

Youth Exchange for Peace Support Program. The program aims at supporting young people from its member cities to participate in ongoing programs of Hiroshima City to share in the legacies of the hibakusha, to discuss their message of peace, and to promote connections and friendships with participants from around the world.

< **HIROSHIMA and PEACE** >

Nine young representatives from nine member cities around the world attended the Hiroshima City University's intensive summer course "HIROSHIMA and PEACE," in which students from around the world study and discuss Hiroshima and peace in English from August 1 to August 9. In addition to the university's course, they attended the Mayors for Peace's own program, in which they exchanged views on their future peace activities.

▼ Post on the Mayors for Peace Facebook page about Mayors for Peace program of "HIROSHIMA and PEACE":
<https://www.facebook.com/mayorsforpeace/posts/1781667648760627>

< **The International Youth Conference for Peace in the Future, Hiroshima 2017** >

Six young representatives from six member cities around the world attended "The International Youth Conference for Peace in the Future, Hiroshima 2017", a youth conference hosted by the Hiroshima Municipal Board of Education. On August 11, the participants joined Mayors for Peace program where they listened to a lecture by Randy Rydell, Executive Advisor of Mayors for Peace and delivered presentations on each city's peace activities.

▼ Post on the Mayors for Peace Facebook page about Mayors for Peace program of IYCPF 2017:
<https://www.facebook.com/mayorsforpeace/posts/1783405035253555>

■ **A Call to Hold Events to Mark the 2017 International Day of Peace on September 21**

The United Nations has established September 21 as a fixed International Day of Peace (IDP) and an annual day of non-violence and cease-fire. The theme of the 2017 International Day of Peace is "Together for Peace: Respect, Safety and Dignity for All."

Mayors for Peace has been a long-time supporter of the IDP and encourage all member cities to commemorate the International Day of Peace on September 21. In accordance with these initiatives, the city of Takayama, Japan, a member city of Mayors for Peace, will organize a Peace Bell Ceremony where like-minded bell owners in the city, such as temples and churches, will sound their bells in unison at noon on the IDP. Furthermore, the mayor of Takayama City requests our member cities to do the same in their own, local time, in order to offer as many people as possible an opportunity to renew their determination to bring peace to the globe.

In this context, we humbly ask that you consider calling for the ringing of bells at noon on September 21 at facilities and organizations which own bells in your city. If you intend to organize such an event, the Secretariat would be pleased if you would inform our office.

▼ Request from Takayama City (Mayors for Peace website):
<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/news/data/2017/0816.pdf>

<<PLEASE SEND INFORMATION ON YOUR CITY'S 2017 IDP EVENT >>

If your city is planning to organize an event to commemorate the International Day of Peace, please send your event report to our secretariat. We will share the report on the Mayors for Peace website, etc.

▼ Please mail us with an outline of your event at:
mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp

■ **The Forum on Solidarity and Peace in the Mediterranean to be Held in Tarragona, Spain (October 18 and 19, 2017)**

<Report from Catalan Chapter, Spain>

The City of Tarragona (close to Barcelona, Spain) will host a forum on October 18 and 19 this year, in collaboration with the European Institute of the Mediterranean (IEMed) and the Catalan chapter of Mayors for Peace, within the framework of the XVIII Mediterranean Games taking place in Tarragona from June 22 to July 1, 2018.

The aim of this forum is for mayors from all over the world to meet with civil society benchmarks, international organizations and peace leaders by opening a process of debate and reflection about today's Mediterranean drama, the need to turn into a space for solidarity, cooperation and equality and how the Olympic movement, vector of peace, and dialogue between cultures could contribute to improving this situation.

Coinciding with this forum, a Mayors for Peace meeting will take place on October 18 in the Plenary Chamber of the Tarragona City Hall. The meeting will be open to all member cities from the network. Mr. Yasuyoshi Komizo, Secretary-General of Mayors for Peace, is scheduled to visit Tarragona to attend the Forum and the Mayors for Peace meeting.

The registration for participation is now open. Anyone who would like to attend is asked to make a registration.

▼ The forum's registration page on the IEMed website:

<http://www.iemed.org/forumtarragona2017>

▼ Draft program of the forum:

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/data/2017/Draft_programme_forum_Tarragona_EN.pdf

■ Regional Chapter Activities

<Japan Chapter>

* Submission of Letter of Request to Japanese Government

On August 23, Mayor Taue of Nagasaki City, the Vice President of Mayors for Peace and Mr. Sugiura, Director of the Tokyo Liaison Office of Hiroshima City representing the Mayor of Hiroshima City, met with Foreign Minister Kono and submitted a Letter of Request calling for the promotion of actions to abolish nuclear weapons, which had been agreed at the 7th Japanese Member Cities Meeting held in Nagasaki City on August 9.

