



Peace Movement Aotearoa Report for WILPF AGM 2024 Claire and Linley Gregory

Peace Movement Aotearoa's AGM was in December, where thanks were expressed for WILPF Aotearoa and WILPF members' support for their work. The AGM followed their annual Human Rights Day forum, which featured [Tamatoa Tepuhiarii](#), (Mā'ohi scholar and youth delegate) who presented on Mā'ohi Nui (French Occupied Polynesia), nuclear justice and the TPNW.

Peace Movement Aotearoa's primary focus is networking information and resources for anyone interested in peace, disarmament and human rights to use, and their work is done collaboratively with member and supporting groups. They make submissions to government and report to UN bodies on matters of concern (most recently, for example, to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) on the [impacts of armed conflict and military activities](#) on children's rights, the environment and climate change), and they encourage and assist others to do so too.

Peace Movement Aotearoa provides national coordination for five global humanitarian disarmament campaigns: International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons - the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate - Aotearoa NZ (ICAN ANZ), ANZ Cluster Munition Coalition and Campaign Against the Landmines Joint Working Group, ANZ Stop Killer Robots campaign, ANZ Campaign on Military Spending, and ANZ Network on Explosive Weapons; and for the WW1 Centenary Peace Project. They maintain extensive topic focused national networks for each campaign, and on other issues including conscientious objection, Christian peace solidarity, the Treaty of Waitangi and human rights, women, peace and security, and support for non-violent initiatives. They provide web pages for member groups such as the Anglican Pacifist Fellowship; for Matike Mai Aotearoa, White Poppies for Peace and the White Poppy Peace Scholarships; and NZ disarmament statements.

As well as providing resources for each of those projects, they have produced updates and alerts on a wide range of peace, disarmament, Treaty and human rights issues, on West Papua and Gaza; and they have continued to publicise and provide resources for specific national and international days throughout the year, from [Waitangi Day](#) in February to Human Rights Day in December, as well as providing information on a variety of UN peace, disarmament and human rights developments. Their Coordinator, Edwina Hughes, has spoken and provided presentations at a range of meetings and events, including the 'Stop the Space Waste' seminar, the '[Militarism will cost us the earth](#)' webinar, and the 'Election 2023: [Let's get disarmament on the agenda](#)' forum.

They have continued to produce their own publications, to provide information on specific topics on request, to meet with peace and related groups around the country and overseas online and face-to-face, to regularly update their web site, Facebook, and Twitter feeds, to provide information for publications by others on a variety of peace related topics, and to publicise peace events and funding opportunities. There is a good level of interest in their key messages around peace, disarmament, and [government spending priorities](#), as well as their work around integrating human rights and disarmament into New Zealand's domestic and foreign policy priorities.

Peace Movement Aotearoa has done a tremendous amount of work over the past year (an overview of the year in images is at <http://www.converge.org.nz/pma/images2023.pdf>) and some of the highlights included: the UNCRC making recommendations about the militarisation of education and firearms in NZ schools as a consequence of their briefings; further expansion of yDISARM (their Youth Disarmament Project) and support for Pacific nuclear and climate justice youth networks; hosting frequent online forums and gatherings on a range of topics including the series on the women, peace and security agenda, and NGO briefings on UN submission opportunities, including NZ's [Universal Periodic Review](#); written and oral submissions to Select Committees on [military spending](#); and the Second Meeting of State Parties to the TPNW.