

# Cross-Canada Campaign for Peace

## Questionnaire

Please fill out this questionnaire and return it before September 1, 2002 to: Les Artistes pour la Paix, C.P. 867, Succ. C, Montreal, QC, H2L 4L6.

### Canada's Soldiers and the War on Terrorism

1. The military response to the terrorist acts of September 11 2001 killed innocent people and added to the refugee problem in Afghanistan. Those who support the military approach believe that it is the only effective way to eliminate terrorist networks. Others believe that these actions contribute to a cycle of violence that may increase the chances of future terrorist acts. Do you believe that Canada's troops in Afghanistan are:

- a. fighting terrorism
- b. contributing to future acts of terrorism

2. Please rank the following approaches to addressing the threat of terrorism from 1 to 4, with number 1 indicating the approach you believe should receive the strongest emphasis. Exclude any option that you think is not appropriate for Canadian policy:

- Canada should rely on a military response to threats to our security by building the capacity of our armed forces to wage or participate in wars against states that we believe threaten the security of our citizens
- Canada should treat terrorist acts as crimes to be prosecuted under the law
- Canada should emphasize social development at home and around the world
- Canada should emphasize negotiated conflict resolution, international law and diplomacy

3. It is Canada's current policy for our troops in Afghanistan to hand prisoners over to military tribunals convened by the United States. These tribunals do not fully conform to international law. Do you think that Canadian troops instead should turn these prisoners over to an international tribunal that fully conforms to international law?

- a. yes
- b. no

4. The activities of the Canadian Armed Forces should be governed by the following (mark one or more):

- Protecting Canadian interests by using armed force as necessary, even if the UN has not authorized military intervention
- Peacekeeping under United Nations auspices
- Directed by a Department of Peace, which would replace the Department of National Defence and also be responsible for conflict mediation and resolution, diplomacy, humanitarian assistance and post-conflict reconstruction

### Canada's anti-terrorism laws

5. Under one of Canada's new anti-terrorism laws, evidence used to prosecute someone of an act of terrorism can be withheld from the accused and their lawyer for reasons of state security. Do you agree that the threat of terrorism is so great that people standing accused of such crimes should be denied their full rights to a fair trial in this way?

- a. yes
- b. no

6a. Police regularly arrest people who participate in public protests, but until recently, the measures they could take to prevent or stop protest actions were limited. A change in Canada's laws allows police forces to use, legally and without prior authorization, whatever level of force, including "lethal force," they believe is appropriate to ensure protesters do not disrupt meetings with international political delegates. Do you think that these new police powers are necessary?

- a. yes
- b. no

6b. Do you think there is a risk that members of the police may abuse these powers and unfairly target legitimate dissent?

- a. serious risk
- b. some risk
- c. low risk
- d. no risk

### Militarism and corporate globalization

7. Major Canadian corporations want Canada's customs and immigration policies to be harmonized with those of the United States, claiming that North American trade may be slowed by US security measures if we do not do so. Do you think that Canada's policies should be changed to become more consistent with those of the United States even if this means essentially adopting the US legislation?

- a. yes
- b. no

8. While the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) of the World Trade Organization (WTO) generally prohibits governments' subsidies of industry, the "national security" provision of the GATT allows governments to subsidize "defence" industries. The Government of Canada currently provides financial support (subsidies and marketing assistance) to manufacturers to make and market weapons. Do you think that taxes paid by Canadians should be used to help Canadian companies compete in the international weapons trade?

- a. yes
- b. no

9. Fifteen Nobel Peace Prize Laureates have proposed to prohibit weapons exports to countries that do not comply with a code of conduct. The code establishes standards such as compliance with international human rights standards; compliance with international humanitarian law; respect for democratic rights; respect for international arms embargoes and military sanctions; and promotion of human development. Do you agree that Canada should export weapons only to those countries that comply with the code?

- a. yes
- b. no
- c. Canada should not be exporting weapons at all.

10. Sometimes, countries that import weapons from Canada turn around and re-export them to countries to which Canada would prohibit weapons exports. The final recipients of Canada's weapons may be at war or involved in grave human rights abuses. Do you think Canada should tighten the regulations governing re-exporting weapons?

- a. yes
- b. no
- c. Canada should not be exporting weapons at all.

11. Right now, companies do not need a permit to export weapons to the United States, which is not the case for weapons exports to any other country in the world. Do you think that permits should be required for all weapons exports, including to the United States?

- a. yes
- b. no
- c. Canada should not be exporting weapons at all.

12. Would you support the institution of a Canada Day for Peace?

- a. yes
- b. no

**NOTE:** We need to be sure no one fills out this questionnaire more than once. For this reason we ask you to give us the following information, which will remain confidential and not be used for any other reason.

Name:

Age:

Postal code:

The Cross-Canada Campaign for Peace invites you to organize an event in support of the campaign in your community. Send us the info at the Canadian Peace Alliance (fax 416-588-5556, e-mail: [cpa@web.ca](mailto:cpa@web.ca)) and we'll add it to the list on the CPA web site <[www.acp-cpa.ca/cccp.htm](http://www.acp-cpa.ca/cccp.htm)>.

Distribute copies of the questionnaire at events in your community, your place of worship, at your local library, fair, music festival or other event. Use it to start talking about peace issues with your friends, neighbours and family.

What you have to say may take more than a questionnaire. Write to the Prime Minister yourself or send him a video or letter via the Cross-Canada Campaign for Peace via the Canadian Religious Conference, 219 Argyle Avenue, Suite 400, Box 26, Ottawa, ON, K2P 2H4 and we will deliver all of them together. The written or visual messages will be delivered only if they are clearly in line with our Cross-Canada Campaign for Peace. They need to be short (maximum 2 minutes or one page) and respectful.

Go to the salAMI web site ([www.alternatives.ca/salami/](http://www.alternatives.ca/salami/)) to participate in a "self-dununciation" campaign to protest Canada's new anti-terrorism laws.

Whatever the medium, be sure to have your say by participating in the Cross-Canada Campaign for Peace!

Who's behind this? The Cross-Canada Campaign for Peace was started by a coalition of peace and social justice groups in Canada: Canadian Peace Alliance / L'Alliance canadienne pour la paix; Canadian Religious Conference / Conférence religieuse canadienne; Canadian Voice of Women for Peace / La voix des femmes canadiennes pour la paix; Edmonton Coalition for Peace and Against Racism ; Edmonton World Peace ; Les Artistes pour la paix; Peace Alliance Winnipeg; Operation SalAMI; Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)–BC. These groups represent Canadians who care about this country's security, and indeed, the security of the world. We believe that Canada can continue to make a unique contribution to world peace.