



EU Warmongers go home!

Protest on Monday March 25th at 1:00.

EU Inter-parliamentary Conference on Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) and Common Defence and Security Policy (CSDP) to be held in Dublin Castle.

The Conference comprises delegations as follows:

- National parliaments of EU member states – **21 of whom are NATO members** - up to 6 members each;
- European Parliament, up to 16 members;

National parliaments of EU candidate countries, up to 4 observers each;

Of candidates Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, **Croatia, Iceland and Turkey** the latter three are NATO members.

- European member countries of NATO which are not EU member states, up to 4 observers each. **Norway and Albania.**
- **That's a total of 26 out of 28 NATO members. Only the US and Canada are not officially represented.**

On Monday 25 March, the conference will discuss: The Comprehensive Approach to instability in Africa – the experience of the Horn of Africa.

Ireland, Austria, Sweden and Finland are not members of NATO but while nominally 'neutral' are members of NATO's Partnership for Peace which is considered a sort of waiting room for pending NATO members and this conference is essentially a NATO military conference.

Some commentators are pointing out that the wide campaign of media and political events presently being conducted – some within the ambit of the EU presidency - are designed to create a favourable public image of NATO and will culminate with formal invitations to Ireland to join NATO at the next NATO Summit in 2014. What can be certain is that there are senior members of the present government who have canvassed Ireland's joining NATO for many years.

At the Lisbon Summit in 2010, NATO announced that it is now an international military-political formation. Its new doctrine also states: "Unique in history, NATO is a security Alliance that fields military forces able to operate together in any environment; that can control operations anywhere through its integrated military command structure...." The bloc's NATO Response Force (NRF) "provides a mechanism to generate a high readiness and technologically advanced force package made up of land, air, sea and special force components that can be deployed quickly on operations wherever needed."

Then there is the Lisbon Treaty which links us to contributing to the "vitality of a renewed" NATO and states that the EU's common security and defence policy is compatible with NATO's; "*Recalling that the common security and defence policy of the Union respects the obligations under the North Atlantic Treaty of those Member States which see their common defence realised in the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, which remains the foundation of the collective defence of its members, and is compatible with the common security and defence policy established within that framework; Convinced that a more assertive Union role in security and defence matters will contribute to the vitality of a renewed Atlantic Alliance, in accordance with the Berlin Plus arrangements - sharing EU/NATO assets.*"

The People's Movement rejects this softening –up process and any attempt to drag this country into the aggressive military alliance.

We will be holding a peaceful protest outside the conference on

Monday March 25th at 1:00.

We will announce the assembly point later in the week. We urge all our friends and supporters to make a special effort to join us in this protest.

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