



Mayors for Peace News Flash

April 2018 / No.100

Mayors for Peace Member Cities
7,568 cities
in 163 countries and regions
(as of April 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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■ UK & Ireland Mayors, Provosts and Leaders for Peace Meeting in Leeds

[March 23, 2018] Report by Sean Morris, UK & Ireland Mayors for Peace Chapter Secretary

A packed meeting in Leeds Civic Hall for the UK & Ireland Mayors for Peace Chapter was held on the 23rd of March. It discussed both local and global moves to encourage peace and disarmament. The Chapter meeting in Leeds was chaired by the Lord Mayor of Leeds, Councillor Jane Dowson.

The first half of the meeting considered the national and international debate on nuclear weapons. Dr. Rebecca Johnson of ICAN outlined the detail of the Nuclear Weapons Prohibition Treaty and the work that was now needed to encourage countries to sign up to it. Fabian Hamilton MP, who is the Shadow Minister for Peace and Disarmament, argued that there needed to be a broader debate on nuclear weapons in the UK. The second half of the meeting then focused on some excellent local examples of peace education programmes that Mayors for Peace members in the UK and Ireland could support and get involved with. Mayors and councillors present also signed the ICAN pledge for a nuclear weapons free world.



Photo Courtesy of
UK & Ireland Mayors for Peace Chapter

The next Chapter meeting will be in the autumn in Scotland. A more detailed report focusing on the peace education programmes will be published shortly.

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

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/180420_UK&Ireland_Chapter_Meeting_Leeds.html

■ Request for Payment of the 2018 Mayors for Peace Membership Fee

In order to facilitate future activities and strengthen the sense of solidarity amongst member cities, Mayors for Peace introduced an annual Membership Fee in 2015.

This year again, we ask each member city to pay a Fee of 2,000 Japanese yen (about 19 USD/16 Euro as of April 16, 2018) per city. If your city has not paid their Membership Fee in previous years, we ask your city to pay the total amount owed for each unpaid year since 2015. The collected Membership Fees will be allocated toward new and existing projects listed on the Mayors for Peace Action Plan 2017-2020.

A request for payment of the 2018 membership fee was sent to each city by email on April 2. We deeply appreciate your kind cooperation.

▼ Request for the 2018 Mayors for Peace Membership Fee (Mayors for Peace website):

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

■ Member City Activities

< Manchester, UK >

* **Manchester Hill centenary remembered in events 100 years on**

Over the past four years, many towns and cities in Europe have been holding events for the centenary of the First World War. These will conclude later this year with events across Europe and around the world in November 2018, the centenary of the end of the First World War.

The city of Manchester is remembering the huge costs and human impacts of one such event, in what has been known as the Battle for Manchester Hill, close to the northern French town of St Quentin on the western front in March and April 1918.

Several events are being held to commemorate and remember the sacrifice of this battle, including “Manchester Hill Remembered” - a performance of music, poetry, spoken word, and photographs; a wreath-laying at the Cenotaph; and an exhibition.

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

▼ Full report on Mayors for Peace Website:

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/180420_Manchester_Hill_centenary_remembered.html

▼ Information of the events on the Manchester City Council Website:

http://www.manchester.gov.uk/info/500004/events_and_tourism/7617/commemorating_the_battle_of_manchester_hill_-_21_march_1918/2

<<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 April 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 of the CHUGOKU SHIMBUN)

We have received some unsettling news. The Hiroshima-Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Exhibition will not be held in Los Alamos, New Mexico in 2019, though the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum had been hoping to hold this exhibition at the site which served as the center of the U.S. effort to produce the atomic bombs.

This news reminds us of the controversy over an A-bomb exhibition that was scheduled to take place at the Smithsonian Institution Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C. in 1995. That exhibition was called off

after it was met by opposition from U.S. veterans. But veterans have not voiced opposition to the exhibition for fiscal 2019. An email from the Los Alamos Historical Society said that they will continue discussions with the Hiroshima Memorial Peace Museum about how they might host the exhibit.

Another venue under consideration for an A-bomb exhibition in the United States is the USS Arizona Memorial in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Despite different political points of view, we hope that the exhibition will be materialized and convey the catastrophic devastation caused by the atomic bombs.

