

ARMS TO RENEWABLES

Universities can stop fuelling conflict

The arms trade has a devastating impact on human rights and security. It exacerbates conflict and supports oppression. Universities prop up this deadly trade through their investments, research and careers services, but there is an alternative...

The UK has the **6th highest military spending in the world**

Low carbon technology and renewable energy are desperately needed but require investment, research and skilled workers to realise their potential.

Promote better jobs

The arms industry is by its own admission “flatlining at best” while the renewable energy sector is recognised as having huge potential for growth. Since there is also a severe engineering skills shortage it is imperative that renewables are prioritised over arms as career paths for graduates and that university careers events shift from promoting the arms industry to the positive alternatives.

Shifting universities’ support from arms to renewables will be better for students, better for jobs and better for our environment.

1 in 4 children in the UK grow up in poverty

Invest in a fairer, safer world

Many UK universities invest in arms companies, often without the knowledge or approval of their students. Instead of quietly financing the arms trade, universities could be leading the way towards building a safer future by shifting their investments from arms to renewables.

Research a sustainable future

Dealing with food and water shortages, providing a clean energy supply and mitigating the effects of catastrophic climate change will require everything we can throw at it. Research that is geared towards meeting these urgent challenges must be given priority over that which is conducted on behalf of the destructive arms industry (paid for in the most part by the taxpayer).



THE UK SPENDS
30 TIMES MORE ON
WEAPONS RESEARCH...

...THAN RESEARCH INTO
RENEWABLE ENERGY



Arms trade jobs are stagnant

but there's amazing potential in the renewable industry. University investments and research could support a vibrant, growing industry rather than propping up a declining one.

Arms trade makes the world a more dangerous place

whereas renewable energy is vital for a fairer, safer world. Shifting resources would help tackle problems rather than create them.

The amazing potential for renewable energy will only be realised if it is given support

it needs political will, government support and skilled workers.

TAKE ACTION

Help build a wave of action to shift your university's priorities from arms to renewables

- Lobby your university to shift its investments into renewables (perhaps link up with other disinvestment campaigns like Fossil Free UK)
- Use direct action to challenge arms companies who dare to make an appearance on your campus. Remember to encourage the careers service to give better representation to the positive alternatives too
- Uncover and challenge research ties with arms companies and generate debate on the importance of tackling climate change instead
- Work with those science and engineering students who are most likely to be targeted by arms company recruiters to raise awareness of the situation and amplify the voices of those who want to work for a positive future

Get in touch for support to take action!

universities@caat.org.uk
www.universities.caat.org.uk

 /UniversityCAAT

 /caatuniversitiesnetwork

The UK has the largest wind resources in Europe

Halving UK military procurement would save around £8 billion a year

We need the skills from arms to develop renewables

Wind and marine energy could produce more jobs than there are in the entire arms industry

**CAMPAIGN
AGAINST
ARMS
TRADE**
UNIVERSITIES NETWORK