

RESEARCH AND INFORMATION GROUP ON PEACE AND SECURITY

Avenue des Arts 7-8 1210 Saint-Josse-ten-Noode, Brussels, Belgium

Tel: +32 (0) 473 982 820 (new issue)

E-mail: admi@grip.org Internet: www.grip.org



# In a Europe once again at war, where the voices of peace are becoming rare, GRIP needs your help more than ever

# Make a donation!

Brussels, 9 November 2022

Dear Friends of GRIP,

After three difficult years that jeopardized the continuation of its activities, GRIP is recovering. All clouds are far from being cleared. If we managed to overcome these crises, it is thanks to you, donors, employees and partners, public and private. The list of those who have supported us is too long to mention, but GRIP would like to extend its warmest thanks to you all.

#### A voice much needed in a worrying context

These long months of turmoil have been an opportunity to measure the extent to which GRIP's voice is valued in the analysis of conflicts and the arms trade and its dangers. This is true far beyond Belgium. Since the invasion of Ukraine on 24 February 2022, international news have expressed the need for an independent expertise that does not give in to the simplism and danger of discourses advocating for an increasing share of collective resources to the strengthening of military means and institutions.

In this context, researchers have redoubled their efforts to respond to the numerous requests from journalists, associations and non-governmental organizations for a critical reading of the issues at stake in political violence, both in Europe and in Africa. Through its publications, conferences and media interventions, GRIP criticizes the militarist options spreading into the public arena. It does so by combining its expertise with a more didactic approach aimed at citizens trying to make sense of the global affairs.

GRIP's voice openly questions militaristic postures which, far from responding to collective priorities, are oriented towards actions that are sometimes dangerous and often out of step with the aspirations of citizens worried about global warming, the return of war in Europe, the energy crisis and high living costs.

### A new generation takes over

In recent months, a new generation of researchers replaced an older one that retired. The motivation of this new generation is equal to their potential and to the challenges mentioned above, as well as those that lie ahead in the coming years. It is your support that has enabled them to join the team and to pass on the torch with enthusiasm. **GRIP will certainly still rely on your help in a context where the challenges ahead only accentuate the relevance of its social mandate**.

Although our situation is more stable today, the chronic lack of personnel and financial means limits us in the choice and number of projects and interventions we wish to carry out.

Additional resources are needed for:

- Strengthening our independent research for peace and disarmament;
- To increase the impact of our analyses by providing a wider audience of citizens access to critical and rigorous information in French;
- To translate our work into clear, didactic podcasts and video materials, virtual conferences and formats suitable for dissemination on social networks;
- To train a new generation in order to help them to face their own challenges.

## To meet these challenges, we still need your help.

Thanks to your support, this year we were able to:

- Maintain the support of our debtors;
- Preserve GRIP's workforce and research potential;
- Renew some of our computer equipment and furniture.

In the coming months, we will:

- Develop new ways of communicating to ensure better dissemination of our work;
- Acquire the necessary equipment to produce audio and video podcasts;
- Continue to renew computers essential to our work.

Thanks to your contribution, we will remain a unique organization, combining research and public information with <u>rigour and action for a fairer, less armed and safer world</u>.

#### Help GRIP to ensure its recovery. Make a donation.

Make your donation to this **IBAN** account: **BE87 0001 5912 8294** with the mention 'support GRIP'<sup>1</sup>. Even better, become a 'regular donor' with a standing order (from  $\le 3.5$ /month or  $> \le 40$ /year) on https://grip.org/je-donne-2/). We thank you very much for your generous support.

With all our commitment,

Yannick Quéau, Director of GRIP

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For every donation of at least €40 <u>received before 31 December 2022</u>, you will get 45% back next year in the form of a tax reduction. Thus, €40 really only costs you €22. The certificate will be sent to you in March 2023.