

GLOBAL WEEK OF ACTION AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE

JUNE 1 - 8, 2022



Global Week of Action Against Gun Violence 2022

IANSA's theme for the 2022 Global Week of Action Against Gun Violence (GWOA) was **"Let's work together: strict gun controls are urgent!"** This is one of IANSA's main campaigns that aims to raise awareness of ending gun violence through collective action.

Small arms and light weapons (SALW) are used to commit crimes against humanity, war crimes and serious violations of human rights. They also make gender-based violence lethal, worsen violence against children, and undermine sustainable development. IANSA calls for an end to the misuse and illicit proliferation of SALW.

Advocacy points and actions:

- Strengthen international cooperation and assistance in preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects;
- Develop gender-responsive SALW controls;
- Implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- Address questions about the supply and demand of SALW.

This report highlights campaign activities organised by IANSA members and includes members' engagement with community leaders, authority officials and government officials to gain support for measures to reduce armed violence and implement strict firearms controls.



Message from the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Global Week of Action Against Gun Violence is now in its 19th year and has perhaps never been more pertinent than it is now.

Gun violence is informing and perpetuating much of the upheaval in the world even as we continue to grapple with the effects of the continuing COVID-19 pandemic. The war in Ukraine is the latest example of how guns along with heavy weapons take human lives. But, we must not forget that the social and economic impacts of gun violence in other conflicts and settings around the world are continuing even if they are not front-page news. The harshest impact of gun violence is always felt by vulnerable groups and in developing countries, particularly those experiencing or emerging from armed conflict or facing pervasive criminal violence. This has not changed. If things have gotten worse, then the question for us is: "How do we make it better?" or perhaps more modestly: "How do we begin to make it better?"

In my view, the theme of this year's week of action is passionate. We need to emphasise partnerships. For my part, I am a firm supporter of the need to take a more holistic, whole of society approach to arms control. I believe that reducing gun violence requires bottom-up as well as top-down approaches to support both community capacities as well as the effectiveness and resilience of the state. We should bear in mind that it is at the local level, where gun violence is experienced directly and where pressure for response is greatest, accordingly this is where some of the most active and promising initiatives and partnerships have been developed.

Municipal and local governments for instance have played a critical role by creating an enabling environment and directing resources to maintain their success. However, national and regional policies and plans are equally critical to success reducing gun violence, particularly when based on a clear understanding of the risk factors and effects. A holistic action agenda can and should be generated at the national level by bringing together a variety of stakeholders around a common vision of the context specific dimensions of gun violence. And for our part, we, in the Office for Disarmament Affairs, are attempting to work by our own advice, in partnership with the United Nations Development Program, we have established a Saving Lives Entity or SALIENT, a trust facility that allocates grants to catalyse a more comprehensive approach to small arms and armed violence reduction in priority countries, in particular through supporting national initiatives to operationalise and mainstream small arms control in development efforts and policies. We have also sought to capture norms around small arms control through modules that provide common guidance for our partners across the whole UN system. The Modular Small Arms Control Implementation Compendium or MOSAIC. Indeed, ownership of the modules lies with the Coordinating Action on Small Arms or CASA, which serves as the UN system-wide partnership mechanism on small arms.

A partnership-based approach to tackling the challenge of gun violence is not easy. We often find ourselves working in silos for that very reason. But, the problem of gun violence is complicated and multi-dimensional. Solutions will need to be as well. That is why the partnership is needed. As we move forward, our chance of success will be improved through partnerships and through a shared understanding that improved small arms regulation and control measures are not simply a remedy to a short-term, isolated public security issue. They are a part and parcel of a sustained focus on the countries and regions long-term social and economic development. And that is always a worthwhile investment.

I thank you.

Izumi Nakamitsu
High Representative for Disarmament Affairs

Funded Organisations

As part of its three-year project with UNODA through contributions received from the European Union: “Civil society engagement in support of gender-mainstreamed policies, programmes and actions in the fight against small arms trafficking and misuse, in line with the Women, Peace and Security Agenda”, IANSA provided small stipends for local civil society activities on gender-mainstreaming small arms control. This includes events for the Global Week of Action Against Gun Violence, among other campaign-actions led by IANSA. To commemorate the Global Week of Action Against Gun Violence, IANSA supported member organisations in hosting events to raise awareness of the dangers of illicit gun violence.

