

## Structure

### National Assembly to End the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars and Occupations

1. The National Assembly to End the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars and Occupations, hereafter referred to as the Assembly, shall be maintained as a network.
2. The Assembly's purpose and mission is to promote unity of the U.S. antiwar movement and to propose dates for unified actions so that national and nationally coordinated demonstrations are sponsored and called by the movement as a whole. To achieve this objective, the Assembly, together with other unity minded forces in the antiwar movement, will attempt to create a culture and environment in the movement that can and will remove barriers that separate us and permit us to march together to end the Iraq and Afghanistan wars and occupations.
3. The Assembly seeks to bring together groups and individuals who subscribe to the following five propositions: (1) immediate withdrawal of all U.S. military forces and contractors from Iraq and Afghanistan and an end to U.S. support for the Israeli occupation of Palestine; (2) mass demonstrations as the central strategy; (3) unity of the movement in the streets; (4) democratic decision making; and (5) independence of the movement from all political parties.
4. To foster a meaningful and globally representative united movement, the National Assembly commits to actively recruiting groups and individuals as participants and empowering leaders to a multi-generational movement that are representatives of different communities of color, GLBTQ self-identifications, spiritual communities, sexes, organized labor, veteran and military family communities, physical and mental abilities, political tendencies, multi-linguistic populations and international communities as well as members of other communities representative of the world's population. We do this recognizing the importance of creating an inclusive and global movement capable of a powerful voice and greater scope of influence.
5. By **immediate withdrawal** we mean that the U.S. government should immediately end all military and police activity in Iraq and Afghanistan/ Pakistan, immediately close all military bases, immediately withdraw all contractors, and immediately assemble as large a fleet of planes, helicopters and ships as possible to bring all the troops home as quickly as they can be transported.
6. By **mass demonstrations as the central strategy** we mean this should be the movement's main priority. We do not counterpose periodic mobilizations in the streets to other forms of activities conducted by movement activists, including work with veterans and active duty members of the service, teach-ins, forums, antiwar referenda, antiwar strikes, mass meetings, civil disobedience/non-violent direct action, petitioning, Moratorium activity, lobbying, Iraqi trade unionists tours, solidarity work, counter-recruitment actions, electoral work, letter writing or any of the other multiple ways opponents of the wars and occupations protest. We value all activities that involve people and broaden the movement in protesting the Iraq and Afghanistan wars and occupations, and we will encourage supporters of the Assembly to help publicize such activities. At the same time, we strongly believe that mass actions are distinctive in that they have the capability of bringing together the largest number of people to demonstrate the breadth and support for the immediate withdrawal demand.

7. By **unity of the movement in the streets** we mean forging agreement among the major forces in the movement in support of collectively agreed-to dates for actions. This involves in the first place consultation with key movement groups and their leaderships in the search for consensus and agreement on when and where national and nationally-coordinated demonstrations should be organized.
8. By **democratic decision making** we mean periodic conferences open to anyone interested in attending, with each attendee having voice and vote. We recognize that the myriad groups that constitute the antiwar movement have their own decision making processes. That is for them to decide and the important thing for the Assembly is to work with and maintain good relationships with all of the groups.
9. By **independence of the movement from all political parties** we mean that the movement will not subordinate its program to any of them. The Assembly advocates a non-partisan, non-electoral independent antiwar movement that adheres uncompromisingly to its "Out Now!" demand and strives to unite all opponents of the wars and occupations, irrespective of their political affiliations.
10. The Assembly's goal is to unite all supporters of the above five propositions into a network. The Assembly will be funded by voluntary contributions from those organizations and individuals who support its mission and the five propositions.

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11. The Assembly's governing body shall be a Continuations Body (CB), whose function shall be to implement the Assembly's mission, which is to do everything possible to forge unity in the streets of all antiwar forces. The CB shall be composed of representatives of organizations that subscribe to the five points (see paragraph 3 above), with each such organization having one representative. However, any organization with a membership in excess of 10,000 may apply for additional representatives and by 2/3 vote of the CB may be granted additional seats, with a maximum of three.
11. The CB shall periodically convene national antiwar conferences as described in paragraph 7 above. The purpose of such conferences shall be to plan actions to advance the Assembly's immediate withdrawal and related demands. The CB shall be charged with implementing the conference's decisions, subject to any changes approved by a 2/3 vote of the CB based on a change in circumstances. This does not empower the CB to alter the spirit or fundamental meaning of positions adopted by National Assembly conferences."
12. All organizations seeking to be represented on the CB need to demonstrate that they are viable and support the Assembly's program. Application to be added to the CB must be approved by members of the CB by a majority vote.
13. In the interest of achieving a diverse, representative and effective CB, the CB may, on its own motion, add members to its ranks. Doing so in each case will require a 2/3 vote.
14. Any member of the CB unable to attend an in-person meeting or participate in a conference call may designate an alternate, who shall have full voting and speaking rights.

15. National antiwar conferences sponsored by the Assembly shall elect 14 members to serve as the Assembly's Administrative Body (AB). The AB's function shall be to oversee the administration of the Assembly, prepare proposed agendas for in-person meetings and conference calls of the CB, make recommendations to the CB, and make necessary decisions not involving basic policy matters in between meetings or conference calls of the CB. By virtue of their election to the AB, its members shall be members of the CB. The term of AB members shall expire when the next national conference is convened and new elections are held.
16. Upon adjournment of a national antiwar conference sponsored by the Assembly, the elected AB members shall meet and elect a secretary and treasurer. The AB shall also determine how it can function most effectively to ensure that the work of the Assembly goes forward.