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March 9th, 2023 - 1 WILPF Call
TEXTPAD

“MEET THE BANKER LADIES”



AGENDA

Welcome & Instructions

Featured Speaker: **Dr Caroline Shenaz Hossein**

Announcements - DISARM, WSD, Earth Democracy, Cuba, US WILPF

ADJOURN

SOAPBOX

2023 WILPF US Delegation to the UN Commission on the Status of Women, New York City, in front of the UN building.



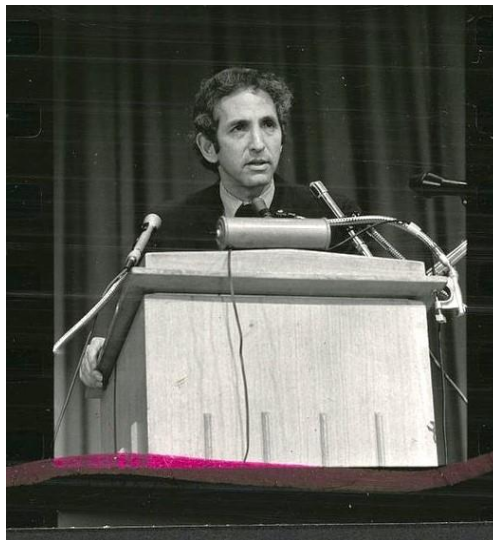
This week, WILPF US brought four young college and grad students to NYC for the UN Commission on the Status of Women meetings, as part of our Practicum for Advocacy. Two of the students were from Boston University. Two were from Florida International University in Miami. This was the first time in three years we've been able to continue the WILPF US Practicum for Advocacy Program, because of COVID. Practicum coordinators this year were **Shilpa Pandey and Jan Corderman**, pictured center with scarves.

DISARM COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1 Carol Urner has left us.



Carol Urner's son, Kirby, told us this week that Carol left us on January 30th. He apologized for taking so long to let us know. Carol was the Disarm/End Wars Committee co-chair for many years, and traveled the country with Ellen Thomas in 2015-2017, visiting WILPF branches to talk about WILPF's work to abolish nuclear weapons. Despite a long term disability after a car crash that killed her husband, and despite the ongoing pain she carried, Carol was a familiar lobbyist at Congress, meeting with elected officials to gain support for abolishing nuclear weapons. They knew her as a dedicated Quaker and peace activist who won their respect through her persistence, her well-informed advocacy, and her kindness. She was indomitable and still an unfailingly gentle soul.



2 Honoring Daniel Ellsberg

Daniel Ellsberg at a 1972 press conference, photographer Bernard Gotfryd. Public Domain.

A spokesperson for press freedom and an advocate for Julian Assange, Daniel Ellsberg came to prominence in 1972 when he courageously copied secret Pentagon documents “The Pentagon Papers” and provided them to trusted journalists who revealed the true nature of the US government’s involvement in Vietnam, and the long term efforts at regime change in that country. As a whistleblower, Ellsberg said he always imagined being imprisoned for divulging the truth about Vietnam. But he was spared imprisonment when Nixon’s own misdeeds took over the headlines and the DOJ’s attention during the Watergate Hearings. Ellsberg has spent his life since then speaking out for peace, nuclear abolition, social justice and freedom of the press. Recently diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, he’s chosen to avoid treatment and has been given three to six months to live. His kind of bravery in service of truth and democracy was denied Julian Assange and Edward Snowden. The peace movement and the United States owe Ellsberg a tremendous debt.

3 Stop The War in Ukraine Action requested.

WILPF members all over the US, **please join a huge Peace in Ukraine rally in Washington DC on Saturday 18th March at 1:00pm EST at the White House or one of the sister rallies in other cities.**

Buses will be available from many East Coast cities to get people into DC.

Many anti-war organizations are collaborating on this 20th Anniversary of the Iraq War to protest the continuation of the war in Ukraine.

WILPF US has endorsed this rally and urges our members to attend one of the rallies on 18th March.

