

# U.S. CITIZENS FOR PEACE & JUSTICE – ROME

U.S. Citizens for Peace & Justice – Rome (USC4P&J) is a non-partisan, all-volunteer group of U.S. citizens and international friends who firmly believe there can be **no peace without justice**. We work to spark debate, raise consciousness and promote positive change through self-education, outreach events and direct nonviolent action.

We are firmly convinced that by taking an active role in democracy and promoting social justice, citizens can bring about long-lasting, positive change.

As U.S. citizens living abroad, we commit to:

- Stay involved in U.S. politics from overseas;
- Work locally with Italian groups to achieve our common goals - peace and social justice;
- Be part of the bridge making this an international movement;
- Make our voices heard both at home and abroad.

## Get involved!

All individuals who have an interest in working with us to promote a just society are encouraged to join our mailing list. Sign up on our web site or contact us via email.

***Channel your outrage into something constructive!***

## HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR ACTIVITIES



**Protesting the war in Iraq** – Our first protest was on March 19, 2005, the 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the invasion of Iraq. Many in our group, which numbered more than 50, had been actively protesting the war in the past, in Italy and in the U.S. This was the first time we had made our collective voice heard. We have continued to join Italian groups in protesting the war, and have organized a number of demonstrations ourselves.

**Eyes Wide Open Film Series** – Our documentary film series is entering its 9<sup>th</sup> season. **We've screened 50 films** on everything from the war in Iraq and the manipulation/silence of the media, to Plan Colombia, electronic voting, coups d'état in Venezuela and Haiti, war profiteering, climate change, Katrina, immigration issues and the occupation of Palestine.

**Calling for Impeachment** – We've joined initiatives in the U.S. using creative ways to spell out the word IMPEACH. The "Flying Seven" traveled around Rome with our I-M-P-E-A-C-H t-shirts. We received an unprecedented number of positive comments on the photos of that day. Our web site also provided a way for people to send faxes to Rep. John Conyers, Chair of the House Judiciary Committee. **Over 1,700 faxes were sent in one day!**



**Fundraising** – We work to support those who are opposing the war, in particular the veterans who have served in Iraq. **We raised Euro 250 for the legal defense fund** of conscientious objector Agustín Aguayo, who served time in a military prison on his base in Germany for refusing to deploy to Iraq, and **Euro 252 for the Iraq Veterans Against the War Winter Soldier event**.



**Bush in Rome** – We've protested, along with Italian groups, every time Bush has visited Rome. The last occasion was June 2008, and we were out in force, **with Bush, Cheney and Rice in chains, a 15-meter-long list of their war crimes, our impeach t-shirts and a banner remembering the over 1,000,000 victims of the war in Iraq**. We received a huge amount of press coverage and praise from Italian groups for having livened up the protest march!

**Tourists** – We've often been joined by tourists and visitors from the U.S. who took time out of their holiday to be with us, including a Vietnam vet and his wife who later wrote saying: *"Was the highlight of our tour the Colosseum? No. Was it Pompeii? No. Was it the Sistine Chapel? No. It was protesting the war with you."*

