Strategic Concept for Removal of Arms and Proliferation (SCRAP)

Briefly describe your major campaign goal/call/mission

The campaign suggests using proven agreements as a basis for general and complete disarmament (GACD) a priority for the international community reiterated by the UN Secretary-General. And which is an obligation under Article VI of the NPT and has been the subject of UN policy since the early days of the UN. There is a standing commitment to hold a 4th Special Session of the GA on Disarmament. And present Humanitarian initiatives are regarded by many states as part of a process for GACD: for example http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/un/disarmament/weapon/resolution0210.html

SCRAP proposes a ten year implementation period for GACD using existing mechanisms as a basis GACD has long been a goal of the developing world to restrict and prevent humanitarian disasters and as a potential boost to sustainable development through the concept of disarmament and development.

SCRAP's focus on a rapid and holistic approach is designed to demonstrate the practicality of this unified approach, so helping change the paradigm of present activity from a fragmentary and step-by-step approach to one which offers a highly challenging and yet demonstrably practical message to vested interests. SCRAP can be adopted incrementally and supplement existing campaigns with a potential of synergy.

For example, at present no treaties outside the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe area provide for the control of tanks, artillery, warplanes and missiles or provide military Confidence and Security Building Measures. But these conventional weapons are killing people daily around the world, and enable major powers to threaten and invade others with dire humanitarian consequences as is the case in Iraq.

A premise of the successive and successful campaigns from landmines, through small arms to cluster munitions and on to the ATT has been that major interstate warfare was, with the end of the Cold War, no longer a concern. And yet in the Balkans, the Caucasus, the Middle East, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan and in Africa major conventional weapons have contributed and often been decisive in conflict. For example in Libya and Syria imbalances in these weapons in internal conflicts has been an argument for outside powers to bring them to bear. At present there is the prospect of a huge use of conventional weapons by the US on Iran and regional and sub-regional arms races underway in Asia.

The European security treaties from around 1990 enabled a ‘peace dividend’ for European tax payers over the last decades but neither states nor NGOs have sought to export or extend these models. Though recently both Turkey and the US have been looking at these possibilities. The only external impact of these treaties was the transfer of the weapons banned in Europe to states to the South. For example transfer of the East German navy to Indonesia.

The SCRAP approach moves the application of humanitarian concern from the trade in weapons to their deployment, possession and production.

An initiative on conventional weapons and CSBMs can help bypass real and diplomatic obstacles to nuclear disarmament. Most countries that seek nuclear weapons have regional security concerns around conventional weapons threats: Israel, Pakistan, China and Russia for example. Ignoring this
dimension damages the credibility of disarmament campaigns. Diplomatically, the argument over linkage between the nuclear and general disarmament clauses of NPT Article VI can be overcome once it is realised that conventional disarmament is practical and introducing it into the debate is not just another roadblock to nuclear disarmament.

With respect to nuclear and related ‘WMD’, the necessity for prevention of humanitarian catastrophe is clear. SCRAP takes the world’s most effective, proven and comprehensive mechanism for WMD disarmament, the UN authorised regime imposed on Iraq, and suggests that the International Community impose it on itself.

**Briefly describe the relevant international treaty(ies)/forum(a) for your work**

SCRAP offers negotiating text for globalisation of existing treaties and legal instruments based on a document proposed at the CD by France, Russia, the UK and US for the globalisation of the 1987 US-USSR Intermediate Nuclear Forces Treaty which verifiably eliminated entire class of missiles from the two states inventories. SCRAP is offered to the CD discussion group 6, the disarmament commission and in the General Assembly/First Committee.

**List major donors, stakeholders, resources used to achieve your goal**

SCRAP is empowered by the volunteer energy of SOAS students and alumnae and the advice of experts it is supported by administrative and academic staff at the Centre for International Studies and Diplomacy (CISD) where it forms part of the Disarmament and Globalisation Project. It has been funded by the Marmot Trust and is supported by the Centre for International Studies and Diplomacy at SOAS, University of London. SCRAP has working relationships with the Geneva Centre for Security Policy, the Institute for Policy Studies and the International Peace Bureau amongst others. Advisors include former officials Paul Schulte (UK), Paul Meyer (Canada) as well as longstanding members of the NGO community. Costa Rica and the Philippines hosted a briefing on the topic earlier this year and SCRAP has been presented as evidence to the UK House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee.

**List main challenges and threats to achieving your goal and current/upcoming opportunities.**

The main challenge is the perceived unreality of the proposal and the looming threat of large scale warfare emerging from the proliferation of arms and economic crisis and the pressures of population increase, resource scarcity and climate change.

The opportunity is having a ‘realist proof’ proposal to excite and focus the non-specialist in a new powerful global campaign as a response to these emerging crises.

**Briefly describe your location and scope of operation, governance structure, and staffing**

SCRAP is based in London and is subject to the management and financial controls of the University of London and the CISD within it.

**List your website and other relevant social media contacts,**

[SCRAP webpage](#); [SCRAP Facebook page](#); [SCRAP Twitter feed (@SCRAPweapons)](#)