



Conflict, violence, poverty and injustice are the fundamental and most important causes of premature death and avoidable disease and suffering. Medact exists to harness the expertise, mandate and ethical principles of health professionals to speak out and campaign on these issues. Medact is now over 20 years old and builds on many past examples of health professionals acting as agents for social change.

Medact works across four broad and inter-connected programme areas.



Peace & Security



Climate & Environment



Economic Justice



Human Rights

Medact seeks to exist independently of large donors. Our funding is based on membership subscriptions and individual donations, supplemented by support from grant-making foundations. To find out more about membership please visit the how to join page on our website. You can also support and be part of Medact without being a member – to find out more about membership, please visit our website.

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Chair's Report

Medact has once again had an eventful and effective year.

This report sets out the broad scope of activities undertaken by staff and members, working to ensure that health professionals have a voice in discussions about issues such as conflict, climate change and economic inequality that threaten the long term well-being of the planet and all who depend upon it.

The quality and evidence base for our reports and contributions ensures that they are valued and have an impact disproportionate to our small size. This is enhanced by collaboration with partners and supporting organisations, including the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation, the Polden-Puckham Charitable Foundation, the Sainsbury Family Charitable Trusts and the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust.

I wish to thank everyone who has contributed to our work during the year. I am grateful to all the Trustees for their support and to the staff for their hard work.

Most importantly, I wish to thank our Director, Dr David McCoy, whose understanding, passion and tireless dedication to the organisation and its mission have been central to Medact's success over the past five years. He will be greatly missed as Director, but I know that he will continue to support us in many ways. Thanks to all his work, we can face the coming year with continued confidence and energy.

Dr June Crown CBE
Chair



Director's Report

In spite of evidence that child mortality and life expectancy is improving worldwide; and that the world has chosen to make universal health coverage a key component of the Sustainable Development Goals, it's hard to escape the feeling that the world has become more dangerous, marked by greater levels of armed conflict, terrorism and international tension, and by more evidence of climate change and ecological degradation.

In many parts of the world, politics has also become more ugly, with nationalistic xenophobia, racism and religious intolerance becoming more overt and acceptable in everyday discourse. And the world has become more unequal, with power and wealth continuing to accumulate in the hands of an ever smaller number of individuals.

This is why, for the last five years, Medact has been developing a platform for the health community to generate belief and hope that the world can be better, fairer and safer.

But we need more than just conventional public health interventions. We need big picture social, political, economic and cultural interventions that will improve and protect global health through systemic and structural change. We need redistribution of power and wealth across society, within and across countries. We need programmes of tolerance that will build bridges across cultural, religious and ethnic divides. And we need models of thinking and behaviour that will allow us to relate to our planet and nature in less violent and destructive ways.

The health community should be at the heart of these changes. That's why Medact exists, working to build a progressive and ambitious movement that works across a broad canvas of work, including climate change, economic inequality, militarisation and refugee health, amongst other things.

It's also why Medact works in partnership with many other organisations, whether they be Greenpeace and Friends of the Earth who share our concerns about ecological degradation, or the New Economics Foundation, who are developing new economic models that work as if people and the planet matter.

Since it was relaunched in 2013, Medact has been on an upward trajectory, becoming established as a well known and independent public health charity that looks squarely at the big picture, while also making many pragmatic contributions to change at a smaller level. This report outlines the wide range of activities which Medact has undertaken in the past year, and the hard work and amazing contributions made by the staff, volunteers and members of Medact.

Medact must continue to grow and flourish. Crucially, it is time for it to be run by a full time Director who can focus exclusively on the organisation. For this reason, I am happy to say that this will be my last report as a Director. But I look forward to supporting Medact's further development in a new capacity.

Dr David McCoy
Director

Refugee Access to Healthcare

The right of everyone to 'the highest attainable standards of physical and mental health' is enshrined within the 1966 UN International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) placing both a moral and a legal imperative on the UK to produce policies that do not infringe on the rights of all those that live within its borders. Yet within the UK, over the past decade or more, we have witnessed an increasingly restrictive policy around entitlement to healthcare for those without a defined immigration status.

Medact's Refugee Solidarity Group (RSG) has worked with Doctors of the World UK to deliver a training package covering refugee and migrant rights to healthcare and the potential challenges to their accessing NHS services. Eight members of the RSG attended a Train the Trainer (ToT) session, enabling them to deliver the training package across the country. So far, almost 250 doctors and medical students have received the training within university settings, as well as at the Medact conference and AGM. Further members of the RSG will participate in ToT sessions in August 2017.

In November 2016, the RSG also campaigned against St George's Hospital Trust's proposal to require women to provide proof of their immigration status before being allowed to access maternity care. An open letter, signed by more than 200 doctors and medical students, called on the Trust to cancel this pilot scheme.



