



PETITION (signature collection)

On the occasion of the latest events related to the Russian-Ukrainian conflict, and taking in consideration the celebration of the **DENIP** (School Day of Non-violence and Peace), we started a campaign for Peace on January 31st:

**“YES to MEDIATION and DIALOGUE,
NO to the WAR”.**

From the knowledge and empowerment that TUTOPIA and LEM provides, together with the work done on the SDG projects (specifically on SDG number 16: "Justice and Peace"), and the classes of Contemporary History; today, we feel the need to take action and proclaim:

In the harsh context that we are already experiencing with the pandemic; the news of the intervention in the Russian-Ukrainian war conflict has left us worried, disappointed and outraged.

The young people of the FEDAC schools want to make our voices heard: we feel totaly revolted by any violence. It is offensive to justify intervention in the armed conflict with: "the aim of putting pressure and dissuading" using **weapons and missiles** in order to prevent a full scale invasion (that is also enforced with **weapons and missiles**).

We do not support any strategies for Peace other than **the tireless and intelligent work of mediation and dialogue.**

We believe in the power of words as the only tool to increase awareness and reach agreements. The diplomatic effort that we expect from our political leaders cannot be accompanied by the rearmament and forced military displacement that grows day by day. The images of this strategy, to which

governments have quickly joined by sending warships, are an insult to Peace, and to the very belief in the power of dialogue to resolve conflicts.

Moreover, we have not been consulted as citizens, not even presented the issue as a debate in parliament. It is for this reason that we say: belonging to NATO is not a justification for deciding without consulting, informing, or debating, such an important issue that affects world peace.

Our life, our future as young people, can not be built on the basis of political or economic interests of the arms industry, or power; they are indiferent, and they are only a small group of people. In these times of pandemic, for most of the world's population, the only struggle is to survive the disease, the economic crisis affecting the labour market, and the deep sadness of having lost so many loved ones.

High-level politics will have failed if it continues to pretend that negotiation and dialogue prevail, during which people are being armed and prepared to face war. Dialogue and the intention of peace loses credibility, and it is violated if we negotiate while pointing weapons at each other and rearming.

At this point of the armed conflict, we call for an immediate ceasefire to stop the human rights violations that the Ukrainian people are suffering. We make an appeal to continue working on mediation and on the peaceful resolution of the conflict.

Therefore, we want to **collect signatures from our "old" and "young" schoolmates**; with the aim of presenting them to the media and other political agencies. We want to break the "silence that weakens" and makes us mute, and an accomplice of a future that we do not want.

FEDAC Students