

Call for May 8: Never again war – never again fascism

Voices from Germany on the anniversary of the liberation

79 years ago, Germany's war of robbery and annihilation was finally over. The Allied troops had liberated our country and Europe from fascism. For this, we say from the bottom of our hearts: Thank you!

Of the victorious powers, the peoples of the Soviet Union bore the brunt of this liberation, with 27 million deaths. There was no family whose members did not play their part in it as soldiers, partisans, workers in the back country. The suffering as well as the strength of their parents, grandparents and great-grandparents remain immeasurable. Nothing and no one should ever be forgotten.

We are deeply moved by the fact that so many people in the Soviet Union and Russia were nevertheless willing to trust Germans and establish good neighbourly relations.

After the German reunification, there was a brief window of opportunity to build a space of peace and cooperation in Europe, from Lisbon to Vladivostok. Instead, NATO kept expanding to Russia's borders, and Russia is once again to become the enemy of all of us.

This is not only oblivious to history, it is extremely dangerous, as NATO expansion, the dizzying arms race and the war in Ukraine are on the verge of a large, all-out war with the potential to reduce Europe to rubble.

None of this is done in our name!

We demand from the German government: stop arms deliveries to the Ukraine war, diplomatic initiatives to end it, stop demonizing Russia. We don't want a Germany that is war-capable, it must finally become ready for lasting peace.



An initiative from the Peace Movement.

In the face of the confrontation and escalation policy of the NATO and the German government, she wants to develop and support actions and concepts in new constellations for peace policy positions with classic left-wing claim at parliamentary and extra-parliamentary.

Under pressure from our government, the manifold German-Russian partner relations between cities, universities, schools, associations, cultural and many other institutions were put on ice or completely broken off. We want to revive it from below, from the grassroots, according to Bertolt Brecht: "If the peoples themselves first speak, they will quickly be united".

Peace in Europe cannot be achieved without Russia. We are committed to a European security architecture that takes ~~into account~~ everyone's security interests into account equally, in which conflicts are resolved peacefully in the sense of Immanuel Kant's categorical imperative, ~~and~~ where weapons become superfluous. Our planet is too vulnerable, and the development of weapons of mass destruction too dangerous, for another major war to even come within the realm of possibility.

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Abbreviations used:

AG: Working Group

AK: Working Group

AK Geschi: AK History of the Youth College "Wilhelm000 Pieck"

NatWiss: Natural Science Initiative Responsibility for Peace and Sustainability

IPPNW: International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War

MdB: Member of the Bundestag

NRW: North Rhine-Westphalia

VVN-BdA: Association of the Persecuted of the Nazi Regime – League of Anti-Fascists