Bolivia

Esfuerzos de Mujeres Bolivianas

On June 19, as part of their project “Un barrio, un mundo mejor” (“A neighbourhood, a better world’), a project aimed at the young population of the neighbourhoods of San Sebastián, Casegural-Municipal and the young population of refugees and migrants, the Esfuerzos de Mujeres Bolivianas hosted an excursion to the town of Pongo with 39 young people aged 13–24 year old and their families.



Esfuerzos de Mujeres Bolivianas raised awareness of the dangers of having a firearm present in the home, the importance of incorporating a gender approach in public policies for the implementation of Law No. 400, and the importance of youth participation in discussions and meetings on SALW.



Iraq

Iraqi Organization for the Rehabilitation of Society and the Environment

As part of the GWOA, the Iraqi Organisation for the Rehabilitation of Society and the Environment hosted a symposium to raise awareness of the dangers of small arms, particularly in relation to recent increases in suicide among rural children and youth. The event was attended by different sheikhs, tribesmen and youths, and raised dialogues on building community peace. The organisation also took this platform as an opportunity to call on the government to tighten laws and penalties on the spread of illicit small arms.



Kenya

Security Research and Information Centre (SRIC)

SRIC contributed to the GWOA through a partnership with the Kenya National Focal Point on Small Arms and Light Weapons (KNFP) and the Kenya Action Network on Small Arms (KANSA). The organisations commissioned a peace caravan to travel the country and engage members of the public on the harms of illicit proliferation and ownership of SALW. The caravan ended its mission at Kawangware DCC's grounds, where a dialogue forum was held to engage members of nearby communities on the problems and dangers of SALW and highlight government priorities in curbing the issue.



Malawi

People's Federation for National Peace and Development (PEFENAP)



PEFENAP held two events for the GWOA. The first was a meeting with Malawi legislators and members of the Parliamentary Committee, and the second was a meeting with students at the Arise Private Secondary School. During the meeting with legislators, PEFENAP encouraged the government to be at the forefront of advocating for and raising awareness of the need to end gun violence in Malawi, to which the legislators expressed their commitment. With the students, PEFENAP discussed youth involvement in the fight against gun violence, and the students called for special in-school activities to increase awareness.

Nigeria

International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW)

IPPNW held a panel discussion on the goals of the GWOA. Nearly 200 people were in attendance. The panel included a professor of political science and a survivor of gun violence, among other panellists, and focused on the importance of youth participation in reducing gun violence. The panel was later broadcast on the local news.



WREP carried out an awareness and visibility campaign on the impact of SALW for government officials and policy makers so as to have gender-responsive SALW controls as they implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). To raise awareness of the negative impact of small arms on women and children, WREP walked through the streets of Abuja, Nigeria where it talked about the illicit flow of SALW to petty traders, commercial vehicle drivers, government workers, and other passersby.



Additional Activities

In addition to groups that received funding, other IANSA members from around the world hosted events to support the Global Week of Action.

Colombia

Red Nacional de Iniciativas por la Paz y contra la guerra (REDEPAZ)



On June 1, REDEPAZ hosted a panel discussion with speakers from the mayor's office of Medellín which was broadcasted on Facebook live. The conversation focused on how firearms impact the lives of Medellín's residents, and how the mayor's office and civil society organisations have been working to reduce the impact of SALW in the city.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Réseau des Femmes en Action pour le Développement Social (REFEADES)

The Réseau des Femmes en Action pour le Développement Social (REFEADES) held a widely-attended community event to support the GWoA. The event featured music and dances from the community to raise awareness of the importance of reducing gun violence, with a special focus on the effects of gun violence on women and girls.



