



# Mayors for Peace News Flash

September 2018 / No.105

## Mayors for Peace Member Cities

**7,650** cities

**in 163 countries and regions**

(as of September 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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## ■ 2018 Mayors for Peace Youth Exchange for Peace Held in Hiroshima

[July 31 – August 10, 2018]

Since 2016, Mayors for Peace has invited selected youths from various member cities to Hiroshima to participate in its Youth Exchange for Peace Support Program. The program aims at supporting young people from its member cities to participate in ongoing programs run by Hiroshima City to share in the legacies of the hibakusha, to discuss their message of peace, and to promote connections and friendships with participants from around the world.

As part of this support program, nine young representatives from nine member cities around the world attended Hiroshima City University's intensive summer course "HIROSHIMA and PEACE," in which students from around the world study and discuss Hiroshima and peace in English from August 1 to August 10. In addition to the university's course, they attended the Mayors for Peace's own program, in which they exchanged views on their future peace activities.



Mayors for Peace program of "HIROSHIMA and PEACE" on August 3

▼ Photos of the Mayors for Peace program of "HIROSHIMA and PEACE" on the Mayors for Peace Facebook: [July 31 program](#) , [August 3 program](#)

▼ Presentations by representatives from nine member cities:

[Tehran \(Iran\)](#), [Takayama \(Japan\)](#), [Santos \(Brazil\)](#), [Mitaka \(Japan\)](#), [Bamenda 1 \(Cameroon\)](#), [Manchester \(UK\)](#), [Barcelona \(Spain\)](#), [Granollers \(Spain\)](#), [Taito \(Japan\)](#)

▼ Group presentation on proposals for cities to realize a world without nuclear weapons:

[Group 1: Barcelona, Tehran, Mitaka](#)

[Group 2: Takayama, Bamenda 1, Granollers](#)

[Group 3: Santos, Taito, Manchester](#)

A more detailed report will be posted on the Mayors for Peace website soon.

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## **Major U.S. Cities and the State of California call for the U.S. to Step Back From the Brink and Support the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons**

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Following last year's majority vote at the United Nations to adopt the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), civil society groups have been working hard to encourage their governments to sign and ratify the Treaty. To date 60 states have signed and 14 have ratified. Once 50 nations have signed and ratified the Treaty, it will enter into force for those countries.

A parallel effort has been to encourage Parliamentarians, Mayors, Cities and Regions to pledge their support for the TPNW, particularly in those countries that currently oppose the Treaty, including the nuclear-armed states. In the United States, the State Legislature of California, its most populous state, adopted a resolution in late August introduced by Assembly Member Monique Limón. The resolution "Urges our federal leaders and our nation to embrace the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and make nuclear disarmament the centerpiece of our national security policy" and "calls upon our federal leaders and our nation to spearhead a global effort to prevent nuclear war by renouncing the option of using nuclear weapons first, ending the President's sole, unchecked authority to launch a nuclear attack, taking U.S. nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert, canceling the plan to replace its entire arsenal with enhanced weapons, and actively pursuing a verifiable agreement among nuclear-armed states to eliminate their nuclear arsenals".

The California decision followed the lead taken by the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM), the nonpartisan association of cities with populations over 30,000, which at its annual meeting in June unanimously adopted a sweeping resolution introduced by members of Mayors for Peace, "Calling on the Administration and Congress to Step Back From the Brink and Exercise Global Leadership in Preventing Nuclear War". With the encouragement of civil society groups, many working under the umbrella "Back from the Brink" campaign, a growing number of U.S. cities, large and small, have passed similar resolutions and proclamations, in many cases citing and quoting from the USCM resolution. These include Baltimore in Maryland, Amherst in Massachusetts, and Los Angeles, East Palo Alto, and Menlo Park in California.

Timmon Wallis from the group NuclearBan.US will be talking about these developments to the UK and Ireland Mayors for Peace Chapter seminar in Clydebank on the 20th September. Chapter members will be encouraged to consider adapting the resolution to pass similar messages through their own Councils. Other Mayors for Peace members are encouraged to consider similar actions through their own Councils.

