Every year, 15th May is International Conscientious Objection day.

Around the world, all who understand the chaos, brutality, and futility of wars remember all who refused to go to war and raise awareness of the many who continue to be persecuted and imprisoned for refusing to kill and be part of armed forces.


See: Activism, Anti-War, Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Nonviolence, Veterans Day, the Wars, and more.

**OMNI NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL DAYS PROJECT**

Two kinds of violence disrupt the harmony of our world: individual and structural. This newsletter is part of OMNI’s NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL DAYS PROJECT, by which we affirm nonviolent DAYS, such as United Nations DAY, Human Rights DAY, Conscientious Objectors’ DAY, and strive for the goals of equity, health, protection of all species—that is, a world free of war and war permitted or promoted by our warrior leaders. Read Richard Rubenstein’s book, *Reasons to Kill: Why Americans Choose War* (2010). Rubenstein analyzes seven “key rationales for war” employed by successive leaders to gain public support for domination and destruction instead of cooperation and construction.

Our DAYS Project also counters the structural conditioning for violence and wars in such
celebrations as Columbus Day, Armed Forces Day, and Memorial Day. These national days of violence reinforce the national drive for domination, hardness, punishment, wars, invasions and interventions—some fifty since WWII, amounting to permanent war. (See William Blum, *Killing Hope* and *Rogue Nation.*) --**Dick**

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2014 Global Objection to War


Film, *Soldiers of Conscience*

Recent Related Newsletters

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**International Conscientious Objection Day 2014**

26 Mar 2014 — HBrock

**Start date:**

15 May 2014
Every year, 15th May is International Conscientious Objection day.

Around the world campaigners will be remembering the generations who refused to go to war, and raising awareness of the many who continue to be persecuted and imprisoned for refusing to kill and be part of military structures.

Please join an event (listed below), hold your own, and spread the word about the day!

Events are listed so far in Belgium, Britain, Korea and Turkey and the USA.

Please send us your events so we can list them here!

Belgium
Brussels, 16 May 2014
Press conference about the situation of CO in Greece, Cyprus and Turkey

More information: EBCO

Britain
Birmingham
Ceremony for Conscientious Objectors Day:

Sunday May 18th at 3pm - Bath Row, Birmingham B1 1SB

More information: West Midlands CND

Brighton
15 May: Poetry and booklet readings. Thursday 15 May, 7.30 pm – 9.30 pm Friends Meeting House (Lecture Room), Ship Street, Brighton

More information: Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

Edinburgh: Vigil to remember WW1 Conscientious Objectors, 15th May vigil: 4 - 6 pm
Jointly organised by Edinburgh Peace and Justice Centre and Fellowship of Reconciliation Scotland.

More information: http://peaceandjustice.org.uk/

Evesham, Weekend of 17th and 18th May
Shopping centre window display on the theme of 'Courage and Conscience'

Sunday 18: 'Conscientious Objection The Local Picture.'
Event in Cowl Street Peace Garden, Evesham, 3.00pm

More information: contact anneragdoll@yahoo.co.uk

Leeds, 14 May

7pm – Headingley Library, North Lane: A talk by Janet Douglas for International Conscientious Objectors’ Day.

More information: http://arts.leeds.ac.uk/legaciesofwar/events/headingleys-first-worl-war-conscientious-objectors/

Leicester, 15 May

6pm – 8pm: ‘Everyone is invited and people are very welcome to bring family stories to share. Refreshments, seats and shelter should it rain, will all be provided.’

More information: http://memoriesinconflict.wordpress.com/2014/05/04/international-conscientious-objectors-day-event-15th-may/

Liverpool, Event in the City Centre: 12 noon

15th May, probably 12noon: ‘handing out leaflets and white feathers to explain their significance and the heroism of those who were willing to take a stand against killing other human beings. They are looking for information about COs in Merseyside. See their newsletter for information on how to send them this information.

More information: call Merseyside CND on 07501 793342 or read newsletter

London, 15 May Vigil: 12 noon

Descendants of more than thirty First World War conscientious objectors are already planning to take part in this year’s International Conscientious Objectors’ Day commemoration in Tavistock Square, London, on 15 May.

Meet at 12 noon at the commemorative stone for conscientious objectors

More info: http://objectingtowar.wordpress.com/2014/02/24/international-co-day/

At 4.30pm two books charting the history of conscientious objection will be launched in Friends House Library: Objection Overruled by David Boulton and Comrades in Conscience by Cyril Pearce.

At 7.30pm No Glory will hold an evening of music and poetry…cold stars lighting… at St Giles-in-the-Fields Church, WC2H 8LG. Readings from A L Kennedy, Blake Morrison, Michael Rosen, George Szirtes and Samuel West. Tickets from www.noglory.org

More info on both: http://www.quaker.org.uk/news/cranks-or-heroes-telling-untold-stories-wwi
Tottenham: Tottenham Quakers will be holding a Vigil on Thursday **15th May**, to commemorate International Conscientious Objectors’ day. The vigil will involve silent recollection in the Quaker tradition, interspersed with readings of texts and poems. **6.30 to 7.30 pm.** Location and travel: [http://www.quaker.org.uk/tottenham](http://www.quaker.org.uk/tottenham) - All are welcome irrespective of creed. Tea and light refreshments will be offered after the Vigil.

Manchester

'A Different kind of Hero: Remember Conscientious Objectors from the First World War' Join us to celebrate their stories and their significance to our Region. Bring poems and songs. May 15 5.00 – 6.00. Fennell Street, between the Cathedral and the river – a potential site for the new Peace Gardens AND join us to prepare for the event – at Nexus Café on Dale Street, behind and underneath Methodist Central Hall - **May 14th 5.15 – 6.30 pm** Craft skills and stories of COs needed. Text us to let us know if you want to be part of this activity 07796078310.