La Fundación Red de Sobrevivientes y Personas con Discapacidad, with the support of IM Sweden in the framework of the Humanium Metal Project in El Salvador, created a podcast episode on their “inVISIBLE SV Podcast” focusing on the Global Week of Action and youth armed violence. The podcast guests were James Lopez from the organisation Poder Juvenil and Sara Palacios from the organisation Actívale por El Salvador, who shared their personal experiences and discussed the active role of youth involved in the prevention of armed violence. The objective of the podcast was to raise awareness of the extent of gun violence in El Salvador, and the lack of actions for its prevention. Panellists invited authorities to adopt effective gun control measures.

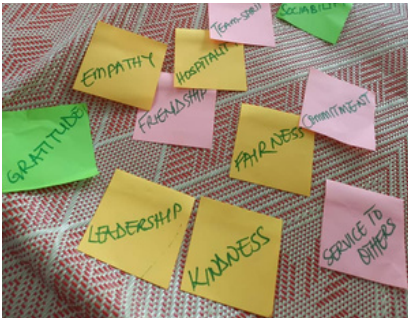
Legislation has been submitted to the Legislative Assembly of El Salvador for reforms to the current "Law for the control and regulation of firearms, ammunition, explosives and similar items", an initiative supported by these youth organisations, who are concerned that there is still no strict regulation of permits to carry a firearm in the country, leaving open the risk of more victims and survivors of armed violence.

Watch and listen to the full podcast episode [here](#).



Nigeria

Keen and Care Initiative (KCI)



Keen and Care Initiative held events in Abuja, Keffi, and other cities in Nigeria to raise awareness of SALW issues. From these events, KCI found that attendees wanted more discussions on the role of gender in SALW violence, more women in decision-making roles in this field, and higher awareness of how cultural barriers impact understanding of SALW issues.



South Africa

Disarmament and Arms Control

Disarmament and Arms Control collaborated with the South African Police Department Firearms Unit to lead a workshop on firearms control in the community of Yeoville. The workshop focused on the dangers of illicit firearms, and how police and communities can work together to reduce gun violence.



Overview of Social Media Participation in the Global Week of Action Against Gun Violence 2022

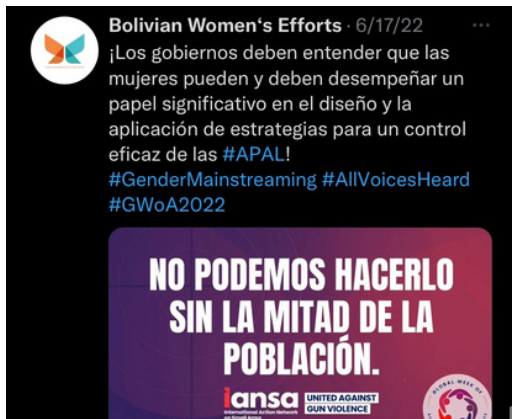
Argentina

La Asociación para Políticas Públicas (APP)



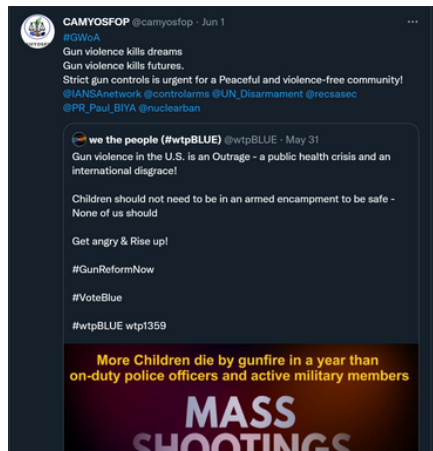
Bolivia

Esfuerzos de Mujeres Bolivianas



Cameroon

Cameroon Youths & Students Forum for Peace (CAMYOSFOP)



Cameroon

Students and Youths Empowerment Forum (SYEF)



Students and Youths Empowerment Forum - SYEF

Jun 1 · 🌐

Today is the first day of the 2022 Global Week of Action Against Gun Violence! Launched by IANSA in 2003, the annual Week of Action (GWOA) is a chance for us to advocate collectively for an end to the illicit trade and misuse of small arms and light weapons. IANSA is a global movement that unites hundreds of organizations working to stop gun violence.

[#PeacelsPossible](#)

[#iansaquerreira](#)



Canada

Canadian Doctors for Protection from Guns



Docs4ProtectionfromGuns · 5/26/22

Gun violence is a global problem, countries should work together to end it.

