

World March for Peace & Nonviolence

At a Glance



What: The World March for Peace and Nonviolence is a historic, three-month worldwide march involving more than one million participants. Its objective is to generate a global consciousness that universally condemns all forms of violence: physical, psychological, racial, sexual, economic and religious.

An international team of marchers will cross the planet from New Zealand to Argentina raising awareness of the dangers of a renewed arms race, the military occupation of foreign territories and the heightened probability of nuclear conflict.

Simultaneously, an unprecedented social mobilization will be taking place in more than 100 countries, where marches, festivals, exhibits, concerts, forums, conferences and social, cultural, educational and athletic events will take place calling for an end to wars, nuclear arms and all forms of violence.

When: October 2, 2009 – the International Day of Nonviolence – to January 2, 2010

Where: The march starts in Wellington, New Zealand and ends in Punta de Vacas, Argentina, at the foot of the Andes Mountains.

Continents: 7

Countries participating: 100+

Distance travelled: 99,419 miles (160,000 kilometers)

Estimated Number of Participants: 1 million +

Proposals of the World March:

- nuclear disarmament at a global level;
- immediate withdrawal of invading troops from occupied territories;
- the progressive and proportional reduction of conventional weapons;
- signing of non-aggression treaties between countries;
- renunciation by governments of the use of war as a means to resolve conflicts.
- To create a new global consciousness – as has already happened with environmental issues – that recognizes the urgent need to condemn of all forms of violence and bring about real Peace.

Origins: The World March was officially launched at the Symposium of the World Center for Humanist Studies in Punta de Vacas, Argentina, on November 15, 2008. It was initiated by World Without Wars, an affiliated organization of the Humanist Movement that is internationally active in the fields of peace and disarmament.

Who is Participating? The World March has been endorsed globally by thousands of individuals, pacifist and nonviolence groups, institutions and leading figures in science, culture and politics including Chilean President Michelle Bachelet, the Dalai Lama, South Africa's Desmond Tutu, Jimmy Carter, Zubin Mehta, Yoko Ono, Viggo Mortensen, Abolition 2000 and Mayors for Peace, among others. For an extensive list of supporters, go to www.theworldmarch.org.

US March: We are encouraging the development of marches, events and special projects across the entire country to take place between October 2 and January 2 at the local, state and regional levels.

Community groups and associations; elementary schools, high schools and universities; churches, mosques and temples; non-profit peace, immigration, youth, and social services organizations; arts organizations; businesses; and city governments: all will take a part in preparing these initiatives to give a voice to the majority of world citizens who want peace and an end to violence as a means of social interaction.

Between November 30 and December 3, 2009, the international marchers will visit four U.S. cities (beginning in New York City). The goal is to have events occurring in each of the 50 States and Puerto Rico on December 2 – a "National World March Day" – to show U.S. support for the World March.

Join Us: We invite you to help organize, educate others and participate in the World March. For more information, go to worldmarchusa.net.

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Humanist Movement

(updated April 26, 2009)

more info: www.worldmarchusa.net (US) • www.theworldmarch.org (International)