

"The threats we now face are the most severe that have ever arisen in human history. They are literal threats to survival: nuclear war, environmental catastrophe."
-Noam Chomsky

The Princeton-based Coalition for Peace Action began its

NO WARS, NO WARMING

Campaign in 2014 in response to the global climate crisis.

No Wars, No Warming focuses on the **relationships between conflict and the environment**. Since its founding, NWNW has organized delegations to climate marches, like the People's Climate March in D.C., lobbied in favor of legislation that would reduce the country's carbon footprint, supported Standing Rock, worked with local environmental groups in NJ and PA, and held Earth Day events.



CLIMATE CHANGE, WAR,
HUMANITARIAN CRISES,
ENVIRONMENTAL DEVASTATION,
TERRORISM, GLOBAL WARMING
— ALL THESE ARE LINKED.

The UN, the EU, the G7, and many states have classified climate change as a global and/or national security threat. **"Climate change acts as a threat multiplier. It interacts and converges with other existing risks and pressures in a given context and can increase the likelihood of fragility or violent conflict."** For example, 30 million people in Nigeria, Chad, Niger and Cameroon compete over Lake Chad, a disappearing water source. The lack of access to water (due to climate change, over-use, and population growth) has weakened the government's legitimacy and provided Boko Haram with thriving recruitment conditions. (Nett, Katharina and Lukas Rüttinger 2016: *Insurgency, Terrorism and Organised Crime in a Warming Climate. Analysing the Links Between Climate Change and Non-State Armed Groups*. Berlin: adelphi.)

The current conflict in Syria may have been kicked off by a major drought from 2006-2010, caused by human-driven climate change, which drove farmers into cities. The cities' surges in population and poverty led to instability. (Kirby, Alex 2015: "Climate change a likely factor in Syria civil war." Climate News Network.)

"If unchecked, some predict that climate change could draw up to 720 million people into extreme poverty and create millions or even billions of climate refugees." (EJF (2017) *BEYOND BORDERS: Our changing climate - its role in conflict and displacement*)

Also see "Climate change is indeed a cause of social conflict" in the *LA Times*, by Solomon Hsiang, the chancellor's associate professor of public policy at UC Berkeley, and Marshall Burke, assistant professor of earth system science at Stanford University.



The Coalition for Peace Action co-led the Peace and Climate Justice contingent at the March for a Clean Energy Revolution, attended by 10,000 on July 24, 2016 in Philadelphia on the eve of the Democratic National Convention.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

- More than 70 per cent of the world's uranium is mined on the lands of indigenous peoples. Large volumes of waste result in long-lasting radioactive and chemical pollution. No uranium mine anywhere in the world has been fully cleaned up after mining has finished.
- A war fought using 1,000 nuclear weapons - around 5 per cent of the total global stockpile - would render the planet uninhabitable.
- A regional nuclear war involving around 100 Hiroshima-sized weapons would not result in the extinction of the human race, but the smoke and dust from even a limited nuclear war would cause an abrupt drop in global temperatures and rainfall by blocking up to 10 per cent of sunlight from reaching the Earth's surface. Sudden global cooling would shorten growing seasons, threatening agriculture worldwide. Increases in food prices would make food inaccessible to hundreds of millions of the poorest people in the world. For those who are already chronically malnourished, just a 10 per cent decline in food consumption would result in starvation.
- A nuclear war would cause prolonged and severe depletion of the ozone layer and have a devastating impact on human and animal health. Substantial increases in ultraviolet radiation would cause increases in skin cancer rates, crop damage and the destruction of marine life.

Source: The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN)