

News Release

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GOVERNMENT TO DELAY INTEGRATED SECURITY REVIEW – OPPORTUNITY FOR RADICAL CHANGE

Rethinking Security, a network of peace and security experts, today welcomed the delay of the Government's planned Integrated Security Review in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Rethinking Security Co-ordinator Richard Reeve said:

“While the delay is the right thing to do in light of the current crisis, it is also a huge opportunity to do things differently.

“The current situation highlights that health and economic security are crucial factors in any national security strategy. Threats from global pandemics, climate breakdown and inequality cannot be met with a military response. Nor can they be mitigated without broad international cooperation.

“We have always said that there should be a period of public consultation before the review begins. Now, more than ever, citizens want to have their say on what security looks like, and how we can work together to build positive peace.

“Putting the wellbeing of people at home and abroad at the centre of the UK's approach to security should be the driving force behind this Review. “

ENDS

Notes to Editors

1. Rethinking Security Co-ordinator, Richard Reeve is available for comment – 07811 362054
2. The Rethinking Security media page and factsheet is at www.rethinkingsecurity.org.uk/media
3. Rethinking Security's comparative study of 20 European and North American national security strategies, *Contrasting Narratives* (2018), is at <https://rethinkingsecurityorguk.files.wordpress.com/2018/03/contrasting-narratives-march-2018.pdf>
4. About Rethinking Security:
 - Short description – Rethinking Security is a network of peace and security experts.
 - Long description – Rethinking Security is a network of organisations, academics and activists working together for security based on justice, co-operation and sustainability.
5. Member organisations:
 - Campaign Against Arms Trade

- Campaign For Nuclear Disarmament
- Centre for Feminist Foreign Policy
- Conciliation Resources
- Forces Watch
- International Alert
- Medact
- Movement for the Abolition of War
- Oxford Research Group
- Peace Direct
- Quaker Peace And Social Witness
- Quaker Asylum and Refugee Network
- Saferworld
- Scientists for Global Responsibility
- United Nations Association – UK
- War on Want

Our work also benefits substantially from the active participation of academics from the universities of Bradford, Coventry, Kent and Oxford Brookes.