



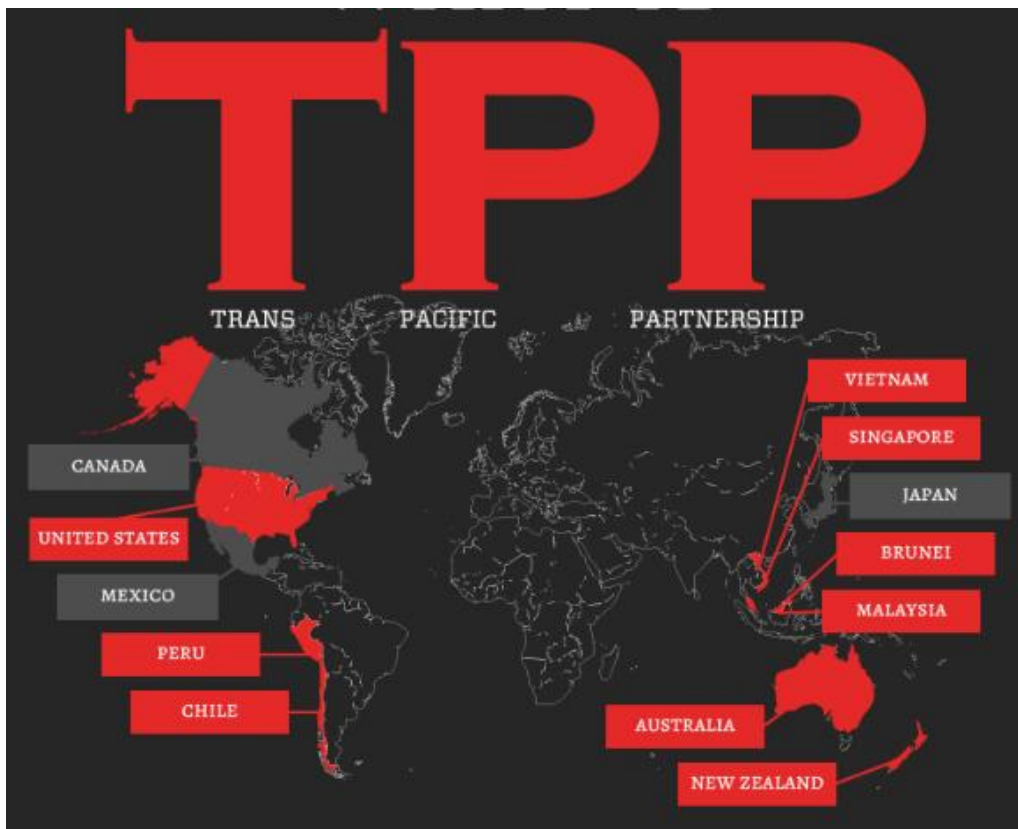
February 2014

Peace Economy Project   
Cut Military Spending. Fund Human Needs.



"...they shall beat their swords into plowshares..."

## LISTEN: Q&A on Dismantling the TPP



PEP media coordinator Elyse Vesser recently sat down with Shona Clarkson from the Inter-faith Committee on Latin America (IFCLA) for

### In This Issue

[LISTEN: Q&A on Dismantling the Trans-Pacific Partnership](#)

[Peace Prospects for the New Year](#)

[Bringing Awareness to Violence Against Women with Poetry & Song](#)

## Save the dates!

### Charlie King Concert and Silent Auction

**Saturday, March 1st**  
**Doors open 7 pm**  
**8 pm show starts**  
**Nerinx Hall Heagney**  
**Theatre**  
**(530 E Lockwood,**  
**Webster Groves)**

Join us as we welcome Charlie King to St. Louis for his "40 Songs for 40 Years" CD release and tour. This year will make

a Q & A about the Trans-Pacific Partnership. Their conversation breaks the TPP down, examines how and what it will affect, and talks about what we can do to fight it. You'll find the audio in the link below:

[Dismantling the TPP](#)

Additional resources:

