



The Mayors for Peace delegation handed a certificate of approximately 510,000 signatures to the Committee Chair, Ambassador Henk Cor Van der Kwast, and had a number of meetings with UN officials; including Ms. Izumi Nakamitsu, the new High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, and also other representatives from governments and NGOs during their stay in Geneva.

Please visit the following link to find more details about Mayors for Peace activities in Vienna as well as the texts of speeches at the NGO session.

▼ Attendance of the First Session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 NPT Review Conference (Mayors for Peace website):

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/history/2020\\_2011/2017\\_5\\_gallery.html](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/history/2020_2011/2017_5_gallery.html)

▼ Related link: Draft Chairman's factual summary (The United Nations website):

[https://papersmart.unmeetings.org/media2/14684694/npt\\_conf2020\\_pci\\_crp3-draft-chairmans-factual-summary.pdf](https://papersmart.unmeetings.org/media2/14684694/npt_conf2020_pci_crp3-draft-chairmans-factual-summary.pdf)

---

### ■ The 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace - Registration Deadline: Friday, June 9

---

Mayors for Peace will hold its 9th General Conference in Nagasaki this year from August 7 through 10.

Registration of the General Conference is available on the Mayors for Peace registration webpage until Friday, June 9. On this webpage, aside from the registration of the conference, you can make requests for exhibition booths and presentations, as well as reservations for accommodation and sightseeing tours.

As many peace and memorial events will be taking place in Nagasaki at this time, please register and book your accommodation as soon as possible!

▼ The 9th General Conference online registration website (Mayors for Peace website):

<https://amarys-jtb.jp/peacenagasaki9/?&g=1>

The Advance Program which contains the conference outline and registration information has been sent to all member cities by email. You can also download the program from the Mayors for Peace website.

▼ The 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace in Nagasaki (Mayors for Peace website):

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/report/meeting/9th\\_meeting.html](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/report/meeting/9th_meeting.html)

---

### ■ Mayors for Peace Participates in World Forum on Urban Violence and Education for Coexistence and Peace held in Madrid

[Madrid, Spain; April 19-21, 2017]

---

The First World Forum on Urban Violence and Education for Coexistence and Peace was held in Madrid, Spain, from the 19th to the 21st of April this year. Mayors for peace was among the networks supporting and planning the event involving more than 3,500 people and 70 countries. It provided an opportunity for various governmental, non-governmental, and academic organizations to meet and discuss the role cities can play if fostering more peaceful environment in and around their local areas.

Mayor Josep Mayoral i Antigas, of Granollers, a Lead City and Vice President of Mayors for Peace, was a member of the organizing committee and gave a speech about 'Peaceful Coexistence', highlighting the actions cities can take on their own to make themselves more inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable, while emphasizing the need for cities to be in tune with the needs of their citizens and their surrounding areas. Also in attendance from Mayors for Peace was Mayor Philippe Rio of Grigny, France, who was a speaker in a round table discussion about youth violence and bullying.

<Spanish Mayors for Peace meeting>

In the framework of the Forum, the Spanish Mayors for Peace meeting was organized with local leaders, organizations and

NGOs where they had the opportunity to discuss, reflect on and share experiences about how to include peace issues into local agendas and city action plans. Due to its exponential growth in the country, the meeting also served to establish a clear set of work objectives for the following years.

▼ Final Declaration of the First World Forum on Urban Violence and Education for Coexistence and Peace:

Spanish:

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/170512\\_activity\\_Madrid\\_World\\_Forum.html](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/170512_activity_Madrid_World_Forum.html)

Portuguese:

<http://www.ciudadesdepaz.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/declaracion-final-foro2017-PT.pdf>

English:

<http://www.ciudadesdepaz.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/declaracion-final-foro2017-ENG.pdf>

French:

<http://www.ciudadesdepaz.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/declaracion-final-foro2017-FR.pdf>

▼ Full report and photos on Mayors for Peace website:

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/170512\\_activity\\_Madrid\\_World\\_Forum.html](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/170512_activity_Madrid_World_Forum.html)

---

## ■ Regional Chapter Activities

---

### < German Chapter >

#### \* Action in the Eifel region: “Buechel is everywhere - nuclear-weapons-free, now!”

The initiative “Buechel ist ueberall - atomwaffenfrei.jetzt” (Buechel is everywhere - nuclear-weapons-free, now! ) called for a demonstration campaign in the Eifel region, Germany. It is suspected that US atomic bombs still rest in this region and shall be modernized soon.

At the beginning of this action (March 26th) some Mayors for Peace member cities showed their support by presenting a symbolic town sign. Mayors and councilors together with many peace groups stood up for the demand to stop the nuclear upgrade, withdraw and ban nuclear weapons.

