.” We spoke to artist Jill Gibbon, who was one of the local people who took part in the campaign.

Why was this an important campaign win?

BAE Systems is a destructive company. It is selling Saudi Arabia fighter jets despite Saudi-led airstrikes on civilian areas in Yemen. The event was billed as a family event, so we highlighted the contradictions of accepting sponsorship from a company selling weapons that are used to destroy homes and kill children.



How can campaigners build on this win?

We need to turn up wherever BAE is attempting to validate its corrupt business through sponsorship, and highlight the contradictions of accepting arms company support. BAE recently sponsored Pride in Surrey and Blackpool, yet it sells weapons and surveillance equipment to anti-LGBTQ regimes.

Why are arms companies trying to sponsor events like this?

Art is associated with freedom and creativity, which allows arms traders to masquerade as liberal while facilitating war and repression. This offers an opportunity for cultural workers to say no, like the brilliant artists and designers who removed their

work from the Design Museum in protest at an arms industry event last year. In 1924, the DADA artist George Grosz wrote, “People are being shot. There is mass profiteering. And hunger. People are being lied to. What is the point of art?” The question is as relevant now as it was then.

BAE is a big employer, why shouldn't it support local events?

BAE employs as many people in the US as the UK, and has a significant workforce in Saudi Arabia. Even so, it receives significant financial, promotional and political support from the UK government. This support should be going to sustainable, creative industries that care about their employees.

DISARMING THE SCIENCE MUSEUM

In July 2010, street art collective Protest Stencil withdrew its work from a Science Museum exhibition about GCHQ. This is why they did it.

In March, the Science Museum asked if they could have one of our facebook adhack posters from last year, “Data misuse is not our friend, it's our business model” for an event about data misuse. The posters got a lot of attention, so it wasn't surprising the Science Museum had heard about them.

Once the poster was made, we were going to upload a photo of it to social media, as a sort of teaser: “look out for this at the Science Museum.” That's when it all started going wrong.

The first tweet that stood out was from Raytheon, the arms manufacturer, about how they're supporting the exhibition. Raytheon supplies Saudi Arabia with missiles that it uses in

attacks on civilians in Yemen.

The exhibition isn't what we expected. It's a celebration of 100 years of GCHQ, the government surveillance agency found to be illegally spying on Amnesty International and engaged in mass surveillance on us all.

The first tweet that stood out was from Raytheon, the arms manufacturer, about how they're supporting the exhibition

We won't be part of this kind of artwashing. Instead, we've decided to offer our artwork for auction at Art The Arms Fair, to raise money for CAAT.





Credit Aquemini Arts



Credit Eric Scarboro



Credit Ahmed Jahaf



Credit Banksy

ART THE ARMS FAIR

The Art the Arms Fair exhibition is taking place in London
3-13 September at the Maverick Projects, Peckham.

The first Art the Arms Fair event took place in 2017. It was widely acclaimed and included art from around the world, including by the legendary Banksy. This year organisers will be back with their

award-winning and provocative art exhibition, which promises to be even bigger.

Kennard and photographic artist Jim Naughten.

Other names will be announced over the summer. A new blog page on the Art the Arms Fair website will feature interviews with artists in the lead-up to the exhibition.

The deadline for art submissions has closed, but if you would like to get involved as a volunteer please contact artthearmsfair@gmail.com.

A new blog page on the Art the Arms Fair website will feature interviews with artists in the lead-up to the exhibition

The artists who have donated work include Yemeni graphic designer and cartoonist Ahmed Jahaf; Saba Jallas (also from Yemen) whose work transforms images of smoke from airstrikes and bombings in Yemeni cities; satirical artist Darren Cullen; photomontage artist Peter

Please follow @ArtTheArmsFair on Twitter and Instagram and check Artthearmsfair.com for updates.





UK ARMS SALES TO HONG KONG

In June 2019 police in Hong Kong attacked peaceful protesters using CS grenades, tear gas and small arms. Many of the weapons used were made here in the UK.

