



Mayors for Peace News Flash

March 2018 / No.99

Mayors for Peace Member Cities
7,558 cities
in 163 countries and regions
(as of March 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.

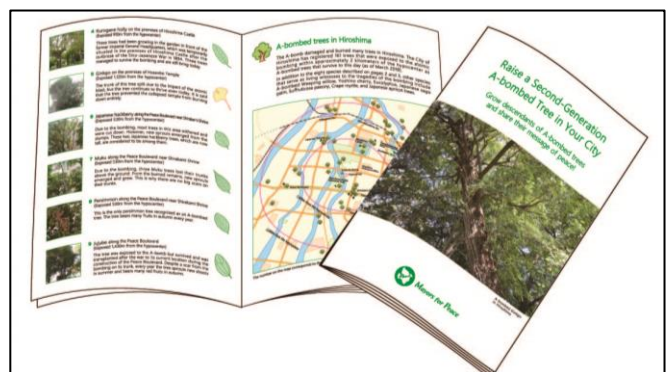
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■ New Pamphlet Released about Distribution of Seeds from A-bombed Trees

Mayors for Peace runs a project to distribute seeds from A-bombed trees to all member cities wishing to receive them. It is hoped that the acts of raising the second-generation A-bombed trees will help raise citizen’s awareness of peace.

A new pamphlet introducing this project is now available on the Mayors for Peace website as an easily downloadable, full-color PDF at the link below. For anyone thinking of applying for seeds, we invite you to take a look. Please feel free to distribute it to any interested parties. We would be so pleased if even more municipalities and local governments can learn about this project and consider participating.



Specifications: originally designed as an A5 size 12 page full color booklet in English

- Print out on 6 double-sided A4 size sheets, fold in half and staple the binding to create an A5 size booklet.
- Also available as a larger 12 page single-sided A4 sized PDF, requiring no folding and only one staple or a clip.

▼ Download page for the pamphlet “Raise a Second-Generation A-bombed Tree in Your City” on the Mayors for Peace website:

<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/ecbn/projects.html#section04>

■ 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

▼ Please email completed application documents to:

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

■ Mayors for Peace Membership in Italy Exceeds 500

6 new members joined Mayors for Peace from Italy making Italy now home to the fourth largest contingent of member cities at 504. This was achieved thanks to the continued efforts of supporters in Italy, including Ms. Lisa Clark, who is the Co-President of the International Peace Bureau (IPB) and the Vice President of the Italian Disarmament Network.

The network announced a new stage of its “Italia Ripensaci” campaign launched in 2016. Its name means “Italy Reconsider” and it asks the government to think again and to find some way to take steps towards joining or supporting the Ban Treaty, despite currently having US nuclear weapons in its territory. Mayors and local governments are being asked to adopt supportive resolutions to this end. This new stage was launched in early February with a 3 day tour of the cities of Rome, Turin, Brescia, and Pordenone. The City of Brescia, where an Italian Air Force base hosting US nuclear weapons is located, hosted a meeting specifically devoted to Mayors for Peace to talk about ICAN, the Treaty, and the role that cities can play. 30 cities were represented, and Brescia along with three other cities officially joined Mayors for Peace and committed to further involvement.

▼ Full report on the Mayors for Peace website:

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/180308_Membership_Italy_Exceeds_500.html

■ Receiving an Intern from Granollers at the Mayors for Peace Secretariat [February 5-21, 2018]

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. Helena Aranda Mayor, from Granollers, Spain, a Vice President of Mayors for Peace and the Lead City of Catalan Chapter, worked as an intern at the Mayors for Peace Secretariat from February 5 to 21.

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

<https://www.facebook.com/mayorsforpeace/posts/1857066831220708>

<https://www.facebook.com/mayorsforpeace/posts/1862490244011700>

<https://www.facebook.com/mayorsforpeace/posts/1863342597259798>

During fiscal year 2017, the Mayors for Peace Secretariat hosted interns from Santos (Brazil), Volgograd (Russia), Tehran (Iran) and Granollers (Spain). We hope that the four interns will share what they have learned in Hiroshima in their home communities and will continue to help contribute to Mayors for Peace development.

■ Regional Chapter Activities

< UK and Ireland Chapter >

* Chapter meeting to be held on March 23

The UK & Ireland Mayors, Provosts and Leaders for Peace Chapter will hold its Chapter meeting on Friday, March 23, in Leeds Civic Hall.

At the meeting, it is planned to encourage Mayors, Provosts and senior councillors that attend the meeting to also sign the ICAN pledge to work for a nuclear weapons free world that has been developed for local and national politicians.

The meeting also plans to consider:

- ICAN UK's plans and campaigns in 2018.
- The work of Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament (PNND) and how both groups can cooperate in the UK and Ireland.
- Initiatives to promote peace education in schools around the UK and Ireland.
- Possible plans to develop Mayors for Peace in Europe.