Medact's Refugee Solidarity Group exists to promote and support the healthcare rights of a vulnerable segment of the population

Treatment of prisoners & detainees

In May 2017, Medact supported the Physicians for Human Rights Israel (PHRI) campaign against force feeding and force treatment of Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails. Director David McCoy sent letters of concern to both the British Medical Association and the World Medical Association. Discussions are currently taking place with the International Advocacy team at PHRI about the possibility of partnering on future research projects.

Medical Peace Work online course

A free six-week eLearning Medical Peace Work MOOC (massive open online-course) for healthcare workers was released this year, with modules on: (1) Recognising signs of domestic violence in clinical practice (2) Recognising and healing the effects of torture (3) Providing appropriate healthcare for refugees (4) Conflict-sensitive peace-health work in war and post-war areas (5) Preparing for the health effects of climate change (6) Responding to a nuclear explosion. Medact was involved with producing three of the modules as part of the European Medical Peace Work Partnership, and Medact members are now employed as course facilitators. The course is now being offered on a rolling basis by the University of Bergen in Norway.



Sustainable Food Systems, Diets & Health

Promoting healthy & sustainable diets

A Healthy and Sustainable Food Future

Policy recommendations to embed sustainability in the Eatwell Guide and wider UK food policy

It is vital that steps are taken to shift eating patterns towards ones that are healthier for both people and planet. Medact and Eating Better are calling for action from governments, health professionals and other policy actors to develop and implement dietary guidelines that give due consideration to the interconnections between health and environmental sustainability, particularly in relation to providing reduced consumption of meat and dairy foods. In a welcome move, several countries have produced dietary guidelines that explicitly integrate this messaging. In this briefing, we examine the UK's Eatwell Guide and outline policy recommendations for the UK government.

Why is sustainability relevant to dietary guidelines?

Dietary choices not only impact on individual health but also have significant implications for the health of the planet – upon which human health is reliant – and for our ability to feed current and future generations sustainably. Our food system contributes significantly to climate change through greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and impacts negatively on ecosystems, including through deforestation, soil use, overfishing, pollution and biodiversity loss. Meat and dairy foods carry a particularly high environmental footprint, as livestock production accounts for 14% of global GHG emissions¹.

Shifting towards predominantly plant-based diets would reduce a range of high-consuming countries like the UK in order to meet the international goal of limiting climate change to keep global temperature rise below 2°C. At the same time, overconsumption of meat has significant health and economic 'footprints'.² The FAO³ has estimated that reducing average meat consumption in the UK (from 30 to 20 servings a week) could prevent 45,000 deaths a year and save the NHS £1.6 billion. Given the close alignment between healthy and sustainable diets, and in recognition of the impact that eating patterns have on public health, there is now growing consensus around the importance of integrating environmental

sustainability into healthy dietary guidance. The Commission for the UK's official guide to healthy diets. Its purpose is to promote healthier eating by providing accessible advice to both the public and a range of relevant professionals, including those working with schools, hospitals, caterers, food retailers and manufacturers.

In March 2016, Public Health England (PHE) updated the dietary advice in the national model for the first time in twenty years. The Eatwell Guide replaced the previous Eatwellstop in order to incorporate the government's Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition's (SACN) updated recommendations on carbohydrates and health (including recommendations to reduce sugar consumption).⁴ The process was underpinned by the SACN's 'Guidelines on the Eatwell Guide' (2015) and the government's 'Guidelines on the proportion of food consumed as part of a typical 8p-9.5p diet, in order to meet the population intake recommendations for key nutrients'.⁵

Additionally, for the first time, some sustainability considerations were included. There are currently limited opportunities to communicate these more effectively, and this guide is being used as a tool to support government food farming and dietary policies more broadly.



health professionals for a sustainable environment

Medact is a global health charity whose goal is to improve sustainable health professionals to act on the social and health inequalities and economic determinants of health and health inequality. Through education, research, analysis and advocacy we aim to harness the expertise, mandate and social standing of health professionals to act as progressive social change agents. Medact works across four broad and inter-connected programme areas:

- Peace & Security
- Economic Justice
- Climate & Environment
- Human Rights

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For a fairer, greener, healthier future

Eating Better is a broad UK based civil society alliance that brings together over 50 national organisations with climate, environment, public health, international development, animal welfare, responsible producer, professional and faith interests. We are the leading voice by governments, the food industry and others to make a difference to help people eat a greater variety of plant-based foods and less meat, and for the most they do not to be better protected by any other benefit. Health, the environment, global food security and animal welfare.

www.eatingbetter.org.uk
info@eating_better.org.uk

“The food on our plates not only impacts our individual health, but also has significant implications for the health of the planet upon which human health is reliant, and for our ability to feed current and future generations equitably. Any discussion of healthy eating, must focus on diets which consider both environment and nutrition.”
Medact/Eating Better Alliance policy briefing

In March 2017, Medact worked with the Eating Better Alliance to:

- produce a policy briefing that made the case for urgently shifting towards more sustainable diets;
- examine the UK dietary guidelines (The Eatwell Guide); and
- make recommendations to the government on how they can drive the change towards more sustainable eating.

