



# Mayors for Peace News Flash

February 2018 / No.98

**Mayors for Peace Member Cities**  
**7,542 cities**  
**in 163 countries and regions**  
(as of February 1, 2018)

**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 of our mission.

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## ■ Invitation for Applicants to the 2018 Youth Exchange for Peace: Support Program for “HIROSHIMA and PEACE” Course

“HIROSHIMA and PEACE” is an intensive summer course hosted by the Hiroshima City University, in which students from around the world study and discuss Hiroshima and peace in English. This year again, Mayors for Peace will conduct a program to provide financial and other support to selected youth from member cities participating in the course and is now accepting applications for participation in this program from member cities.

We request each member city to widely advertise this program in their city, gather up interested local applicants, and email the required documents **by Friday April 13, 2018** at 3pm in Japan Standard Time (UTC +9).

Hiroshima City University and the Mayors for Peace Secretariat will select the participants and notify member cities of the results in the middle of May 2018.

▼ Details of the program on the Mayors for Peace website:

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/ecbn/projects/2018\\_HAP.html](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/ecbn/projects/2018_HAP.html)

▼ Please email completed application documents to:

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

▼ Report of last year’s program on the Mayors for Peace Website:

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/ecbn/projects/2017\\_HAP\\_result.html](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/ecbn/projects/2017_HAP_result.html)

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## ■ Reports from Participants of Mayors for Peace Support Program for "International Youth Conference for Peace in the Future, 2017 Hiroshima"

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The International Youth Conference for Peace in the Future is an annual youth conference established in 2005, which aims to bring together youth (high school students and college students) from sister and friendship cities of Hiroshima and have them think about peace, deepen the friendship and mutual understanding between our cities, and raise awareness about world peace among the next generation. This conference is hosted alternately by the City of Hiroshima and its sister and friendship cities.

In 2017, Mayors for Peace began providing financial and other support to selected youth participants from member cities when the conference is hosted by the City of Hiroshima. As Hiroshima will not host this year's conference, so Mayors for Peace will not offer this support program this year.

Please read the reports of six young representatives from around the world who attended the 2017 conference in Hiroshima now posted on the Mayors for Peace website.

▼ The reports of each participant have been posted on the Mayors for Peace website:

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/ecbn/projects/2017\\_IYCPF\\_result.html](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/ecbn/projects/2017_IYCPF_result.html)

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## ■ Receiving an Intern from Tehran at the Mayors for Peace Secretariat

[January 9-26, 2018]

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Mayors for Peace has conducted an internship program since 2014, inviting staff from member cities to the Mayors for Peace Secretariat in Hiroshima City and having them engage in peace- and Secretariat-related work. This program was established with the aim of improving the international functions of the Secretariat. It is hoped that the experience of learning about the realities of the atomic bombing in Hiroshima and sharing in the city's wish for peace will help interns identify more personally with the organization, inspiring them to contribute to its development and to peace activities in their home countries, and ultimately strengthening the network among member cities.

Ms. Fateme Babaha, from Tehran, Iran, the Lead City of Mayors for Peace, worked as an intern at the Mayors for Peace Secretariat from January 9 to 26. The Secretariat will have hosted an intern from Granollers (Spain) by the end of March 2018.

▼ Posts on the Mayors for Peace Facebook page about Ms. Babaha's internship in Hiroshima:

<https://www.facebook.com/mayorsforpeace/posts/1843936882533703>

<https://www.facebook.com/mayorsforpeace/posts/1848663532061038>

<https://www.facebook.com/mayorsforpeace/posts/1852369721690419>

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## ■ Regional Chapter Activities

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### < Catalan Chapter >

#### \*Mayor of Granollers meets with UCLG President Parks Tau in Barcelona

On January 25, Mayor Mayoral of Granollers, a Vice President and Lead City of the Catalan Chapter, met with President of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) Parks Tau during the fourth edition of Annual Retreat & Campus held in Barcelona from January 22 to 26, 2018. Mayor Mayoral also serves as a member of UCLG World Council and he expressed his intention to find new avenues of cooperation and build a strategic alliance of work between UCLG and Mayors for Peace.

UCLG is an umbrella organisation for cities, local and regional governments, and municipal associations throughout the world and understands itself as the united voice and world advocate of democratic local self-government.

Mayor Mayoral, who has been commissioned to create collaboration with UCLG during the 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace in Nagasaki last year, shared with President Tau its willingness to promote programmes of action on a Culture of Peace at local level and the commitment of Mayors for Peace to work closely with UCLG in this field.

▼ Full report and photos on the Mayors for Peace website:

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/180215\\_Annual\\_Retreat\\_&\\_Campus\\_in\\_Barcelona.html](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/180215_Annual_Retreat_&_Campus_in_Barcelona.html)

### < UK and Ireland Chapter >

#### \* Sheffield Mayors for Peace celebration event

The Mayor of Sheffield hosted an event to welcome and recommit their support for the Mayors for Peace organisation. The meeting on the 31st January in Sheffield Town Hall included speeches from the Chapter Secretary Sean Morris, ICAN Steering Committee member Rebecca Johnson and CND Vice President Bruce Kent. The meeting also included a presentation from children learning conflict resolution skills, faith leaders talking about peace and tolerance and peace songs from a local choir. Photos from the event can be found on the latest briefing of the chapter.

