

## Peace Movement Aotearoa Report to WILPF Aotearoa AGM 2025

Peace Movement Aotearoa's primary focus is networking information and resources for anyone interested in peace, disarmament, and human rights to use. They also make submissions to government and report to UN bodies on matters of concern (most recently, for example, to the UN Human Rights Committee on the legislative changes around Te Tiriti, the Oranga Tamariki Act, the Arms Act, and reduction of environmental and human rights protections over the past year) and encourage and assist others to do so too.



Their work is with peace and speaking truth to power, and is done collaboratively with their member and supporting groups and individuals.

Peace Movement Aotearoa provides national coordination for a range of global humanitarian disarmament campaigns: ICAN (International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate) Aotearoa, and for those focused on autonomous weapons, cluster munitions, landmines, military spending, and explosive weapons; and for the WW1 Centenary Peace Project. They maintain extensive topic-focused national networks for each campaign, and on other issues including conscientious objection, Christian peace solidarity, Te Tiriti, human rights, women peace and security (WPS), and support for non-violent initiatives. They provide web pages for member groups such as the Anglican Pacifist Fellowship; for Matike Mai Aotearoa, White Poppies for Peace and the White Poppy Peace Scholarships; and NZ disarmament statements online.

As well as providing resources for each of the projects listed above, they have produced updates and alerts on a wide range of peace, disarmament, Tiriti, human rights and climate justice issues; and have continued to publicise and provide resources for specific national and international days throughout the year, from Waitangi Day in February to Human Rights Day in December, as well as providing information on a variety of UN peace, disarmament, and human rights developments. Peace Movement Aotearoa's Coordinator, Edwina Hughes, has spoken and provided presentations at a range of meetings and events, including 'Climate justice, social justice or endless preparation for war?' and the 'Remembering Hiroshima and Nagasaki' forum.

They have continued to produce publications, to provide information on specific topics on request, to meet with peace and related groups around the country and overseas online and face-to-face, to regularly update their website, Facebook, and Twitter feeds, to provide

information for publications by others on a variety of peace related topics, and to publicise peace events and funding opportunities.

Peace Movement Aotearoa has done a tremendous amount of work over the past year (an overview of the year in images is at <https://www.converge.org.nz/pma/images2024.pdf> ) and they anticipate they will maintain a similar level of activity in 2025. Highlights over the past year included:

- further expansion of yDISARM (Youth Disarmament Project) and support for Pacific nuclear and climate justice youth networks;
- hosting frequent online forums and gatherings on a range of humanitarian disarmament topics, and NGO briefings on UN submission opportunities, including for NZ's fourth Universal Periodic Review;
- providing resources for written and oral submissions to Select Committees on military spending, military emissions, gun control, Te Tiriti, regulatory standards, and many more concerns over the past year.

Their key messages around peace, disarmament, and government spending priorities, along with their work around integrating human rights, humanitarian and disarmament law into NZ's domestic and foreign policy priorities, attract significant interest – especially, over the past year, in relation to NZ's obligations with regard to Gaza, RIMPAC, and increasing military links with AUKUS and nuclear-armed states.

Thank you to WILPF for the support of the work that Peace Movement Aotearoa does.

Claire and Linley Gregory