The briefing focused on the need to promote the key health and sustainability message to reduce meat and dairy consumption and eat more plant-based foods. Medact is now working on an exciting collaboration with the Lambeth GP Food Co-op to establish food growing gardens in GP surgeries and NHS trusts across London.

Healthy & sustainable hospital food

Hospitals should provide a food environment that is both healthy and sustainable, for patients, visitors and staff. All too often this is not the case. In 2016 Medact worked with the Campaign for Better Hospital Food, UNISON, CASH and the Soil Association to put pressure on commercial retailers operating in hospitals to comply with NHS England's Commissioning for Quality and Innovation (CQUIN) payments framework around High Fat Salt and Sugar (HFSS) foods. This work resulted in the publishing of a Healthy Hospital Food League Table which encouraged retailers to commit even further to meeting CQUIN targets, in order to move up the table.

Medact has also worked with the Soil Association to support the Campaign for Better Hospital Food implement a survey of hospital food survey in 30 of London's 39 acute hospitals. The findings formed the basis of Taking the Pulse of Hospital Food, a review of NHS hospital food standards across London.

To further campaigning on this issue, Medact has helped interested health professionals in Oxford to set up a local group focused on improving hospital food; and is currently finalising two publications to further inform campaigners. The first, a situational analysis of the hospital food legal and policy environment, provides background to the current landscape, while an accompanying campaign toolkit will provide resources for campaigning for change.

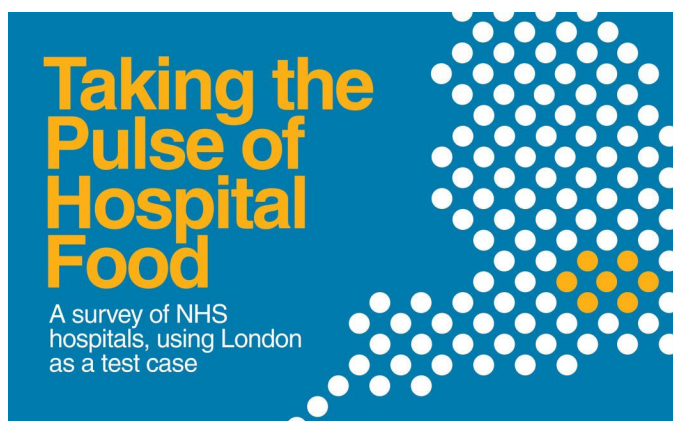
Food systems & sustainability in undergraduate medical education

Medact is collaborating with Nottingham University's School of Health Sciences to develop a suite of open-source Reusable Learning Objects (RLOs) on food, health and sustainability which can be easily integrated into teaching among medical, nursing and dietetic students.

Medact has also given lectures and run workshops on food, health and sustainability at numerous universities in the past 12 months, as well as delivering a workshop at the International Congress of Dietitians in Granada on mainstreaming sustainability in food policy.



Delivering a workshop on sustainable food for medical students in Glasgow



Survey of hospital food provision undertaken by The Campaign for Better Hospital Food - with support from Medact

Antibiotics use in farming & antimicrobial resistance

Following our successful conference on the subject in 2016, Medact has continued to work on the danger of mass medication of intensively farmed livestock.

In November 2016, Medact co-ordinated an open letter to Secretary of State for Environment, Farming and Rural Affairs Andrea Leadsom and Secretary of State for Health Jeremy Hunt, published in the Telegraph and signed by 15 health leaders (including the Royal College of GPs, Royal Society of Medicine, Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, Royal College of Physicians, Faculty of Public Health, Royal College of Nursing, British Medical Association, Royal College of Emergency Medicine, President, Royal College of Pathologists and the Royal Pharmaceutical Society, among others). The letter was widely covered by industry media and called for the adoption of stronger domestic policy around antibiotic use in farming.

Dialogue with the alliance for Responsible Use of Medicines in Agriculture (RUMA) has led to an invitation to discuss and observe veterinary antibiotic stewardship first hand. Medact has arranged a visit for various health leaders (including at least 11 Presidents and Executives from various Royal Colleges, as well as the CMO) to a working farm, with the aim of strengthening relationships between health and animal medicine, and engaging the livestock industry on the issue of antibiotic resistance.

Medact has also worked with the Food Climate Research Network at Oxford University to develop four chapters on antibiotic use in livestock farming for their FoodSource website which provides information to support those teaching, learning and communicating about food systems and sustainability.

Healthy Planet, Better World

On 9-10 December 2016, Medact's fourth annual conference, Healthy Planet, Better World, brought together researchers, campaigners, health professionals and the public to discuss the links between human and planetary health.

