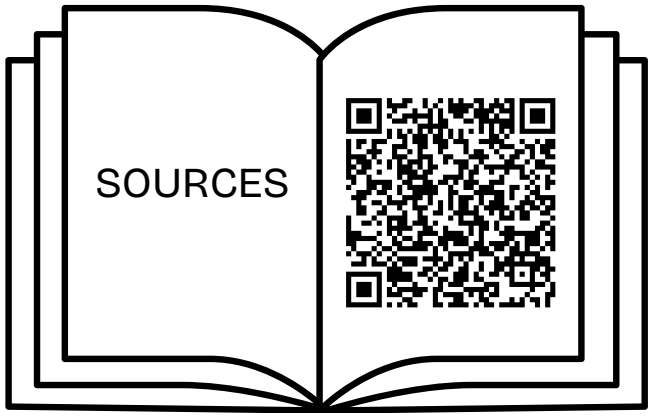
- The climate crisis is a major driver of migration, with 220 million climate refugees from 2015 to 2024. Instead of offering solidarity and refuge, some state powers respond with border militarization.
- While Indigenous people make up about 5% of the world's population, they account for about 25% of those murdered for protecting land and the environment.

We must divest in violence and instead invest in people and the planet.

SCAN THE QR CODES TO TAKE ACTION!

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National Priorities Project

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Climate and Militarism Working Group (U.S.)



DIVEST IN VIOLENCE!



INVEST IN PEOPLE AND THE PLANET!

September 2026

The **climate crisis and the war machine** are two of the most urgent threats we face, and they are deeply connected. The war machine fuels environmental destruction and accelerates climate change, and the climate crisis intensifies conflict and violence.

At the root of both crises lies the same pursuit of power and profit. **Extraction and militarism serve the interests of a wealthy few, while the rest of us bear the costs** - in lost lives, destabilized communities, and a planet pushed to the brink. We can only achieve safety for the billions of people on this planet if we end the consumption of fossil fuels, and the violent power grabs that enable it.

As a major global polluter and warmonger, the United States has a unique responsibility to **stop driving fossil fuel dependence, stop pouring billions into war and weapons, and instead invest in just, livable futures for all**.



DID YOU KNOW?

We are collectively facing environmental breakdown.

If you're reading this, you're likely well aware that we're living through a climate emergency - a *triple planetary crisis* of global warming, biodiversity loss, and pollution. The human toll is heartbreaking, and it's growing worse. The single most urgent action we can take to stop this crisis from escalating is to divest from fossil fuels.

War and weapons drive and enable fossil fuel use, and fossil fuel use drives the war machine.

- The U.S. military is the largest institutional emitter of greenhouse gas emissions on the planet. Its emissions are greater than those of entire nations like Sweden, Denmark, and Portugal.
- Wars are fought over oil. From 1973 to 2013, between 25 and 50 percent of wars were connected to oil interests. As recently as 2018, the U.S. spent around $81 billion each year to protect global oil supplies - more than 10% of the U.S. military budget at the time.
- The U.S.-Israel war on Iran is causing great destruction and killing thousands of people. People are also struggling to afford bills while oil companies and weapons makers profit.
  - In the first two weeks of the war, 5 million tons of carbon dioxide were emitted, the same as the 84 lowest-emitting countries combined.
  - U.S. oil companies will make an extra $63 billion in 2026.
  - The total bill per U.S. household for the war on Iran is around $1,700 - this is due to higher energy costs and higher military spending.

Military spending crowds out funding for climate, including meeting human needs.



- The world's militaries spent $2.7 trillion in 2024 - a record high. The top five spenders - the United States, China, Russia, Germany, and India - accounted for 60% of total global spending.
- The United States is consistently the world's top military spender, surpassing a $1 trillion budget in 2025. U.S. military spending equals that of the next 9 countries combined and is more than three times that of the next country, China.
- From 2015 to 2025, the U.S. contributed $2 billion to the Green Climate Fund, the primary fund for international climate finance. In the same period, U.S. Congress spent at least $79 billion - 40 times more - to help countries buy U.S.-made weapons.
- The U.S. climate fair share - what the U.S. owes to the rest of the world for its historical contribution to the climate crisis - is $446 billion per year. In addition to taxes on fossil fuel producers and billionaires, the military budget should be considered as a major potential source of funding to meet this responsibility.

The actors that perpetrate the climate crisis and the war machine benefit, while frontline communities suffer.

- The world's richest populations are most responsible for causing the climate crisis, which most harms those least responsible. This imbalance reinforces global inequality, deepening political instability, militarization and fossil fuel dependency.