



For immediate release

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### **Students Call for Books Not Bombs**

The National Union of Students condemns Australia's involvement in the US Department of Defense Multidisciplinary University Research Initiative.

On May 24, Minister for Defence Industry Chris Pyne announced that Australian universities had been included in a research initiative spearheaded by the American military, to which Pyne has committed \$25 million in public funding.

The Government has bragged that this is 'a great outcome', but this is absolute hypocrisy. This announcement comes in the wake of the Government's \$2.2 billion funding cut to higher education, announced last December.

'Our universities should have nothing to do with the bloodthirsty American military,' said NUS Education Officer Con Karavias. 'We're looking at an education system that has seen thousands of students forced out of university and billions in funding cuts this year alone. The Government thinks this is 'a great outcome', and this shows they're more concerned with cosyng up to Donald Trump's war machine than they are providing education.'

The National Union of Students is launching an Australia-wide campaign called *Books not Bombs* to break university ties with arms manufacturers and the military, and increase education funding.

*For Further Comment;*

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