

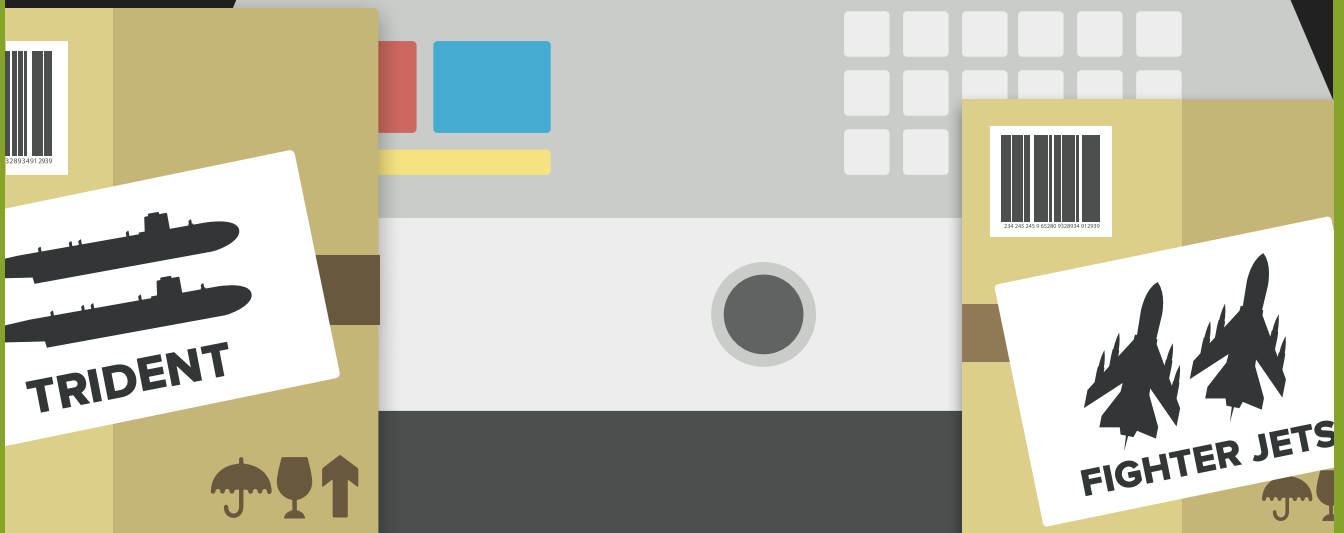
CAAT NEWS



APRIL - JUNE 2015 • ISSUE 236

TAKE ACTION ON MILITARY SPENDING

£29,400,000,000



PLUS

Action on military spending **P8-9**

Parliament past - and lobbying tips **P10-11**

Challenge the arms fair **P7**

CAAT NEWS

APRIL – JUNE 2015

There's a lot of focus this issue on choices – how would you choose to spend public money (pages 8 and 9)? Will your election candidates choose to speak out against the arms trade (page 11)?

Choices reflect what people value, and this CAAT News has stories from those who value an

end to the arms trade and take a stand accordingly: stories from students (page 15), from neighbours of an arms factory (page 13), from campaigners in Scotland (page 6) – just a glimpse of the many, many people choosing to support an end to the arms trade.

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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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AN UNINVITED GUEST AT THE ARMS DEALERS' BANQUET

When arms dealers, MPs and civil servants gathered in London for a £246 per head "networking" dinner in February, CAAT was there to challenge them.

The "defence" industry's annual dinner is an opportunity for arms dealers to lobby to keep military spending high and public subsidies for arms companies flowing. This year's guest list included 40 MPs and 60 top ranking civil servants and Ministry of Defence personnel. It's this kind of access to decision-makers that ensures that arms company interests are put before those of ordinary people.

The opening speech

After making their way past protesters at the door, the guests probably thought they could sit down and get on with business. But there were a few surprises when the first speaker took the stage: CAAT's pregnant Anne-Marie O'Reilly made an uninvited guest appearance to confront the arms dealers about the world that her child would be born into in four months' time.

Banquets, (food) banks and bombs

She didn't have long before the sound was cut and security escorted her out. However, it was long enough to articulate disgust that those profiting from death and destruction can spend more on one meal than the poorest in



The video of the speech went viral, meaning that tens of thousands more people learned about the extent of arms trade lobbying in the UK

the UK have to live on for a month, and that people in the room had profited from arming both sides and from Israel's attacks on Gaza.

Impact

The impact of the action rippled beyond the banquet hall. The fact that a high number of MPs and civil servants were present was exposed in the media. The fact that it was the BBC's Jeremy

Vine who delivered the after dinner speech also became public knowledge. The video of Anne-Marie's speech went viral, meaning that tens of thousands more people learned about the extent of arms trade lobbying in the UK.