The conference hosted over 65 speakers from a broad range of partner organisations, and was attended by over 450 members of the health community. The two days of the conference provided opportunities first to learn about the issues at hand in lectures and panel discussions to develop solutions in talks and workshops. Interconnecting streams on the Friday took delegates from underlying, systematic drivers that challenge sustainability and health, through their health impacts, and on to steps for mitigation - with a particular focus on our current economic, energy & food systems. The Saturday began with plenaries inspiring and challenging in equal measure, covering the possibilities, and difficulties, for effecting change; followed by a number of skill shares on both campaigning and approaches for health professionals in their every-day practice.

Beyond the central programme, the conference also served as a platform for individuals and organisations to develop new networks; and cultural events each evening provided a welcome space for reflection on the challenges at hand. Finally, the Saturday of the conference saw delegates join in the launch of Medact's new Doctors Against Diesel campaign.

Resources from the conference, including videos, audio recordings and slides from many of the sessions are available on the Medact website.



“We need to meet everybody’s rights, to food, to health, to education, but at the same time, we ultimately depend upon the health of our planet. What I think is wonderful about this conference is that it’s precisely aiming to bring them into the same conversation and look at their interdependencies, any tensions between them, to bring people who often work in completely different fields, into one conversation together”

Kate Raworth, Doughnut Economics

“The way that governments change their minds, do new things, is through pressure from their voters. So the more that we can join hands and make the same arguments from different perspectives, the sooner change is going to happen. It was great to interact with Medact and with health professionals to bring our agendas together”

Sonja Vermeulen, Head of Research CGIAR



**HEALTHY PLANET
BETTER WORLD**

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

CHOOSE HEALTH. CHOOSE A GREEN ENERGY SUPPLIER. CHOOSE WALKING OR CYCLING INSTEAD OF DRIVING. CHOOSE A SUSTAINABLE HEALTH SERVICE. CHOOSE EATING LESS MEAT AND MORE PLANTS, ENGAGING WITH NATURE AND BANKING WITH AN ETHICAL PROVIDER. CHOOSE NOT TO FLY. CHOOSE CAMPAIGNING ON THE ISSUES THAT MATTER TO YOU, AND VOTING FOR POLITICIANS WHO ARE COMMITTED TO ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE. CHOOSE NOT PRESCRIBING ANTIBIOTICS UNLESS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY. CHOOSE YOUR FUTURE. CHOOSE THIS BAG. CHOOSE A HEALTHY PLANET AND A BETTER WORLD. CHOOSE HEALTH. CHOOSE A GREEN ENERGY SUPPLIER. CHOOSE WALKING OR CYCLING INSTEAD OF DRIVING. CHOOSE A SUSTAINABLE HEALTH SERVICE. CHOOSE EATING LESS MEAT AND MORE PLANTS, ENGAGING WITH NATURE AND BANKING WITH AN ETHICAL PROVIDER. CHOOSE NOT TO FLY. CHOOSE CAMPAIGNING ON THE ISSUES THAT MATTER TO YOU, AND VOTING FOR POLITICIANS WHO ARE COMMITTED TO ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE. CHOOSE NOT PRESCRIBING ANTIBIOTICS UNLESS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY. CHOOSE YOUR FUTURE. CHOOSE THIS BAG. CHOOSE A HEALTHY PLANET AND A BETTER WORLD. CHOOSE HEALTH. CHOOSE A GREEN ENERGY SUPPLIER. CHOOSE WALKING OR CYCLING INSTEAD OF DRIVING. CHOOSE A SUSTAINABLE HEALTH SERVICE. CHOOSE EATING LESS MEAT AND MORE PLANTS, ENGAGING WITH NATURE AND BANKING WITH AN ETHICAL PROVIDER.



“The work of Medact over the years has been extremely important. It’s been incredibly useful, vital in fact, to have voices from the medical community giving hard evidence and persuasive arguments for action”

Ashok Sinha, London Cycling Campaign



Health Through Peace 2017

In September 2017, Medact and the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW) will bring together health professionals and peace activists to debate, educate and advocate for social justice and demilitarisation. Taking place over three days in York, Medact's largest conference yet will coincide with the 21st IPPNW World Congress, which returns to the United Kingdom for the first time since 1982.

Building on the momentum created by the 2015 Health Through Peace Conference, the congress already features a packed programme of plenaries, academic sessions and workshops. Key speakers include former Director of London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) Professor Sir Andrew Haines, President-Elect of the World Medical Association Dr. Yoshitake Yokokura, General Secretary at Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament Kate Hudson and Archbishop of York Dr John Sentamu; and many more experts from the worlds of academia and campaigning, both on the peace and medical sides, are involved.

Delivering such a wide and comprehensive programme is only possible with the support of a wide network of partner organisations. IPPNW, the University of York and the Hull York Medical School (HYMS) are all joining with Medact in co-hosting the event. More broadly, the conference provides the opportunity for Medact to develop long-term strategic relationships with organisations including Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF), Health Poverty Action and Scientists for Global Responsibility.

