



**extinction
rebellion**

PEACE

GLOBAL CEASEFIRE NOW!

SAVE LIVES, BUILD INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AND PEACE

On 23 March, as the Covid-19 coronavirus spread around the world, UN Secretary-General António Guterres called for a global ceasefire, saying:

"Armed conflict rages on around the world. The most vulnerable — women and children, people with disabilities, the marginalized and the displaced — pay the highest price. They are also at the highest risk of suffering devastating losses from COVID-19... Refugees and others displaced by violent conflict are doubly vulnerable."

Calling for diplomacy and dialogue to tackle the causes of conflict, Guterres referred to the "folly of war" and sounded the clarion call:



"It is time to put armed conflict on lockdown and focus together on the true fight of our lives. To warring parties, I say: Pull back from hostilities. Put aside mistrust and animosity. Silence the guns, stop the artillery, end the airstrikes."

"End the sickness of war and fight the disease that is ravaging our world. It starts by stopping the fighting everywhere. Now. That is what our human family needs, now more than ever."

NO-ONE SHOULD PROFIT FROM VIOLENCE AND DESTRUCTION

A Global Ceasefire is necessary not only in Covid times, but for our future. To make this sustainable, legal and political steps must be taken not only to disarm and demilitarise warmongering groups and states, but also to build greater security, peaceful relations and cooperative institutions at local, regional, national and international levels.

FROM CEASEFIRE TO BUILDING PEACE:

→ **Deep and irreversible disarmament:** disarm all combatants; remove and dismantle weapons and delivery systems; use existing international law, treaties and agreements where relevant; and negotiate further disarmament agreements where needed.

→ **Peace must be built by people on the ground**, framed with humanitarian and feminist rights and principles for good governance and the full and equal participation of women, who suffer disproportionate impacts from the use of weapons, including sexual and physical violence. Mediation and reconciliation may also be necessary.

→ **Address the roots of conflict**, which may be land; resources; religious, ethnic rivalries and histories; bad/corrupt governance; pressures due to climate and environmental changes; or external aggressors with geo-political, military-industrial or extractivist motivations...

→ **Demobilise and rehabilitate all combatants** and put in place systems for retraining, education, counselling, care and support into peaceful jobs, with special support for refugees and children who may have been coerced into fighting and/or sexual slavery.

→ **Demilitarise relations among conflicting parties and economic factors that fuel conflict**, locally and internationally, including the production, trade and proliferation of deadly weapons from predatory states and arms manufacturers.

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