You can watch the speech at the arms dealers' dinner on CAAT's Youtube channel.

WHAT'S YOUR APPROACH?

Some people may take on arms trade events with direct action but this is just one tactic among many. Collectively, different approaches are making a big difference.

In this issue of CAAT News you'll find lots of different ways to step up pressure on the arms trade:

- Increase public awareness and challenge military spending (pages 8–9)
- Lobby MPs and candidates in the general election (page 11)
- Target arms company sites where you live (page 13)
- Invite trade unions to support our Arms to Renewables campaign (page 12)
- Book a workshop to explore direct action to stop London's arms fair in September (page 7)

ARMS TRADE SHORTS

DEALS

Egypt is to take delivery of French Rafale (pictured) combat aircraft as part of a deal with an unusually short turnaround between signing and delivery. Manufacturer Dassault had to wait more than 15 years for this first export order.

Aviation Week, 23/2/15

Boeing has been awarded a \$295.8m foreign military sales contract for attack helicopters for Indonesia.

IHS Jane's Defence Weekly, 26/1/15

Nigeria has bought Czech weapons to help fight Boko Haram.

Prague Post, 30/1/15



A Rafale combat jet © U.S. Navy / Flickr

PROMOTION

UK arms companies visited Kenya in February as part of the first UK Trade & Investment mission to the country. The British High Commissioner said the UK recognised "unique security challenges" facing Kenya.

CAJ News Africa, 28/1/15

Sweden's arms export agency will stay open, despite an announcement to the contrary that was made following negotiations between the Social Democratic Party and the Green Party when they formed a new government last autumn.

Defence IQ Press, 17/12/14

MILITARY AID

The US flew arms worth about \$17.9m to Iraq in February as US troops continued to support Iraqi forces.

Italian anti-tank weapons and training and about \$14.7m of German arms supplies have also been received by Kurdish Peshmerga troops.

Reuters, 24/2/15; Basnews, 7/2/15; RFERL, 6/2/15

SAUDI DEALS

Germany has approved the delivery of military equipment to Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Egypt, leading to accusations of profit being put before human rights.

Sweden however called off a Saudi export deal after Saudi Arabia blocked the Swedish foreign minister from speaking about human rights to a summit of Arab leaders. The move removed a cause of division within Sweden's coalition government but caused a rift with business leaders who were keen for the agreement to be prolonged.

DW.DE, 4/2/15; Guardian, 10/3/15

COMPANY NEWS

Clarion, organiser of London arms fair DSEI, has been sold to global asset management firm Providence Equity.

Exhibition News, 12/1/15

BAE has offered to build a howitzer factory in India in order to try to close a deal worth more than \$800m. Years of stalled talks saw the closure of factories in the UK and US that were supposed to produce the artillery.

Wall Street Journal, 25/1/15

GAMMA

UK-German surveillance company Gamma has been condemned for failing to adhere to human rights and due diligence standards. This is the first time that the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) has found a company selling surveillance technologies to be in violation of human rights guidelines.

Privacy International et al, 26/2/15

UTKI DSO 2015/16 TOUR ARMS & SECURITY INDUSTRY PROMOTION



Location	Event Name	Location	Event Name	Location	Event Name
Atlanta, Georgia	AUVSI	Kielce	MSP0	Santiago	FIDAE
Bangkok	Defence & Security	Kuala Lumpur	GPEC Asia	Seoul	Seoul Airshow
Chicago	IACP	London	IFSEC & DSEI	Singapore	IMDEX & Singapore Airshow
Doha	DIMDEX	New Delhi	DEFEXPO	Southampton	SeaWork
Dubai	Dubai Airshow & Intersec	Paris	Paris Airshow & Milipol	Sydney	Pacific
Farnborough	Security & Policing	Rio de Janeiro	LAAD	Tampa, Florida	SOFIC
Houston, Texas	API Cybersecurity Expo	Sakhir Airbase	Bahrain Airshow	Tokyo	SEECAT
Istanbul	IDEF	San Francisco	RSA	Yokohama	MAST Asia

Source: bit.ly/1CBh8Sa

Source: bit.ly/1CBh8Sa

POLITICAL INFLUENCE

Information obtained by the *Guardian* shows that dozens of arms company employees are on secondments to the Ministry of Defence. Companies involved include BAE, missile-manufacturer MBDA and Babcock, which refits Trident. **Guardian, 16/2/15**

Victor Chavez, head of Thales UK, was awarded a CBE in the 2015 New Year's honours. Commenting on the award, Chavez said it "reflects the high regard in which Thales UK is held by the UK government." **Thales Group, 31/12/14**

QUESTIONS

Following on from news that Norway sold battleships to a Nigerian security company (see CAAT News 235), two UK nationals have been questioned in an investigation into the deal on the charge of bribery. **Maritimesecuritynews, 21/1/15**

CORRUPTION

Two former Patria directors and a company subsidiary have been found guilty on charges of corruption. This is part of a long-running case involving military supplies to Croatia. **Yle Uutiset, 16/2/15**

ARMS FAIRS

More than 50 UK arms companies took part in the Gulf's largest arms fair, IDEX, held in UAE in February. **gov.uk, 24/2/15**

The UK has refused Russian participation in September's DSEI arms fair (see page 7). More than half the Russian delegation at the Farnborough arms fair last summer were denied visas. **TASS, 16/2/15**



IDEX 2015 © Petro Poroshenko / Flickr

EDINBURGH SCIENCE FESTIVAL – CAMPAIGN SUCCESS

After a fantastic campaign by the CAAT Edinburgh group, arms company Selex is no longer sponsoring the Edinburgh Science Festival.

In a statement, festival organisers said Selex is “no longer a Major Funding Partner of Edinburgh International Science Festival”.

Selex ES makes surveillance systems, weapon control systems and military drones. These weapons have contributed to global insecurity and strengthened some of the most oppressive governments in the world, including the dictatorships in Saudi Arabia and Bahrain.

Selex and schools

Sponsorship of the Edinburgh Science Festival opened the door to involvement in the primary school outreach programme, with Selex presented to children and families as a kind and caring technology company.

Festival ethics

Edinburgh campaigners were ready to challenge Selex, and ran a powerful and high profile campaign to convince festival organisers to re-think the

choice of sponsors. As a result of public pressure, the organisers agreed to review their ethics policy and in 2014 they hosted an event on funding and ethics as part of the festival.

Campaigners were determined to keep pushing until the festival ended its arms company sponsorship, and the news that Selex is no longer a partner – announced only weeks before the 2015 festival was due to begin – is a huge campaign victory.



Campaigners ran a powerful & high profile campaign to convince the festival to re-think the choice of sponsors

LOCAL GROUPS

After success in the Edinburgh Science Festival campaign, the CAAT Edinburgh group is looking for new members. If you'd like to get involved email caatedinburgh@live.com.

There's also a CAAT network in Glasgow, which is taking action on local arms companies over the summer. To find out more email outreach@caat.org.uk.

STOP ARMING ISRAEL

CAAT is pleased to be working with the Scottish Palestine Solidarity Campaign on the Stop Arming Israel campaign (see page 13). On 9 May campaigners will get together for a national conference on ending the Scottish arms trade

with Israel. Speakers include Musheir el Farra, author of “When the Sky Rained Fire”, and Yotam Feldman, director of “The Lab”.

Save the date and look out for more details in the coming months.

ACTION UPDATES

INTERNATIONAL ACTION TO STOP THE SHIPMENT

On 10 February, protesters in gas masks took action at the South Korean embassy in London to stop a huge tear gas shipment to Turkey. On the same day, the Turkish group Ban Tear Gas Initiative protested in Istanbul

At least 16 people were killed and thousands injured by tear gas between 2007-2014

and the group World Without War took action in Seoul too.

Over recent years, Turkey has repeatedly attacked protesters with riot control equipment and tear gas at demonstrations. According to Ban Tear Gas Initiative, at least 16 people were killed and thousands injured by tear gas between 2007-2014.

South Korea has authorised a huge shipment of nearly 1.65 million tear gas canisters and grenades to Turkey. But we know that international action can make a difference: just last year, co-ordinated international action stopped another huge shipment of tear gas from being sent to Bahrain.



Activists in Seoul, Istanbul and London took action on the same day in February to challenge South Korea's massive shipment of tear gas to Turkey



CHALLENGING DSEI

The DSEI arms fair in London brings together 30,000 arms buyers and sellers to export tools of death and repression around the world.

Clarion Events, the company that runs DSEI (along with six other arms fairs) was put up for sale at the end of last year. The *Times* reported that it was struggling to find a buyer because of its "involvement in the arms business".