[#GWOA2022](#)



IANSA @IANSAnetwork · 5/26/22

Easy access to firearms is one of the main drivers of #GunViolence. States must address and control the supply and demand of small arms and light weapons now! #EndGunViolence #LetsWorkTogether

Colombia

REDEPAZ Antioquia



RedepazAntioquia @redepazant · Jun 2

Un agradecimiento a las personas y organizaciones que nos acompañaron ayer en nuestro conversatorio "La Vida y la Paz territorial" en #Medellin en el marco de #GWOA2022 @AlcaldiaMed @SecNoViolencia @CasadelaMemoria @conpazmed @mesaporlavidame @seguridadmed
Fotos: Steven Román



Colombia

Campaña Colombiana Contra Minas



Campaña Colombiana Contra Minas @COL_SIN_MINAS · Jun 3

A partir de hoy, 3 de junio y hasta el 5 de junio, ¡vamos a #VestirDeNaranja juntos para mostrar nuestro apoyo colectivo a las víctimas de la violencia armada y para abogar por el fin de la violencia armada!

Más información en [wearorange.org](#)



Campaña Colombiana Contra Minas @COL_SIN_MINAS · Jun 8

¡Trabajemos juntos! Únase a la Semana Mundial de Acción contra la Violencia Armada de @IANSAnetwork y abogamos por un control estricto de las armas ahora. #GWOA2022 #AllVoicesHeard #EndGunViolence



Costa Rica
Fundación Arias



Djibouti
Voix de la Société Civile Djiboutiens

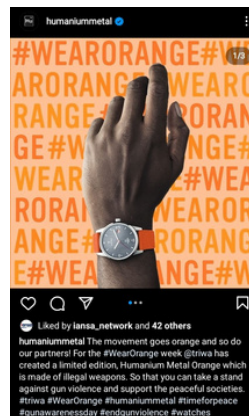


El Salvador
Fundación Red de Sobrevivientes y Personas con Discapacidad



El Salvador

Humanium Metal – El Salvador



Germany

Leibniz-Institut Hessische Stiftung Friedens- und Konfliktforschung (HSFK) // Peace Research Institute Frankfurt (PRIF)



HSFK/PRIF @HSFK_PRIF · 6/1/22

"Let's work together: strict gun controls are urgent", is the theme for @IANSAnetwork Global Week of Action 2022. And gun laws do make a difference, as Rebecca Peters argues on @ZDFheute. #Buffalo #Uvalde #GWOA2022 youtube.com/watch?v=stED6M...



Ghana

Foundation for Security and Development Africa (FOSDA)



FOSDA GHANA @Fosdaghana1 · Jun 8

Target 16.1 of SDG 16 seeks to Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere.

IS GHANA READY TO ACHIEVE THIS TARGET?

Join us for a Live session on Facebook and Twitter this Friday, 10th June 2022.

ZOOM LINK: bit.ly/3zs2xvb



FOSDA GHANA @Fosdaghana1 · Jun 2

DID YOU KNOW?

There are approximately 2.3 million weapons in the hands of civilians in Ghana.

Let's work together to advocate for strict gun controls!

#LetsWorkTogether #Fosda
#GunControlNow #EndGunViolence

@SmallArmsGh @UNDPGhana @IANSAnetwork @ican @HCCanGhana



Latin America and the Caribbean

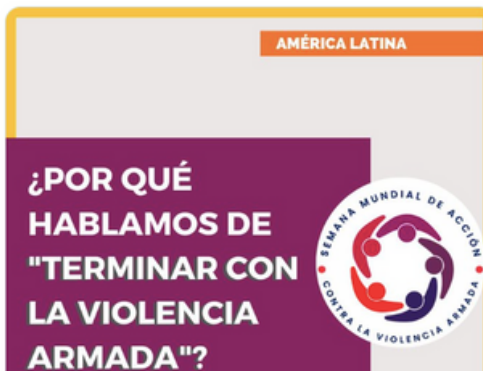
Red de Seguridad Humana en América Latina y el Caribe (SEHLAC)



SEHLAC @SehlaOrg · Jun 8

Para terminar la semana de #GlobalWeekOfAction coordinada por @IANSAnetwork para terminar con la violencia armada #EndGunViolence te contamos algunos datos alarmantes.

