Developing a Humanitarian Advocacy Plan (Part 1)
The UNICEF toolkit reminds us Public Health (PH) advocacy must address inequities and inequalities, encourage inclusion and democracy (1) and persuade decision makers to adopt policies that protect human rights and reduce morbidity and mortality. (2) Currently the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) indicates a record number, 68.5 million refugees displaced by war. (3)

Policy
The global Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) prohibits international transfer of arms to be used to commit/facilitate genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes. Despite ATT, Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) data shows global arms trade industry continues to supply weapons into the most deadly armed conflicts. (4)

Barriers to Peace
Resource Wars
War is a PH concern. Resource wars cause morbidity and mortality, damage infrastructure, waste valuable resources displace people and violate human rights. Dependence on oil fuels oil wars. (5)

Oil in non-renewable energy source
An energy scarcity exists and massive amounts of money are spent on oil imports. (6) The largest global consumer of oil is the US military, consuming more than 100 million barrels of oil per year. (7) The US is the largest global consumer of petroleum (a crude oil product) using 330 million barrels of oil per year in plastics production alone. (8)

Conflict Minerals
Current EU regulation only cover tin, tantalum, tungsten and gold, meaning other resources such as diamonds and precious stones are not covered. The EU must broaden their list of conflict minerals to included all potential conflict minerals and precious stones and also ensure companies that import minerals used as components in products such as mobile phones and cars are not, as they currently are, exempt. Intel is a positive example. (9, 10)

Military carbon exemptions
The US military is the main driver of the global oil economy, yet US military bases were exempt from complying with US environmental regulations until 1992. (11) Under the Paris Agreement global armed forces including US military, will no longer be exempt from carbon emissions. (12)

The UN wage war
The UN Security Council create what they call “intervention brigades” to root out extremist militia in the Democratic Republic of Congo. (13)

Stigma
Pacifists are hippies.

Religious Barriers to world peace
Protestant/ Catholic; Sunni/ Shiite. (14)
**Einstein**
“3 great forces rule the world: stupidity, fear and greed” (15)

**Global Arms industry Scale**
In 2016 the world spent $1.69 trillion on the military (2% global GDP). SIPRI indicates since 2002, top 100 arms companies have sold over $5 trillion USD. (16)

**Economy before Ecology**
In order to maintain sustainable economic growth in G7 countries, when considering carbon footprint, environmental and energy policies must recognise differences between militarisation, energy consumption and economic growth. (17)

**Lack of political will**
Despite commitment to regulate irresponsible arms trade, key states continue to sell arms to governments that commit serious human rights abuses. SIPRI data indicates the global arms trade industry is supplying weapons to deadly armed conflicts. (18)

**The arms industry has been internalised**
SIPRU researcher Elizabeth Skons explains the growing perpetuity of the arms industry as being due to internalisation. Internalisation refers to accepting norms and values, established by others, through socialisation. Increase in R&D costs led to companies applying strategies to internalise the arms industry. (19)

**3 forms of internalisation;**
1. Exports
2. Foreign direct investment
3. International cooperation arrangement (20)

**Exports**
Irish military exports worth €10.7bn in last 3 years, (21) €90 million from sales of ammunition/arms equipment for guns/weapons sensors, the remaining €10.6bn came from sales of dual-use (day-to-day/military use), hi-tech electronics and telecommunications products. The international community require strict controls on sale of these products yet Ireland is licensed to export to Libya, Iraq, Egypt, Algeria, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Lebanon. (21) Weapons sales in Ireland were $26 USD million in 2013. (22) Whilst Ireland has the lowest percentage of GDP spent on its Defence Forces of any EU member states (23) defence spending will increase by €47.5m to almost €1b. (24)

According to the Billion Dollar-o-Gram, the US government is estimated to spend $3000 billion USD on the Iraq war, comparing to $435 billion USD needed to feed/educate every child on earth for 5 years. (25)

**Foreign direct investment FDI**
Ireland has 1,200 overseas ICT, life science, financial services, engineering and business services company operations; many undertake advanced manufacturing and R&D. (26)
International cooperation arrangements
The end of cold war led to a relaxation of government attitudes towards military technology transfers. We have NATO, the OECD and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

