

CT Coalition for Peace & Justice

We are a gathering of peace activists and concerned citizens from the Greater Hartford area who continue to rally together publicly and work non-violently for peace.

We mourn the tragedy of September 11, 2001 and for the victims of subsequent attacks in Afghanistan and Iraq. We stand united with the nation in recognizing the incomprehensible loss of life and sense of grief that has gripped our world, but we believe we must go beyond grief and fear to resolve these global problems.

JOIN US

Peace vigils: Fridays, 11:30 am—12:30 pm
Federal Building in Hartford (450 Main)

Saturdays, 11:30—12:30 pm
West Hartford Center

Sundays, 12:00 noon—1:00 pm
Glastonbury, Main and Hebron Avenues

Hope Out Loud Coffeehouse
Last Friday of every month
ArtSpace in Hartford, 7:00—9:00 pm
For information call (860) 242-3067

Weekly meetings: Mondays at 7:30 pm
West Hartford Quaker Meeting House
144 South Quaker Lane, West Hartford CT
Call (860) 523-1534 for more information



CT Coalition for Peace & Justice
56 Arbor Street
Hartford, CT 06105

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GREATER HARTFORD CHAPTER



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We reject pre-emptive warfare

It is our strong belief that a non-military response is the best strategy for a permanent end to terror. Just as we condemn all terrorist acts, we also condemn all situations in which civilians are killed for the values or actions of their governments. We strongly encourage citizens and policy-makers to actively pursue non-violent strategies in the struggle to make the world a safer place. Viable non-violent avenues include: the endorsement of the International Criminal Court, investment in basic human needs of people of all cultures and religions, and ending our support for authoritarian regimes everywhere.



We support building a culture of peace

The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed the decade 2001-2010 as the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-violence for the Children of the World. The UN defines the Culture of Peace as the values and behaviors that inspire social interaction based on principles of freedom, justice, democracy, human rights, citizen participation, tolerance and solidarity. A Culture of Peace rejects violence in all its forms, and endeavors to prevent conflicts by tackling their root causes and fostering their resolution through dialogues and negotiation.



We denounce the profiling and targeting of people based on race, ethnicity, national origin, religion or sexual orientation

In the aftermath of September 11, 2001 a wide variety of people, both inside the US and elsewhere, have been subjected to such profiling and targeting, with some incidents leading to violence and even death. We condemn these acts of discrimination, persecution and violence, and call for the respect and protection of all people's human and civil rights.

We defend the civil liberties of all people

Our nation was shamed when, out of ignorance, we forced Japanese Americans into internment camps after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Let us learn from history and not repeat the mistakes of our past. If we purport to stand for freedom, let us not use oppression as our weapon. Let us uphold our democratic ideals to the highest extent by respecting the rights of all people to express themselves freely, whether through politics or religion.

We are working together for global security born of peace, justice and equity

In today's world, human beings are becoming ever more concerned. We believe that the only true safety for our world lies in global security maintained through peace, not "security" enforced by war. We believe that our world can and should build bridges between its people through acts that create trust and stimulate peace.

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We deplore the ballooning military budgets and resulting deficits

We believe in scaling back military expenditures and, instead, financing social services, basic human needs, education and the protection of the environment. We understand that the largest national deficit in American history will jeopardize the future of our children and grandchildren.

Peaceful Alternatives to War

We urge our government to:

1. Lead the UN in bringing diplomatic, political and economic pressure to bear against governments, not innocent citizens, that support acts of terrorism.
2. Intensify US efforts to secure a fair, just and lasting peace for Israelis and Palestinians.
3. Lead the international community in eliminating stockpiles of chemical, biological and nuclear weapons and abolishing their use.
4. Support an international ban on the sale and transfer of weapons to zones of conflict.
5. Greatly increase humanitarian aid to refugees in zones of conflict.
6. Greatly reduce military spending and use the savings to raise the standard of living in the US and other countries.
7. Use our preeminent power, not to threaten other nations, but to assure every person on this globe a livelihood.
8. Preserve civil rights and liberties for all peoples, maintain government accountability and protect those who are vulnerable to hate crimes.
9. Transform our foreign policy to support human rights and the development of democratic institutions in the entire Middle East and the rest of the world.
10. Reduce our dependence on foreign oil by promoting energy conservation and alternative energy sources.