Sheffield

**15 May: 6.30pm - Opposing War – Courage and Conscience** Hosted jointly with the Sheffield Quakers, the event will feature poems, songs and readings by local people about their relatives and others who have opposed war and refused to fight. Thursday 15 May, tea/coffee from 6.30 pm, event starts 7.00 pm Quaker Meeting House, 10 St James Street, Sheffield (next to the Cathedral)

More information: [Women's International League for Peace and Freedom](http://www.wipf.org.uk)

Korea

May 11

Talk-show 'The fake man 3' : This talk show was designed to reveal various forms of militarism in Korea. This years' theme is the military. Guests of the talk-show are: A veteran soldier and now a bass player at a black metal band, two conscientious objectors.

May 15

WRI [Handbook for Nonviolent Campaigns Korean version launch event](http://www.wipf.org.uk)

May 17

Bike rally from SAMSUNG headquarters to the Ministry of Defense.  More info: peace@withoutwar.org

Turkey

May 15th: Press conference in Beyoğlu/Istanbul


USA

Berkley, 15 May

11.30am: Berkeley objector day peace flag raising

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Online

- If you want to tweet about International Conscientious Objector's Day, please use the hashtag #CODay (o #díaOC en español)

We will be posting more events as we hear about them. Others are unannounced and so we will post information about them after they have happened. Tell us about things happening near you for International Conscientious Objection Day!

Email hannah@wri-irg.org

See what was happening internationally for 15 May in 2013 here: http://www.wri-irg.org/COsDay2013

- Facebook
- Google
- identi.ca
- Reddit
- SlashDot
- Twitter


1. International **Conscientious Objector Day** | Global Dimension
globaldimension.org.uk/calendar/event/4404
International Conscientious Objector Day. 15 May 2014. 15 May every year: Raising awareness of those who refuse to participate in armed conflict.

2. International Conscientious Objectors' Day - objectingtoward
objectingtoward.wordpress.com/2014/02/24/international-co-day/
Feb 24, 2014 - International Conscientious Objectors’ Day: 15th May. jimjepps / February 24 ... February 25, 2014 at 4:36 pm. Should the 15th March date in ...

3. Conscientious Objectors Day - Peace Pledge Union
www.ppu.org.uk/coday/
International Conscientious Objectors Day is marked around the world each year on 15 May. ... Join us on 15 May 2014, 12 noon in Tacistock Sq London WC1.

Who were the conscientious objectors of the first world war ...
www.theguardian.com › News › Datablog
The Guardian
Jan 23, 2014 - theguardian.com, Thursday 23 January 2014 02.00 EST ... A crowd of conscientious objectors to military service during World ... Our editors’ picks for the day's top news and commentary delivered to your inbox each morning.

4. International Conscientious Objectors Day: events in ...
noglory.org/.../178-cranks-or-heroes-events-around-the-uk-on-internatio...
May 15, 2014 - 15 May 2014 is designated as International Conscientious Objectors' Day and the Quakers are organising events across the UK, supported by ...

5. BBC's Jeremy Paxman blasted for calling World War One ...
noglory.org/.../126-bbc-s-jeremy-paxman-blasted-for-calling-world-war...
Feb 5, 2014 - Conscientious objectors in World War One were "cranks" says BBC's ... in a number of events on Concientious Objectors' Day, 15 May 2014.

6. Conscientious Objectors' Day - Fellowship of Reconciliation ...
www.for.org.uk/events/coday/
Conscientious Objectors' Day. Posted May 15, 2014 by Emma Anthony & filed under Centenary. Map Unavailable. Date/Time Date(s) - 15th May 12:00 pm - 1:00 ...

7. International Conscientious Objectors Day (from Social ...
icalshare.com › ... › Holiday › Social Justice Holidays & Observances
Mar 1, 2010 - International Conscientious Objectors Day. May 15, 2014 (all day). http://www.wri-irg.org/co/15may.htm. This event belongs to Social Justice ...

8. Conscientious Objectors Day Vigil | Peace and Justice
peaceandjustice.org.uk/events/event/conscientious-objectors-day-vigil-2/
Conscientious Objectors Day Vigil. This event is on 15 May 2014 4:00pm. ww1_COs_credit_ppu. Photo credit: ppu.org.uk. Conscientious Objectors Day Vigil by ...

Searches related to Conscientious Objectors Day 2014
conscientious objectors ww2
famous conscientious objectors
Synopsis:
When is it right to kill? In the midst of war, is it right to refuse? Eight U.S. soldiers today, some who killed and some who said no, reveal their inner moral dilemmas in *Soldiers of Conscience*. Made with official permission of the U.S. Army, the film transcends politics to explore the tension between spiritual values and military orders. *Soldiers* follows the stories of both conscientious objectors and those who criticize them. Through this clash of views, the film discovers a surprising common ground: all soldiers are "soldiers of conscience," torn between the demands of duty and the call of conscience.

Recent Related Newsletters
5-14 Vegetarian Action
5-11 Julia Ward Howe’s Mother’s Day for Peace
5-4 Kent State Killings
4-21 US Westward Imperialism
4-18 Pentagon Budget

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Nuremberg Principles and CO: Lynd
Josh Stieber, CO and Whistleblower in Iraq
Books and Film

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Contents of #3 May 15, 2012
G.I. Rights Conference in Fayetteville
Conscientious Objection
Selective Conscientious Objection
Eyal Press, Beautiful Souls

Contents #4 May 15, 2013
Dick: US Fear of COs
Boardman: CO Private First Class Kimberly Rivera, in Prison
War Resisters International: Women Conscientious Objectors
Mehi-Laituri, Christian Iraqi Veteran CO
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END CO NEWSLETTER #5

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Dick Bennett

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