



“Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for bread, will give a stone?”  
 – Matthew 7:9

In his Sermon on the Mount, Jesus emphasized the parental care of God by comparing it to the care we give our own children. “Is there anyone among you, who if your child asks for bread, will give a stone?” (Mt. 7:9) Jesus makes the point that, even we who are sinful, would never give our children a stone if they asked for bread. And yet, in many ways, our national budget priorities do exactly that.

The past two decades –highlighted today by worldwide pandemic, racial injustice, climate crisis, and the Russian invasion of Ukraine– have made it clear that investing in militarism neither keeps us safe nor promotes the peace our communities and world long for.

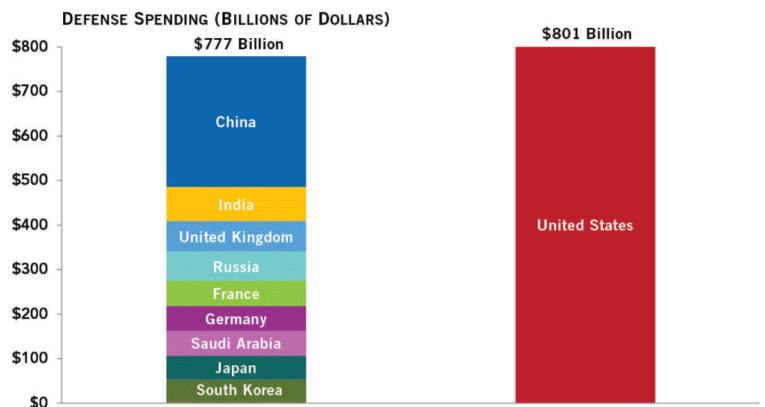
The Bread Not Stones 2022 Campaign calls for our military spending to be redirected to the challenges presented by the pandemic, the climate crisis, poverty, and inequality. The U.S operates out of the mentality that peace is assured through military might, manufacturing weapons, and constant investment in war preparations, when in reality, militarism is a threat to all our livelihoods. There are few complaints when bills presented to Congress ask for huge increases for the military, whereas bills to provide modest increases for social programs are often criticized as too expensive!

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

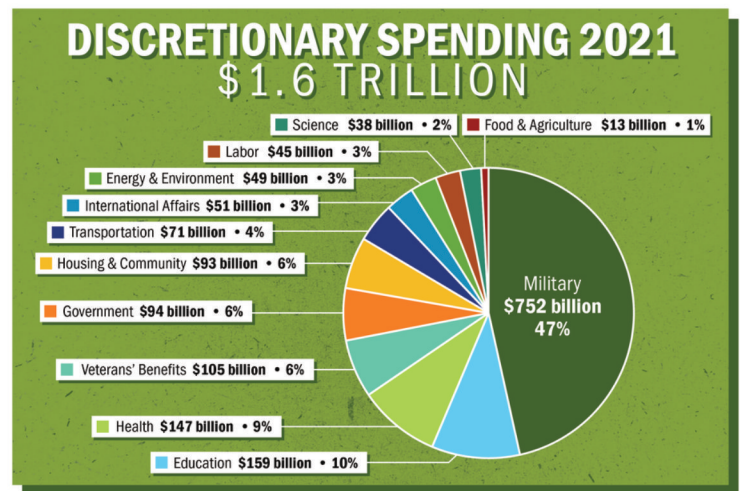
- Let people know the amount our federal government is spending on the military compared to other nations and to our domestic spending.
- Ask your legislator to be a cosponsor of the *People Over Pentagon Act of 2022 (H.R.8040)* to reduce Pentagon spending and invest the savings in domestic and human needs.
- Support efforts to *redirect our military spending* to housing, health, education, the environment, and economic justice.



### The United States spends more on defense than the next 9 countries combined



SOURCE: Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, SIPRI Military Expenditure Database, April 2022.  
 NOTES: Figures are in U.S. dollars converted from local currencies using market exchange rates. Data for the United States are for fiscal year 2021, which ran from October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021. Data for the other countries are for calendar year 2021. The source for this chart uses a definition of defense spending that is more broad than budget function 050 and defense discretionary spending.  
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“Bread Not Stones” is sponsored by Pax Christi USA, the national Catholic peace organization.