▼ Full report on the Mayors for Peace website:

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/statement/openletter/170823_requestletter.html

■ Member City Activities

< Manchester, UK >

* Manchester to receive a 'Survivor' seedling from 9/11 Memorial & Museum

A seedling from a tree that survived the September 11 attack on the World Trade Centre in 2001 is to be presented to Manchester from New York as a way of showing support for Manchester as it continues to heal in the wake of the May 22 terror attack.

▼ Media release on the Manchester City Council website:

http://www.manchester.gov.uk/news/article/7770/manchester_to_receive_a_survivor_seedling_from_911_memorial_and_a_museum

In 2014, Manchester City Council received from Hiroshima a number of ginkgo tree seeds originating from a mother tree exposed to the atomic bombing in Hiroshima on August 6, 1945. Since then, Manchester has been promoting 'Project G,' a local educational project focused around the story of the ginkgo tree.

< Report from Sean Morris, the UK and Ireland Mayors for Peace Chapter Secretary >

< Four member cities in Norway >

* Planting of second generation seedlings of an A-bombed ginkgo tree

In August and September this year, four member cities in Norway plant ginkgo tree seedlings whose mother tree was exposed to the atomic bombing in Hiroshima in August 1945.

In 2014, the City of Frogn, Vice President City of Mayors for Peace, received seeds of an A-bombed ginkgo tree from Mayors for Peace Secretariat in Hiroshima and handed them over to the Norwegian University of Life Sciences. It was feared that ginkgo biloba might not grow well in the cold Norwegian climate, but a number of seeds sprouted, and after three years of good care, four of the seedlings had grown big enough to be planted in four coastal cities in Norway: Halden, Kvinesdal, Larvik and Frogn.

▼Photos and full story on Mayors for Peace website:

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/170913_Norway_planting.html

< Langen, Germany >

* Holding of the “Hibakusha Worldwide” Exhibition” and presentation of seeds of A-bombed tree

The City of Langen, a member city since 2010, hosted a poster exhibition “Hibakusha Worldwide” created by IPPNW Germany in its City Hall from July 31 to August 10. The exhibition ended with great success, receiving more than 250 visitors.

At the exhibition’s opening ceremony on July 31, the Mayor of Langen spoke about the importance of worldwide peace and nuclear disarmament and presented three facilities in Langen with the seeds of a ginkgo tree which was exposed to the atomic bombing in Hiroshima on August 6, 1945. The three facilities, House of Hesse Foundation, Ginkgo-Haus Langen, and the Fruit and Garden Club of Langen will take care of the seeds until they grow into big enough to be planted on grounds. When the seedlings are big enough, they will be planted in parks and other places to convey the message of peace to the citizens of Langen.

▼Full report and a photo on the Mayors for Peace website:

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/170913_activity_Langen.html

▼Press release on the City of Langen website (in German):

<https://www.langen.de/de/aktuelles-aus-dem-rathaus/friedenssymbole-in-besten-haenden.html>

<<PLEASE SEND US INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR CITY’S PEACE ACTIVITIES>>

Please help us tell others about what you are doing! We can create a link to your city’s website or the website of your peace event to help you advertise. Please send us information including the date, venue, organizers and a description of the event. We look forward to receiving information from your city.

▼Please send a report about your event to the Mayors for Peace Secretariat to:

mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp

▼List of peace events as based on those in the Mayors for Peace Action Plan (As of September 10):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/images/news/new_list/2017_List_of_Activities_en.pdf

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

Sadly, two precious A-bomb survivors, who played significant roles in conveying the voices of the people in the A-bombed city of Nagasaki to the world, have passed away.

Sumiteru Taniguchi was known for being the boy in a film captured by U.S. forces after the bombings: his whole back was badly burned by the heat rays from the atomic bomb dropped on Nagasaki and his skin appeared blood-red, his face contorted in pain. He was forced to spend a year and nine months lying on his stomach because of these terrible burns, hovering at death’s door. When this footage, filmed by the U.S. military in 1945 and labeled “The boy with a bright red back” was discovered in 1970, Mr. Taniguchi became determined, as the mission of someone who survived the atomic

bombing, to speak out about the horror of these attacks and the hardships that the survivors had endured. Fueled by his own A-bomb experience, at the Peace Memorial Ceremony in 2015, the year that commemorated the 70th anniversary of the Nagasaki bombing, Mr. Taniguchi declared in his Commitment to Peace that, “As a living witness to war and the devastation wrought by the atomic bombing, I pledge before all of you who wish for peace that I will continue telling the world about what really happened, for as long as I live.” These are truly powerful words.

Hideo Tsuchiyama passed away soon after Mr. Taniguchi. At the time of the Nagasaki bombing, Mr. Tsuchiyama was a medical student. That day he was away from the city, but he was exposed to the bomb’s radiation when he returned on the following day. He found that all four members of his brother’s family had been killed. While devoting himself to research at Nagasaki University, he supported the A-bombed city for many years by providing strategic and moral support to the citizens’ movement calling for nuclear disarmament. He and others advocated for the establishment of a nuclear weapons ban treaty and the concept of the Northeast Asia nuclear-weapon-free zone so that the wishes of people of the A-bombed cities could be instrumental in international policymaking.

