Mayors for Peace 11th Executive Conference 2019 in Hannover

Thomas Hermann, Deputy Mayor of Hannover
1. Hannover’s role as lead city for German members (2014 – 2019)
2. German website
3. Projects to promote activities among member cities: Flag Day
4. Contributions from Germany
5. Art and peace exhibition “50 Cities – 50 Traces”
6. Ginkgo Project
7. German Mayors for Peace Conference
8. Appeal to the National Government
9. Youth involvement
10. Raising Public Awareness
Hannover’s role in Germany 2015 - 2019

Hannover is lead city

- Lead City of Germany since 2015
- Vice-president and Executive City since 1983
- Hiroshima and Hannover are sister cities since 1982

Recruiting new members

- more than 660 members in 16 federal states
- almost 300 new members joined in the past 5 years
- sent the sister cities request to all German members and encouraged the mayors to join Mayors for Peace
German Mayors for Peace website

- www.mayorsforpeace.de
  - integrated in www.hannover.de
  - launched in October 2016
  - clear structure
  - up-to-date with rotating header
  - lots of photos
  - picture gallery of the flag day in member cities

6 main topics:
1. Who are the Mayors for Peace?
2. Activities
3. Flag Day
4. Cooperation with NGOs
5. Hiroshima Secretariat
6. Material and background information
Projects to promote activities among member cities

The Flag Day, July 8

- over 300 member cities participate
- we organize activities in cooperation with
  - NGOs
  - local peace initiatives
  - churches /different religions
  - students
We call for voluntary contribution of membership fees every January
We ask for 100 € for a flag, which is treated as membership fee
We collect the membership fees in Hannover until March 31st
The collective bank transfer goes to Hiroshima Secretariat in April

2015 – 2019 (5 years)
total contributions: 74,102 €
Ø average per year: 14,820 €
Ø average per city: 22 €
International art and peace exhibition (2018 – 2020)

- toured in 20 member cities (thanks to Hiroshima, Ypres, Manchester, Bristol, Pittsburgh, Poznan, Berlin, Stuttgart, Hannover)

- proposed to be held at UN in 2020

27/4 – 8/5 during the Review Conference on the Treaty of Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons at the UN Headquarters
Ginkgo tree project

- National Garden Show 2021 in Erfurt
- Multi-year project 2018 – 2021 in cooperation with the city of Erfurt and a local school
- Peace-related education for pupils raising awareness and understanding the danger of nuclear weapons

- A delegation of member cities will visit Erfurt 2021 and receive a Ginkgo plant for their city

Ginkgo plants raised from A-bombed trees are sent to interested member cities
German Mayors for Peace Conference

- Regular meeting of German members in different cities (call for application and participation)
- Debate with a representative of Federal Foreign Office
- Projects to promote activities among member cities
- Best practice examples of regional activities
Appeal to the National Government

ICAN Cities Appeal

Hannover signed the appeal in May 2019, called on member cities to join, 25 German cities signed the appeal.

Letter to the Foreign Minister

to join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons as soon as possible.

Petition drive

We handed over more than 900 signed petition forms to the Federal representative at the German Mayors for Peace Conference.
Young citizens participate in youth programs offered by the Hiroshima Secretariat

- Internship program
- Youth Program „Hiroshima and Peace“
- International Youth Conference for Peace in the Future (IYCPF)

- Invite them to speak at the German Conference
- Share the experiences with regional peace group
“Ringing bells across Europe” for the International Day of Peace on September 21st at 6 pm
Hannover organized a week full of events around bells and their meaning for peace in cooperation with various religious groups

• Activity in Büchel „Disarm instead of upgrade!“, a demonstration of opponents of nuclear weapons

• Cherry blossom Festival every April in cooperation with NGOs
Flyer of events (2017 – 2019)

- Zwischen Vision und Wirklichkeit: Neue Wege zu einer atomwaffenfreien Welt
  14. Juni 2018 | 20 Uhr
  Veranstalter: ICAN und der Atomwaffenverbotsvertrag

- „Friede sei ihr erst Geläute! – Ringing the Bells“
  14.–21. September 2018
  Veranstalter: Münster Stadtwehrtstag

- HIROSHIMA
  Das Kirschblütenfest
  Sonntag, 28. April 2019 | 14 bis 17 Uhr

- HIROSHIMA-Tag
  Gedenkveranstaltungen
  5. und 6. August 2019

- NO MORE HIROSHIMAS!

Veranstaltung zum Weltfriedenstag
21. September 2017

Ausstellung: Thomas Damm, Fotograf
Black Rain Hibakusha – Die Kinder des Schwarzen Regens
1. bis 15. August 2018
Marktkirche Hannover
Thank you for your attention!