

“We called for a ban on the use of armed drones for targeted killings and for a policy which upholds human right and international humanitarian law. It was recognised by parliament that drone strikes outside a declared war zone and on the territory of another state without consent were a violation of international law.”

MEP Jill Evans, 24 Feb 2014

Be a part of the movement.
Support the right for life.

Want to know more?

<http://dronecampaignnetwork.wordpress.com/>
<http://dronewars.net/>
<http://droneswatch.org/>
<http://www.thebureauinvestigates.com>

Drone Warfare *Medea Benjamin*
Drone Wars Briefing *Chris Cole*
Eurodrones *Ben Hayes, Chris Jones & Eric Töpfer*

Getting Involved

Reprieve *020 7553 8140*
info@reprieve.org.uk

Amnesty International UK *020 7033 1777*
sct@amnesty.org.uk

Take Action: Want to know how you can help?

Write letters and sign various petitions to ground drones.

Or you can even stop investing in firms that contribute to the building of drones that are deployed. Stay tuned to websites such as the Drone Campaign Network and the Peace and Justice Centre to be a part of campaigns to end the use of drones!

Advocating Nonviolence - Human Rights
Ecological Responsibility – Alternatives to War

Peace and Justice News, Speakers
Fact sheets, Diary of Events.



Open Tuesday – Saturday 10am – 4pm

If you would like to become a supporter, volunteer, contribute to or receive our Newsletter contact us at:

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Edinburgh Peace & Justice Centre
Fact Sheet Series

Drones



Image from Wired.com

Drones are essentially aerial vehicles that are controlled remotely by ‘pilots’ thus referring to them as Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs).

While there are dozens of different types of drones, the Reaper and Predator drones are most prominently deployed in Afghanistan and Iraq and are controlled via satellite from United States Air Force (USAF) bases outside Nevada, Las Vegas.

Through the usage of drones, the USAF has increased the number of combat air patrols by 600%! And at anytime, there are at least 36 UAVs over Afghanistan and Iraq.

Read more....



Image from VOA News

Collateral Damage: A Serious Concern

According to the Brookings Institution, for every militant leader targeted and killed by a drone strike, 10 civilians are chalked up as “collateral damage”.

Until today, the United States and the United Kingdom have not justified the use of drones to target and eliminate individuals under international law. According to Amnesty International (and many other organisations), eliminating an individual without trial violates the code of international law. Through the usage of increasingly sophisticated

technology such as facial and behavioural recognition and the monitoring of conversations, the potential for a surveillant assemblage to be built is a high possibility. The sky, so to speak, is the limit when it comes to the development of drones in foreign as well as domestic surveillance

Double Tap?

Double tapping is a method employed by the United States where a targeted strike site is hit multiple times in quick succession. This effectively eliminates and maims first responders coming onto the site to rescue the injured. The use of a “double tap” also deters civilians as well as humanitarian workers from assisting the injured and saving those clinging to life. This has resulted in some humanitarian missions being ordered to wait at least 6 hours before assisting those who have been injured in the site of a drone attack.

According to the International Committee of the Red Cross and the

Bureau of Investigative Journalism, “the dissuasive effect that the “double tap” pattern of strikes has on first responders raises crucial moral and legal concerns. Not only does the practice put into question the extent to which secondary strikes comply with international humanitarian law’s basic rules of distinction, proportionality, and precautions, but it also potentially violates specific legal protections for medical and humanitarian personnel, and for the wounded. As international law experts have noted, intentional strikes on first responders may constitute war crimes.”

Earlier in 2014, the European Parliament called for a ban on the use of drones especially in targeted killing missions. MEP Jill Evans mentioned that drones need to be included in European and international disarmament and arms control negotiations.