
■International Day of Peace 2013: Education for Peace! Live Streaming Event

The International Association of Peace Messenger Cities (IAPMC) is inviting all Mayors for Peace cities to participate in a coordinated “live-streaming” internet celebration of the United Nations International Day of Peace, September 21, 2013. This will be the third year of International Day of Peace internet-based commemorations organized by IAPMC. Last year’s live streaming event brought together young people from 16 cities around the world, who transmitted messages of peace through performances taking place at various times throughout the day. This year’s event will be coordinated by the city of Plonsk, Poland, a longtime member of IAPMC and Mayors for Peace. You must submit a request to participate before June 15, 2013. For more information, a sign-up form, and video of last year’s International Day of Peace celebrations, visit the IAPMC website at <http://www.iapmc.org/>

■Global Network on Safer Cities proposes a change in strategies to eradicate violence in cities

On March 13-14, 2013, Representatives of the Global Network on Safer Cities (GNSC) gathered in New York City to establish a global agenda for a safer future in the cities of the world. The meeting concluded on the idea that a “change in mentalities and strategies” was necessary. In this perspective, Joan Clos, UN-Habitat Executive Director, underlined that this new trend was to include the need to “recover street life” in order to create safer spaces. He quoted the examples of Bogota and San Salvador, two cities where specific action plans noticeably reduced the cases of violence. The UN initiative “Safer Cities” was launched in 1996 by UN-Habitat at the request of a group of African mayors searching ways to eliminate violence in cities via preventive strategies. In 2012, in the framework of the World Urban Forum in Naples, Marcelo Ebrard, former mayor of Mexico City, was named Chair of the Steering Committee of the Global Network on Safer Cities. This Committee is a leading body which aims at strengthening international dialogue and is responsible for organizing events such as the New York meeting and for setting up practical agreements, with a higher degree of implementation.

▼ Full article (2020 Vision Campaign website):

<http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/en/home/artikel/35b99070cafd683e7a6618c3093cd077/global-network-on-safer-cities-propo.html>

■Financial contributions from member cities to the 2020 Vision Campaign - Update for March 2013 [Ypres, Belgium]

The 2020 Vision Campaign received donations from 10 cities in 4 countries during the month of March coming to a total of 2,361.74 Euros.

We would like to extend our gratitude to those member cities for their generosity in supporting our efforts to realize a nuclear-weapon-free world by 2020.

▼ Full article (2020 Vision Campaign website):

<http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/en/home/artikel/82ac87513de73e34276060595bc8c99e/-2faf0ac1bd.html>

▼ List of cities that made contributions in March:

http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/fileadmin/user_upload/2020VC/Home/March_2013.pdf

▼ How to make contributions:

<http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/en/members/contribute-to-mayors-for-peace.html>

■Poster exhibit commemorates 5,000-city milestone

To commemorate the 5,000-city milestone, please hold a poster exhibit in your municipality.

By holding these exhibits in as many cities as possible, we hope to directly inform millions of citizens regarding the impact of nuclear war, including the fact that even a limited war would cause catastrophic climate change resulting in global famine, and the role city leaders strive to play. We have heard from more than 250 cities around the world, such as Vienna, Austria; London, UK; Volgograd, Russia; Kabul, Afghanistan, that they held the poster exhibition responding to our request. Please do hold an exhibition and bring this issue to the attention of people in your city.

The posters are available in Spanish, Catalan, English, French, Dutch, German, Russian and Japanese. You can download them from the Mayors for Peace website. We are also preparing an Arabic version. For detailed information, please refer to the instructions for downloading the posters in "The Atomic Bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki -The 5,000-Member Milestone Exhibition,-" a document forwarded to our member cities. We would appreciate it if you could let us know when you hold the poster exhibition and submit the report after the exhibition to the Secretariat. The report format is provided at the Mayors for Peace website below.

>>Posters: A2 size (approximately 24 by 36 inches); 19 posters.

>>This poster exhibit was created based on a mandate from the 8th Executive Conference held in Granollers, Spain in November 2011 and Japanese Member Cities' Conference in January 2012.

▼ Related Information:

<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/campaign/projects/poster/index.html>

■ Please support the petition drive for a nuclear weapons convention

The next step in abolishing all nuclear weapons by 2020 is to negotiate a nuclear weapons convention.

A nuclear weapons convention will prohibit the acquisition, development, possession, deployment and use of nuclear weapons and all related activities.

At our Executive Conference in Granollers, Spain in November 2011 and the first Japanese Member City Meeting in Nagasaki in January 2012, we agreed to promote a global grassroots petition drive through which all member cities can call for an immediate start to negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention.

Thanks to a lot of supporters across the world, we received 724,582 signatures as of April 1, 2013.

Let's gather millions of signatures and make our voices heard. (The petition is available for printing or online at the links below.)

▼ Petition form (PDF):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/pdf/petitionform_en.pdf.

▼ Online petition:

<https://www.ssl-hiroins.city.hiroshima.jp/pcf/en/form.htm>.

■ Visitors to the President of Mayors for Peace last month

President Kazumi Matsui of Mayors for Peace welcomed the visitors as follows in February and asked them to support for the activities of Mayors for Peace and cooperate with the membership expansion.

March 6 Prof. Eugen Eichhorn and participants of German-Japanese Peace Forum

■ Mayors for Peace member cities – 5,587 cities in 156 countries/regions

Thanks to your invaluable support, on April 1, we added 36 new member cities, bringing total membership to 5,587.

As a result of sending a recruitment letter to all non-member cities/municipalities in Japan in February 2013, 23 cities from the country joined.

By the recruitment letter sent from 4 member mayors in the Netherlands, five Dutch cities were listed as our new members.

We welcome further initiatives to promote membership and can provide support from Hiroshima as needed. Please invite your fellow mayors to join.

▼ Related information (PDF):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/pdf/2013/newmembers1303_en.pdf
