

# In memory of all victims of war



## *Against war and militarism*



[www.echecalaguerre.org](http://www.echecalaguerre.org)  
 [echecalaguerre](https://www.facebook.com/echecalaguerre)

## The origins of the White Poppy campaign

- The white poppy was introduced as an anti-war symbol in the UK in 1933 by the Co-operative Women's Guild (CWG), an organisation of women who had lost husbands, fathers, sons, brothers and friends in World War I.
- Seeking to put an end to war, the CWG opposed the arms trade as well as commemorations that vindicate the use of military force, and sought to memorialize **all** victims of war.
- Since 1936, white poppies have been distributed by another British organisation, the Peace Pledge Union.
- Since 2011, the *Collectif Échec à la guerre* has organized an annual white poppy campaign in Quebec.

## Why wear a white poppy?

- 20<sup>th</sup> century wars took the lives of over 200 million people, civilian deaths (men, women and children) far outnumbering those of the military.
- In recent decades, Canada has participated in offensive military actions, notably in Kosovo, Afghanistan, Libya and Syria, often in contravention of international law.
- Canada is actively engaged in the international arms trade which fuels current wars, including the one fomented by Saudi Arabia, wreaking havoc in Yemen.
- Official Remembrance Day ceremonies tend to glamorize war and serve to validate each new Canadian military intervention.

**Wear a white poppy in memory  
of ALL victims of war!  
Say NO to war!**