Stop the Arms Fair activists took

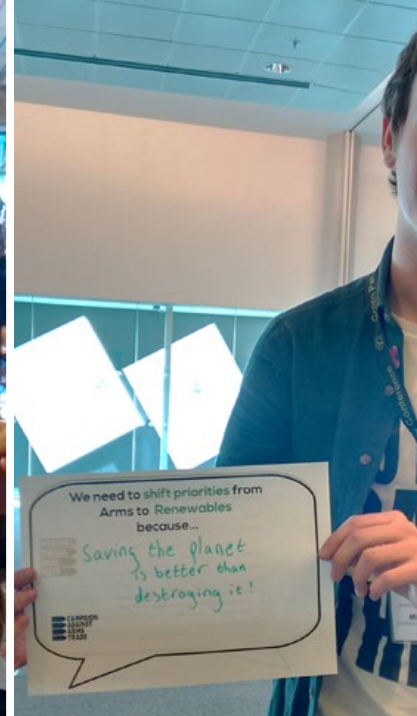
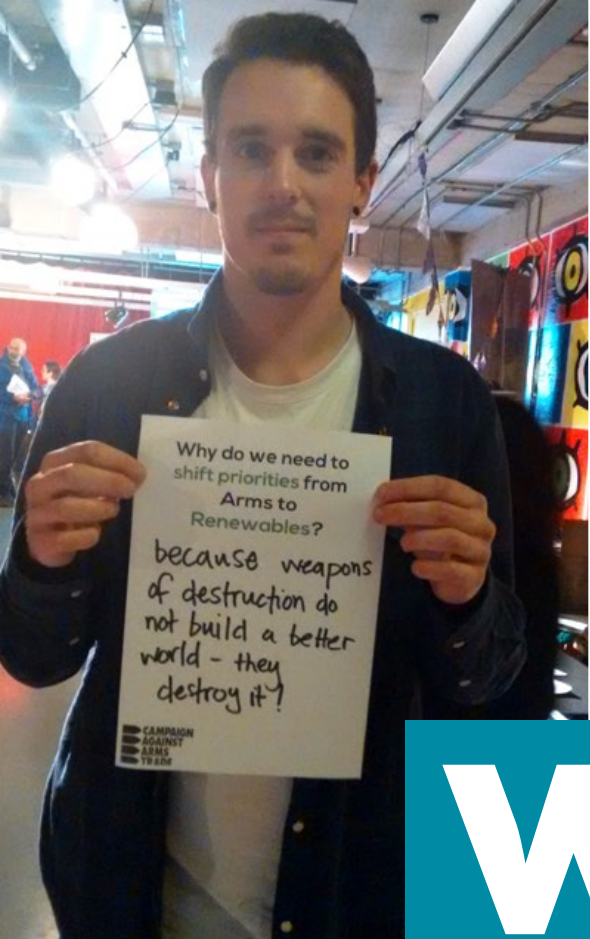
direct action to warn potential buyers that they too would face criticism, brand damage and disruption if they joined the arms trade, stating: "Buy Clarion, get us free". But in January, Providence Equity went ahead and bought Clarion Events.

True to their word, within a few weeks, Stop the Arms Fair campaigners paid a visit to the new owners so that they too would know that fuelling war in pursuit of profits will not go unchallenged.

Dates

As the huge London arms fair approaches in September, book a workshop in your town to get a group together ready to travel to London to challenge DSEI – and save these dates:

- Co-ordinated action to stop the fair's set up from 5–11 September
- Saturday 12 September for a mass action to stop the arms fair



WEEK OF

ON

It is a scandal that one in four children in the UK grow up in poverty. It is outrageous that thirteen times more people rely on food banks to survive than did five years ago.

This is all the more scandalous set against the fact that the UK's military spending is among the highest in the world – £37bn in 2014. In the same year we spent £12bn on overseas aid, £3.1bn on energy and climate change and £1.36bn on diplomacy through the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

It's time to shift priorities.

On 13 April, people will mark the Global Day of Action on Military Spending, and throughout the week of 7-13 April will take action in towns and cities around the world to demand a shift in priorities.

Contact outreach@caat.org.uk to order your action pack.

MILITARY SPENDING IN THE UK

The UK has the 6th highest military spending of any country in the world, and plans to spend £38 billion in 2014/15. This military budget is protected while vital public services are subjected to drastic spending cuts.

For too long the Government and arms companies have propagated the myth that high military spending maintains peace, creates jobs and combats terrorism. This prevents money being spent on tackling real challenges such as relieving poverty, improving health, and protecting the environment.

In a time of austerity, it is shocking that the military is prioritised for public funds rather than vital services such as health and welfare. Meanwhile, huge subsidies continue to go to the arms industry.

A WASTE OF PUBLIC MONEY

There is an alternative. For example, the arms export subsidy alone of £700m a year is enough to employ 33,000 NHS nurses.

The Government claims that the arms trade is good for business and creates jobs. But the truth is rather different. Arms industry jobs make up a tiny fraction of the UK workforce (around 0.2% of total UK employment), and these jobs receive public subsidies equivalent to over £10,000 per job each year.

Even arms industry executives have described the industry as “flatlining”.