The demonstrations were accompanied by a picket and discussion panel in the city of Cochem and the begin of a 20-week protest in front of the military airbase Buechel. On May 26, 2010, the German government had expressed a desire to have the atomic bombs withdrawn. The action was reported on German television and in newspapers.

▼ Photo of the action on Mayors for Peace website:

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/170512\\_activity\\_German\\_Chapter.html](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/170512_activity_German_Chapter.html)

▼ Report in German on the Mayors for Peace Germany website:

<http://www.hannover.de/Leben-in-der-Region-Hannover/Politik/Politische-Gremien/Mayors-for-Peace/Aktivitäten/UN-Verhandlungen-über-weltweites-Atomwaffenverbot-gestartet>

---

## ■ Conference Report by Randy Rydell, Executive Advisor for Mayors for Peace

[April 27, 2017]

---

Randy Rydell, Executive Advisor for Mayors for Peace, participated in a conference entitled “Toward a Fundamental Change in Nuclear Weapons Policy” hosted by Soka Gakkai International-USA at the United States Capitol Visitors Center in Washington, D.C., USA. The conference report by Mr. Rydell is available on the Mayors for Peace website.

▼ Report by Randy Rydell on his attendance of “Toward a Fundamental Change in Nuclear Weapons Policy” (Mayors for Peace website):

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/data/2017/170515\\_SGI\\_conference\\_report\\_2017.pdf](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/data/2017/170515_SGI_conference_report_2017.pdf)

---

## ■“Peace News from Hiroshima” (Contributed by the Hiroshima Peace Media Center)

---

With conditions in East Asia and the Middle East contributing to a rise in international tensions, let us remember these words: “War is the work of man. War is destruction of human life. War is death.”

These are the opening sentences of the “Appeal for Peace,” delivered by the late Pope John Paul II in the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park on February 25, 1981. It was a bitterly cold day and the Pope was directing his message to the entire world. Like then, today this message should be pondered not only by the more than one billion Catholics around the world but by all human beings.

Pope John Paul II is highly regarded for the important role he played in bringing an end to the Cold War. Hiroshima has not seen a papal visit since his appearance here. Now efforts are being made to invite Pope Francis to Hiroshima. The Japanese government has invited him to visit Japan, and in a public audience with Pope Francis at the Vatican on May 3, Hiroshima Governor Hidehiko Yuzaki asked the Pope to visit Hiroshima and deliver a message of peace to the world. Before his visit to the Vatican, Mr. Yuzaki was interviewed by the Chugoku Shimbun and said, “The conflicts between religions and nations have put the world in a precarious state. The Pope can deliver a forceful message and expressing his strong desire for peace, from Hiroshima, would be very meaningful.”

Pope Francis has been calling for the elimination of nuclear weapons and warning against Western populism, which is symbolized by the advent of the administration of U.S. President Donald Trump. The Pope has also been expressing his view that the issues involving North Korea should be resolved through diplomatic efforts, not by military might.

We sincerely hope that Pope Francis will visit Hiroshima and Nagasaki and bring a boost to the efforts to create a world without nuclear weapons, which continues to be an uphill battle. We also hope that he will deliver to people of all religious backgrounds a message that will reject the idea of nuclear deterrence, which is again growing in strength.

The late Pope John Paul II flatly rejected nuclear war in his message of peace made 36 years ago: “Others might wish to regard nuclear capacity as an unavoidable means of maintaining a balance of power through a balance of terror. But there is no justification for not raising the question of the responsibility of each nation and each individual in the face of possible wars and of the nuclear threat.”

The governments of Japan, the country that experienced the atomic bombings, and all other nations must take these words to heart when discussing a treaty that would ban nuclear weapons.

Visit the following links for articles from the Hiroshima Peace Media Center.

- Visitors to Peace Memorial Museum reach record high

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=71732>

- Nuclear powers are needed to make nuclear ban treaty effective

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=71726>

- Mayors for Peace expresses support for treaty to ban nuclear weapons

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=71943>

- Editorial: Japan must make determined efforts to urge nuclear powers to join negotiations for treaty to ban nuclear weapons

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=71496>

- Ideas for nuclear ban treaty, as negotiations open at U.N. headquarter

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=71501>

---

## ■Mayors for Peace Information System

---

An online information system for Mayors for Peace has been launched in order to facilitate information sharing among member cities. This system enables searches for member cities' information, the renewal of records by each member as well as payment of membership fees by credit card without any transfer charges. We hope that each member city will utilize this

system for their activities related to Mayors for Peace.

