



**Graffiti at Berlin Wall:** Peace is more than the absence of war. For a peaceful world, all of us across all facets of society need to act in concert.

[www.guengl.eu](http://www.guengl.eu)

The European United Left/Nordic Green Left is made up of 35 MEPs advocating peace, solidarity, social justice, equality, democracy and human rights in Europe and beyond.

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Photo: Carsten Medom Madsen

**PEACE CONFERENCE**  
TO MARK THE  
**100<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF WWI**  
**4-5 March 2014**

Organised by GUE/NGL with the support of the "International Peace Bureau"

4-5 March 2014

Brussels and Ypres

Interpretation: FR, DE, NL, EN, DA, EL, ES, PT, SV, CS, LV, HR

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# PEACE CONFERENCE

## To mark the The 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Of WWI

Together with peace activists from NGOs, in particular the International Peace Bureau (IPB), and social movements, the GUE/NGL is organising a conference to mark the centenary of the First World War. To combat the rise of nationalism and growing militarisation inside the European Union, we want to reclaim the idea of a peaceful European integration process based on international solidarity and disarmament. At the one-day conference we want to discuss our alternatives for global justice and a culture for peace followed by a trip to Ypres, the 'city of peace'.

### 04 March 2014: Conference in Brussels

#### European Parliament ASP 1G2

09:30-12:30

Moderation: Marie Christine Vergiat (GUE/NGL)

9.30 - 10.00

#### Welcome and greetings

Gabi Zimmer (President GUE/NGL); Ingeborg Breinis (International Peace Bureau)

#### Short video and a historical review

Reiner Braun (International Peace Bureau)

10.00 - 11.30

#### Militarisation of the European Union

Michael Youlton (PANA, Ireland); Sabine Lösing (GUE/NGL)

11.30– 12.30

#### 1914 -2014 Military technological complex and its development

Reiner Braun (International Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms/IPB);

Willy Meyer (GUE/NGL)

12:30 - 14:15

#### Lunch Break

14.15 -14.45

#### Screening of the Movie: "Im Westen nichts Neues!"

Introduction by Lucas Wirl (INES)

15:00 - 16:30

Moderation: Ingeborg Breinis (International Peace Bureau)

#### Pacifism in history and today: lessons learnt for radical peace engagement

Patrick Le Hyaric (Vice President GUE/NGL);

Kate Hudson (Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament)

16:30 - 18:30

Moderation: Mikael Gustafsson (GUE/NGL)

#### Round table discussion

with: Paul Lancu (Pax Christi); Nikola Vuljanic (GUE/NGL); Aida Topic (Sarajevo); Francis Wurtz (PCF France & former GUE/NGL President)

19:00 - 20:00

#### Reception "Peace Exhibition"

Welcome and Greetings: Helmut Scholz (GUE/NGL)

Opening speech: Willi van Ooyen (DIE LINKE)

20:00

#### Dinner in cooperation with Peace activists in Brussels

Dinner speech: Pieter Teirlinck (Vrede BE),

Takis Hadjigeorgiou (Vice President of the GUE/NGL)

### 05 March 2014: Trip to Ypres

08:30 - 15:00

#### YPRES "CITY OF PEACE"

Ypres, the battlefield where WW1 played out for four long years, is now a 'city of peace', and it maintains a close friendship with another town on which war has had a profound impact: Hiroshima. Both towns have witnessed warfare at its worst: chemical warfare was employed for the first time just outside Ypres, while Hiroshima was ravaged by the world debut of nuclear warfare. The City of Ypres hosts the international campaign secretariat of Mayors for Peace, an international Mayoral organisation that campaigns to cities and citizens worldwide to abolish and eliminate nuclear weapons by the year 2020. Accompanied by members of the local peace movement, a visit is planned to the impressive new Flemish battlefields museum, the trenches where gas was first used, an area where soldiers of both sides fraternised in Easter 1914, as well as a cemetery where soldiers of all nationalities were buried, as a consequence of the frequent movements at the front, which costs hundreds of thousands of human lives each time."