The residential accommodation at the University of York will offer a unique opportunity building relationships and networks between members of Medact, IPPNW and the wider peace and health communities. A formal congress dinner on the opening night, in the year of the adoption of the nuclear weapons ban treaty, is set to be a particular highlight and focus for this.

Monday 4th September

Medact are working with 1985 Nobel Peace Prize laureates, the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW), to bring you a rich and diverse programme of speakers from around the world, at Health Through Peace.

Our two opening plenaries discuss the UN Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty, and will be followed by a panel discussion of the structural determinants of war, conflict and violence.

09.30 - 11.00 Plenary 1A

Welcome: The Humanitarian Initiative and the Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty

Facilitator **Professor Tilman Ruff** IPPNW

Speakers **Dr Ira Helfand** IPPNW
Rebecca Johnson Acronym Institute
Beatrice Fihn International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons
Dr Nick Ritchie University of York

11.00 - 11.45 Tea Break

11.45 - 13.00 Plenary 1B

From Prohibition to Elimination of Nuclear Weapons: Strategic Next Steps

Facilitators **John Loretz** IPPNW
Xanthe Hall IPPNW Germany

Speakers **Kate Hudson** Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament
Dr Robert Dodge Physicians for Social Responsibility
Dr Anastasia Medvedeva RPPNW
Kjolv Egeland University of Oxford
Arun Mitra Indian Doctors for Peace and Development
Akira Kawasaki Peace Boat
Sue Wareham IPPNW
Sally Ndung'u IPPNW Kenya
Carlos Umana IPPNW Latin America

13.00 - 14.00 Lunch

14.00 - 15.30 Academic Sessions 2C (Continued)

Delegates have the choice to attend one of the following sessions.

Gender, Health and Development

Adolescent motherhood as a proxy for gender power differentials
FERNANDEZ, Ariana (Arias Foundation for Peace and Human Development, Costa Rica)

Home childbirth an alternative for in-hospital delivery for Syrian Refugees in Lebanon
JABOUR, Mathias; GIORDANO, Richard (University of Southampton)

Building school-level capacities to respond to sexual violence against girls in South African schools through the implementation of the National School Safety Framework
MAKOTA, Gillian; LEOSCHUT, Lara (Centre for Justice and Crime Prevention, South Africa)

Healers, Heroines and Heroes
NUSSERRE, Lucy (Middle East Nonviolence and Democracy (MEND))

British Military Recruitment and Marketing

The findings from Medact's report: 'The recruitment of children by the UK armed forces: a critique from health professionals' will be presented in this panel. This will be followed by an introduction to ongoing research into military marketing in the UK.

Speakers will include Rhianna Louise (Forces Watch), David Gee (Veterans for Peace), and Feryal Awan (Medact).

15.30 - 16.00 Tea Break

Delegates are invited to meet with researchers, students, academics, and campaigners at our on-site exhibition centre.

Ethics of Warfare and Intervention

Just War Theory and the Duty to Assist Civilian Casualties
SCHULKZE, Marcus (University of York)

Ethics and Contemporary War and Warfighter Enhancement
STOSIK, Dominic (Wroclaw Medical University)

Are allegations of WHO bias during the Syrian Civil War justified?
KENNEDY, Jonathan (Queen Mary University of London)

Global Health, Security and Conflict

Globalisation and Neoliberalism: Structural Determinants of Global Mental Health
ROBERTS, Marthew (Independent)

War - Its Consequences on the Atmosphere and Public Health
DEBBARMA, Asis; DAS, Yudhisthir; DEBBARMA, Jhunu (IPDP, Agartala Government Medical College, Tripura, India)

Turning a blind eye: Why climate change-associated conflict might not be recognised, and why it matters for health
BOWLES, Devin (Australian National University)

Re-thinking the health-security nexus: Beyond the securitisation of health and the medicalisation of security
TERRENAS, Joao (University of York)

**HEALTH
through
PEACE** 2017

4-6th Sept 2017
University of York



ORGANISERS



PARTNERS



Militarisation & arms control

The medical case against child recruitment by the UK armed forces

The UK stands apart from most countries worldwide in recruiting children (under-18s) into the armed forces. It is the only European nation, and only permanent member of the UN Security Council, to recruit 16 year-olds.



Launch of the new report, hosted by Medact Brighton

In October Medact published a detailed report outlining the medical arguments against encouraging 16 and 17 year-olds to join the British military. The report found that military recruitment marketing takes advantage of adolescent cognitive and psychosocial vulnerabilities, and that current practices for recruiting children fail to meet the criteria for voluntary and informed consent. Moreover, child recruits are more vulnerable to PTSD, alcohol abuse, self-harm, suicide, death and injury during an armed forces career when compared to adult recruits.

