Rethinking Security

for a just and peaceful world

News Release

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EXPERTS DEMAND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN GOVERNMENT'S NEW SECURITY REVIEW

Rethinking Security, a network of peace and security experts, today called on the Government to adopt an inclusive approach to reviewing and renewing the UK's security policy. Welcoming the announcement of an Integrated Review of UK foreign policy, defence, security and international development, they called on the Prime Minister to listen to the views of peace practitioners, victims of global conflict and ordinary British citizens.

The experts warned the Government not to miss the opportunity to define what security means, including an honest assessment of *whose* security and how progress can be measured.

Rethinking Security Co-ordinator Richard Reeve said:

"Past national security strategies have always privileged elite interests over the basic needs of individuals.

"The last National Security Strategy was more concerned with projecting military power and promoting business opportunities than protecting and nurturing people.

"Putting the wellbeing of people at home and abroad at the centre of the UK's approach to security is crucial.

"Developing a coordinated approach to security across government is essential but so is understanding the impact of UK policies and actions across society, at home and abroad.

"The Integrated Review must actively seek the input of those working for peace and development, not just defence and deterrence. It's an opportunity to reset the UK's principles and its commitment to the security of people everywhere."

ENDS

Notes to Editors

1. Rethinking Security Co-ordinator, Richard Reeve is available for comment – 07811 362054
2. The Rethinking Security media page and factsheet is at www.rethinkingsecurity.org.uk/media
3. Rethinking Security's comparative study of 20 European and North American national security strategies, *Contrasting Narratives* (2018), is at https://rethinkingsecurityorguk.files.wordpress.com/2018/03/contrasting-narratives-march-2018.pdf
4. About Rethinking Security:
    *   Short description – Rethinking Security is a network of peace and security experts.
    *   Long description – Rethinking Security is a network of organisations, academics and activists working together for security based on justice, co-operation and sustainability.
5. Member organisations:
    *   Campaign Against Arms Trade
    *   Campaign For Nuclear Disarmament
    *   Centre for Feminist Foreign Policy
    *   Conciliation Resources
    *   Forces Watch
    *   International Alert
    *   Movement for the Abolition of War
    *   Oxford Research Group
    *   Peace Direct
    *   Quaker Peace And Social Witness
    *   Quaker Asylum and Refugee Network
    *   Saferworld
    *   Scientists for Global Responsibility
    *   United Nations Association – UK
    *   War on Want

    Our work also benefits substantially from the active participation of academics from the universities of Bradford, Coventry, Kent and Oxford Brookes.