The meeting is open to Mayors for Peace Chapter members and officers, non-member local authorities, NFLA members, nuclear policy NGOs, peace NGOs and those interested in this subject matter.

▼ Flyer of the meeting (Nuclear Free Local Authorities website):

http://www.nuclearpolicy.info/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/NFLA_M4P_joint_seminar_Leeds_flyer.pdf

■ Member City Activities

< Sant Feliu de Llobregat, Catalonia, Spain >

* Replanting a second-generation A-bombed Ginkgo tree during a peace event

The City of Sant Feliu de Llobregat, a member city of Mayors for Peace and also member of the executive committee of the Catalan Chapter of Mayors for Peace, organized an event on March 4th to replant its second-generation A-bombed Ginkgo tree in an emblematic space of the city, the 'Roserar de Dot i de Camprubí' rose garden. The tree had been growing in a local school "Aula Sant Feliu."

The ceremony was attended by City Councilors of Sant Feliu de Llobregat and Granollers who led the ceremony, children who were responsible for the planting and many citizens. The event served to convey the realities of the atomic bombings in Hiroshima and Nagasaki to raise public awareness for peace. At present, 4 Spanish cities have embraced the Ginkgo tree as a symbol of peace in the hope of building a better world without nuclear weapons.

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

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/180316_Replanting_Sant_Feliu_de_Llobregat.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 March 9):

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)

When Koji Hosokawa donated his sister’s belongings to the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, he said that they could convey the consequences of war. The words of this 90-year-old A-bomb survivor, who lost his 13-year-old sister as a result of the atomic bombing, hold significant meaning. Her school uniform, lunch box, and a first aid pouch were found in the burnt ruins 700 meters from the hypocenter, where she had been when the bomb exploded. For many years they were kept by her parents and Mr. Hosokawa. But he decided to give them to the museum so that many people will be able to see them.

The world, however, is now facing conditions where the desire of the A-bomb survivors could be thwarted. U.S. President Donald Trump has put forward a new Nuclear Posture Review (NPR). The NPR refers to the development of low-yield nuclear weapons and nuclear-tipped cruise missiles. As if to compete with the United States, Russian President Vladimir Putin has announced that his country has succeeded in developing a new generation of strategic nuclear weapons, including an intercontinental ballistic missile that would be difficult for the U.S. to intercept. Amid mounting concerns over a new nuclear arms race similar to that which occurred during the Cold War, these two nations are each trying to keep the other in check as they flex their nuclear might. Though the situation on the Korean Peninsula is a problem of deep concern, we must also address the troubling confrontation between the United States and Russia.

It is vital that all of us, as human beings, recognize the horrific consequences that a nuclear war would wreak. Mr. Hosokawa and other survivors have donated mementos of their loved ones in the hope that the A-bomb tragedies will not be repeated. We must ensure that this desire is upheld.

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

- A-bomb survivor Shigeaki Mori to visit U.S. for first time in May
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=81211>
- 31 officials from 9 nations attend training in Hiroshima
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=81481>
- Hiroshima mayor criticizes new U.S. nuclear strategy
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=81292>
- Criticism mounts against comment by Japanese foreign minister
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=81206>
- A-bomb survivor donates late sister’s belongings to Peace Museum
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=81131>

■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 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 contains three promotional boxes, each with a green border and a central illustration. The first box on the left shows a hand holding a quill pen writing the word 'Peace' in pink cursive. Below it is the text: **Petition drive to call on all states to sign the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons!**. The middle box shows a green tree with a brown trunk and a brown scar on its trunk. Below it is the text: **Raise a second-generation A-bombed tree in your city!**. The third box on the right shows a person standing in front of a grid of six icons: a peace symbol, a mushroom cloud, a radiation symbol, a crossed-out bomb, and a crossed-out atomic symbol. Below it is the text: **Hold A-bomb Poster Exhibitions in your city!**

■ 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

■ 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.

*February 13 – H.E. Cheikh Niang, Ambassador of the Republic of Senegal to Japan

*February 16 – Parliamentary members of the Republic of Iraq

■ Mayors for Peace Member Cities - 7,558 Cities in 163 Countries/Regions

Thanks to your invaluable support, on March 1, we added 16 new member cities, bringing the total membership to 7,558.

From Italy, we welcomed six cities, bringing the number of Italian member cities to 504. From Iran, thanks to the continued efforts of the team at the Tehran Peace Museum, seven cities join this month, bringing the Iranian member cities to 997. From Germany, we welcomed two cities thanks to the continued efforts of Hannover, a Vice President and Lead City of the German Chapter. We also welcomed one city from Japan 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/newmembers1803_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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