▼ Text of the California resolution:

<https://www.wagingpeace.org/california-assembly-joint-resolution-33-full-text/>

▼ Text of the USCM resolution:

<https://www.usmayors.org/the-conference/resolutions/?category=c9179&meeting=86th%20Annual%20Meeting>

▼ Text of the Los Angeles resolution:

<https://www.preventnuclearwar.org/updates/2018/8/9/la-city-council-unanimously-votes-to-adopt-a-resolution-on-nuclear-weapons>

▼ Text of the East Palo Alto proclamation:

<https://tinyurl.com/ybzdszzy>

▼ Back from the Brink campaign:

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

<Report by Jackie Cabasso, Mayors for Peace North American Coordinator and Sean Morris, UK & Ireland Mayors for Peace Chapter Secretary>

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## ■A Call to Hold Events to Mark the 2018 International Day of Peace on September 21

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The United Nations has established September 21 as a fixed International Day of Peace (IDP), and an annual day of non-violence and cease-fire. The theme of the 2018 International Day of Peace is “The Right to Peace - The Universal Declaration of Human Rights at 70”. The theme celebrates the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Mayors for Peace has been a long-time supporter of the IDP and encourages all member cities to commemorate the International Day of Peace on September 21. We ask that your city considers holding events to observe the occasion to offer as many citizens as possible an opportunity to renew determination to bring peace to the globe.

▼ International Day of Peace 21 September (The United Nations website):

<http://www.un.org/en/events/peaceday/>

▼ Report of the event to commemorate the 2017 IDP in Hiroshima (Mayors for Peace website):

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/news/170921\\_news.html](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/news/170921_news.html)

<<PLEASE SEND INFORMATION ON YOUR CITY’S 2018 IDP EVENT >>

If your city is planning to organize an event to commemorate the International Day of Peace, please send your event report to our secretariat. We will share the report on the Mayors for Peace website, etc.

▼ Please mail us with an outline of your event at:

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

Mr. Jeremy Gilley, founder of non-profit organization Peace One Day, who initiated a campaign to make September 21 a fixed day of global cease-fire and nonviolence, visited Hiroshima on September 4 and met Mr. Kazumi Matsui, Mayor of Hiroshima and President of Mayors for Peace. President Matsui appreciated Mr. Gilley’s efforts to spread the spirit of IDP around the world and told him that every year many members of Mayors for Peace around the world engage in activities for peace in honor of the day. Mr. Gilley and President Matsui affirmed a mutual desire for collaboration for the promotion of world peace.

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

[August 21 – September 14, 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 work related to peace and the Secretariat. 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 of member cities.

Mr. Frank Briand Ngueugang Sonkeng, from the City of Fongo Tongo, a Vice President City of Mayors for Peace and the Lead City in Cameroon, served as an intern at the Mayors for Peace Secretariat from August 21 to September 14. Mr. Sonkeng made the following comment about his internship: “Through this internship at the Mayors for Peace Secretariat, I learned a lot about its efforts for the realization of a peaceful world. The peace museum’s exhibits, the A-bomb Dome, the Cenotaph for the A-bomb Victims and other impressive memorials all show the people of Hiroshima’s deep commitment not to forget the history and to achieve peace. Now that I am leaving, instead of thinking ‘well done with this internship’, I feel like I have a great responsibility, the one to share with as many people as possible the realities of the war and the atomic bombing and to contribute to the achievement of a world without nuclear threat.”

The Secretariat will have hosted four more interns from Santos (Brazil), Tehran (Iran), Volgograd (Russia), and Montreal (Canada) by the end of March 2019.

