



# Mayors for Peace News Flash

May 2018 / No.101

**Mayors for Peace Member Cities**  
**7,578 cities**  
**in 163 countries and regions**  
(as of May 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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## ■ Attendance of Mayors for Peace at the Second Session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 NPT Review Conference

[Geneva, Switzerland; April 23-26, 2018]

A Mayors for Peace delegation, including the mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki participated in the second session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 NPT Review Conference, which was held from April 23-May 4 in Geneva, Switzerland.

On April 25, Mr. Kazumi Matsui, Mayor of Hiroshima and President of Mayors for Peace, and a Mayors for Peace Vice President Mayor Tomihisa Taue of Nagasaki City attended the NGO session and delivered their statements as the final speakers. Mayor Matsui urged the States Parties to reaffirm the NPT’s obligation to pursue nuclear disarmament in good faith and implement concrete disarmament measures without further delay. He stressed the need to turn the confrontational security environment into a cooperative security architecture through persistent and conscientious dialogue and the importance of promoting the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) as a significant milestone towards our common goal. Mayor Taue showed a photo of Nagasaki atomic bombing survivor Sumiteru Taniguchi, who passed away last year, while quoting Mr. Taniguchi’s words that “nuclear weapons cannot coexist with humans”, and urged every country to create the wisdom needed to make peace through dialogue.



Mayor of Hiroshima (right) and Mayor of Nagasaki (left) with the Preparatory Committee Chair, Ambassador Bugajski of Poland (April 24)

On April 26, Mayors for Peace hosted a side event to the NPT PrepCom titled “Mayors for Peace Youth Forum”. Youth presenters representing Japan from Hiroshima, Okinawa, and Nagasaki; representing two additional Mayors for Peace executive cities from Manchester, UK and also Granollers, Spain; and representing two NGOs; PAX and INESAP, all made presentations on their efforts and wishes for peace.

During their stay in Geneva, the mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki had meetings with the Preparatory Committee Chair, Ambassador Bugajski; UN delegations from two countries that actively support the TPNW: Costa Rica and Austria; and also with a representative of the US — a nuclear power. During these meetings, the mayors stressed the importance for all states to engage in conscientious dialogue aimed at our common goal of abolishing nuclear weapons and to first-and-foremost reaffirm commitments made under the NPT, and then set the TPNW as the next milestone towards our goal.

Please visit the following link to find more details about Mayors for Peace activities in Geneva as well as the texts of speeches at the NGO session.

▼ Attendance of the Second Session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 NPT Review Conference in Geneva, Switzerland and Visit to France and Spain (Mayors for Peace website):

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/history/2020\\_2011/2018\\_4\\_gallery.html](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/history/2020_2011/2018_4_gallery.html)

▼ Related link: Draft Chair’s factual summary (Reaching Critical Will website):

<http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/images/documents/Disarmament-fora/npt/prepcom18/documents/draft-factual-summary.pdf>

To coincide with the PrepCom, representatives of 10 executive cities, mainly from Europe but also from Montreal, Canada and Muntinlupa, Philippines, gathered in Geneva for the 10<sup>th</sup> Executive Conference of Mayors for Peace. Representatives of 7 executive cities in Europe also took this opportunity to host a meeting to discuss the further development of Mayors for Peace activities in Europe, which has the largest concentration of executive members. The meeting was held in Geneva City Hall, with the generous cooperation of the City of Geneva. The report of the meetings will be posted on Mayors for Peace website soon.

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## ■ Mayors for Peace President’s Visit to Paris and Gernika-Lumo

[Paris (France), Gernika-Lumo (Spain); April 27-29, 2018]

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Following his visit to Geneva, Mr. Kazumi Matsui, Mayor of Hiroshima and President of Mayors for Peace, visited Paris, France and Gernika-Lumo, Spain. He attended ceremonies in which he presented or planted a seedling of an A-bombed tree, hosted by the two cities with cooperation of neighboring executive cities of Mayors for Peace.

On April 28, at Paris City Hall, Mayor Matsui attended a donation ceremony of a Ginkgo seedling, whose mother tree was exposed to the A-bomb in Hiroshima. Mayor Matsui handed the potted seedling to Deputy Mayor Peninou of Paris. In attendance were distinguished guests, including Ms. Alaudat, Deputy Mayor of Makakoff, a Vice President City of Mayors for Peace, the city that generously offered one of the seedlings they have been growing for this occasion; Mr. Rio, Mayor of Grigny who serves as the President of Mayors for Peace French Chapter (AFCD RP-Maires pour la Paix France); Mr. Cibot, Executive Officer of AFCD RP and Mrs. Cibot, a Hiroshima Peace Ambassador; and Minister Nakamura representing the Embassy of Japan in France. When the seedling becomes big enough, it will be planted in a park in Paris.