Spending vast amounts of money on military procurement and pushing arms sales doesn't enhance security. It fuels conflict, supports repression and makes the world a more dangerous place.

IN 2014, UK MILITARY SPENDING EXCEEDED

37bn

25%

of children in the UK grow up in poverty

UK GOVT RESEARCH SPENDING ON ARMS IS

25 HIGHER THAN RENEWABLE ENERGY



ACTION

MILITARY SPENDING

ARMS TO RENEWABLES

CAAT's Arms to Renewables campaign calls for a dramatic shift in Government priorities.

The arms industry may be lobbying for increased military spending, but there's a powerful case for a shift in resources from the arms trade into renewable energy. For instance, climate change is one of the biggest threats we face today and the UK is well placed to develop a strong renewables sector.

The arms industry eats up a hugely disproportionate share of government research and development (R&D) funding at the expense of other areas that could improve human security and create more jobs, like renewable energy.

The renewables industry needs the skills currently tied up in arms industry jobs too (see the map on page 12 for more details).

TAKE ACTION: ORGANISE A PEOPLE'S BALLOT

The Global Day of Action on Military Spending (13 April) is a key time to highlight the disproportionate support given to the arms industry, and to demand a radical shift in priorities. As public spending cuts continue to bite and public services disappear, people are being invited to vote on how they would prefer to see the military budget spent.

If you were in charge and had £37 billion a year, what would you spend the money on? Health, education, welfare, tackling climate change?

On 13 April and in the week before there will be "People's Ballots" on high streets around the country to pose the question: "What would you do with the UK's military spending budget?" The results will be collected nationally – and with the election just around the corner it's a great time to ask candidates for their priorities.

UK military spending is the

sixth

highest globally

THE £700M/YEAR SUBSIDY TO THE ARMS INDUSTRY COULD PAY FOR

33,000

NHS NURSES

For more info and ideas for events see demilitarise.org.uk. Contact outreach@caat.org.uk for an action pack & further support

Sources for all figures are available from the CAAT office.

THE LAST PARLIAMENT – ANY PROGRESS?

Parliamentary elections are looming, so it's time to reflect on the past five years.

This last Parliament has been a time when arms sales made news headlines: UK sales to repressive governments where the population rose up in the “Arab Spring”; David Cameron and Prince Charles (complete with sword) acting as BAE Systems' sales personnel; UK military collaboration with Israel. Positively, the media – both established and social – have responded with far greater questioning of the arms trade than in earlier times.

Arms sales or human rights?

For CAAT, the real hero of this Parliament has been former Conservative Defence Minister Sir John Stanley MP. Unfortunately, he is not standing on 7 May. Chairing the Commons' Committees on Arms Export Controls, as well as being a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Sir John never missed an opportunity to grill ministers and civil servants about sales. Most importantly, he came

to understand the contradiction between promoting arms exports and calling for human rights.

While many other MPs (and some Lords) raise arms export matters, and CAAT is grateful to them, to have someone with such an establishment background so assiduously following up on the issue has really kept it on the parliamentary agenda.

In connection with tear gas sales to Hong Kong, Philip Hammond resurrected the “if we don't sell, someone else will” excuse from the last century

Greater transparency?

The person responsible for both arms export promotion and control in this Parliament was Business Secretary Vince Cable. CAAT has worked with him in the past and he was a CAAT witness at an Informational Tribunal in 2007. Cable's pledge for greater transparency on export licensing

was virtually the only actual policy change to emerge from the revelations about UK arms supplies and the “Arab Spring”.

However, the “transparency initiative” soon became bogged down by a combination of company unwillingness to share information and IT systems that could not cope. The first new information, scheduled for the summer, is very much less than originally expected.

The arguments they use

CAAT has come to expect most Government and Opposition frontbenchers to compete with each other in their desire to promote arms exports. However, while Labour's stance arguably improved a little when Vernon Coaker took over as Shadow Defence Minister from Jim Murphy, Philip Hammond's promotion to Foreign Secretary was a terrible move.

He resurrected, in connection with tear gas sales to Hong Kong, the “if we don't sell, someone else will” excuse from the last century. More originally, on 20 January he wondered why an MP, suggesting restrictions on sales to repressive regimes, had singled out arms for “trade sanctions” rather than other goods.

Finally, used by so many MPs over this Parliament, was the mantra that they supported an arms trade treaty. This came into force in December 2014. CAAT had always been sceptical about such a treaty, fearing it might legitimise rather than reduce the trade. Let's hope we are wrong, but, in any event, after the election it can no longer be an excuse for doing nothing about the UK's promotion of a deadly trade.



