



Women in Black London

Stop the Arms Fair Countdown to September 9–12

The bi-annual Defence & Security Equipment International (DSEI) arms fair is due to be held at the London EXCEL centre between 9th – 12th September. It plans to bring together 1,600+ arms companies who will promote their lethal wares to an expected 45,000+ attendees from 90 countries. The event is supported by the Ministry of Defence and the UK Defence & Security Export Ministry and provides an opportunity for the UK to showcase military equipment and technology and secure trade for UK arms companies.

The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (www.sipri.org) reported in 2024 that the 25 largest state suppliers of arms accounted for 98% of all arms exports. The USA is top of the list, the UK is the 7th largest exporter. India, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Ukraine and Pakistan are the largest importers. Sales to Europe have increased by 94% in the past two years. The war between Russia and Ukraine accounts for most of this and in 2025 it is expected to increase even more.

The world is at war and thousands are being killed, maimed and forced to flee their homes. Here are some of the countries where wars are being fought: Sudan, Syria, Pakistan, Myanmar, Ukraine, Afghanistan, Yemen, Iraq, Palestine, Israel Eritrea and Ethiopia. The trade in arms and military technology fuels these wars. Women in Black London deplore the fact that the UK Government is to host this Exhibition in London.

What you can do

Share this leaflet with others. Most people are unaware that this exhibition is taking place. Scan our QR code and forward to others. You will find other leaflets that we have produced.

Check out the DSEI web page to see what they say about themselves and which companies will be exhibiting. www.dsei.co.uk/

Join with others planning actions during the days of the exhibition. More here <https://stopthearmsfair.org.uk/join-in/>

Support the work of CAAT who work all year around to stop the arms trade. <https://caat.org.uk/>

Write to / email your MP to make your own objections to the arms fair.

<https://members.parliament.uk/FindYourMP> You could also write to the Mayor of London about your concerns <https://www.london.gov.uk/contact-us-form>



Women in Black hold vigils every Wednesday between 6-7 pm at the Edith Cavell Statue, opposite the the National Portrait Gallery, St.Martin's Place, 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/>

2025

Donations for leaflets most welcome