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## PROVA DE SUFICIÊNCIA EM LÍNGUA INGLESA - 01 DE MARÇO DE 2019

### FOLHA DE TEXTO

## OIL CHANGE INTERNATIONAL: EXPOSING THE TRUE COST OF FOSSIL FUELS

### War and Militarization

Oil has been connected to war and violence throughout its history. In the First World War, seizure of Iraq's oilfields was a "first class British war aim". During the Second, the Japanese attack on the U.S. Pacific fleet in Pearl Harbor was largely an attempt to control the Pacific theater, including the oilfields of Indonesia.

It has been estimated that between one-quarter and one-half of all interstate wars since 1973 have been linked to oil, and that oil-producing countries are 50% more likely to have civil wars. For example:

- Oil was the reason the Nigerian military conducted "wasting operations" against the Ogoni community who opposed Shell in the 1990s.
- Exxon was accused of providing machinery for digging mass-graves in Indonesia's war against secessionists in the province of Aceh (the company denies this).
- Oil development was at the center of Colombia's bloody civil war.
- BP ignored warnings that its Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan oil pipeline would exacerbate conflict, passing through or near seven war zones. The pipeline became a major cause and target of Russia's war with Georgia in 2008.
- Arctic nations have militarized their northern zones, with a view to securing new oil resources.

By far the greatest militarization has been in the Middle East, which holds more than half of the world's oil reserves. The U.S. military presence – at an estimated cost of over \$8 trillion since 1976 – has consistently exacerbated regional tensions and instability. Furthermore, oil producers such as Saudi Arabia have been key beneficiaries of U.S. weapons sales.

The U.S. government strenuously denied an oil motive for the 2003 invasion of Iraq; in reality its war plans grew out of oil supply fears. Throughout the occupation, from 2003 to 2011, privatizing the oil – against the wishes of Iraqis – was a consistent U.S. priority, and was closely tied to military operations. The full story is told in the book 'Fuel on the Fire: Oil and Politics in Occupied Iraq', by Oil Change International Senior Adviser Greg Muttitt.

Oil makes the world a more dangerous place, both sparking and fueling conflicts that have cost millions of lives. It's time to get off oil.

### Dirty Energy Money

All too often, our decision makers are bought and paid for by the fossil fuel industry. In this 112th Congress alone, oil, gas and coal interests gave over \$20 million of this "dirty energy money" to our Senators and Representatives, to influence their votes around industry-friendly measures from dismantling the power of

regulatory bodies like the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), to approving the Keystone pipeline, to opening up the outer-continental shelf to drilling.

The harsh reality is that until we limit our consumption of all fossil fuels, let alone stop the drunken pursuit of every last drop of them, we're headed towards a point of no return with respect to climate change. The fossil fuel industry has limitless resources to invest in protecting and expanding their access and influence. Until we cleanse our democracy of the influence of dirty energy money, we're facilitating this dangerous gold rush mentality. Our decision makers at every level must be accountable to the interests of their constituents, not those lining their campaign coffers.

### ***Challenges***

The fossil fuel industry is deeply entrenched in our government – and this needs to change in order to hasten the transition to clean energy. The money going into politics from the oil, gas and coal industries gets huge returns in the form of subsidies back to fossil fuels. This cycle must be stopped.

The mentality of needing more and more fossil fuel resources is also a big obstacle to change. The reality is that there are plenty of clean, viable alternatives – and much more can be done with less energy.

### ***Solutions***

*Tell the story of fossil fuel money in Congress.* We track individual and company PAC contributions to Senators and Representatives at the federal level – and in turn how these actors vote – to show how our government is bought and paid for. We put this information out to create momentum for change.

*Understand and expose the industry.* We track the subsidies the industry receives; we analyze industry-friendly arguments around extreme fossil fuel extraction; and we show the impact of fossil fuels on the economy, energy security and climate change. This analysis demonstrates that the primary interests promoted by the industry are their own. And those interests consistently prioritize money over communities and the environment.

*Build momentum for change.* We provide the information and tools to spread the word and take action on these issues, and we lend our support to organizations and communities fighting the influence of the fossil fuel industry on the front lines, for example around fracking. We also convene an active community of dozens of actors concerned with the influence of dirty energy money on politics.

Sources: <http://priceofoil.org/thepriceofoil/war-terror/> 2019 and <http://priceofoil.org/campaigns/separate-oil-and-state/dirty-energy-money/> 2019.