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## NATO Is 60 Years Old: A Sad Birthday for Peace

61 Years, No Thank You!

We, feminists from Europe fully support the International Appeal of Stuttgart for a more just and secure world. IFE-EFI will participate at the International Demonstration: « NO TO WAR - NO TO NATO! » on the 4th of April 2009 in STRASBOURG-KEHL and will contribute to its success.

During the NATO summit of State leaders of the 26 member countries, transport will be organized to help and bring together those who are acting for a world in which the 1500 milliards of Euros budgeted each year for death will be allocated to address the basic needs of Humanity.

Security policies are based on threat that comes from "outside" and on the construction of those to be protected internally "women and children". It continues to be based on the conception of power by way of dominance, control, physical and finally military power to destroy. The military violence used by armies in war justifies and turns into rape and sexual humiliation during war and into domestic violence against women at home and in the public space in "peace". But present security politics does not reach there. Feminist analyses and critique is indispensable and urgently needed to be taken into consideration by policy-and decision makers to recognize the link between patriarchy, male violence against women and war.

We are tired of facing time after time the devastating consequences of same security and defense policies, grounded in armed strength and capacity of destruction. Another security policy is necessary, committed to:

- Dissolving of NATO, a tool of death and destruction, which since 2002 integrates military bacteriological, nuclear and biological chemical options in order to serve the economical, political and military interests of ultra-liberal Europe and USA.
- Closing of all the NATO military bases installed in Europe.

- Abandoning of the 10 years old European Security and Defense Policy of common military security which creates supplementary federal military structures and asks the States to increase their military budgets and capabilities.
- Investing in full disarmament and elimination of nuclear weapons, in re-organization of military structures into civilian units for humanitarian help, in setting up a gender equal based structure for the Prevention of Conflicts to replace the European Defense Agency.
- Implementing of the UNSCR 1325 which asks for the equal and full participation of women and men in the prevention and the negotiation of conflicts that will contribute to finding just political solutions in the processes of consolidation of peace.

**Let us create a feminist space of resistance and participate in the building of a European project that is a bearer of sustainable peace, social justice and democracy, a vital alternative to the human and environmental destruction.**