



## Women in Black

# General Election 2024 Vote for Peace and real Security

Women in Black is an international network of women for peace with justice and against war, militarism and violence. For us, peace is not the mere absence of war. Real security means being able to live without fear from all forms of violence. For women, security means equality and independence, food and shelter, health and education. Women are the first victims of war, but we hold the key to peace

The UK's investment in war and a culture and economy of militarism creates untold human suffering and degrades the planet. We believe that there are concrete steps that can be taken to build real peace. The General Election offers an opportunity for citizens to raise critical questions with candidates about how this can be achieved.

### Suggested questions for candidates

**Our role in current wars and climate crisis.** Would you advocate and support an immediate ceasefire in Gaza & Israel? How might you enhance the role of women peacemakers and diplomats through Foreign Office conflict prevention projects in Ukraine, Sudan, DRC and beyond? What will you do to tackle the climate and ecological emergency? Where would you invest resources to protect the planet?  
More here. <https://rethinkingsecurity.org.uk/>

**Refugees and asylum seekers:** Would you be prepared to support an end to the detention of immigrants – an inhumane system which causes great distress? Would you support measures to allow asylum seekers to work and so feel part of society and earn much needed income?  
More here <https://www.refugeewomen.co.uk/>

**Nuclear Weapons and Arms Trade:** Will you urge the UK government to fulfil its obligations on nuclear disarmament by signing the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons? Would you oppose the siting of US nuclear weapons in Britain? Will you support arms embargoes on weapons exports to Israel and Saudi Arabia? More here <https://cnduk.org>

### What you can do

**Find out** who your candidates are and use information in this leaflet to ask questions and raise your concerns <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/election/2024/uk/results>

**Attend** a local meeting for candidates (*check local papers for details*) and question them all on these issues.

**Write** on these issues to your local paper, and phone a radio 'Phone-in'.

**Put up** a poster – make your own or use the websites above.

**Copy** this leaflet and give it to someone else. Share it on social media.



Women in Black hold vigils every Wednesday between 6-7 pm at the Edith Cavell Statue, opposite the door of the National Portrait Gallery, St. Martin's Place, and London WC2. Our vigils are silent, women-only and if possible we wear black. We welcome all women who support our call for an end to militarism and war.  
Contact us: Twitter @WIB\_London FB @womeninblack.london  
<http://london.womeninblack.org/>

Donations for leaflets most welcome

June/July 2024