[NAFTA on Steroids](#) by local activist and writer Jamala Rogers  
[Obama's Free-Trade Conundrum](#), a New York Times Editorial  
 The [leaked TPP chapters](#), via WikiLeaks

## Peace Prospects for the New Year

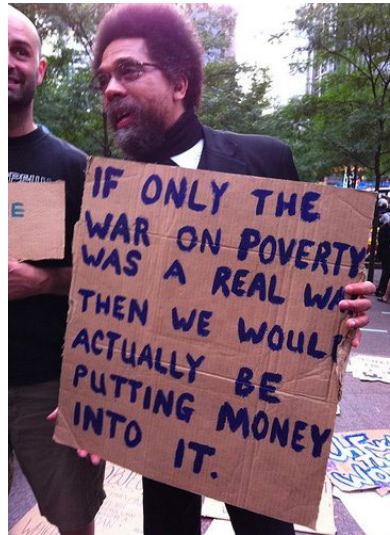
by Charles Kindleberger, PEP Board Member

How to summarize the progress made towards a Peace Economy during 2013? As always there were reasons to be positive and/or discouraged about the events of the past 12 months. Here are some of my thoughts.

Let's begin with a vision of a "Peace Economy." What would it look like? In my mind, the Preamble of the Declaration of Independence is a good place to start

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

For me LIFE implies a broad array of services and opportunities provided to all Americans - a set of effective "safety net, employment and educational" programs designed to help us all to survive and prosper; LIBERTY implies the right to live in a democracy, one that protects individual rights and minimizes government surveillance; and PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS implies the freedom to pursue one's interests,



Charlie's 40th year as a song writer and 50th year as a folk singer.

Be sure to come out for this momentous occasion!  
 Silent auction starts at 7 pm, show starts at 8 pm.  
 Opening act by Gabe Miller.

Tickets \$18/door, \$15 in advance, or get the family/friend 4-pack for \$40. [Check out our website to purchase tickets.](#)

## Transitioning to a New Economy Webinar

Thursday, Feb. 6th  
 2:00 pm  
 webinar presentation  
[click here to register](#)

The US is winding down two wars and beginning a postwar defense drawdown, and at the same time we are in a new environment of fiscal pressure.

On the webinar, hear from:

- Miriam Pemberton, Ph.D., Research Fellow at Institute for Policy

as long as they don't unduly interfere with the interests of others.

I think about the goal of a Peace Economy in terms four categories: domestic and international and short term and long term. Ordinary citizens can generally influence the domestic and short term categories more than the international and long term categories, but all four are important. So here is one person's view as to the past year and the new one.

Domestic/Short Term Progress. In some respects things got better:

- The US economy finally started to create jobs - not in the public sector, but about 2,200,000 in the private sector; hardly enough to deal with the long term unemployed, those with limited skills and those that have dropped out of the labor force, but still impressive. Unfortunately, too many were part time rather than full time.
- The Affordable Care Act survived some near death experiences; first, a Supreme Court scare, and then the very rocky roll-out of the web site and the sticker shock confronted by those who thought they already had acceptable health insurance policies.
- The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly Food Stamps) appeared to be surviving the most severe cuts proposed by the House of Representatives, though at year's end the Farm Bill was still in conference committee.
- A bi-partisan budget passed that was to be good for several years, and that removed some of the cuts imposed by the Sequester, even if it was more generous to the Pentagon than to the domestic side of the budget.

[Read More](#)

## Bringing Awareness to Violence Against Women with Poetry & Song

Studies, who is working to develop these state commissions as well as other defense transition tools to help communities seeking a sustainable economic future.

- Judith LeBlanc, Field Director for Peace Action, who is working with communities organizing around defense transition efforts.

### **Sowing Struggle: Social movements and the future of cornin Tlaxcala, Mexico**

**Wednesday, Feb.26th  
6:00 pm  
Washington University  
St. Louis, Brown 118**

Featuring Luz Rivera Martinez of the Consejo Nacional Urbano Campesino (CNUC) and Stuart Schussler of the Mexico Solidarity Network (MSN)

Luz will speak about her 20 years of experience constructing autonomy, organizing outside the electoral system, and



