Press Release

16/6/2020

**Confusing Programme by the Three War Parties**

Ireland is not a neutral state. The Republic of Ireland is a de facto USA Aircraft Carrier, and Northern Ireland is part of NATO since its formation.

Under International Law as stated in the Hague Convention of 1907 a neutral state does not allow its territory to be used by belligerents in a war. Yet over three million US troops and an unknown amount of military equipment have landed in Shannon Airport on their way to wars on Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria. and the Yemen. The FF/FG/Green parties Programme for Government has refused to restore the policy of neutrality by terminating the use of Shannon Airport by the USA in pursuit of its doctrine of perpetual war, and thus ensuring like every previous Irish Government since 2001 that Ireland continues to actively support these endless wars.

It is perfectly possible for Ireland, like Denmark to remain in the European Union without integrating into the process of the militarisation of the EU which is clearly designed to develop into an EU Army as advocated by EU leaders, Chancellor Merkel and President Macron.

According to Roger Cole of PANA, the Programme for Government 2020 is aspirational with confusing and contradictory positions on Irish foreign policy designed to allow a range of interpretations, but as far as PANA is concerned it means increased participation in PESCO, the EU Battle Groups and all those other EU institutions that are the foundation bricks for the creation of a European Superstate with its own Army.

In short, the Programme is a continuation of existing policies. There will be no change. All this despite the fact that 82% of the Irish people in the Republic of Ireland support Irish Neutrality in all its aspects (RedC / RTE EU Election exit poll).

To confirm this Press Release;

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Roger Cole, Chairperson, PANA,

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**For more information**;

Extracts from the Programme for Government 2020

*We will…*

*• Continue to ensure that all requests for overflights or landing by military or state aircraft are*

*guided by Ireland’s policy of military neutrality.*

*• Ensure all aircraft requesting permission to avail of facilities at Shannon and other Irish*

*airports adhere to strict conditions and that all military or state aircraft are unarmed, carry*

*no arms, ammunition or explosives. Any exemptions should be dealt with in an open and*

*transparent way. The State retains its right to undertake spotchecks on commercial/civil*

*flights should it be deemed necessary. (P.127)*

*Relationship with the United States*

*The relationship between Ireland and the United States is of unique significance on an economic,*

*social, historical and political level.*

*We will:*

*• Strengthen our diplomatic, cultural and economic relationship with the US at all levels,*

*recognising the unique significance of the transatlantic relationship between us.*

*• Act as a bridge in the transatlantic relationship between the EU and US. (P.128)*

*Overseas operations and international co-operation*

*The Government will ensure that all overseas operations will be carried out in line with our position*

*of military neutrality and will be subject to a triple lock of UN, Government and Dáil Eireann approval. Ireland’s participation in PESCO projects will be maintained on an ‘opt-in’ basis, with contributions being entirely voluntary. Any projects undertaken within PESCO will be approved by Cabinet and Dáil Éireann.*

*The Government will not partake in projects which are not compatible with our policy of active*

*military neutrality and non-membership of military alliances.*

*Within the context of the European Peace Facility Ireland will not be part of decision making or funding for lethal force weapons for non-peacekeeping purposes. (P.130)*

Germany and EU expand military deployment in Africa…

<https://www.people.ie/news/PN-214.pdf>

Protests in the USA…

<https://uspeacecouncil.org/statement-of-the-world-peace-council-about-the-protests-in-the-usa/>