



Victorian Peace Network

Application for affiliation

Organisation

Postal address

Name & position of person authorising affiliation

Website <http://www.>

Webperson

Signed

Date

Office/street address

Office contact / organiser

Phone

Email

Does your organisation have a monthly mailout? When

Size

Does your organisation have a mass email list?

Size

Does your organisation have a publicist / media liaison person?

Delegate name

Delegate phone

Delegate email

Alternate delegate name

Phone

Alternate delegate email

Please attach a copy of any policy your organisation has on War on Iraq or peace issues.

The VPN is a network of affiliates undertaking activities in accordance with the (interim) statement of aims and objectives (see overleaf), and where there is general agreement.

The decision-making body is the VPN affiliate meeting, based on one vote, one delegate per financial affiliate.

Affirmative decisions require the clear support of most affiliates, and the network is sensitive to the needs of those affiliates which are themselves umbrella organisations to confer with their own members.

Affiliation fees are \$500 per year.

Smaller, financially challenged organisations may make some of their affiliation fees by work-in-kind; however the minimum cash affiliation fee is \$100 per year.

Please return to Victorian Peace Network

Suite 2, Victorian Trades Hall Council, 54 Victoria Street, Carlton South Vic 3053.

Phone 613 9659 3582 • info@vicpeace.org • www.vicpeace.org

Victorian Peace Network: Statement of aims and objectives

Provisionally approved 24 September 2002

General principles

The VPN is based on the following principles and concerns:

1. Concern at the increasing militarisation and political volatility of the Middle East and Asia, the consequences for these regions and the wider international community;
2. Support for the reversal of the military build-up in these regions, specifically the removal of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, an end to the inflow of arms, and the reduction in the current level of conventional arms;
3. Support for the removal of foreign military bases from these regions, and an end to foreign military interventions in these regions, including the withdrawal of Australian, American and other foreign military forces;
4. The regions' conflicts should be solved in a just and peaceful manner, with the participation and support of all nations and peoples in the region, having regard for the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, international law and the rights of all peoples to self-determination;
5. Opposition to racism and the racist stereotyping of any part of the Australian community, and support for the right to express views without fear of prejudice, intimidation or reprisal.

The Victorian Peace Network works to bring together diverse organisations in pursuit of these principles; including education campaigns, public events and rallies. The Victorian Peace Network does not speak on behalf of individual organisations, and respects the diverse approaches of affiliate organisations.

Iraq

THE VPN recognises that:

1. The United States, with the support of the Australian government, is threatening all-out war on Iraq that will cost thousands of innocent lives, further destabilise the Middle East and legitimise the new American strategic doctrine of 'first strike' and 'regime change'.
2. The Iran-Iraq war and the destruction of Iraqi civilian infrastructure in the 1991 war claimed the lives of more than half a million people. Twelve years of economic sanctions – enforced with Australian forces – have resulted in the unnecessary deaths of hundreds of thousands of civilians, especially children and the elderly.
3. Another war on Iraq would be a high-tech massacre, creating a toxic regional swamp of biological, chemical and depleted uranium warheads residues, and resulting in humanitarian and ecological devastation, and a crisis of new refugees.
4. Concern about weapons of mass destruction requires a world-wide move to reduce armaments and arms sales, not selling huge quantities of weapons into Middle East countries and then lighting the flames of war.
5. Support and respect for international law, including UN resolutions on disarmament and human rights, can only be based on their equal and impartial application, including those concerning the Israel–Palestine issue.

And therefore

THE VPN:

- strongly opposes a new war on Iraq;
- the participation of Australian military forces and intelligence bases in such a war; and
- supports a peaceful and just settlement of all conflicts in the Middle East.