The report garnered a significant amount of media coverage upon its release and was covered by the Guardian and Reuters, among others. In February, the report was cited as evidence by Plaid Cymru MP Liz Saville Roberts when tabling a motion on the issue for debate in the House of Commons.

As a follow up to this work, Medact is now working with Forces Watch on a report on the techniques used in recent and current UK military advertising campaigns to attract young people from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Campaigning against UK arms sales to Saudi Arabia on health grounds

UK arms sales to violent and oppressive regimes enable, fuel and escalate human rights violations, violent conflict and poverty, as well as causing astronomical environmental damage. This year, sales of around £3.3 billion worth of combat aircraft and bombs to Saudi Arabia have been directly involved in the armed conflict in Yemen, which has forced 2.4 million people to flee their homes and left over 22 million people in need of humanitarian support.

Medact's Militarisation and Arms Control Group campaigned for the UK to cease arms sales to Saudi Arabia in light of the Saudi Arabian-led coalition's war crimes in Yemen, including the targeting of hospitals and health facilities. In September 2016, the group wrote an open letter signed by leading health professionals calling for an embargo of arms sales to Saudi Arabia. This was followed up by a personal plea to former GP and Secretary of State for the Department of International Trade Dr Liam Fox from Medact member and GP trainee Sarah Al-Hulail.

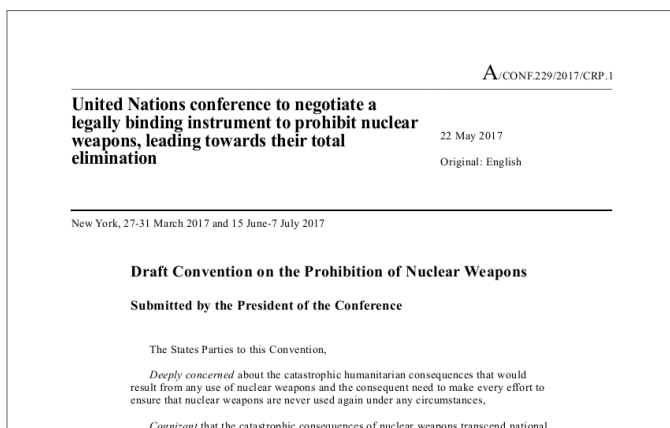
Nuclear Weapons

This long-standing strand of Medact's work has resurfaced in the public consciousness this year, with the renewed threat from global political instabilities, as well as the raised profile of advocates of disarmament in UK parliamentary politics.

Medact continues to believe that all states, powers or authorities which currently possess nuclear weapons must commit to disarm, dismantle and dispose of them all. Efforts continue to highlight the terrible consequences to health, humanity and the environment of the development, testing and use of nuclear weapons.

In the second half of 2016, the Medact-hosted ICAN UK (the UK arm of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons) developed a new campaign to alert the public to the passage of nuclear weapons convoys by road from Faslane to Aldermaston. The 'Nukes of Hazard' initiative included the publication of a report into the transportation, as well as workshops and public meetings in a number of towns along the route. ICAN UK also attended the Labour Party conference at the invitation of the Labour Action for Peace group.

2017 saw the fruition of many years of work by nuclear disarmament campaigners worldwide with the opening of negotiations at the United Nations on an international treaty banning all nuclear weapons. This followed a vote in favour by the First Committee of the General Assembly in October 2016, with the support of the vast majority of states, but the notable exception of nuclear weapons states including the UK.



A first draft of the ban treaty was released following the first round of negotiations in May, and as of July 2017 the second round of negotiations were approaching completion. Medact has been working on a new report, to be launched in July 2017 following the conclusion of the Ban Treaty negotiations in New York. The report will be used as an advocacy tool to call on the health community and general public to reopen the debate on Trident.

In line with developments on the ban treaty, Medact has continued to put pressure on UK politicians regarding nuclear weapons policy. In March of 2017, the Nuclear Weapons Group (NWG) wrote a letter to Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson signed by a number of medical luminaries in support of the UN Ban Treaty negotiations, asking the United Kingdom to reconsider its decision to vote against the accompanying UN resolutions.

In the run up to the 2017 General Election, Medact and its NWG initiated a letter-writing campaign directed at parliamentary candidates urging them to unequivocally reject the idea of the UK making a "first use" of its nuclear arsenal - following the apparent championing of this possibility of UK by some candidates in the media. Letters sent by Medact to all major political parties urged adoption of a "no first use" policy, as a step towards disarmament.

Medact Scotland have continued their focus on this issue - including producing a 'Let's Get Rid of Trident' leaflet, and sending one of their members to New York for the ban treaty negotiations

Medact Trustee and NWG member Frank Boulton has also been working with the Pugwash-based 'Weapons of Mass Destruction Awareness Group' on a project to train young ambassadors to spread awareness among young people.

