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PEACE AND SECURITY

Out of Afghanistan

Independent approach

Vote before war

Real security rests on cooperation, fair economic and social development, and respect for human rights

PRINCIPLES

The Australian Greens believe that:

1. Genuine security rests on cooperation, fair economic and social development, and respect for human rights, rather than on military capabilities.
2. Non-violent conflict management is the most effective means of promoting peace.
3. United Nations mandated military action should be a last resort and can only be justified in response to a major violation of human rights or attempted genocide, or to counter the military aggression of a state.
4. Civil society organisations, including ethnic and women's groups, should be fully involved in peacemaking and post-conflict reconstruction.
5. Conscription has no place in a democratic society.
6. The deployment of Australian Defence Forces (ADF) must be for defence and peacekeeping purposes.
7. No nuclear armed or powered forces should be deployed within Australia's maritime zone.
8. The deployment of Australian military forces must require the endorsement of the Australian people.
9. The use and promotion of violence against civilians or elected Governments or representatives of a state, an organisation or individuals, should be rejected as a means to achieve political objectives.
10. To reduce the threat of terrorism, the social and economic injustices which contribute to terrorism should be addressed.
11. Climate change represents one of the greatest threats to international peace and security.
12. Environmental degradation caused by sea-level rise and other climate change impacts, including the displacement of people, undermining global peace and security.
13. Involvement in military actions has broad and long lasting consequences, including the loss of life, the displacement of people, the destruction of property and the environmental damage caused by military operations.

directly involved, their families and the broader community.

AIMS

The Australian Greens want:

1. The elimination of weapons of mass destruction.
2. All countries to sign, ratify and implement outstanding international human rights strengthened nuclear non-proliferation treaties.
3. The reconstruction and empowerment of war ravaged communities to facilitate sustainable development.
4. A reallocation, and where possible, reduction in Australian military expenditure compared to other countries, and the peace-keeping role of Australian forces.
5. An ADF adequate to Australia's defence and peacekeeping needs.
6. The ADF and other public security agencies to be non-discriminatory, and reflect the values of the Australian people.
7. A United Nations-sponsored international peace conference on global nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament.
8. An international ban on the manufacture and use of arms that indiscriminately kill civilians, including cluster bombs and depleted uranium; and an immediate end to ADF participation in any other military forces, where those forces are utilising such weapons.
9. To reinvigorate peace research in Australian universities and peace education in schools.
10. Gender equality in peace processes, agreements and transitional governance structures.
11. To ensure that trade embargos and other economic sanctions are used as part of a comprehensive strategy to ensure minimal harm to civilians.
12. To ensure that regional defence treaties promote Australia's independent role in the Pacific region, consistent with international and human rights obligations.
13. An end to Australia's participation in the United States Missile Defence program and the development of space-based missile defence systems.
14. Closure of all existing foreign bases in Australian territory and an end to foreign troops in Australian territory.
15. The development of an Australian Coastguard to replace military personnel and equipment in the maritime domain.
16. A voluntary Australian Defence Force where personnel have the right to conscientious objection, and that has a robust and transparent grievance mechanism, and that has a transparent and reduces discrimination and harassment amongst ADF members.
17. An end to training and joint exercises by the ADF with armed forces known to have committed human rights abuses.
18. Australia to sign and ratify all treaties directed towards achieving arms control and non-proliferation.
19. Comprehensive and transparent accounting of the costs, including social and health costs, of military action and future involvement in military action.
20. No Australian participation in the sale of weaponry, the sale of weaponry components, or the sale of military technology.
21. The United Nations and associated agencies to strengthen the push for strong international arms control and non-proliferation treaties.

21. The United Nations and associated agencies to strengthen the push for strong international arms control agreements to reduce the production and stockpiling of all kinds of armaments of all kinds.
22. Decisions on defence procurement to be based on Australia's defence needs.
23. Defence procurements that do not restrict the operations of the ADF by increased expenditure.
24. A renegotiated defence relationship with our allies that promotes Australia's independence.

POLICY CATEGORY:

PEACE AND NON-VIOLENCE

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