Mayor of Hiroshima handing a potted seedling to Deputy Mayor of Paris



Planting ceremony in Gernika-Lumo

On April 29, in Gernika-Lumo, a planting ceremony for a Ginkgo seedling took place in a park located behind the Biscay Parliament. The ceremony was held against the backdrop of the 81st anniversary of the Gernika bombing in 1937. Following remarks made by Mayor Matsui; Mr. Gorroño, Mayor of Gernika-Lumo; Mr. Urkullu, President of the Basque Government; and Ms. Otadui, President of the Biscay Parliament, the seedling was planted, with many citizens and tourists watching. Among the guests who joined the planting ceremony was Mayor Mayoral of Granollers. Granollers, a Vice President City and the Lead City of the Catalan Chapter of Mayors for Peace has been actively nurturing A-bombed Ginkgo trees from Hiroshima and contributed one of their seedlings for this occasion. The ceremony served as a great opportunity to show the solidarity of the Mayors for Peace network.

It is hoped that as the trees grow, the momentum for nuclear abolition and lasting world peace will take root in the hearts of citizens.

▼ Attendance of the Second Session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 NPT Review Conference in Geneva, Switzerland and Visit to France and Spain (Mayors for Peace website):

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/history/2020\\_2011/2018\\_4\\_gallery.html#1](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/history/2020_2011/2018_4_gallery.html#1)

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

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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](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/outlines/membership_fee.html)

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## ■ Member City Activities

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### < Manchester, UK >

#### \* Commemoration of the May 2017 terrorist attack

The City of Manchester, a Vice President City of Mayors for Peace, will be holding a number of events for the first anniversary of the terrorist attack at Manchester Arena on the 22nd of May 2017. A key event will be a Civic Memorial Service at Manchester Cathedral at 2-3pm on the 22nd of May. The service will be attended by the families of those who lost their lives, those injured, first responders, civic leaders and senior national figures. The service will be screened in Cathedral Gardens close to the cathedral in Manchester; at York Minster; at Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral; at Glasgow Cathedral; and on national television.

In the evening of the 22nd a special event will take place in Albert Square, directly outside Manchester Town Hall from 7:30pm-9pm. This will see choirs from across the region coming together in song to share the spirit of solidarity and remember the victims of the attack, many of whom were children. The final half hour of the event will include a mass 'singalong' and it will go out live on BBC Radio Manchester.

From the 19th-27th of May, a "Trees of Hope" trail will also run from Victoria Railway Station (next to the arena where the attack took place) to St Ann's Square (where flower memorials were laid in 2017). Local schoolchildren have made messages of peace to be placed on trees along the route between these two sites, and members of the public will be encouraged to write their own messages as well. Permanent memorials to the 22 people who were killed in the bombing is being developed, as is a new contemplative peace garden in the city centre.

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

▼ More details on the Manchester City Council Website:

<http://www.manchester.gov.uk/mcrtogether>

### < Hannover, Germany >

#### \* Opening of the exhibition "50 Cities – 50 Traces: One world without nuclear weapons"

The City of Hannover is hosting the international art and peace exhibition "50 Cities – 50 Traces: One world without nuclear weapons" from May 8 until 27. At the opening ceremony on May 8, in the Town Hall of Hannover, Mayor Stefan Schostok said "As a Vice-President City member of Mayors for Peace and Lead City for Germany we are committed to campaigning publicly and visibly for the elimination of nuclear weapons, for international understanding among nations, and for peace."

“50 Cities – 50 Traces” is an international art and peace project initiated by the city of Hannover to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons signed by the USA, the Soviet Union and Great Britain in 1968. The exhibition will travel to various Mayors for Peace member cities around the world and is supposed to end in 2020 in New York City, where the UN Headquarters are located.

Cities are the anchors, the guarantors of culture and civilization. Whoever destroys cities destroys their culture, obliterating historical memory along with every trace of human experience. The artwork is comprised of 50 photographic panels of “traces” of human presence found in different member cities and makes clear that cities are not targets. This is at the core of Mayors for Peace.

▼ Photos of the opening ceremony on the Mayors for Peace website:

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/180522\\_50\\_Cities-50\\_Traces\\_in\\_Hannover.html](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/180522_50_Cities-50_Traces_in_Hannover.html)

▼ For more information about the project:

[www.50cities-50traces.org](http://www.50cities-50traces.org)

▼ Please contact the City of Hannover if you would like to learn more about this project or want to host the exhibition in your city:

Email: [mayorsforpeace@hannover-stadt.de](mailto:mayorsforpeace@hannover-stadt.de)

<<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 May 11):

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/pdf/03\\_newmembers/2018\\_List\\_of\\_Activities\\_en.pdf](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/pdf/03_newmembers/2018_List_of_Activities_en.pdf)

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## ■“Peace News from Hiroshima”

(Provided by the Hiroshima Peace Media Center of the CHUGOKU SHIMBUN)

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You may have already heard the story of Sadako Sasaki, the girl who was the inspiration for the raising of the Children’s Peace Monument in the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park.

