Have you heard about the White Poppy campaign?

The first White Poppy campaign was launched in England in November 1933 by the Cooperative Women’s Guild (CWG). Through this campaign, the CWG wanted not only to commemorate all victims of war, but also to proclaim its rejection of war and dissociate itself from commemorations that vindicate the use of military force.

Nowadays, the Red Poppy campaign and official commemoration ceremonies seem to forget that the worst scourge of modern warfare is that many more civilians are killed than combatants. More than 200 million people were killed in 20th century wars, most of them women and children, to say nothing of the physical and mental trauma endured by survivors, the plight of thousands of displaced persons and refugees, and all the destruction.

Canada is increasingly a party to military interventions that violate international law. In solidarity with all victims of war, the majority of whom are civilians, and as a sign of opposition to Canada’s militaristic policies, the Collectif Échec à la guerre calls on you to wear a white poppy for Remembrance Day.

Every year since 2011, Échec à la guerre has launched the White Poppy campaign on the International Day of Peace, September 21. The campaign ends with a silent vigil in memory of all victims of war on Remembrance Day, November 11. You can order white poppies online or from distributors throughout Quebec (see echecalaguerre.org). Each year, Échec à la guerre also publishes a related statement paid for by its signatories in a major daily newspaper.
About the Collectif Échec à la guerre

Échec à la guerre was formed in the Fall of 2002 as a broadly based coalition of organisations (student, labour, women’s, community, international solidarity and faith-based groups) concerned about the then imminent threat of war against Iraq. Today, Échec à la guerre comprises groups and individuals engaged in opposing war and militarism.

We must renounce the humanitarian pretexts invoked to wage war!

Highlights of Échec à la guerre activities

- **ally** in Montreal to protest the CANSEC arms-trade fair in Ottawa (2016)
- **conferences** on global issues, e.g. in 2016, Syria, Iraq and ISIS
- **call-outs and statements** published in daily newspapers, in particular for Remembrance Day (2011- today)
- **weekend seminar**: the People’s Summit Against War and Militarism (2010)
- **mobilisation** and call to have George W. Bush declared persona non grata in Montreal (2009)
- **public hearings** on the withdrawal of Canadian troops from Afghanistan (2008)
- **publications** to raise awareness of and deconstruct military propaganda (2004-today)
- **over twenty demonstrations** to denounce Canadian participation in spurious wars (2003 - today)
- **the annual White Poppy campaign** against militarism and in memory of all victims of war, mainly civilians (2011- today)

To get involved...

Join the Collectif Échec à la guerre. Welcome groups and individuals.

Sign up for our email messages, follow us on Facebook, forward the posted articles and info, join the working group or offer to help with specific tasks (translation, organizing, technical support).

514-919-7249
info@echecalaguerre.org
www.echecalaguerre.org
facebook.com/echecalaguerre

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