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Deutsche Friedensgesellschaft  
Vereinigte KriegsdienstgegnerInnen

**D F G - V K**

**German Peace Society - United War Resisters**

## **Appeal „Steps towards Disarmament“**

Once again war has become a **means** of politics. But war is the wrong answer to terrorism and other threats. The military doesn't solve problems. What is necessary is working on conflicts and solving them by non-violent and civilian means.

We therefore demand that the following steps towards disarmament are to be taken:

- No missions of the German armed forces (Bundeswehr) abroad
- A significant reduction of the Bundeswehr (especially the special forces "Kommando Spezialkräfte") and the abolishment of conscription
- Withdrawal of all nuclear weapons from German territory
- Reduction of military expenditures by at least 5 per cent yearly
- Stop of all military exports
- 500 million Euro per year for working on conflicts with civilian means (zivile Konfliktbearbeitung) and for peace research.

This appeal for which signatures are collected is one major tool of our campaign „Steps towards Disarmament“. We believe that a majority of the German people want disarmament and a meaningful peace policy. But in our opinion it's not sufficient to protest and oppose when war is already going on. It's necessary that opposition and movements against war develop into movements for peace, disarmament and a security policy based on non-military means. To ban war morally and to document the terrible consequences of military fighting is important. But in our view it's not sufficient. The peace movement should challenge fundamentally all military means and develop non-military and civilian perspectives for preventing and solving conflicts.

Our campaign „Steps towards Disarmament“ has a time frame of some years. A lot of different forms of activities (street actions, e-mail messages to politicians, mass postcard mailings to the government, signatures for our appeal etc.) will be used. This fall postcards directed at the German chancellor and demanding a reduction of military expenditures by 5 percent a year are attached to many papers and journals. For next summer a bicycle tour is planned which will make visible to the public important military institutions and companies producing weapons in Southern Germany and highlight their role.

The German Peace Society-United War Resisters (DFG-VK) is a pacifist organization which works for total disarmament and the abolishment of the causes of war. By our campaign „Steps towards Disarmament“ we intend to stimulate people to think beyond the narrow frame of protesting ongoing wars. Our final goal is total and universal disarmament which means the dissolution of the German army too.