It's not the first time UK-made tear gas has been used by the Hong Kong authorities. It was used against protesters in 2014 too. At the time the Government said it would reconsider its policies in light of the attacks, but the arms sales continued.

These weapons can only be used for repression, they do not have any other purpose

That is why many in Hong Kong, and the UK had trouble believing the then Foreign Secretary, Jeremy Hunt, when he said that there were no extant licenses and that no more sales would be going ahead without a guarantee that they would not be used for repression. These weapons can only be used for repression, they do not have any other purpose.

In any case, the Hong Kong police will likely have large stockpiles of UK-made arms ready to be used. In the last six months of 2018 alone, the Government licensed CS grenades, anti-riot shields, smoke/pyrotechnic ammunition, tear gas and weapon sights.

Activists in Hong Kong wrote a letter to Graham Jones MP, the Chair of the House of Commons Committee on Arms Export Controls, which we have reproduced here. CAAT stands in solidarity with people living under oppression in Hong Kong.

1. We are a group of ordinary Hong Kong citizens who attended a series of mass demonstrations that took place between 9 June and 12 June 2019 against the Hong Kong government's proposal to pass the Fugitive Offenders and Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Legislation (Amendment) Bill 2019 (commonly known as "the Extradition Bill"). The demonstrations were conducted mostly in a peaceful manner in which only a small number of confrontations occurred. However, the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF) has used unreasonably excessive force against protesters and the press, which is in violation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

2. We understand that despite the handover of Hong Kong's sovereignty to the People's Republic China, a communist regime, the West had still been continuously supplying weapons to HKPF under the reason that HKPF could use the Western weapons as a means to protect Hong Kong residents. However, such considerations have been proved wrong as HKPF was using them to oppress Hong Kong residents, not to protect. In fact, Heckler & Koch, a Germany company, refused to supply MP5 over the concerns that the weapons would fall into the hands of autocratic regimes, which the Hong Kong Government is becoming.

3. Therefore, we sincerely urge Her Majesty's government to immediately suspend the issuance of arms export license to HKPF and ensure all companies in the UK will not export weapons to HKPF.

*Yours sincerely,
A group of Hong Kong citizens*



STOP ARMING ISRAEL

On 1 July 2019 campaigners occupied a factory owned by Elbit Systems, Israel's biggest weapons manufacturer. Jasmine Owens was among those protesting.

We spent three days on the roof of Elbit-Ferranti, Oldham – shining a light onto the existence of this weapons factory right on our doorstep. Activists in Kent occupied another Elbit factory on the same day, too.

These occupations marked the five-year anniversary of 2014 Operation Protection Edge, in which Israel killed over 2,200 Palestinians in 51 days. Over 500 of those killed were children.

One roof protester, Adie from Manchester Palestine Action, was a teacher in Gaza for two years. He'd spoken to one of his students just before she was killed in the 2014 bombings. She

was killed with her two children, her husband and his mother.

A Peace Camp on the ground informed locals about the artillery, naval weapons platforms, and aircraft that Elbit produces. Elbit markets these as "battle-proven" – meaning tested on Palestinians. Elbit drones are used for surveillance and air attacks in Gaza; and the police drones hovering over us on the roof made the link between UK factories, and massacres in Palestine

Elbit dropped all charges against us, because they don't want to go to court. They don't want people to know what they're doing

painfully clear.

Elbit dropped all charges against us, because they don't want to go to court. They don't want people to know what they're doing.

If we keep building momentum we can win the campaign to get all four UK Elbit factories shut down. There's been a huge response to this action among the community in Oldham, and we're planning more events at the factory gates throughout summer.

Elbit will be at the DSEI fair in September. We need everyone possible to come and speak out against these criminals dealing in death.

LONDON WALKING TOUR

With the DSEI arms fair looming large on the horizon, London CAAT took an interested group of people around some of the arms companies that are likely to exhibit at the fair.

Visits were paid to Boeing, G4S, Rolls Royce, BAE Systems and Lockheed Martin as well as Buckingham Palace, the latter due to the support the Royals have provided in securing arms deals. We also left blue plaques at each of the companies to recognise

their horrific acts. Attendees discovered which company made bombs that killed civilians in Yemen (Lockheed Martin) and who argued that weapons sales "encourage peace" (the chair of BAE Systems). We shone a light on these immoral companies that many people don't realise have buildings in the centre of London and we will do at least one more before September. Keep an eye on our website for the next one: london.caat.org.uk.



COMMITTEE ON ARMS EXPORT CONTROLS

The House of Commons Select Committees, formed of cross-party groups of backbenchers, exist to scrutinise the work of Government department. The Committees on Arms Export Controls (CAEC) includes MPs from the Defence, Foreign Affairs, International Development and International Trade Select Committees. It started life in 1998, initially being referred to as the Quadripartite Committee, when representatives of the four committees came together to scrutinise the Government's annual reports on arms exports.

The CAEC's heyday was between 2010 and 2015 when, under a very able Chair, the former Conservative Defence Minister Sir John Stanley, it questioned Government export

licensing decisions and pointed out the incompatibility between promoting both arms sales and human rights. In the 2015 Parliament, however, the CAEC floundered. After failing to agree on arms sales to Saudi Arabia, other planned inquiries fizzled out.

In the current Parliament, the CAEC is totally dysfunctional. Its Chair, Labour MP Graham Jones, is a strong supporter of both arms exports and the Saudi regime

Now, in the current Parliament, the CAEC is totally dysfunctional. Its Chair, Labour MP Graham Jones, is a strong supporter of both arms exports and the Saudi Arabian regime. Adding to CAEC's problems is the curious quorum system for a committee that is technically four committees. The

last evidence session, in May, had to be abandoned as inquorate.

What's to be done?

Lloyd Russell Moyle MP is a Labour MP on the CAEC and is frustrated by its failure. In May, he held a Citizens' Committee on the Arms Trade where a packed room discussed the issues the CAEC had failed to consider. Other such sessions may follow.

However, Lloyd and some others on the CAEC, as well as most organisations working on arms trade issues, feel that the best solution would be to make the CAEC a full Select Committee. This would mean MPs dedicated to the one committee as well as proper staffing and researchers. The Chair would be elected by all MPs. Pressure for this change is growing.

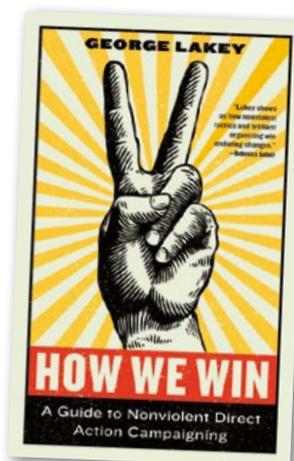
LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE

This year's Labour Party Conference is in Brighton from Saturday 21 to Wednesday 25 September. CAAT's going to be there, sharing stall 143 with Rethinking Security. The latter, of which CAAT is a member organisation, is challenging the current militaristic approach to security in the UK.

- If you are going to the Labour Conference and could volunteer some time to help staff the stall, please contact ann@caat.org.uk

At the time of writing, CAAT is part of the group discussing the international strand of The World Transformed, the politics and arts festival that runs alongside the Labour Conference.

- If you are at the Conference or in Brighton, then check The World Transformed's website theworldtransformed.org nearer the time for sessions relevant to the arms trade.
- If you are going to one of the other party conferences this autumn and can distribute CAAT literature there, again contact ann@caat.org.uk

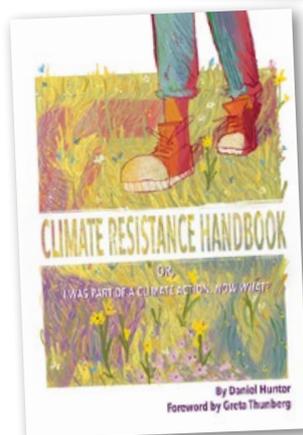


TWO NEW BOOKS THAT EVERY ACTIVIST SHOULD READ!