House of Commons Chamber © UK Parliament / Flickr

LOBBY YOUR ELECTION CANDIDATES

Candidates are competing for votes and hustings, public meetings and doorstep lobbying provide an opportunity to put the arms trade on the political agenda and build a strong base of support for our campaigns in the next Parliament.

Lobbying candidates puts the arms trade on the political agenda and educates both candidates and the wider public about the issues. It also helps build our knowledge about the attitudes of MPs in the next Parliament. Even candidates who don't win a seat can be great allies, helping to raise awareness within their party and the local area and taking a position that influences other candidates.

ARMS TO RENEWABLES

The Government justifies its support for arms companies by arguing that it needs to protect jobs and national security. CAAT research shows that offshore wind and marine energy could use the skills of arms trade workers to produce more jobs than the entire arms industry; jobs in a growing industry that creates a safer world.

FACT The Government currently spends 25 times more research and development into weapons than it does on renewable energy.

QUESTION Ask your candidates if they will support a shift in priorities from arms to renewables, creating more and better jobs for skilled engineers and a safer world.

ARMS EXPORTS

The Government spends hundreds of millions of pounds promoting arms exports. UK Trade & Investment Defence & Security Organisation (UKTI DSO) – the Government's arms sales agency – promotes military and security equipment sales around the world, including to repressive regimes and countries in conflict. Promoting arms sales is incompatible with promoting human rights.

FACT UKTI DSO's 'priority markets' include some of the most repressive regimes in the world, such as Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and Oman.

QUESTION Ask your candidates if they will support an end to government promotion of arms exports, including closing UKTI DSO.



A military delegation from Oman gets a UK government escort at the Farnborough arms fair

MILITARY SPENDING AND SECURITY

UK military spending is the sixth highest in the world. White elephant projects such as Trident and aircraft carriers divert money from meeting human needs, while UK military interventions have fuelled conflict and made the world a more dangerous place, rather than enhancing security. Real threats to our security, such as climate change, energy security and economic marginalisation, are not being adequately addressed.

FACT UK military spending in 2014/15 was a massive £37 billion.

QUESTION Ask your candidates if they will support a fundamental review of the UK's approach to security – one that doesn't prioritise a military response to perceived threats, but instead focuses on tackling underlying causes of insecurity, such as climate change. Will they support a shift in spending to reflect these priorities?

You can also include these points in a letter to your candidates asking for their views. Find more resources, including information on your candidates and a template letter, at caat.org.uk/election.

Please let us know what responses you receive so we can map opinion across the parties and learn more about the views and the attitudes of MPs in the next Parliament.

A ROLE FOR TRADE UNIONS

Bring the Arms to Renewables motion to your union branch to build support for the campaign.

The current attitude of trade unionists to the arms trade is mixed. While trade unions have a strong tradition of internationalism and human rights, there is also concern about the jobs of arms industry workers. CAAT's research

shows that adding up Ministry of Defence and export-related arms industry jobs gives a total of 170,000. This number makes up less than 0.7% of the UK workforce and around 7% of manufacturing jobs.

Transferable skills

It's important to stress that campaigning for the end of the arms trade does not mean wanting to put people who currently manufacture arms out of work. CAAT wants the engineering skills of arms workers to be used more productively, rather than being wasted manufacturing arms that will increase instability and conflict around the world. If the vast quantities of public money and political support that the Government throws the military industry were to be shifted towards the renewables sector there would actually be more jobs than displaced arms workers would need.

