



## Budget for a safer world- Assembly

### Summary

In this assembly, students will explore 4 different ways the world could be made safer and vote on the best way.

With \$1.7 trillion spent on the militaries of the world, the International Peace Bureau and many other organisations question whether we would be safer by spending the money on other things.

Everyone in the assembly will get a chance to vote on how to spend the £45 billion which currently makes up the United Kingdom Defence Budget.

### Aim

To decide a budget for a safer world.

### Age Range

11-16

### Duration

30 minutes



Young people voting for their vision of a safer world in 2015 | Photo, Ellis Brooks



## Activity

## Resources and notes

### 1) Introduce the main question

How would you spend £45 billion to make the world safer?

In this lesson, you will decide. You will use pie charts, percentages and most of all your own decision-making. £45bn could pay for 9,000 UK secondary schools of 920 pupils.

### 2 minutes

#### Opening slide



### 2) Where do pupils stand on the question?

Explain that many organisations believe that less money should be spent on the military. Why might this be?

### 5 minutes

#### GCOMS/MOD slide



### 3) Introduce 4 areas for your budget

Display four stimulus images and ask students what they see:

- Education & Healthcare
- Tackle Climate Change
- Arms and military intervention
- International cooperation and development

### 5 minutes

#### 4 areas Slide



Think pair share:

- Think: How does each one make us safer?
- Discuss in a pair: Which one is most important?
- Share with the whole assembly: which seems most important for making us safe?

Click the images to link to bigger versions with more information.



## Activity

## Resources and notes

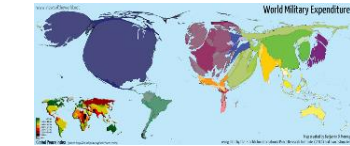
### 4) Global Military Spending revealed

Show the Map of global military spending. \$1.7 trillion is spent around the world- this map shows where some of this happens.

Britain is ranked about [sixth](#) in terms of military spending.

### 5 minutes

#### Global Military Spending Slide



### 5) Vote for a safer world

Explain that the way money is used is decided by a government that has been voted for by the public. Normally, the public vote for people and not the details of the budget, but today the assembly is going to vote.

Set-up four buckets or containers at the front of the room, labelled for the four areas.

1. Give each pupil 4 tokens. Explain each one represents over £10 billion (11.25bn to be exact).
2. Perhaps as they exit, pupils can now vote on how they would spend their budget to make the world safer. Invite students to come to the front and drop in their tokens in the appropriate buckets- they can distribute them however they want.
3. Count the votes and record. They might look something like this:

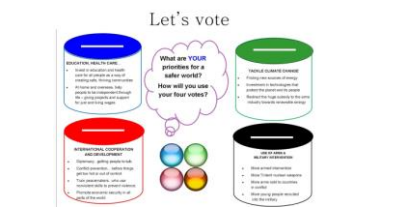
Education & Healthcare	Tackle climate change	Arms and military intervention	International cooperation + development
15	25	19	17

### 10 minutes

#### 4 Labelled Buckets

Tokens e.g. buttons, marbles, card (x4 per person)

#### Let's vote slide



## Activity

### 6) What is the result?

Use the Results Page of the presentation or the Excel Spreadsheet provided to show your pupils' votes.

## Resources and notes

### 5 minutes



### 7) Share your vote decision with the world

Check out the Global Day of Action on Military Spending website to upload your results and find out what other people have said.

Go to <http://bit.ly/GDAMS-Submit-2016> and type in your results (this survey closes after the Global Day of Action on Military Spending – 18 April 2016).

Why not share your results with the rest of your school in an assembly, and encourage them to do their own votes?

### 5 minutes

#### Demilitarize.org.uk website