How We Win by **George Lakey**: £11.50 (incl. p&p)

Climate Resistance Handbook by **Daniel Hunter** (foreword by **Greta Thunberg**): £3.25 (incl. p&p) or **FREE with a new sub to Peace News.**

Available from www.peacenews.info or call 0207 278 3344



THEY SAID IT

"I'm doing what I'm told and doing my job. But I'm uncomfortably aware that Adolf Eichmann said the same thing."

Unnamed official from the UK government's Export Control Joint Unit.
Quoted in the Guardian, 18/06/2019

"This is about deterrence and it's not about war."

Clarke Cooper, US assistant secretary of state for political-military affairs, calls for the approval of \$8 billion worth of arms sales to Saudi Arabia, Gulf Business, 26/05/2019

"It's the best time we've ever seen for the defence industry in terms of outlook, and we're very optimistic."

Raytheon CEO Tom Kennedy reflecting on growing demand for arms around the world. CNBC, 20/06/2019

DISARM THE BASE

Inspired by real stories of taking direct action and being unexpectedly acquitted, "Disarm the Base" is a co-operative game for two to four players. The players work together to unlock hangers, disarm planes and get back to where they've left their banners and placards before time runs out or the security guards stop them.

Game developer Jessica Metheringham said, "I want this game to show how taking direct action can be exhilarating and stressful all at once. You're living out your values in the world and at the same time you're challenging the norms and pushing the boundaries. Board games don't just need to be about trading or building or fighting – they can be about making the world a better place."

"Disarm the Base" will be a Kickstarter project, and will be available for pre-order from July 2019. More information is available at disarmthebase.com.



TAKING ACTION

Demilitarise Education presents "Finger Guns Only" – #StopDSEI Party

31 August

A party to build for the #StopDSEI actions.
Bloc London Unit 3, Autumn Yard Autumn St, Bow, London E3 2TT.

#StopDSEI Week of Action 2-8 Sept

Excel Centre, One Western Gtwy, London E16 1XL (DLR: Prince Regent)

The DSEI arms fair will try to set up at the ExCel Centre from 2nd September. We'll be there to stop it!

You can see full listings of protests and actions on P8-9

Arms Fair Vigils 9-10 Sept

Standing in solidarity with the victims of war, fuelled by the arms trade

Monday 9th September

Eve of the Arms Fair Silent Vigil Excel Centre, One Western Gtwy, London E16 1XL (DLR: Royal Victoria)

Tuesday 10th September

Wreath Laying in Victoria Dock
Victoria Dock, London E16 (DLR: Royal Victoria)

Art the Arms Fair 3-13 Sept

Hosted by Maverick Projects, Peckham
The award-winning artists of Art the Arms Fair will be bringing back their exhibition to London (3rd-13th Sept), exposing the arms trade through art.

See P11 for details.

INTRODUCING KIRSTEN

Kirsten Bayes has rejoined the team as Temporary Training and Events Coordinator, after working with us last year in Local Outreach.

As well as working with CAAT, Kirsten sits on the boards of several organisations including the Nuclear Information Service in Reading, for whom she is Vice-Chair; Secure Active CIC, an information security nonprofit; and Reading Pride, for whom she is a Trustee and the Sound Manager for this year's Pride event. She has been involved with organising against the DSEI arms fair for eight years and enjoys building electronic devices in her spare time.



You can donate to CAAT by either visiting our website at **caat.org.uk**, or completing the form below (in block capitals) and returning it to:
Freepost RSYR-UCBS-GHEE, CAAT, Unit 4, 5-7 Wells Terrace, London, N4 3JU

Donations direct to CAAT are the most useful for the campaign, but if you send a Charities Aid Foundation cheque please make it payable to TREAT (Trust for Research and Education on Arms Trade) making clear that you wish for your donation to support CAAT's research programme. Unlike CAAT, TREAT is a registered charity (No.328694).

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Tel: Email:

I would like to receive the CAAT News quarterly magazine by post: Yes No

I would like to receive updates about the campaign and urgent action opportunities by email: Yes No

I would like to receive occasional updates about the campaign by post: Yes No

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A direct debit is the most convenient and cost effective way to support CAAT. Just £5 a month makes a real difference.

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