

Ending Britain's support alongside the US for escalating war in the world through NATO in Ukraine, the Middle East and in the world.

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What is the Ant-War Assembly Assembly about why we are holding it

So Firstly, we take part in the whole movement in standing with Palestine in the area and alongside the PSC. And of course as we have heard in the first session despicable Israeli Zionist crimes and genocide against the Palestinians which is a crime against all of us as human beings. And now of course the US is arming and funding their criminal attack on Lebanon.

I think at this time we must condemn the Israeli assassination of the Lebanese leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah on Friday as well as other Lebanese resistance fighters and their leaders. The fact that the US celebrated his death and when they have just given \$5.3 billion to Israel for weapons, £3.6 billion before that for the bombs and this includes Britain who have supplied parts for the F-35 bombers to carry it out this and other crimes is the true nature of their involvement and what we are dealing with.

Secondly if we are to resist this we need to get people to join in this discussion from the point of view of renewing and rebuilding the anti-war movement in Britain. And Newcastle area has a very proud tradition in the anti-war movement.

Whatever peoples' opinion on these wars the wars have to be stopped and a permanent peace realised. People will have different views of course in the anti-war movement. The movement is very broad, involves the trade unions as we have seen and stop the war is a part of it.

On Ukraine the propaganda of the ruling elite and both major Parties that the Ukraine war needs to be supported and continually escalated without any limits. To talk of a peace deal that opposes this escalation of war without limits is to be called by them and extremist siding with Russia and so on.

But the arguments to escalate the war is the one that is extremist and needs to be isolated. NATO is not a defence organisation but is the one that is an extremist war mongering alliance that is a tool to expand the interests of their war and other industries and an alliance of control for the Anglo/US interests

So, what is key and what the anti-war movement has always stood for, what unites us, is that these wars have to be stopped and that the main enemy is our own warmongering ruling elite, and our own regimes that need changed and stopped.

Of course we should go further in rebuilding the anti-war movement. It is also about fighting for new arrangements in society that bring about an anti-war government that give rise to the new and modern arrangements in the world where the people have a real say and conflicts are resolved peacefully in the interests of all peoples, nations and countries. Clearly this is needed and now many countries are saying the UN is in crisis cannot stop the genocide in Gaza so needs to be renewed.

The Palestine ambassador said it at the TUC Congress a couple of weeks ago. Dr Husam Zomlot pointed out that it is unbelievable that we still have to make a case on the streets together to oppose those who are selling arms to Israel to commit genocide. For us that shows how out of step and criminal the political arrangements in society have become that genocide is now normalised by our governments when it is something that was condemned following the WWII.

This is all part of joining in this discussion from the point of view of rebuilding the anti-war movement. Mentioning the TUC Congress 2 weeks ago I wanted mention the debate and the motion on standing with Palestine against the arming of Israel and the debate on the emergency motion against the “escalation of war”. This shows that we are not alone and our cause is just that the anti-war movements is very broad. It is right across society and that is very significance that these stands are being reflected in the trade union moment.

But what are we dealing with in terms of the government in Britain to stop their wars

Looking at the Labour government. Yes they have only just come to power but already Sir Keir Starmer has become one of the principle war mongers in the world taking over from Sunak and Boris Jonson before him.

Keir Starmer’s meeting with President Biden of the United States on September 13 revealed this. This was a meeting where Starmer and Lammy, who accompanied him were dangerously and desperately trying to further escalate the NATO proxy war in Ukraine by using NATO forces and US encrypted satellites to fire missiles deep into Russia. According to all reports and logic this would provoke a direct war between Russia and NATO and the even greater possibility of a nuclear war.

This is why Biden was reluctantly forced to back down on Britain’s dangerous and reckless proposal. Neither did the meeting of Biden and Starmer have any impact on de-escalating Israel’s continuing genocidal war in Gaza as it claimed – quite the oppostie. They obviously agreed the Israeli regime's latest state terrorist attack against the Lebanese people and bombing of Lebanon with US bombs and British supplied F-35s that followed a few days later.

Can I remind you that Starmer gave fair warning during the general election of an even more dangerous direction that a new Labour government intended when he angrily replied to a question Sky news that “this is a changed Labour Party and my commitment to the nuclear deterrent is absolute, absolute! That is why I voted for it, that is why I have changed this party and that is why it will be the number one issue for an incoming Labour government.” Number one issue.

On Ukraine clearly there is no intention to de-escalate the war and support a peace deal between these two neighbouring countries Ukraine and Russia who are both losing tens of thousands of lives in the war.

This is a war that the Anglo-US led NATO had a major hand in provoking. They blocked peace deals from 2014 before the war - Blocked the Minsk peace agreements backed by the UN. In March 2022 after the war had started Boris Johnson blocked the peace negotiations in Turkey when he was sent to Ukraine to persuade Zelensky to continue the war - this is all known.

Now they are desperately trying to maintain the war to achieve their failing Global Ambitions in supporting the regime in Ukraine to defeat Russia. This alongside their failing ambitions in the Middle East to control it with supporting the Israeli Zionist regime

In other words, these Anglo-US warmongers pin their hopes on continuously escalating their arming and support for Ukraine in their proxy war to defeat Russia even if this risks provoking a nuclear war. They continually arm and support Israel in its its massacres of the Palestinian people thinking this will defeat the Palestinian resistance and “free the hostages”.

They do the same in arming and supporting Israel in its war of aggression against Lebanon, Syria and Iran. They threaten China and the DPRK in east Asia and the Asian Pacific. They must be stopped.

What is key and what anti-war movement has always stood for - what unites us is that these wars have to be stopped and the main enemy is our own warmongering ruling elite and government.

Lastly, I would mention that Britain's role is key to this Anglo-US alliance and if we stop the British government their whole desperate and failing ambitions in this changing world will come crumbling down.

Just remember in 2003-13 when the anti war movement in Britain was previously at its height the Parliament did not back Cameron in and invasion of Syria. The US then also had to withdraw its plans to invade Syria.

So join in this discussions and actions to renew the anti-war movement in Britain because we can make a major if not decisive contribution to stopping these wars and stand with Palestine, stand against the escalation of war in the Middle East and stand against escalation of war in Ukraine.