

Scrap Trident – spend the money on jobs, education and public services

Proposed by: Catherine Nugent

Seconded by: Jamie Green

Believes

1. That the £100 billion the government wants to spend on replacing the Trident nuclear weapon system should be spent on decent, socially useful jobs, free education and other public services.
2. That the supposed “deterrent” value of nuclear weapons depends on willingness to use them; and using them would certainly mean vast numbers of deaths immediately and for years to come.
3. That the government wants to spend billions on weapons of mass destruction at the very time it is gutting public services.

Further believes

1. That the shipyards producing nuclear weapon-carrying submarines (the weapons themselves are bought from the US!) can be converted to produce something else. Governments have converted military industry to civilian purposes many times in the past (eg Britain in the 1940s) and workers have developed plans of their own for such conversion (eg the 1970s Vickers Plan).
2. That the workers involved in these projects could be guaranteed decent alternative jobs producing something socially useful, with no loss of pay or conditions, and a lot of money left over for community regeneration and public services.

Resolves

1. To campaign against replacing Trident and for nuclear disarmament on the basis set out above.
2. To publicise the demonstration against Trident on Saturday 27 February.
2. To submit this motion to NUS Conference 2016 and to mandate NUS Executive to facilitate Constituent Members to campaign for money to be spent on free education, jobs and services instead of nuclear weapons.