

# Security & Disarmament

Working for the protection  
of civilians in armed conflict



# Security & Disarmament

PAX's Security and Disarmament work is aimed at reducing unacceptable human suffering in armed conflict. We do this by working on 2 themes:

## **Strengthening the protection of civilians in armed conflict**

The perspective of civilians is often overlooked when it comes to peace and security. PAX connects local security needs and perspectives from conflict areas (like South-Sudan, DR Congo, Iraq and Libya) to local, national and international policy makers and security actors.

## **Humanitarian disarmament**

PAX works on disarmament to prevent the unacceptable humanitarian harm caused by certain weapons. PAX focuses on the whole chain of armed conflict from the development of new weapons, the investments in the producers, the arms trade, to the use of these weapons in armed conflict.

### **About PAX**

**PAX** means peace. For over 60 years **PAX** has worked together with people in conflict areas and concerned citizens to build just and peaceful societies across the globe. **PAX** works in countries in Africa, Latin America, the Middle East and Southeastern Europe.

# What we do

- ◆ Advocate for the **protection of civilians** to be central in the implementation of international security policies
- ◆ Work with **local partners in conflict areas** who strive for political solutions to end violent conflict and promote policies to protect civilians in armed conflict
- ◆ Connect **local security needs and perspectives** to national and international security providers
- ◆ Work towards a **nuclear weapons** free world
- ◆ Advocate an end to the use of **indiscriminate weapons**, like **cluster munitions and landmines**
- ◆ Advocate more effective and stricter regulations for the **international arms trade**
- ◆ Research the impact of **toxic remnants of war** on civilians and the environment
- ◆ Strive towards an end to civilian harm caused by **explosive weapons in populated areas**
- ◆ Critically follow developments in **emerging military technologies**, like armed drones and robotics
- ◆ Lobby for **disinvestment** from producers of cluster munitions and nuclear weapons

# How we work

PAX works on a global scale through in-depth primary research and publications; national and international advocacy and education; global campaigning and network coordination.



## **Norm building**

Research and sound analysis on the impact of certain weapons, arms trade and armed violence, are essential to address civilian harm in a sustainable way. We conduct research on the ground, translate the results into recommendations and put these on local, national and international agendas.

## **Norm setting**

Norms are established by research, public campaigning and political debate, and can be implemented by states into treaties. The cooperation between civil society and states (civil diplomacy) has proven to be highly effective in this.

## **Norm compliance**

Treaties only make a real impact on the ground if they are strictly interpreted and implemented. The international community and civil society need to stay alert, monitor, push and if necessary name and shame.

# International coalitions

As we strongly believe in the strength of international cooperation, most of our work is done through international coalitions and networks. PAX is founder or board member of many of these, including:

- ◆ [Cluster Munition Coalition](#)
- ◆ [International Coalition to Ban Landmines](#)
- ◆ [International Coalition to Ban Uranium Weapons](#)
- ◆ [International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons](#)
- ◆ [Global Alliance on Armed Violence](#)
- ◆ [Fair Finance Guide](#)
- ◆ [Control Arms Coalition](#)
- ◆ [International Network on Explosive Weapons](#)
- ◆ [Toxic Remnants of War Project](#)
- ◆ [Campaign to Stop Killer Robots](#)

# How to contact us?



Campaigner dressed as a cluster bomb reading the 2014 update of the PAX report 'Worldwide Investments in Cluster Munitions; a shared responsibility' (London, 27 November 2014. © CMC).



If you want to know more, visit our website [www.paxforpeace.nl](http://www.paxforpeace.nl)

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Photo front cover: People walk past a destroyed building in the West Bank city of Nablus (October 25, 2006 © Abed Omar Qusini).