



## WNDC PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE

### 2020 POSITIONS ON WAR FEVER

WNDC wants to examine US war policies and procedures; shine light on the cost of war in blood and treasure; challenge vested interests that produce endless wars; stand against illegal and unconstitutional wars; support the use of diplomacy to resolve conflict, rather than overt and covert actions; and rebuild the State Department.

**Therefore, WNDC calls for national lawmakers to:**

- Use diplomacy rather than boots and guns to resolve conflict. This means rebuilding our State Department and giving our diplomats the funding and standing they need to best represent US interests.
- Expose the waste in national security and defense spending, including the Pentagon budget and the vast overspending on nuclear weapons.
- Follow the US Constitution, which gives Congress, and only Congress, the authority to take the country to war, a provision that the Executive Branch has ignored in recent years and that Congress has allowed.
- Oppose the vested interests that produce and support endless wars.
- Demand that members of Congress take a stand on whether the country should go to war—before troops are sent abroad.
- Insist that government officials define what they mean when they declare that military force is needed because of threats to our “national security.”
- End credit-card wars. If there is a need to go to war, leaders must define how the war will be financed. In the past, the government has sold bonds or raised taxes to pay for war. But recent wars have been financed with credit—money we borrow from China and other lenders and which our children and grandchildren now will have to pay back.
- Consider some form of national military or civil service for young people that offers college tuition assistance.
- Help return civics to the classroom so our young people better understand how our government is supposed to work, based on the US Constitution, which gives Congress—rather than the President—the authority to take the country to war.
- Rethink America’s role in the world. We need a vigorous but civil debate to determine the best way forward from the Trump years of disruption and chaos so we can more effectively deal with the challenging new world of drones, cyber warfare, and surveillance that threatens our civil liberties.