Left: The initial draft text of the UN ban treaty - "A legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination"

Fossil Free Health

Medact has continued its work to encourage major health organisations to divest from fossil fuel companies this year.

In particular, Medact has been working with the BMA, the Royal Colleges, and their members on moves towards divestment of their portfolios.

As part of Global Divestment week in April 2017, Medact released a short film on divestment to highlight the health impacts of the fossil fuel industry and making a case for institutional divestment. Screenings were organised in Liverpool, London, Edinburgh and Bristol.

In May Medact launched "How To Divest A Health Institution" a carefully researched guide that outlines the steps needed for institutional divestment, including a discussion about the potential risks. The guide, which acts as a companion piece to our 2015 report Unhealthy Investments, was shared with global network of medics interested in divestment, including supporters of the Guardian's "Keep it in the ground" campaign. It has been taken up by health professionals and campaigners across EU and as far afield as Canada, India, and Australia.



Medact guide to institutional divestment - taken up by campaigners as far afield as Canada, India, and Australia.

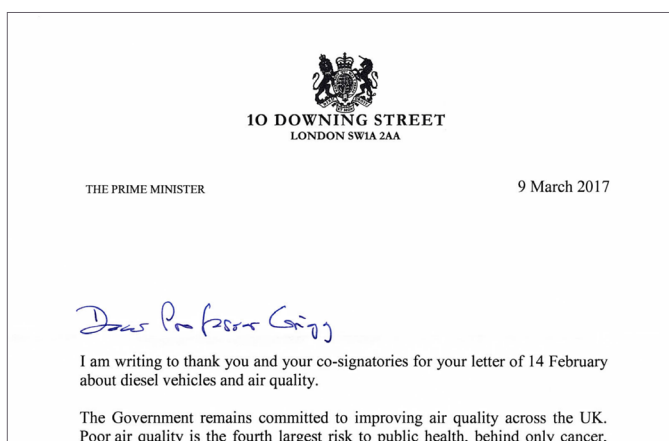


Doctors Against Diesel

In December, at the Healthy Planet, Better World conference, Medact launched the Doctors Against Diesel campaign in Euston Square Gardens. Doctors, nurses, medical student, and health professionals called for diesel fuels to be banned in urban areas and to be progressively phased out elsewhere - receiving extensive media coverage from outlets including the BBC, the Huffington Post and the Evening Standard.

The launch of the campaign follows the growing body of research demonstrating that both long-term and short-term exposure to small particles and gases from fossil-fuel derived air pollution have major adverse consequences on health - and the realisation that, in London at least, nearly 40 per cent of all NOx emissions and PM10 pollution comes from diesel vehicles.

In January 2017, London breached NOx limits just five days into the new year. Doctors Against Diesel responded to this with a letter to Theresa May calling for a ban on diesel vehicles. Nearly 300 doctors, nurses and other health professionals signed the letter, receiving a great deal of media coverage. In March, Theresa May responded with an acknowledgement of the fact that diesel is a significant contributor to air pollution - the first Medact is aware of to a campaign group.



Following this, Medact organised a letter to Philip Hammond, calling for an increase in vehicle excise duty (VED) on diesel vehicles in the March budget.

After the publication of the government's draft Air Quality Plan to tackle unsafe air pollution, Doctors Against Diesel marched to Downing Street to deliver a giant Prescription for Clean Air to the Prime Minister in response to the weakness and inadequacy of the proposals. Medact also produced a formal response to the plan during its consultation phase, and encouraged members and supporters to do likewise.

To coincide with National Clean Air Day in June, Doctors Against Diesel launched a new campaign website and Facebook page, in a view to growing the body of support for action from the medical community in the coming year.



"Get diesel vehicles off the road, urge doctors" - The Times, 15 February 2017 (p8-9)

Left: Doctors Against Diesel delivered a giant petition for clean air to 10 Downing St.

Treasurer's Report

Medact had another good year financially in 2016/17. Total funds at 31 January 2017 increased to £165,000 from £150,000 at 31 January 2016.

Overall income increased by around 27%, from £279,000 to £356,000 in round numbers, reflecting additional grant income and consequent project activity. Grant income for our Food Systems & Health project (£84,000, up from £32,000 last year) and our Conflict & Health work (£27,000 in this financial year) were the principal contributors to this increase.

Grants to ICAN UK, which is treated in the accounts as a separate restricted fund, rose from £28,000 in 2015/16 to £55,000 in 2016/17.

Overall, expenditure increased from £196,000 to £341,000, giving a surplus of £15,000 versus the £83,000 achieved in 2015/16.

This reduction in surplus is in line with the forecast set out in the last Treasurer's Report, and relates to investment in office space and additional core staffing, around which core fundraising will continue to be a priority in the 2017/18 financial year.