Please check your city's information on the system, such as the name and contact information of the mayor, contact person, etc. If this information needs revision, we ask that you log into the system and make corrections. We would greatly appreciate each city keeping its own information up-to-date.

If you have lost or forgotten the login information, please contact the administrator at the following email address.

▼ Mayors for Peace Information System:

<https://www.mfpinfosys.org/>

▼ Mayors for Peace Information System Operating Manual:

[https://www.mfpinfosys.org/manual/secure/pdfs/lec7/lm/07manu\\_pdf\\_en.pdf](https://www.mfpinfosys.org/manual/secure/pdfs/lec7/lm/07manu_pdf_en.pdf)

▼ Please email us at the following address if you have any inquiries about the Mayors for Peace Information System:

[mfpssystem@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp](mailto:mfpssystem@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp)

---

## ■ Mayors for Peace Membership Fee

---

At the 8th General Conference of Mayors for Peace in August 2013, the introduction of an annual Membership Fee was determined in order to strengthen the foundation of Mayors for Peace and the sense of solidarity amongst member cities. Following this decision, Mayors for Peace has instituted an annual membership fee of 2,000 Japanese Yen (about USD19/ EUR17) per city. We would like to thank everyone for their 2016 membership fee contributions. The funds raised by this fee will be utilized as a resource for the projects listed on the Mayors for Peace Action Plan (2013-2017).

The request for payment of 2017 membership fee will be sent soon. We deeply appreciate your kind cooperation.

---

## ■ Plea to Support Our Nuclear Weapons Convention Petition Drive

---

Mayors for Peace is promoting a global grassroots petition drive as a way in which all member cities can call for negotiations of a nuclear weapons convention. Promotion of this petition drive is included in the Mayors for Peace Action Plan (2013-2017) that was adopted at the 8th General Conference in August 2013.

Thanks to many supporters across the world, we have received 2,563,397 signatures as of May 1, 2017.

During the NPT PrepCom in Vienna, the Mayors for Peace delegation handed a certificate of approximately 510,000 signatures to the Committee Chair, Ambassador Henk Cor Van der Kwast. The signatures were collected between April 2015 and April this year.

Let us gather millions more and make our voices heard.

(The petition is available to print or to sign online at the links below.)

▼ Petition form (PDF):

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/ecbn/data/11\\_petitionform\\_en.pdf](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/ecbn/data/11_petitionform_en.pdf)

▼ Online petition:

[https://www.ssl-z.city.hiroshima.jp/pcf/signature\\_en/](https://www.ssl-z.city.hiroshima.jp/pcf/signature_en/)

---

## ■ Visitor(s) to the President of Mayors for Peace Last Month

---

President Kazumi Matsui welcomed the following visitors last month and asked them to support the activities of Mayors for Peace and cooperate towards membership expansion.

\*April 11 - H. E. Mr. Egidijus Meilunas, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Lithuania

\*April 24 - H. E. Mr. Hiroyuki Makiuchi, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the Dominican Republic

\*April 27 - H.E. Mr. Mitsuji Suzuka, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Afghanistan

---

## ■ Mayors for Peace Member Cities - 7,295 Cities in 162 Countries/Regions

---

Thanks to your invaluable support, on May 1, we added 50 new member cities, bringing the total membership to 7,295. This month, Lead Cities' recruitment efforts resulted in membership expansion.

In Spain, at the request of the City of Granollers, a Mayors for Peace Vice President and Lead City of the Catalan Chapter, the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces (FEMP) sent a letter to all Spanish local governments encouraging them to join Mayors for Peace in February this year. In response to this request, 23 cities joined this month.

In Germany, thanks to the continued efforts of Hannover, a Mayors for Peace Vice President and Lead City of the German Chapter, 11 cities joined this month.

In the Netherlands, thanks to the continued efforts of the Dutch Chapter, 6 cities joined this month.

In the US, thanks to the cooperation of Des Moines, Iowa, a Mayors for Peace Executive City and Lead City of the US Chapter, 4 cities joined this month.

We also welcomed one city from Japan.

We encourage further initiatives to promote membership and can provide support from Hiroshima as needed. Please invite mayors who are not yet members to join Mayors for Peace.

▼ List of New Members (PDF):

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/news/data/2017/newmembers1705\\_en.pdf](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/news/data/2017/newmembers1705_en.pdf)

▼ Map of Member Cities:

<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/membercity/map.html>

\*\*\*\*\*

**If you have any comments or questions, please contact us at:**

Mayors for Peace Secretariat

1-5 Nakajima-cho, Naka-ku, Hiroshima 730-0811 Japan

Tel: +81-82-242-7821 Fax: +81-82-242-7452

Email: [mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp](mailto:mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp)

\*\*\*\*\*