DASA
Aerospace company Deutsche Aerospace Aktiengesellschaft (DASA) was founded to consolidate Euromissile development. (27)

Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO)
PESCO is the EU’s Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) whereby 25 member states, including Ireland’s armed forces, pursue structural integration. (28) PESCO requires an EU coordinated approach to arms industry, development, production and procurement. As a neutral country Ireland should not to get involved in conflict. (29) 57% of people want to see Ireland’s neutrality enshrined within our constitution. (30)

Other recent cooperation agreements include The European Defence Industrial Development Programme (€500 million), Military Mobility (€6.5 billion) the European Defence Fund (€13 billion). (31)

Conflict Resolution Advocacy Plan (Part 2)
Regarding the role of Public Health Advocates in relation to armed conflict and war, the American Public Health Association recommends that PH schools incorporate an understanding of the political, economic, social and cultural determinants of war, in particular militarism, into their programmes. (32)

WHO Health as a Bridge for Peace (HPB)
The HBP programme aims to provide a policy and planning framework to integrate the delivery of health care with conflict management. (33) For example PAHO Immunisation programmes create a truce, whereby guerrilla forces cease fighting to join local volunteers in administering vaccinations. (34)

“The role of physicians and other health workers in the preservation and promotion of peace is the most significant factor for the attainment of health for all” (World Health Assembly, Resolution) (35)

Health-peace mechanisms
- **Conflict management**: Medical diplomacy can be adopted to resolve, lessen or contained conflict.
- **Solidarity**: Healthcare workers can use their power and freedom of action to support people and groups working to expand peace.
- **Strengthening the social fabric**: Conciliatory methods of healthcare delivery can restore and reinforce diversity.
- **Dissent**: A person or group can use healthcare expert advice to disagree with governing policies.
- **Restricting the destructiveness of war**: Using international law HCWs can call for a restriction or abolition of military policies and weapons. (36)
Humanitarian Advocacy Plan

Define situation
Main stakeholders are the 68.5 million people displaced by war. (3)

Goals and objectives
To applying a social pressure on leaders, law makers, decision makers and policy makers to be held politically accountable and shape the political agenda towards peace (see below), to remove socio-cultural barriers to health thus increase diagnosis and treatment reduce burden of disease.

Key Messages
- Advocate Pacifism
- Removes barriers to peace
- Enforce ATT/ Paris agreement (no military exemptions)
-Expose accelerated militarisation of the EU
- Withdraw from PESCO
- Ban single use plastics/Incentivise bioplastic
- Support companies with a conscience
- Demilitarise; calls to disarm

Identify target
Elected representatives, Oireachtas, EU commission, UN.

Turn into issue
Despite ATT, arms are being sold to nations that commit/facilitate genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes. (4) Despite climate change military carbon exemptions exist. (11)

Providing Strategic Leadership
MEPs Luke Ming Flannigan.

Oireachtas members: Richard Boyd Barrett TD, Clare Daly TD, Aengus O Snodaigh TD, Mick Wallace TD, Catherine Connolly TD, Thomas Pringle TD, Brid Smith TD, Joan Collins TD.

Industry champions/Celebrity endorsement
Actors/ Artists: Sinead Cusack (Actor) Stuart Dunne (Actor/Artist), Felim Egan (Artist), Margaretta D’Arcy (Activist, Playwright, Actor), Raymond Deane (Composer)

Media: Frank Mc Donald (Journalist)

University: Goretti Horgan (Ulster University), Dr Karen Devine (Lecturer in International Relations & EU politics), Marcin Wojcik (Lecturer DIT), Ms. Deirdre Judge (DCU).

Councillors/ former councillors: Tina Mc Veigh

Campaigners: Patrick Comerford (President Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament CND), Claudia Hyadt (Campaigner on military policy and member of German Die Linke party), Aleida Guevara (Daughter of Che Guevara), Roger Cole (Chairman of the Peace and Neutrality Alliance).