Besides DC there will be rallies in Ann Arbor, Detroit, Los Angeles and San Francisco, (and more are being added).

**Find details of where exactly to meet :
<https://peaceinukraine.org> and scroll down.**

Also look at <https://www.codepink.org/piu20iraq>

The demonstrations will make connections between the human and financial toll of U.S. militarism at home and abroad.

Key demands include:

- **End the \$100 Billion in arms shipments to Ukraine**
- **End NATO**
- **Stop the permanent war economy that funnels trillions of dollars away from jobs, education and health care**
- **Negotiations now! The people of the U.S. are not interested in the possibility of nuclear war nor the Pentagon’s policy of “weakening Russia.”**
- **No to war with China!**

Write to disarmchair@wilpfus.org for more info.

Women, Money & Democracy Committee

The recording from this webinar is now available at:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R_CUs95Rv0c&t=65s



THE FUTURE IN OUR POCKETS: Making Money Work for The Common Good.

With the Bank Credit System at the root of forever wars, eco-collapse, and racist inequality, there are solutions and allies we can support.
Change the Money...Change the Future.

Women, Money & Democracy at WILPF US addresses Systemic Economic Injustice and threats to Democracy from corporate power, racism and “debt-money” used as oppression.
Meets 3rd Tuesday of every month at 8pm eastern.

If interested in joining us, contact wmad@wilpfus.org

Find more info at:

<http://wilpfus.org/our-work/women-money-democracy>



US WILPF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Section President, Darien De Lu

You can contribute to WILPF by participating in a national committee!

Contact Darien at President@wilpfus.org to get involved.

EARTH DEMOCRACY COMMITTEE INFO

1 WORLD WATER DAY

Find info: Earth Democracy February eNews

<https://wilpfus.org/news/updates/world-water-day-2023-accelerating-change-meet-Sdgs-2030>

This year, the United Nations combined **World Water Day (March 22 nd)** with **World Toilet Day (November 19th)** under the theme **“Accelerating Change to speed up achieving Sustainable Development Goal 6”** – safely managed clean water and sanitation - by 2030.
Water affects everyone!

Water is a dealmaker for the Sustainable Development Goals, <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/> and for the health and prosperity of people and planet.

But our progress on water related goals and targets remains alarmingly off track, jeopardizing the entire sustainable development agenda.

Earth Democracy will prepare a Fact Sheet about Public/Public cooperation vs. Public/Private Corporations

The UN 2023 Water Conference March 22-24, 2024 is the first event of its kind for nearly 50 years and is a once-in-a-generation moment for the world to unite around water.

2. Food and Water Watch is re-introducing the WATER Act

The Water Affordability, Transparency, Equity and Reliability (WATER) Act is returning to Congress and it's better than ever!

Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman has joined Rep. Ro Khanna as a co-lead, and they are introducing the bill next month! Sen. Bernie Sanders will introduce the Senate companion.

The WATER Act provides a vision for a permanent federal investment to renovate our nation's old water pipes, stop sewage overflows, address water contamination, and help address our water affordability crisis.

Last year, the legislation received the support of more than 100 members of Congress and more than 550 organizations.

What can YOU do to support these efforts for protecting precious water on our planet?

We will be asking WILPF members to call Congress to line up support. Earth Democracy will have a Fact Sheet and call script.

The Water Act of 2023 will:

- **Provide \$35 billion a year to drinking water and wastewater improvements.**
- **Create up to nearly 1 million jobs across the economy, establish a water operations jobs training program, and protect U.S. workers;**
- **Prioritize disadvantaged communities with grants and additional support.**
- **Dedicate and expand funding for technical assistance to small, rural and indigenous communities and also colonies.**
- **Fund projects to address water contamination from per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).**
- **Upgrade household wells and septic systems.**
- **Help replace lead service lines; and**
- **Provide more than \$1 billion a year to update water infrastructure in public schools.**

3- Take Advantage of A Free Zoom Workshop on PFAS: Tailored for Your WILPF Branch

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances – known as the forever chemical *PFAS*—have monopolized the news in the last year, especially since the EPA lowered its lifetime advisory limits for two of the most common forms of PFAS to almost 0 parts per trillion (PPT) and is considering classifying them as hazardous substances.

