

Brussels: Coalition of the Willing - Unwilling to be Responsible for Damage to Iraq

Written by

Wednesday, 22 June 2005 13:29 - Last Updated Wednesday, 22 June 2005 13:29

Brussels: Coalition of the Willing - Unwilling to be Responsible for Damage to Iraq

PEJ News - Joan Russow - Global Compliance Research Project - June 22, 2005: Today in Brussels, 80 nations were called upon to contribute to the reconstruction of Iraq. A high percentage of global civil society and the vast majority of member states of the United Nations were opposed to the US-led invasion of Iraq., and should not be held responsible for the damage caused by the US-led invasion and occupation of Iraq. Brussels: Coalition of the Willing unwilling to be responsible for damage to Iraq

June 22, 2005

Joan Russow

Global Compliance Research Project

Today in Brussels, 80 nations were called upon to contribute to the reconstruction of Iraq. The American Forces Press service reported Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice declaring

"In the face of terror, the overwhelming majority of Iraqis are displaying tremendous courage and making remarkable progress," .. and "they deserve our full support." . She appealed for financial help.

She neglected to refer to the terror resulting from US pre-emptive/preventive attack, from the US "shock and awe", from the "collateral damage of thousands of Iraqi, killed in the name of " Operation Iraqi Freedom"; or from the irreversible health and environmental consequences of US weapons systems including depleted uranium.

A high percentage of global civil society and the vast majority of member states of the United Nations were opposed to the US-led invasion of Iraq., and should not be held responsible for the damage caused by the US-led invasion and occupation of Iraq.

It should be the responsibility of the Coalition of the Willing to pay for the reconstruction of Iraq, while publicly being condemned for the irreversible human, environmental, long term health and social costs of the destruction caused by the invasion.

Rather than the global community bailing the US out of their illegal act of invading Iraq., the global community must do the following.

Condemn the US for misconstruing information and intelligence about the Iraq's possession of weapons of mass destruction, and for deluding the global community

Condemn the US policy of pre-emptive/ preventive attack, and condemn the US-led invasion and occupation of Iraq as a clear act of aggression in violation of the Charter of the United Nations and of international law,

Demand that the US-led occupation forces withdraw from Iraq and that the "Coalition of the Willing" governments fund the current needs of the Iraqi people and make full reparation for war damages and call upon the US to reallocate a substantial part

Brussels: Coalition of the Willing - Unwilling to be Responsible for Damage to Iraq

Written by

Wednesday, 22 June 2005 13:29 - Last Updated Wednesday, 22 June 2005 13:29

of US annual military budget of 500 billion.

If the global community fails to condemn the US-led invasion and occupation of Iraq, and to demand the full reparation by the "Coalition of the willing, a dangerous precedent will be set: Other states, with impunity, will fudge intelligence to justify "self defence" or engage in pre-emptive/ preventive attacks,; will disregard the rule of international law and engage in illegal acts of aggression; and will violate Geneva conventions including the Geneva Protocol and the use of prohibitive weapons;

and then call upon the International community to fund the damage left in their wake.