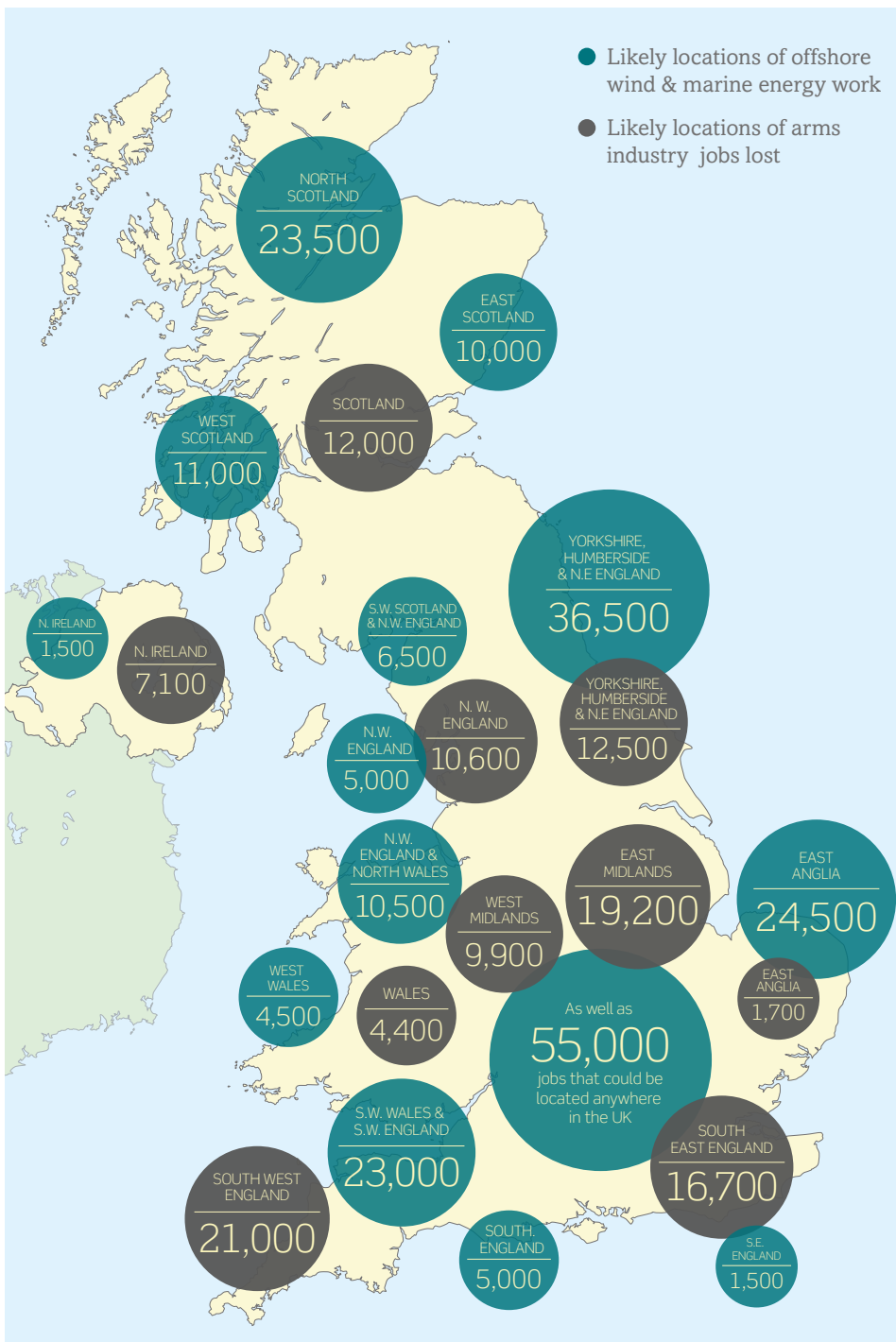
Shifting priorities

The attempt by workers at Lucas Aerospace in the 1970s to develop a strategy to convert production in their company to socially useful goods shows how workplace activism was ahead of its time in recognising the need for sustainable development. Today, the UK is leading developments in offshore wind and tidal energy and arms workers would be extremely valuable in these growing sectors, as the map on the left suggests.

Union motion

If you're part of a trade union please bring CAAT's Arms to Renewables motion (available on the CAAT website) to your union branch. Please let CAAT know it's been passed – matt@caat.org.uk.

For more on CAAT's Arms to Renewables campaign, including a detailed employment comparison and the case for renewable energy and low-carbon technologies, see the CAAT briefing "Arms to Renewables: Work for the Future", available online or from the CAAT office.



The expansion of offshore wind and marine energy would lead to many more jobs than displaced arms workers would need, the skills required would be similar, and there would also be appropriate work available in most areas where arms workers are located.

STOP ELBIT PROTESTERS TARGET KENT FACTORY

East Kent Campaign Against Arms Trade was one of several groups that staged a rooftop occupation of a local Elbit Systems factory in February, closing it for the day.

Ellie Keen of East Kent CAAT said: "Elbit Systems supplies the Israeli army with 85 per cent of the drones that are used to terrorise and kill in Palestine. Last summer, Israel's brutal bombing of the Gaza strip was condemned by numerous experts as involving war crimes. Drones were instrumental in those crimes. We occupied the factory because we don't want Elbit operating on our doorstep and we don't think it's acceptable – or maybe even lawful – to export weapon parts from Kent to Israel."

The action followed news that all charges against Stop Elbit activists who occupied an arms factory in the West Midlands last summer had been dropped.

Two of the four UK Elbit sites have seen successful protests – see blog.caat.org.uk.

To find arms dealers in your area see caat.org.uk/map.

UK-Israel report

A new report on the arms trade between the UK and Israel comes out this summer. This is a vital time to get informed and take action, as September's DSEI arms fair (see page 7) is due to host an Israeli National Pavilion featuring all the major Israeli weapons firms.



Occupation at Elbit

LOCAL NETWORK

New CAAT groups are starting in Felixstowe, Gloucester and South Essex and people across the country are taking action in their area.

