

# ROOTS OF RESISTANCE

*Quakers against the arms trade*

Every two years, thousands of arms dealers gather in East London to sell weapons to militaries from all over the world. **Roots of Resistance is a network of Quaker activists mobilising to stop them.**

Roots of Resistance is a community of Friends building a creative, vibrant and radical Quaker response to the Defence and Security Equipment International (DSEI) arms fair.

Taking place in east London every two years, DSEI is a huge trade show bringing together 1,500 arms companies with

representatives from militaries from around the world. Some of the world's largest companies market tanks, planes, drones, rifles, ammunition, surveillance technology, training and a huge array of other weapons. DSEI is next due to take place in September 2019 - **and we'll be there to get in the way.**



Hundreds gather for Meeting for Worship at DSEI 2017

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In witnessing our testimony to peace, Friends have been led to join the movement of resistance to this arms fair, which brings global human rights violations to our doorstep. Arms fairs like DSEI are a key root cause of the violence and injustice around the world.

Quakers have been involved in action against DSEI for many years. **Roots of Resistance** is building an unprecedented Quaker presence at the 2019 fair, standing together against DSEI and the global arms trade.

## Take action with Roots of Resistance

We are building a network of Quakers to take action together against DSEI 2019. You do not have to be an experienced activist to take part – as plans come together, we'll make sure there are suitable roles for everyone. Together we will build an action that is safe and empowering. **Visit our website to sign up for updates.**

Roots of Resistance is looking for 100 "organisers", who will work in their local and area meetings to support local Friends to take action with us at DSEI. If you are interested in this role, get in touch to find out more.

## DSEI - key facts

DSEI is a huge trade show for arms companies. The event that takes place every two years at the ExCeL Centre in East London. It is organised by an events company called Clarion Events, and the British government's Defence and Security Organisation. In 2017, DSEI featured 1,500 arms companies from all over the world, and was attended by 36,000 people, including military delegations from 47 countries.



Quakers block trucks laden with weapons from entering DSEI in 2017

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