Would you like to learn more about PFAS in your area? Marguerite Adelman of WILPF Burlington has designed a free zoom program that she is offering to WILPF branches across the country that would like to understand this complex issue as it relates to their state and community. Included in the workshop will be:

- specific information about PFAS in your state and specific location;
- how to use the Military Poisons website to conduct research;
- laws and legislation about PFAS in your state and nationally;
- actions that can be taken at the local, state, and national level to restrict PFAS; and
- ways to reduce personal risk from PFAS contamination.

Each one-hour workshop will be tailored to your location and offered at a time that is convenient for you and your WILPF members. An additional half hour or hour can be dedicated to questions and discussion.

All resource materials are developed through WILPF US mini-grants and WILPF US Earth Democracy committee will be shared with WILPF branches that choose to participate in the free zoom session, including PFAS information sheets, grant proposals, sample letters to the editor, and more. **Contact Marguerite at PFASinfo@wilpfus.org to request a zoom workshop.**

CUBA & THE BOLIVARIAN ALLIANCE COMMITTEE

SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 2023 AT 6:30 PM CST

Cuba Solidarity Rally! End the U.S. Blockade! Take Cuba Off the State Sponsors of Terrorism List!

Malcolm X & Dr. Betty Shabazz Memorial and Educational Center
3940 Broadway @ 165th Street, Manhattan NYC

<https://www.facebook.com/events/5750661111713130/?ref=newsfeed>

Excerpt from Popular Resistance article by Roger D. Harris.

<https://popularresistance.org/the-havana-syndrome-case-cracked/>

“US’s Cuba policy

Cuba may have been exonerated for the Havana Syndrome, but the socialist country is still targeted by the empire for regime-change. The 61-year-old [asphyxiating](#) US blockade continues, which puts Washington at odds with the 185 countries that [voted](#) in the UN against the unilateral coercive measures with only Uncle Sam and apartheid Israel voting in favor. In a parting gesture of ill will, Trump re-designated Cuba as a “[State Sponsor of Terrorism](#)” eight days before he left the presidency. Obama had rescinded the designation in 2015, originally imposed in 1982 by Reagan.

In 2021, Biden renewed Trump's designation, ironically [citing](#) Cuba's efforts to broker a peace in Colombia between the government and a guerilla insurgency. Biden backtracked on his campaign promises to reverse Trump's harsh sanctions against Cuba and return to a process of normalization of relations.

Inclusion on the terrorist list bars Cuba from access to most [international finance](#). "The real purpose of slandering Cuba as 'terrorist' is to justify the criminal blockade on Cuba," [according](#) to the National Network on Cuba (NNOC).

Among the grassroots organizations working to get Cuba off the terrorist list are ACER (<https://acere.org/>) and the NNOC (<https://nnoc.org/>). The latter [observes](#): "Despite the devastating impacts of the US economic blockade, Cuba still has a longer life expectancy, lower infant and maternal mortality rates, better health outcomes, higher literacy, more education, and less violence than in the US."

The Havana Syndrome, used to falsely accuse Cuba of attacking US personnel, exemplifies how distorted US policy is. Like drug peddlers hooked on their own supply, the spooks and kooks who populate the US governmental apparatus suffered literal physical damage believing the paranoid false propaganda that they push on the populace to justify the empire's forever wars and brutal regime-change intrigues."

[WRITE TO PRESIDENT BIDEN NOW](#) TO ASK HIM TO REMOVE CUBA FROM STATE SPONSORS OF TERRORISM LIST.... AND TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS WITH CUBA AND REMOVE SANCTIONS.



[Join WILPF:](#) The best \$35 a year you'll ever spend to invest in peace. Even if you can't be an active member, your dues support our work.

[Your DONATION to WILPFus](#) is an investment in a world at peace.