



Mayors for Peace News Flash

November 2017 / No.95

Mayors for Peace Member Cities

7,469 cities

in 162 countries and regions

(as of November 1, 2017)

Please also check our website and Facebook page:

Website:

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

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/mayorsforpeace>

"Like" our Facebook page to help spread awareness

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Secretary General Komizo's Visit to Volgograd and Geneva

[October 14 - 21, 2017]

In October, Mr. Yasuyoshi Komizo, Secretary General of Mayors for Peace, visited Volgograd, Russia and Geneva, Switzerland, to strengthen Mayors for Peace activities in the two cities.

In Volgograd, a Vice President and Lead City of Mayors for Peace, Mr. Komizo met with Mayor Kosolapov and asked him to further promote Mayors for Peace activities based on the new Action Plan and also to help expand membership in the country. Mr. Komizo also visited Volgograd State University and encouraged them to consider the "Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Course," which Mayors for Peace has been promoting in higher education.

Mr. Komizo also visited the City of Geneva, a member city of Mayors for Peace. He met with Geneva City Hall to discuss future collaboration. He also met with representatives of governments, UN officials and other key figures in nuclear disarmament to exchange views on the recently adopted Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and how we can encourage nuclear-armed states and their allies to join the Treaty.

Please visit the following link to find more details about Mr. Komizo's activities in the two cities.

▼ Secretary General Komizo's Visit to Russia and Switzerland to strengthen cooperation between Mayors for Peace member cities (Mayors for Peace website):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/history/2020_2011/2017_10_gallery.html



Mr. Komizo handing paper cranes to Mayor Kosolapov

■ Mayors for Peace Staff Member's Attendance of the Obama Foundation Summit

[Chicago, IL, USA; October 31 and November 1, 2017]

A member of staff of Mayors for Peace Secretariat in Hiroshima was invited to attend the inaugural Obama Foundation Summit which took place in Chicago on October 31 and November 1. The Summit gathered approximately 500 civic leaders from the United States and 60 countries around the world to build creative networks, exchange ideas on themes such as what it means to be an active citizen in the 21st century, and explore solutions to common problems.

The Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation, which manages the Mayors for Peace Secretariat, has been in communication with the Obama Foundation since December 2016 and discussed the possibility of future collaboration between the two foundations. This led to the dispatch of a representative to the summit.

A young staff member of Mayors for Peace Secretariat in Hiroshima, attended the two-day, immersive event, shared ideas with young community leaders from around the world, gave an introduction to and asked for cooperation and understanding of the work done by Mayors for Peace.

▼ Mayors for Peace Staff Member's Attendance of the Obama Foundation Summit (Mayors for Peace website):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/history/2020_2011/2017_10_gallery2.html

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

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At the 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace held in Nagasaki 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 toward realizing this goal. Please promote all appropriate 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

For example, you can promote the following measures:

The image shows three promotional boxes for peace measures, each with an illustration and text. The first box features a hand holding a quill pen with the word 'Peace' written in pink cursive below it. The second box shows a green tree with a brown trunk. The third box shows a person standing next to a grid of six icons: a peace symbol, a mushroom cloud, a radiation symbol, a crossed-out bomb, and a crossed-out gun. A person is also shown looking at the grid.

Petition drive
to call on all states to sign
the Treaty on the Prohibition of
Nuclear Weapons!

Raise
a second-generation
A-bombed tree in your city!

Hold A-bomb Poster
Exhibitions in your city!

■ Regional Chapter Activities

< German Chapter >

* Planning events for the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize Award Ceremony

This year's Nobel Peace Prize goes to the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) for its contribution to the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. The Nobel Peace Prize Award Ceremony will take place in Oslo City Hall at 1pm on Sunday, December 10. The Ceremony will be streamed live on the official web site of the Nobel Prize at:

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

Various events are planned around the ceremony to celebrate the occasion and draw people's attention to nuclear disarmament.

The German Chapter of Mayors for Peace, led by the Lead City Hannover, sent a letter to all German members on November 11, encouraging them to participate in the joint action on December 10:

- to hoist the Mayors for Peace flag in front of the town hall
- to hold a ceremony together with local peace groups
- to show the live stream of the Nobel prize award ceremony
- to inform the local press about the action
- to conduct the Mayors for Peace petition drive calling for all states to join the Treaty of the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons as soon as possible
- to send reports and photos of the action to the German Chapter of Mayors for Peace

The City of Hannover is planning an event in the town hall, in which a postdoctoral researcher of the Leibniz-Institute for Peace and Conflict Research will speak about the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and guests will be invited to discuss the topic afterwards.

If your municipality is also planning to hold an event, please share the information with the Mayors for Peace Secretariat:

mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp

< UK & Ireland Chapter >

* Chapter meeting in Manchester on December 1st

The UK and Ireland Chapter currently meets twice a year. The upcoming meeting on December 1 will be in the form of an informative seminar of expert speakers. The seminar will consider the implications of ICAN's Nobel Peace Prize award, the UK debate on these issues, the recovery process taking place after the Manchester terrorist attack, and the ways the Chapter wants to encourage its members to promote peace at the local level. The seminar will also relate to the important changes agreed by Mayors for Peace at its recent conference and how the UK and Ireland Chapter would like to work with its members to implement them in 2018 and beyond.

The seminar is open to Chapter members and officers, non-member local authorities, Nuclear Free Local Authorities members, nuclear policy NGOs, peace NGOs and those interested in this subject matter.

