



Invitation

to the



17th International Conference on War Tax Resistance and Peace Tax Campaigns

Netzwerk Friedenssteuer, the German branch of the worldwide Peace Tax Movement, invites you to take part in the 17th biennial meeting of our movement from **October 4th to 6th at Travemünde, Germany.**

These are hard times for probably every pacifist on earth with military conflicts in Ukraine, Palestine, and many other countries. Scientists assure us that there have rarely been periods with fewer military conflicts on earth, but we live in times of extensive coverage by the press and the so called social networks. This leads to a situation in which even sympathisers of our movement tell us: „Before the war in Ukraine I was with you, but now I don't see an alternative to waging war.“

The Peace Tax Movement is fighting not for a better way to resolve conflicts - although this is our intention, too -, but for the individual **right to conscientious objection to military taxation** (COMT). It is a constant miracle to us how people who declare them selves incapable of military service (COMS) have no problems contributing to the military, enabling their respective governments to invest in the preparation of war instead of saving peace – social peace in their countries, peace as the opposite of war between their countries.

We will meet in a part of Lübeck, a very old German city, whose best known monument ist the Holstentor, built before a certain Christopher Columbus brought death and destruction to the peoples on the other side of the Atlantic. It bears an inscription:

Concordia domi, foris pax. - Harmony at home and peace abroad.

Let us suppose that this is a good omen for our conference. More urgently than before we need to find new ways to reach our goal. More than in other years we need each others' support – mentally, politcally, ideally.

So please feel invited to join our conference. I have prepared a **draft agenda** and a **registration form** that I ask you to fill in and send back to me. Having your email-address will enable me to keep you informed about the preparation, the registration and about anything you might wish to know. And please:

Spread the news!

Yours truly
Jan Birk

Chair of Netzwerk Friedenssteuer and member of the Board of CPTI