Seguí el [link](#)



SEHLAC @SehlaOrg · Jun 5

Del 3 al 5 de junio #wearorange

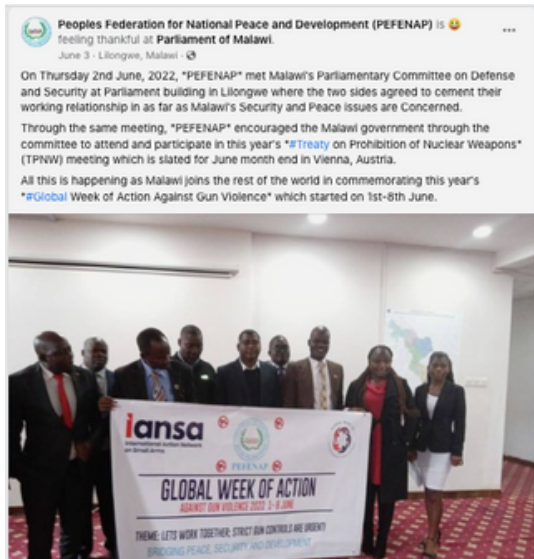
Desde @SehlaOrg y en homenaje a los sobrevivientes de violencia con armas de fuego decimos [#vistededenaranja](#)

Y te invitamos a que conozcas: wearorange.org/es/home/



Malawi

People's Federation for National Peace and Development (PEFENAP)



Mexico

Global Thought



Mexico

Estudiantes vs Armas



Nigeria

Keen and Care Initiative



Nigeria

West Africa Action Network on Small Arms (WAANSA)



georgeochidi @georgeochidi · Jun 8

WAANSA Nigeria holds mega rally in Southeastern Nigeria to mark the end of Global Week of Action Against Gun Violence and Proliferation of Light Weapons. @IANSAnetwork @worldbordersec @georgeochidi @NGRPresident @FhaYouth



Nigeria

Women's Right to Education Programme (WREP)



wrepnig @WREPNG · Jun 6

Women Right to Education Programme (WREP) on Monday thronged the streets of Abuja where it sensitizes traders, drivers waiting at the traffic light/cab drivers and passersby on the dangers of illicit flow of small guns and other light weapons.



Wrep NG
June 6 · 🌐



7

1 Share

Nepal

Women for Peace and Democracy (WPD)

IANSA Retweeted



Shobha Pra. Shrestha
@ShobhaShrestha2

Women must play an active role in the design and implementation of strategies for effective gun control!
#GenderMainstreaming
#AllVoicesHeard #GWOA2022



8:39 AM · Jun 2, 2022 · Twitter for iPhone

IANSA Retweeted



Shobha Pra. Shrestha
@ShobhaShrestha2

Easy access to firearms is one of the main drivers of gun violence. States must address and control the supply and demand of small arms and light weapons #SALW.
#GWOA2022 @IANSAnetwork



4:39 AM · Jun 6, 2022 · Twitter Web App

IANSA Retweeted



Shobha Pra. Shrestha
@ShobhaShrestha2

The 2030 Agenda for #SustainableDevelopment recognizes that there can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development! This includes efforts and initiatives for #SALW control and disarmament.
#GWOA2022
@IANSAnetwork



1:12 AM · Jun 3, 2022 · Twitter Web App

South Sudan South Sudan Council of Churches (SSCs)



Pathfinders (Worldwide)



United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific (UNRCPD)



United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC)



Conclusion

The Global Week of Action Against Gun Violence takes place every year and is one of IANSA's most impactful campaign-actions. IANSA will continue to unite members all over the world to end gun violence and foster collective action to enforce stricter arms controls!



@IANSAnetwork



@iansa_network



@IANSAnetwork



International Action Network on Small Arms



For more information and resources visit iansa.org



Funded by the United Nations
through financial contributions received
from the European Union (CFSP 2018/2011)