

ECONOMIC SANCTIONS : WAR BY ANOTHER NAME

U.S. war making has changed over the years, with less reliance on “boots on the ground” and more reliance on a hybrid war model that combines non-military methods with military threats to achieve its goals. The governments most targeted are the ones that resist U.S. hegemony. Economic sanctions are an essential part of this hybrid model, which is foundational to the Biden administration’s global strategy. Regime change is often an undeclared goal of sanctions, but the chaos and instability resulting from sanctions create conditions for the U.S. to severely punish and eventually topple governments it disagrees with. Currently 39 countries are subject to sanctions imposed by the U.S.; among them are Iran, Venezuela, North Korea, Syria, Gaza, Cuba, Nicaragua, and Yemen – all targets of regime change by the U.S.



Ordinary people suffer the brunt of sanctions, especially children, elders and the chronically ill. Lack of access to medicine, shortages of food and other basic necessities subject millions of people to serious illness and premature death. Sanctions disrupt normal trade relations, as banks and financial institutions such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank are weaponized in the hybrid war model. Sanctions during a global pandemic are especially egregious, when international scientific and technical cooperation are desperately needed.

Groups with connections in the Bay Area are already running campaigns against economic sanctions.



50 VBBayArea (Venceremos Brigade) won the passage of local resolutions around the country calling for an end to the blockade and medical cooperation with Cuba.

Women Cross DMZ is part of the global Korea Peace Now! Campaign urging increased humanitarian aid to the DPRK and sanctions relief during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Black Alliance for Peace is demanding the ending of illegal U.S. sanctions and the end of U.S. subversion and foreign political interventions.

About Face | Veterans against the War is calling for an end to U.S. sanctions through its Drop the MIC campaign.

Potential Bay Area Targets



Rep. Barbara Lee is attempting to repeal the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002. Lee represents the 13th Congressional District (covering Alameda, Albany, Berkeley, Emeryville, Oakland, Piedmont, and San Leandro). **Rep. Ro Khanna** is trying to repeal the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002. Khanna represents the 17th Congressional District (covering the South Bay and East Bay). **Rep. Nancy Pelosi** is the Speaker of the House and leader of the Democratic Party within the House of Representatives. Pelosi represents the 12th Congressional District (San Francisco).