▼ UK and Ireland Mayors for Peace Policy Briefing 14 (Nuclear Free Local Authorities website):

[http://www.nuclearpolicy.info/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/M4P\\_Briefing\\_No\\_14\\_Sheffield\\_event.pdf](http://www.nuclearpolicy.info/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/M4P_Briefing_No_14_Sheffield_event.pdf)

The next meeting of the UK and Ireland Chapter is on 23rd March in Leeds Civic Hall.

▼ Flyer of the next UK and Ireland Chapter meeting (Nuclear Free Local Authorities website):

[http://www.nuclearpolicy.info/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/NFLA\\_M4P\\_joint\\_seminar\\_Leeds\\_flyer.pdf](http://www.nuclearpolicy.info/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/NFLA_M4P_joint_seminar_Leeds_flyer.pdf)

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## ■ Member City Activities

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### < Hannover, Germany >

#### \* Donation of a seedling of an A-bombed Ginkgo tree

The City of Hannover, a Vice President and Lead City of the German Chapter, has grown second-generation seedlings of an A-bombed Ginkgo tree since the city received seeds from its sister city Hiroshima in 2014.

On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the youth exchange program between Hiroshima YMCA and Hannover YMCA, the City of Hannover donated one of the seedlings to Hannover YMCA. On January 22, the donation ceremony took place at Hannover City Hall with the presence of Mayor Schostok of Hannover, the delegation of Hiroshima YMCA, and representatives from Hannover YMCA. The donated seedling will be planted in spring at Camp Abbensen, which is located in a suburb of Hannover. It is hoped that the A-bombed Ginkgo tree will convey the message of Hiroshima to the many youth visiting the campsite.

▼ Report and photo on the City of Hannover's website (in German):

<https://www.hannover.de/Service/Presse-Medien/Landeshauptstadt-Hannover/Aktuelle-Meldungen-und-Veranstaltungen/Hiroshima-Delegation-besucht-Hannover>

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

▼ List of peace events as based on those in the Mayors for Peace Action Plan (As of February 13):

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/pdf/03\\_newmembers/2017\\_List\\_of\\_Activities\\_en.pdf](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/pdf/03_newmembers/2017_List_of_Activities_en.pdf)

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## ■ "Peace News from Hiroshima" (Provided by the Hiroshima Peace Media Center)

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The United States has released its latest Nuclear Posture Review (NPR), the guidelines for that nation's nuclear policy. Even though it was expected that U.S. nuclear policy would undergo a large overhaul under the administration of President Donald Trump, the NPR has come as a significant shock.

There are two critical concerns.

One is the statement that the United States would have the option of responding with nuclear weapons to a non-nuclear attack, including an attack using conventional weapons.

The other is the aim of developing and introducing "usable" nuclear weapons of a smaller size.

These ideas move beyond the boundary of nuclear “deterrence” and sound as if the assumption is being made that nuclear weapons will be used in actual warfare. It is inconceivable that the Japanese government has welcomed the NPR in this form.

Hearing this news, we cannot help but think of the Doomsday Clock. In January, the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, a U.S. science magazine, advanced the clock to “two minutes to midnight.” It is terrifying to think that the Doomsday Clock is now in the same position as it was in 1953, when the United States and the Soviet Union were conducting hydrogen bomb tests during the Cold War. The clock surely reflects not only the growing tensions involving North Korea but also apprehension with regard to President Trump’s nuclear policy.

With the establishment of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, we saw a sign of hope for the elimination of nuclear weapons. The people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, as well as those who hold a strong desire for peace, must act with a greater sense of urgency and speak out more strongly. Regardless of the scale of their explosion, the use of nuclear weapons can only cause devastating consequences. And relying on nuclear weapons for national security is exceedingly dangerous. These are truths that must be conveyed to people all over the world. In addition, we must press the Japanese government to end its reflexive support for U.S. nuclear policy. And we must urge Mr. Trump to visit Hiroshima and Nagasaki and understand the reality of the atomic bombings of these cities.

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

- Hibakusha Appeal is backed by more than 50% of Japanese municipalities  
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=80782>
- ICAN leader visits Japan, encourages public to question need for nuclear deterrence  
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=80551>
- Editorial: ICAN leader visits Japan, calls for stronger efforts for nuclear abolition  
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=80619>
- Beatrice Fihn, executive director of ICAN, visits Hiroshima  
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=80549>
- Interview with Beatrice Fihn  
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=80780>

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

For example, you can promote the following measures:



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**■ Mayors for Peace Information System**  
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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](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)

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

\*January 12 - Mr. KIM Sun-pyo, Consul-General of the Republic of Korea in Hiroshima

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**■ Mayors for Peace Member Cities - 7,542 Cities in 163 Countries/Regions**  
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Thanks to your invaluable support, on February 1, we added 7 new member cities, bringing the total membership to 7,542.

From Laos, the City of Pakse joined as the country's first member of Mayors for Peace, making our membership network expand to 163 countries and regions. Mr. Aloun Phengmany, an official from Champasack Province in Laos stayed in Hiroshima last year as a Hiroshima International Cooperation Project Trainee. Thanks to Mr. Phengmany's recruitment effort after returning to his home country, Pakse, the capital city of Champasak province, has joined Mayors for Peace.

We also welcomed a total of 5 cities from France, Germany, Japan, and the UK 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/2018/newmembers1802\\_en.pdf](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/pdf/03_newmembers/2018/newmembers1802_en.pdf)

▼ Map of Member Cities:

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

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

**Mayors for Peace Secretariat**

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

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