U.S. public opinion on the A-bomb exhibitions has surely changed since 1995. This is seen in the A-bomb exhibitions held in all U.S. states since then and the growth in the membership of Mayors for Peace. Also, the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki have been encouraging universities around the world to establish the "Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Course," in which students learn about the devastation caused by the atomic bombings. Out of the 22 schools that have been certified for the course outside Japan, 18 are in the United States. We must continue to make extensive use of the Mayors for Peace network and convey the dire consequences caused by the use of nuclear weapons.

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

- Sri Lankan president visits Hiroshima, vows to make efforts to help prevent a similar A-bomb tragedy

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=81975>

- A-bomb survivors respond to announcement of U.S.-North Korea summit with hope for progress in nuclear abolition

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=81728>

- Editorial: U.S. president agrees to talk with North Korean leader

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=81955>

- Editorial: North Korea and South Korea agree to a summit

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=81628>

- International visitors to Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum reach high in fiscal 2017

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=82026>

Request to Promote the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Course in Higher Education

Mayors for Peace is seeking to increase the number of colleges and universities providing the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Course, a program for higher education designed to analyze, systematize, and convey the reality of the atomic bombings and messages of hibakusha to younger generations.

In February, a course at the Kyungpook National University (South Korea) was newly recognized as a Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Course. Currently, Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Courses have been established at 72 universities (50 in Japan, 22 overseas).

Please urge colleges and universities of your municipality to establish the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Course. Whether newly established or previously existing, courses that fulfill the necessary criteria can be recognized as Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Courses.



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

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

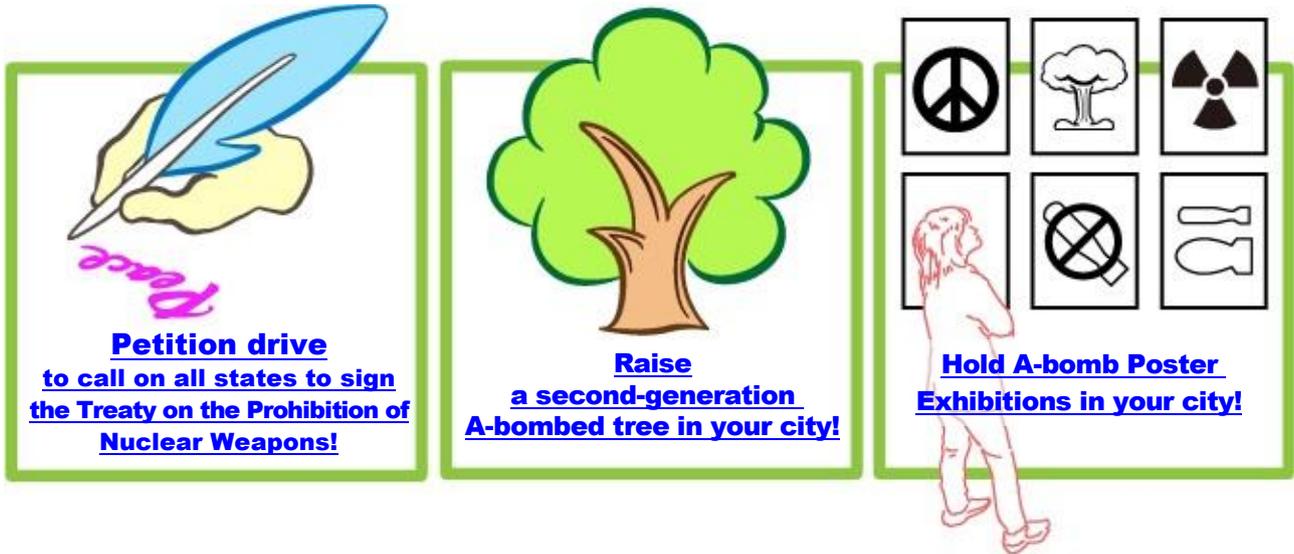
Request to Promote Various Measures Based on the New Action Plan (2017-2020)

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:



■ 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

■ 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.

*March 1 - Hon. Karu Jayasuriya, Speaker of the Parliament of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

*March 19 - Mr. Eoghan Murphy T.D., Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government of Ireland

■ Mayors for Peace Member Cities - 7,568 Cities in 163 Countries/Regions

Thanks to your invaluable support, on April 1, we added 10 new member cities, bringing the total membership to 7,568.

From Germany, we welcomed two cities thanks to the continued efforts of Hannover, a Vice President and Lead City of the German Chapter of Mayors for Peace. From South Africa, one city joined in response to the