Former politicians: Patricia Mc Kenna (former MEP), Eamonn McCann (former MLA for PBP), Enda Fanning (former Councillor) Mr Proinsias de Rossa (former MEP).
Private sector: “Conscience companies”, companies that do not invest in unethical industry such as the arms industry, for example the UK’s Co-operative Bank. (37)

Private sector i.e. from antiwar business executives. (38)

Partnerships
Encourage TDs to form an Oireachtas Group

International, European, UK and Irish Pacifist NGOs
- Green Peace
- Irish Peace Society
- International League of Peace
- League of Peace and Freedom (39)

Community groups
Raging Grannies Feminist Eco Pacifist Working Advocacy Group: Gauge public opinion, get attention, disseminate antiwar messages, sing songs of peace, war is not a social norm.
The People’s Movement and PANA: Irish antiwar movement campaigning for immediate withdrawal by the state from all military and financial commitments under PESCO and to work with local and national groups, organisations, likeminded elected representative Oireachtas members and EU groups to expose the accelerated militarisation of the EU. (40)

Mobilise with core and support activities
- **Seminars/public meetings:** Inviting industry champions to raise awareness about barriers to peace and goals and objectives.
- **Lobby TDs and MEPS:** Sending letters/petitioning Members of Parliament, Members of the European Parliament, and Members of the Local government seeking support.
- **Campaigning:** Speak publically at Peace not Pesco Rallies, raise money for campaign (sell cranes/take donations), gauge public opinion via surveys, petition.
- **Build media support:** Press releases; Peace not Pesco. Maintain Ireland’s neutrality, 68.5 million people won’t be home for Christmas. Emailing/letters to editor.
- **Build a coalition of Irish/EU leaders:** To increase capacity/maintain momentum.
- **Produce literature:** Leaflets/posters.
- **Social Media:** Build/link to websites providing information on campaign
- **Monitor and evaluate:** Qualitative surveys/quantitative stats/petitions.

**Millennium Development Goals MDG**
World leaders adopted the UN Millennium Declaration in 2000. (41) The MDGs has been limited and uneven across countries. 15.5% of the world population still suffers from hunger, and many countries. The African continent in particular, has high rates of in child mortality. The reduction in maternal mortality has been slow and mortality remains alarmingly high. 80% of people in sub-Saharan regions and Southern Asia live in extreme poverty and progress has been very limited. (42, 43) Peace-building was totally ignored in the MDGs.
**Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**

Violence is addressed in the WHO's SDGs. Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. (44) Specifically SDG Target 5.2: Eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls SDG Target 5.3: Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage, and female genital mutilation and SDG Target 16.1: Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere SDG Target 16.2: End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against children. (45)

As an example, Nigeria is lagging behind SDGs targets for a variety of reasons, including bureaucracy, poor resource management in the healthcare system, subsequent healthcare worker industrial action, Boko Haram insurgency in north Nigeria and kidnappings in the south. (46)

**Peace Building**

Peaceful, reasonably well governed countries prosper and the majority of those in extreme poverty live in conflict-affected states. The inclusion of peace-building is critical to the success of ending hunger and poverty yet was totally ignored in the MDGs. It is seen as controversial in the SDGs, but so far it has remained there. (47)

**Goals**

- Ban oil derived plastics, incentivise bioplastics.
- Ban conflict minerals in all forms including end products.
- Meet SDGs.
- Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere.
- End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children.
- Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all.
- By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organised crime.
- Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms.
- Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels.
- Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels.
- Broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance.
- By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration.
- Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.
- Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime.
- Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development. (48)
The risk of global destruction is unacceptable

Our governments are failing to enforce international environmental and humanitarian law and are guilty of war profiteering. (49) The economic benefits derived from selling weapons and associated goods work to further the divide in socioeconomic status, with rising poverty and worsening health and education indicators. The suffering we are witnessing is unprecedented, to the point that the current Yemen humanitarian crisis itself is being used as weapon of war. (50) Humanitarian programmes must move beyond a band-aid approach and mitigate underlying causes by demanding our governments not support war on civilians, either through direct action or through inaction at the United Nations Security Council. As Public health humanitarian advocates, we need to integrate conflict resolution with health protection and health sector development strategies.

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