

VFP Resolutions Summary

Proposed Resolutions can be found on the VFP National website

<https://www.veteransforpeace.org/2016ballot>

<p>Resolution 2016-01: Use of Phrase "Military Service"</p>	<p>Board does not support resolution</p> <p>Board Reasoning - The VFP BOD voted to reject this resolution on the basis that while the term "service" in reference to military service is considered by some members to be a misnomer or otherwise undesirable or problematic, the term is considered by others to be something for which they hold a great sense of positive connection, perhaps because of their interpretation of the service aspect itself or their value of the term due to the life experience aspect. For these and/or other reasons, members may view the term "service" as having been instrumental in shaping -- perhaps in some significant way -- who they are today as anti-war/peace activists and how and why they came to join VFP. A secondary reason why the VFP BOD voted to oppose this resolution was the belief that VFP should not take a position of discouraging members from describing their time/experience in the military as "service" if they choose to do so, as the term means different things to different people.</p> <p>Discussion</p> <p>Convention Vote: Failed 8 Aye 58 Nay 7 Abstentions</p>
<p>Resolution 2016-2: Normalization of United States-Iran Relations</p>	<p>Board supports resolution.</p> <p>Convention</p> <p>No Discussion</p> <p>Passed with vote of acclamation</p>
<p>Resolution 2016-3: For A Just Resolution of The War In Syria</p>	<p>Board does not support resolution</p> <p>Board Reasoning: This proposed resolution asks Veterans For Peace to join in a propaganda campaign against the Syrian government, asking us to "denounce the well-documented war crimes of the Assad regime..."</p> <p>While war crimes have probably been committed by all sides, deceptive propaganda about so-called "war crimes of the Assad regime" has been a central component of a U.S. psychological warfare campaign aimed at confusing the people of the United States and the international community about the real nature of this "regime change" war.</p>

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	<p>Many of the key accusations against the Syrian government have proven to be false; for example, Seymour Hersh exposed the Big Lie that the Syrian government was behind a Sarin gas attack. This “false flag” operation provided the rationale for which President Obama almost began a bombing campaign against Damascus, the capital of Syria. Similar propaganda about Syrian Army gas attacks and targeting of hospitals in Aleppo is currently being disseminated.</p> <p>Every action by the Syrian Army to defend its territory from foreign-funded and foreign-armed extremist groups is described as a war crime, while the civilian toll of the U.S. bombing campaign and the terrorist attacks in government-controlled areas are rarely mentioned by the hypocritical western media.</p> <p>The proposed resolution also fails to call for an end to U.S. intervention in Syria. According to our Statement of Purpose, that should be VFP’s very first response. Instead, the Resolution beseeches us to avoid “simplistic slogans and analyses that ignore the deep complexities of this conflict.” While there are certainly many complexities in this war, it is not simplistic to call for the U.S. to end all overt and covert intervention in Syria, to end its support for armed extremist groups fighting to destroy Syria’s secular nation-state, and to call for an end to crippling economic sanctions, as do two other Resolutions that have been recommended by the Board.</p> <p>Convention Vote: Failed 3 Aye 59 Nay 13 Abstentions</p>
Resolution 2016-4: Peace Conversion: Petition for a United Nations Peace Conversion Conference	<p>Board supports resolution</p> <p>Convention Vote: Passed 66 Aye 3 Nay 7 Abstentions</p>
Resolution 2016-5: Climbers for Peace In Iran	<p>Board supports resolution</p> <p>Convention Vote: Passed with vote of acclamation</p>
Resolution 2016-6: Oppose US Policy of Using Antipersonnel Landmines in Korea	<p>Board supports resolution</p> <p>Convention Vote: Passed with vote of acclamation</p>
Resolution 2016-7: Support Haitian People’s Demand for Free & Fair Elections	<p>Board supports resolution</p> <p>Convention Vote: Passed with vote of acclamation</p>

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Resolution 2016-8: Defend the Public Post Office	Board supports resolution Convention Vote: Passed with vote of acclamation
Resolution 2016-9: Asia-Pacific Pivot For Peace And Sustainable Democracy	Board supports resolution Convention Vote: Passed with vote of acclamation
Resolution 2016-10: Post 9/11 Veterans	Board supports resolution Convention Vote: Passed with vote of acclamation
Resolution 2016-11: Political Affiliations of Veterans For Peace	The board does not support this resolution. Board reasoning: The resolution is narrow in its approach and at the same time implies making broad judgement calls on a perception that may vary widely among our members. We do not dictate or oversee what political affiliations any member or chapter may have, nor do we have the means to do so. The call to guard against “unnecessarily alienate potential members” is vague and unspecific. It asks VFP to make judgement calls on other organizations based on a hypothetical possibility that that connection would show we only support “liberal causes.” The term “liberal causes” is also unspecific and can be taken in a number of ways. The resolution seems to imply that VFP should narrowly restrict its affiliations and positions to strictly “antiwar” groups and stances, but VFP has strong positions on war, human rights abuses and other related social ills that relate to our Statement of Purpose and can be considered causative factors of war. The resolution places increasing membership as VFP’s primary and overriding goal. VFP’s primary and overriding goal is ending war. Diluting our strong positions on the underlying causes of war in order to bring in members who do not agree with our general orientation and creating a larger but less unified membership will not strengthen our work toward ending war. Convention Vote: Disapproved with vote of acclamation
Resolution 2016-12: Resolution to Clarify VFP Mission and Priorities	Board does not support this resolution. Board reasoning: The VFP BOD voted to disapprove this resolution, finding the disparagement of the phrase “peace at home” to be gratuitous. Furthermore, criticism of alliances with anti-racist organizations stands in contradiction to the resolution authors’ reference to Martin

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	<p>Luther King Jr. who identified racism, along with militarism and extreme materialism as the “evil triplets” that must be overcome if we are to survive.</p> <p>The BOD finds no “distraction” in emphasizing “Peace Abroad and Peace at Home,” nor does it find any inconsistency in forming alliances with anti-racist organizations, realizing as we do, that every war is based in racism.</p> <p>Convention Vote: Failed unanimously</p>
Resolution 2016-13	Withdrawn
Resolution 2016-14	Withdrawn
Resolution 2016-15: Resolution on Normalization of US Relations with Iran	<p>Board supports resolution</p> <p>Convention Vote: Passed with vote of acclamation</p>
Resolution 2016-16: Resolution on Normalization of US Relations with Syria	<p>Board supports resolution</p> <p>Convention Vote: Passed with vote of acclamation</p>
Resolution 2016-17: Resolution to Reduce US Support of Israeli Aggression	<p>Board supports resolution</p> <p>Convention Vote: Passed with vote of acclamation</p>
Resolution 2016-18	Withdrawn
Resolution 2016-19: Resolution On Deported Veterans	<p>Board supports resolution</p> <p>Convention Vote: Passed with vote of acclamation</p>
Resolution 2016-20: Opposing Arbitrary Resumption of Helipad Construction at Takae, Okinawa	<p>Board supports resolution</p> <p>Convention Vote: Passed with vote of acclamation</p>
Resolution 2016- 21: Veterans For Peace Calls For an End to U.S. Wars in the Middle East and Afghanistan	<p>Board supports resolution</p> <p>Convention Vote: Passed with vote of acclamation</p>