Overall voluntary income in the form of donations and subscriptions (but excluding the necessarily more unpredictable legacy income (of which none this year) dropped from £87,000 to £79,000, with Gift Aid also dropping from £12,000 to £8,000, but this was largely balanced by new 'commercial' income of £14,000 related to the provision of hosting and staffing services to our friends at the Centre for Health & Public Interest (CHPI). The separate Hiroshima appeal brought in £8,500 rather than £10,000 this year, and will need to be better integrated with a wider membership drive in the 2017/18 year.

In terms of expenditure growth, staffing costs were of course the main element, up overall from £56,000 to £194,000 between 2015/16 and 2017, reflecting both project growth and concomitant increases in staffing. Specific management & administration fees rose from a very low base of £39,000 to a still manageable £63,000, with some of this increase reflecting improved office IT provision as well as £21,000 additional cost for premises, up from £9,000 to £30,000

Overall, Medact's financial position remains strong, though of the £165,000 total reserves at 31 January 2017 some £112,000 is restricted in its use, and work will need to be done this year to build free reserves through membership & donations growth, earned income, and appropriate full cost recovery on project-specific income. This is especially so in the context of the plans to appoint a full-time director.

Paul Cotterill
Treasurer

Balance Sheet

	31 JAN 17	31 JAN 16
ASSETS		
Fixed Assets		
Equipment - Cost	31,073	30,358
Equipment - Depreciation	-29,667	-28,898
Total Fixed Assets	1,406	1,460
Current Assets		
Other Current Assets	31,856	10,400
Accounts Receivable	1,550	
Cash at bank and in hand		
Barclays	11,990	1,790
CAF Bank	13,174	12,797
Co-operative Bank	23,288	66,494
Co-operative Bank No.2	101,350	47,290
Expenses account	61	
HMRC suspense account	85	
Lloyds TSB	2,485	13,465
PayPal	405	
Petty Cash		10
Santander	1,633	7,253
Total Cash at bank and in hand	154,471	149,098
Total Current Assets	187,877	159,498
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	5,743	7,425
Other Current Liabilities	18,519	3,136
Total Current Liabilities	24,262	10,561
NET CURRENT ASSETS	163,615	148,938
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	165,021	150,397
NET ASSETS	165,021	150,397
Funds at year end		
Restricted Funds	108,710	74,538
Unrestricted Funds	56,311	75,859
TOTAL FUNDS AT YEAR END	165,021	150,397

Income & Expenditure

	FEB '16–JAN 17	FEB '15–JAN 16
INCOME		
Activities to generate funds		
Conference	16,766.53	36,328.44
Consultancy & teaching	1,550.00	
Interest received	70.25	93.09
Other		3,199.90
Total Activities to generate funds	18,386.78	39,621.43
Incoming resources		
Appeals	8,423.21	13,264.38
MCS	3,939.00	
CHPI	14,241.95	
General Donations		
CAF (& JustGiving)	14,342.25	18,516.95
Cheques	64.00	132.00
JustGiving	3,563.24	
One off donations	4,617.95	14,729.68
Regular donations D/D	22,092.25	17,393.00
Regular donations S/O	33,892.00	35,525.26
Total General Donations	78,571.69	86,296.89
Gift Aid	8,485.04	12,011.02
Grants		
Fossil Fuel Divestment	33,000.00	33,000.00
General Funds		500.00
Conflict & Health	27,168.00	
Divestment (Marmot)		3,500.00
Medical Peace Work	11,071.66	10,826.93
People vs PFI		8,340.85
Sustainability, Diets & Health	84,000.00	32,000.00
WMDA	14,300.00	
Total Grants	169,539.66	88,167.78
Grants ICAN UK	54,500.00	27,988.10
Legacies		12,000.00
Total Incoming resources	337,700.55	239,728.17
TOTAL INCOME	356,087.33	279,349.60
EXPENSE		
Fundraising activities	2,666.84	5,277.32
Conferences	28,656.82	37,008.66
Consultants	9,369.87	21,904.81
Salary costs	193,878.31	55,970.62
Management & Administration		
Affiliations	2,113.21	1,792.16
Board		25.00
Communications	8,990.33	7,648.16
AGM		218.18
Events	118.20	1,218.40
Insurance	802.12	420.12
IT & Website	9,538.52	4,396.62
Legal & Financial	3,290.44	3,653.83
Office expenses	2,488.35	2,827.24
Premises costs	29,540.80	9,478.97
Sponsorship		200.00
Staff & volunteer expenses	2,800.31	4,368.09
Staff recruitment & training	1,969.46	1,971.29
Telephone, Fax & Data	1,589.59	744.14
Total Management & Administration	63,241.33	38,962.20
Hosted ICAN costs	21,237.10	32,506.19
Other Hosted Project costs	21,644.08	3,720.00
Depreciation Expense	769.20	625.20
TOTAL EXPENSE	341,463.55	195,975.00
NET ORDINARY INCOME	14,623.78	83,374.60

Thank yous

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Our Board of Trustees:

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