▼ The seminar's details and the registration form on the Mayors for Peace website:

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/data/2017/M4P_December_seminar_flyer.pdf

■ Member City Activities

< Malakoff, France >

* Training course on "Culture of Peace"

On October 26, Malakoff, Vice President and Lead City of Mayors for Peace, organized a full day training course for city officials, unions and NGOs representatives to introduce them to peace culture as a tool for local human development.

This course is one of the cornerstones of Malakoff's annual Local Program of Actions for a Culture of Peace. It aims at familiarizing its participants to Hiroshima and Nagasaki's tragic history while giving them the tools to implement a culture of peace in local management.

▼ The detailed program can be found on the AFCDP-Maires pour la Paix France website (in French):
<https://afcdp.com/formation-decouvrir-culture-paix-outil-developpement-humain-local/>

< Gonfreville l'Orcher, France >

***Commemoration events of the International Day of Peace**

Each year, Gonfreville l'Orcher, a small town near Le Havre in the Normandy Region, commemorates the International Day of Peace and this year was no exception. Three main events were organized: a peace concert by a children's choir, a Peace march, and a conference on Gaza and Palestine by the writer Vivian Petit.

▼ Full report is on the AFCDP-Maires pour la Paix France website (in French):
<https://afcdp.com/jip2017-gonfreville-lorcher/>

< Manchester, UK >

***October 2017 Activities report**

Mayors for Peace Vice President and Lead City Manchester City Council held three peace events in October and welcomed ICAN winning the Nobel Peace Prize. The events, led by the Lord Mayor of Manchester, were:

- A re-dedication of a memorial stone to the British Nuclear Test Veterans Association in the Manchester Cenotaph complex on the 65th anniversary of the first British nuclear weapon test.
- A civic reception to commemorate the 20th anniversary of Manchester-based Mines Advisory Group being a co-recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize for the International Treaty to Ban Landmines & Cluster Munitions.
- A 'Project G' event in Manchester Museum where schoolchildren talked about peace and developed school peace plans. It was announced at the event that the schools would be receiving ginkgo trees originating from Hiroshima in late November, for planting at their schools.

<Report by Sean Morris, UK & Ireland Mayors for Peace Chapter Secretary>

▼ Full report on the Mayors for Peace website:

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/171108_Manchester_events.html

▼ More detailed report on the UK and Ireland Mayors for Peace Briefing:

http://www.nuclearpolicy.info/wp/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/M4P_Briefing_No_12_Nobel_prize_and_Chapter_activity.pdf

▼ Project G weblink including video interviews with some of the participating children:

<https://www.itv.com/news/granada/2017-10-26/watch-manchester-primary-school-pupils-talk-about-the-importance-of-peace/>

<<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 November 10):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/pdf/03_newmembers/2017_List_of_Activities_en.pdf

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

The award ceremony for this year’s Nobel Peace Prize will be held in Oslo, Norway on December 10. Nagasaki A-bomb survivor Terumi Tanaka and Hiroshima survivor Toshiki Fujimori will attend the ceremony, where the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) will receive the prize. Setsuko Thurlow, a survivor of the Hiroshima bombing who now lives in Canada, will also attend and deliver a speech during the proceedings. We hope the world will hear the message of the A-bomb survivors’ earnest desire for the abolition of nuclear weapons.

At the same time, we must also pay attention to other nuclear sufferers besides the A-bomb victims and survivors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, like the victims of nuclear testing. During a press conference after the announcement of this year’s laureates, Beatrice Fihn, the executive director of ICAN, said, “It is a tribute also to the survivors of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki – the hibakusha – and victims of nuclear test explosions around the world.” Victims of nuclear testing from Australia and the Marshall Islands will also attend the award ceremony.

The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was materialized in July. Its preamble refers to the unacceptable suffering caused not only to the A-bomb survivors but also to victims of nuclear testing. One of the countries that supported the negotiations for the treaty’s adoption is the Marshall Islands. This island nation has suffered tremendous damage as a result of the many nuclear tests carried out by the United States over the course of 12 years, starting in 1946. Messages from this country, which suffered so much damage from nuclear tests, have had a strong impact on the international community.

Majuro and Bikini Atoll in the Marshall Islands are members of Mayors for Peace. Yasuyoshi Komizo, the secretary general of the organization, visited these cities in 2014. To promote the implementation of the nuclear weapons ban treaty, cooperation between Hiroshima and Nagasaki should be strengthened even further.

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

- Setsuko Thurlow and other A-bomb survivors will join Nobel Peace Prize award ceremony
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=78002>
- Hiroshima Peace Museum to lend A-bomb related items for ICAN exhibition at Oslo’s Nobel Peace Center
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=78000>
- Mayors for Peace delivers message of congratulations to ICAN for winning Nobel Peace Prize
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=77611>
- Editorial: Nobel Peace Prize awarded to ICAN, fueling further momentum for nuclear abolition
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=77515>
- Challenge made by Marshall Islands sets example for nuclear abolition efforts
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=77603>

■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:

mfpssystem@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

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

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

* H.E. Mr. Igor Crnadak, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina

■ Mayors for Peace Member Cities - 7,469 Cities in 162 Countries/Regions

Thanks to your invaluable support, on November 1, we added 16 new member cities, bringing the total membership to 7,469.

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 Ecuador, three cities joined in response to the invitation by the Association of Municipalities of Ecuador. From Kyrgyzstan, two cities joined in response to the invitation by the Kyrgyz Republic's ambassador who visited the Mayor of Hiroshima in August this year. We also welcomed one city each from the Netherlands and Spain 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/data/pdf/03_newmembers/2017/newmembers1711_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:

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