If you're interested in starting a group, or want to get in touch with local CAAT supporters, then get in touch – outreach@caat.org.uk.

To book a speaker or a workshop for your group email outreach@caat.org.uk.



Workshop at a CAAT event

THEY SAID IT

“We may at some point in the distant past have accidentally accepted the invitation.”

Margaret Curran MP explains why she was on the guest list for an arms traders’ dinner. *Common Space*, 5/2/2015

“It is a country which is travelling in the right direction”

Philip Hammond MP on human rights in Bahrain shortly before a human rights activist was jailed for an “insulting tweet”. *Telegraph*, 20/1/2015

“For us it’s a bit of a call to arms”

BAE Chief Executive Ian King on instability in the Middle East. *Bloomberg Business*, 19/2/2015

“A source close to the prince says he doesn’t like being used to market weaponry and now sidesteps such activities where possible.”

New biography of Prince Charles, published five days before he made 10th visit to Saudi Arabia. *Times*, 3/2/15

“I sincerely hope that the long and deep ties between our two kingdoms will continue and that we can continue to work together to strengthen peace and prosperity”

David Cameron on the UK’s relationship with Saudi Arabia. *Guardian*, 23/1/15

SUPPORT CAAT WITH NO COST NOW

When it comes to your Will, it’s only right that providing for your loved ones come first. But remembering a cause that you care about can make a real difference with no cost to you now.

Our vision

CAAT has a vision of a broader security policy and a brighter future for all. Instead of supporting military and arms company interests, a wider security policy would tackle real threats like inequality and climate change, helping to safeguard future generations. CAAT has a history of successful campaigning against the arms trade going back over forty years. By leaving a gift in your Will, you could help us to end the arms trade, and make our vision a reality, before another forty years has passed.

Make a difference

As we are an independent, grassroots organisation reliant almost entirely on our supporters for funding, gifts in Wills have the potential to make a really big impact. If you haven’t made a Will yet, or already have but would now like to leave a gift, then including CAAT is a really quick and simple process. Every gift in every Will can make a difference to our work, however large or small.

If you’ve already included CAAT in your Will, we would really appreciate you letting us know. We will never ask you for any more detail than that.

For further info please contact CAAT using the contact details on page 2 or visit caat.org.uk/legacies.

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UNIVERSITIES NETWORK UPDATE

Pressure is growing on universities to cut ties with the arms trade. A recent letter to the University of Edinburgh, signed by 50 academics, is emblematic of the wider calls for change. It demanded an end to all arms investment, building on the university's decision to withdraw investment from arms company Ultra Electronics. When Glasgow University made headlines by announcing it would divest from fossil fuels, one Scottish politician, John Finnie MSP, was quick to make it clear that it should divest from the arms trade too.



Students in Sheffield question the University's links with arms companies

Student union role

Student unions have become increasingly vocal in their opposition to university involvement with the arms trade.

Student officers are taking management staff to task over what they see as an inconsistent position with the role that a university should play in the world

NUS Scotland has launched a "don't dither, divest!" campaign. Meanwhile individual student officers are taking university management staff to task over what they see as an inconsistent position with the role that a university should play in the world. Tom Harrison, Welfare Officer at Sheffield Students' Union, writes:

"The union does not support any involvement with arms companies, whether promoting them at careers fairs, being funded by them, or academic resources being used to support their aims."

Challenge the links

The arms trade benefits from the graduates it employs and the research that gets done on its behalf by universities; but nothing is more valuable to an arms company than the legitimacy bought through such a relationship. That is why it's so important to challenge these links, to raise awareness of what's going on and make a lot of noise about why it should be stopped.

To find out if your university has links to the arms trade and for information on how to challenge it check out universities.caat.org.uk.

Actions on campus

Arms companies regularly attempt to recruit students on campus, but CAAT's Universities Network doesn't make it easy for them. See universities.caat.org.uk for action reports and video footage, including students dressed as grim reapers!

TAKING ACTION

MILITARY SPENDING

Take action on 7–13 April. Order materials and plan a People's Ballot stall where you live (pages 8–9)

LOBBY

Contact your MP and candidates in the general election (page 11)

AT WORK

Member of a trade union? **Ask your branch** to support the Arms to Renewables campaign (page 12)

IN YOUR AREA

Find the arms company on your doorstep and take action to expose what they're up to (page 13)

WORKSHOPS

Plan an event in your area to get a group together ready to travel to London to challenge the DSEI arms fair in September (page 7)



You can donate to CAAT by either visiting our website at www.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:

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Please send me the CAAT NEWS quarterly magazine.

Please send me CAAT's monthly email bulletin.

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