marched countrywide proclaiming “End U.S. Wars at Home and Abroad!” They demanded the Pentagon stop bombing Syria, and end wars in Afghanistan and Yemen, drone attacks, and threats against north Korea, Iran, Venezuela and Cuba.

Protesters denounced Washington’s aid to apartheid Israel and refusal to criticize Israeli troops’ firing on unarmed Gazans, including medics and children. They decried racist police brutality, and demanded: “Fund jobs and social programs, not war!”. Organizers included Black Alliance for Peace, Coalition against U.S. Foreign Military Bases, IAC, United National Antiwar Coalition, Veterans for Peace, WILPF; 300 more groups endorsed.

A New York protest on Oct. 7 promoted the theme: “Afghanistan to Yemen: End the wars; U.S. Troops out – Syria to Korea.” With 20 participating groups, including many from the Arab and Muslim communities, it was organized out of the Solidarity Center. An Oct. 31 forum held there, initiated by BAP, Black to Back Coalition, UNAC, People’s Power Assembly/ NYC, called for ending wars at home and abroad.

Asylum for all refugees!

Refugees have fled U.S.-backed repression and impoverishment, only to be confronted by hostile, racist Immigration Customs and Enforcement agents at the southern border with Mexico, on orders from the White House. In a horrific scenario, families have been separated, children ripped from their parents’ arms and caged in detention centers – in violation of U.S. and international law – as well as basic humanity. In the latest outrage, border agents teargassed asylum seekers, including children.

Fight for Im/migrants & Refugees Everywhere (FIRE), an IAC affiliate, sent a delegation from several cities in June to the southern border, which joined demonstrations in McAllen and Brownsville, Texas, in solidarity with refugee families. While there, these activists joined in the nationally coordinated “Keep Families Together” protests, as others joined the June 30 actions across the country. FIRE members have joined picket lines and encampments from Boston to Portland, Ore., calling for an end to ICE, roundups, detentions and deportations – and insisting on asylum for all migrants and refugees.

Another FIRE delegation is traveling to the border this month to show solidarity with refugee families and to bring material aid. The group anticipates organizing similar trips in the coming year.

In Durham, N.C., IAC allies joined immigrant rights’ and racial justice activists last month, to protest ICE’s seizure of Samuel Oliver-Bruno, 20-year U.S. resident, who had taken church sanctuary for a year. Despite arrests, the struggle continues to free this refugee – now in ICE detention, deprived of diabetes medication and facing deportation.

Protest racist hate groups!

There has been a stark increase in vile threats, rallies and hate crimes, ranging from assaults to outright murder, by far-right, neo-Nazis, who are emboldened by the Trump administration. They spew racist, anti-immigrant, Islamophobic, anti-Jewish, sexist and homophobic hatred. The IAC has joined allies in many cities to demonstrate against these ultra-rightists, including in Philadelphia, when over a thousand people turned out to denounce white supremacists on Nov. 17.

The Philadelphia Mobilization4Mumia, which includes the IAC and International Concerned Family and Friends of Mumia Abu-Jamal, among others continues to protest the jailing of this renown African-American political prisoner. Recently, a lawsuit backed by demonstrations, led to a judicial ruling allowing state prisoners to receive life-saving medications.

Free Puerto Rico; Support Indigenous resistance!

The IAC aided in organizing the People’s Tribunal on U.S. Crimes in Puerto Rico, held in New York City on Oct. 27. People traveled from the island to testify about Washington’s neglect and mistreatment of their people in the aftermath of last year’s hurricanes. They also told of the terrible impact of the U.S. Congress’s takeover of their financial and educational systems. The multinational panel of jurists gave their unanimous verdict on U.S. crimes: Guilty!

Once again, the IAC mobilized a busload of activists to travel from the NYC Solidarity Center to the 49th National Day of Mourning in Plymouth, Mass., organized by United American Indians of New England, to honor the struggles of Indigenous peoples, past and present. We hail Indigenous activists in the Americas and worldwide who are leading the movements to protest environmental destruction and protect the planet.