The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, which they had longed for, was finally adopted this past July. We still have a long way to go, however, until these weapons are eliminated from Earth. Moreover, North Korea has recently conducted its sixth nuclear test, increasing tensions in Northeast Asia even further.

Precisely for these reasons, Nagasaki and Hiroshima, as the only A-bombed cities in the world, must become single-minded and speak out once again for their dearest wish: No more nuclear weapons, no more war. We must never forget the earnest desire of the A-bomb survivors, even when they grow old and eventually leave this world.

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

- Hiroshima mourns the passing of Nagasaki A-bomb survivor

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=76332>

- Hiroshima to host U.N. Conference on Disarmament Issues

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=76328>

- Mayors for Peace urges Japanese government to make efforts to strengthen effectiveness of nuclear ban treaty

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=76330>

- Editorial: Mayors for Peace as a force for advancing nuclear abolition and peace

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=76077>

- Nagasaki mayor urges Japanese government to join nuclear ban treaty at city’s A-bomb anniversary

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=76020>

■ Request to Promote Various Measures Based on the New Action Plan (2017-2020)

At the 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace held in Nagasaki in August 2017, we decided our Action Plan for up to the year 2020, aiming for lasting world peace. Together, we hope to make significant strides towards realizing this goal. Please promote various measures based on the Action Plan within your own municipality or regional group.

▼ Mayors for Peace Action Plan (2017-2020):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/report/meeting/data/9th_meeting/Action_Plan_2017-2020_E.pdf

This month, we would like to introduce “The Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Course,” to be promoted in the Action Plan. The Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Course is a program for higher education designed to analyze, systematize, and convey the reality of the atomic bombings and messages of hibakusha to younger generations. Please urge colleges and universities of your municipality to apply for the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Course.

▼ More information about the Course on the Mayors for Peace website:

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/hnpc/hnpc_top.htm

■ Promotion of the Petition Drive Based on the New Action Plan (2017-2020)

Since December 2010, Mayors for Peace has been promoting a global grassroots petition drive to call for negotiations of a nuclear weapons convention. Thanks to many supporters across the world, we have received 2,610,692 signatures as of September 1, 2017.

On July 7 this year, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted. We consider the treaty to be a significant step forward in the pursuit of a future comprehensive nuclear weapons convention achieving the total abolition of nuclear weapons and therefore support all efforts to encourage the treaty's early entry into force. In line with this, at the 9th General Conference held in Nagasaki in August this year, it was decided that we will revise the content of the petition drive. Based on the Action Plan (2017-2020) adopted at the General Conference, we will carry out a petition drive urging the nuclear-armed states and their allies to participate in the Treaty as soon as possible. In doing so, we will collaborate with the signature campaign "The Hibakusha Appeal".

The new petition form will be released soon. Please note that we will continue to accept petitions submitted in the current form.

■ 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 your 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

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

mfpsystem@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp

■ Request for Payment of the 2017 Mayors for Peace Membership Fee

Since 2015, Mayors for Peace has instituted an annual membership fee. We ask each member city to pay a Fee of 2,000 Japanese yen per city every year (about USD19/ EUR16 as of September 13, 2017). If your city has not paid the membership fee in previous years, we ask your city to pay the total amount owed for each unpaid year since 2015. The funds raised by this fee will be utilized as a resource for the projects listed on the Mayors for Peace Action Plan.

A request for payment of the 2017 membership fee was sent to each city by email on May 31. We deeply appreciate your kind cooperation.

▼ Request for the 2017 Mayors for Peace Membership Fee (Mayors for Peace website):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/outlines/membership_fee.html

■ Mayors for Peace Member Cities - 7,439 Cities in 162 Countries/Regions

Thanks to your invaluable support, on September 1, we added 22 new member cities, bringing the total membership to

7,439.

From Iran, thanks to the continued efforts of the team at the Tehran Peace Museum, nine cities joined this month. From Germany, we welcomed five cities thanks to the continued efforts of Hannover, a Vice President and Lead City of the German Chapter of Mayors for Peace. From El Salvador, we welcomed a new city, San Miguel, which joined in response to the invitation by the Peace Boat visiting the city as part of the 10th "Global Voyage for a Nuclear-Free World: Peace Boat Hibakusha Project". From Spain, we welcomed two new cities, thanks to the work of the City of Granollers, a Mayors for Peace Vice President and Lead City of the Catalan Chapter and the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces (FEMP). We also welcomed a total of five cities from Cameroon, France, Iraq, Japan, and Mozambique this month.

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/images/news/new_list/2017/newmembers1709_en.pdf

▼ Map of Member Cities:

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

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

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