Sadako was two years old when she experienced the atomic bombing of Hiroshima. Ten years later, she passed away of A-bomb-induced leukemia at the age of 12. It is said that she folded well over a thousand paper cranes on her sickbed in the hospital, hoping that she would recover from her illness. After Sadako’s death, her former classmates at the elementary school she attended came together to pursue a campaign to raise a statue to console the spirits of all the children who lost their lives to the atomic bomb. The monument was finally unveiled in a ceremony that took place on May 5, 1958.

Sixty years have since passed. It can be said that activities like folding paper cranes, which is a cultural tradition in Japan, and offering them to places of tragedy to wish for peace and happiness or mourn those killed by war or disaster, were borne from the Children’s Peace Monument.

In the spring, the season of school trips to the city, students gather in front of the monument day after day. They observe their own ceremonies, sing songs in chorus, and pledge to help build a peaceful world. Let us consider, once again, how this monument has served as a “magnetic field” of prayers for peace. Above all, the origins of the campaign to raise the monument grew from the humble actions of children who were shocked by the death of someone who had been close to them.

To create a world without nuclear weapons, it is vital that we cultivate and bring together the power of young people. Full-fledged diplomatic negotiations for the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula will continue. We must keep firmly in mind that it would be intolerable for children, anywhere, to again become the victims of nuclear weapons.

On May 12, Noboricho Elementary School, Sadako’s alma mater, opened a peace museum. We invite you to pay a visit to this new museum.

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

- Children's Peace Monument marks 60th anniversary

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=82666>

- University students dedicate 18,000 paper cranes to Children's Peace Monument

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=82609>

- High school students tell Hiroshima mayor about hopes to convey wishes of A-bomb survivors

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=82268>

- City of Hiroshima awards Sunao Tsuboi title of Honorary Citizen

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=82260>

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

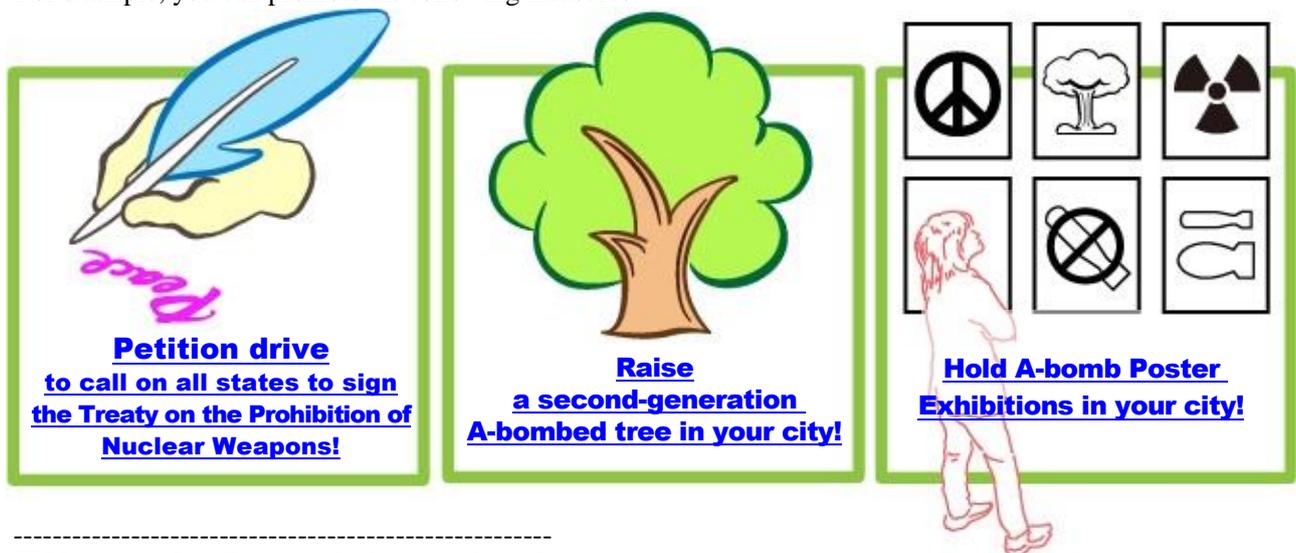
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At the 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace held in Nagasaki in August 2017, we decided our Action Plan for up to the year 2020, aiming for lasting world peace. Together, we hope to make significant strides toward realizing this goal. Please 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](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 visitors last month and asked them to support the activities of Mayors for Peace and cooperate towards membership expansion.

\*April 2 – H.E. Mr. Ayman Aly Kamel, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Arab Republic of Egypt to Japan

\*April 2 – H.E. Mr. Takehiro Kagawa, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the Arab Republic of Egypt

\*April 9 – H.E. Ms. Kamilah binti Haji Mohd Hanifah, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Brunei Darussalam to Japan

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**■ Mayors for Peace Member Cities - 7,578 Cities in 163 Countries/Regions**  
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Thanks to your invaluable support, on May 1, we added 11 new member cities, bringing the total membership to 7,578.

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. We also welcomed four cities from Japan, one city each from Italy and Norway 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/newmembers1805\\_en.pdf](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/pdf/03_newmembers/2018/newmembers1805_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

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

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