

April 2018

Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro is Supporting UnConstitutional Bombing of Syria.

The Greater New Haven Peace Council condemns Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro's statement on the recent bombing of Syria by the U.S. and its NATO allies, Britain and France that *"The United States-led strikes, conducted in concert with our allies in the United Kingdom and France, are a timely and targeted response to the Assad regime's despicable violation of international law."*

Her statement calls into doubt Congresswoman DeLauro's knowledge or support of International Law.

By condoning these strikes, DeLauro is herself supporting violation of International Law by the United States:

- 1) There is nothing in International Law, of which the U.S. is a signatory, that permits its aggression on a nation that is not imminently threatening the United States. There is nothing in International Law that somehow makes an attack on a sovereign country legal based on the use, or in this case *alleged use*¹, of chemical weapons. The U.S. government is assuming the right to shred International Law, the United Nations Charter and the U.S. Constitution in attacking Syria.
- 2) With its multiple unprovoked aggressions against countries all over the world, the United States has shamefully and continually violated International Law and the UN Charter, both incorporated into the U.S. Constitution in Article 6: *"all Treaties made, or which shall be made, under the Authority of the United States, shall be the supreme Law of the Land."* These Constitutional violations include the use of force and employment of mercenaries against Syria where the United States maintains unwelcome troops and military bases and has been illegally waging war for many years.
- 3) By supporting the *"timely and targeted response"* of the U.S. in bombing Syria, Congresswoman DeLauro has violated her own oath to our Constitution, which gives Congress, not the President, the right to declare war. Congress has never declared war on Syria, nor is it justified to do so.
- 4) On February 2, 2018, Defense Secretary General Jim Mattis acknowledged that the U.S. bombing attack on Syria exactly one year ago, which Congresswoman DeLauro also supported, was based on no evidence of the use by the Syrian government of poison gas². That bombing, regardless of the actions of the Syrian government, was another violation of the U.S. Constitution by the U.S. government. How long will it take before the U.S. government acknowledges no evidence for the recent allegations about Syria?
- 5) Congresswoman DeLauro's additional call *"that Congress fulfills its*

Constitutional responsibility to debate any further use of military force” comes after the fact that the U.S. is and has been invading Syria without Constitutional authority. Moreover, given the public comments of members of Congress, it is likely that that body would approve President Trump’s illegal attacks on Syria and encourage even more violence.

Although in 2002 Congresswoman DeLauro voted against the proposed illegal and unwarranted U.S. attack on Iraq, she repeatedly voted to fund that vicious war against Iraq, which resulted in hundreds of thousands of deaths, far more wounded and millions of refugees. The many wars initiated by the U.S. this century alone are immeasurable humanitarian catastrophes.

In 1967, Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., stated, “I could never again raise my voice against the violence of the oppressed in the ghettos without having first spoken clearly to the greatest purveyor of violence in the world today: my own government.”

It is appalling that our elected representatives continue to promote great violence, continue to massively fund an out-of-control war machine, and continue to violate their oaths of office.

We call on Representative DeLauro, Connecticut’s other Congressmembers and two Senators to immediately reverse course, to speak forcefully and vote against the government’s illegal use of force, to stop pouring our taxes into building and using weapons of war, and finally provide funds for the desperate needs of our working families, our poor and our communities.

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ⁱThe U.S. bases its claims of a chemical attack on social media, the same social media that politicians, pundits and the press decry for fake news and interference in U.S. elections. Furthermore, the sources in social media to which the U.S. refers are largely funded by the CIA and its British counterpart, both of which have been proven to produce disinformation, otherwise known as “fake news.”

ⁱⁱ< <https://www.usnews.com/news/politics/articles/2018-02-02/mattis-says-us-has-no-evidence-of-syrian-use-of-sarin-gas>>