

Independent and Peaceful Australia Network (IPAN) People's Inquiry Report launched in November

Friends would know that over the last two years IPAN has undertaken a People's Inquiry questioning the US-Australia Alliance. QPLC encouraged Friends to participate in the Inquiry through IPAN's submission process.

The inquiry considered the alliance through eight perspectives: impact on First Peoples, military and defence, foreign policy, political including democratic rights, unions and workers' rights, environment and climate change, social and community, and economic.

The resulting report which includes recommendations for each perspective, *Charting our own Course: Exploring the Case for an Independent and Peaceful Australia*, is now available at <https://ipan.org.au/read-or-order-the-report-of-peoples-inquiry/>.

The report was tabled and publicly launched on 24 November at Parliament House in Canberra.

The report is a valuable resource for Friends who ask questions about the costs and consequences of Australia's involvement in US-led wars and the US alliance, and what are the alternatives.

QPLC will be providing a more detailed Watching Brief on the Report, including questions for discussion by Friends.

The Peace and Social Justice Fund provided some financial support for the publication of the report, which is acknowledged in the document.

The nearly 300 submissions by individuals and groups are still available on the IPAN A People's Inquiry website at: <https://independentpeacefulaustralia.com.au/>

This report was launched in the context of a full day conference held in Canberra 22 November: **Charting our own course: Next steps towards an Independent and Peaceful Australia**, underlining the increased urgency for collaborative action for peace and climate given the increasing threat of nuclear war and devastating climate change. Recordings of all sessions of this conference are available on IPAN's Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/IndependentAndPeacefulAustraliaNetwork/>

Friends are encouraged to read through the report and bring it to the attention of your networks and decision makers at any level of government or community organization.

November 2022