▼ Post on the Mayors for Peace Facebook page about Mr. Sonkeng’s internship in Hiroshima:

<https://www.facebook.com/mayorsforpeace/posts/1984971501763573>

<https://www.facebook.com/mayorsforpeace/posts/1988891474704909>

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## Regional Chapter Activities

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### < UK & Ireland Chapter >

#### \*UK and Ireland Chapter holds International Peace Day meeting and supports wider ICAN events in Scotland.

The UK and Ireland Mayors, Provosts and Leaders for Peace Chapter is meeting in Clydebank in the west of Scotland to commemorate International Peace Day, consider the nuclear weapons issue and promote the importance of developing peace education. During the period of 18th - 22nd September, a number of events are being held in Scotland by ICAN UK to promote the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, commemorate International Peace Day and encourage the UK to reconsider its position in reference to the Treaty and in plans to replace its Trident nuclear weapons programme.

As part of these events, the Chapter is combining with the NFLA Scotland Forum and ICAN to hold a special seminar in Clydebank Town Hall, West Dunbartonshire on the 20th September. Speaking at the meeting will be Tim Wallis from the group Nuclear Ban.US, a representative from the Scottish Parliament's Cross Party Group on Nuclear Weapons and two speakers on peace education - the Chapter Secretary will talk about the launch of the Manchester Children's Peace Trail and Flavia Tudoreanu of Peace Education Scotland will talk about its 'Generation Y' peace academy with young people held over the summer in Glasgow.

Other events being held include a major rally on September 22 with international ICAN representatives from the Faslane Peace Camp to a site close to the Trident naval base, and the Medact UK Annual General Meeting.

▼ Flyer for the September 20 meeting on the Nuclear Free Local Authorities website:

[http://www.nuclearpolicy.info/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/NFLA-M4P-ICAN\\_joint\\_seminar\\_Clydebank\\_Sept\\_20th\\_flyer.pdf](http://www.nuclearpolicy.info/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/NFLA-M4P-ICAN_joint_seminar_Clydebank_Sept_20th_flyer.pdf)

▼ Flyer for the International Rally at Faslane 22nd September 2018:

<http://www.nuclearban.scot/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/naenukesprogramme-1.pdf>

### < German Chapter >

#### \* Hosting the photo exhibition “Black Rain Hibakusha”

As part of the commemoration of the 73rd anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima on August 6, the City of Hannover, a Vice President of Mayors for Peace and the Lead City of the German Chapter of Mayors for Peace, hosted a photo exhibition titled “Black Rain Hibakusha – Children of the Black Rain” by photographer Thomas Damm at Market Church from August 1 to 15.



(Photo: The City of Hannover)

The exhibition features large format photographs of hibakusha who still suffer from the radioactive fallout – called black rain – of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima in 1945. The Black Rain Hibakusha are involved in a legal dispute concerning the expansion of the officially recognized “black rain areas”, demanding for the official acknowledgement that they are indeed radiation victims.

Many visitors to this exhibition strengthened their resolve to encourage Hiroshima in its fight to gain recognition for these people as victims of the atomic bombing. Mayor Schostok of Hannover addressed a letter to Mayor Matsui assuring him that Hannover, as a twin city of Hiroshima, very much supports him in his efforts on behalf of the Black Rain Hibakusha.

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## Member City Activities

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### < Ypres, Belgium >

#### \* Hosting the exhibition “50 Cities – 50 Traces: One world without nuclear weapons”

The City of Ypres, a Vice President City of Mayors for Peace and the Lead City of Belgium Chapter, is currently hosting the international art and peace exhibition “50 Cities – 50 Traces: One world without nuclear weapons”. On August 16, the exhibition was opened by Katrien Desomer, Deputy Mayor of Ypres and Raimund Menges, the curator of the exhibition, with the attendance of Klaudia Dietewich, the artist of the exhibition and Mayor Durnez of Ypres, members of the city council as well as many citizens of Ypres. The exhibition is open until September 22.



(Photo: The City of Ypres)

“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 artwork is comprised of 50 photographic panels of “traces” of human presence found in different member cities combined with quotes by the mayors of these cities on their engagement with the international network of cities and makes clear that “Cities are not targets”.

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. With the exhibition’s arrival in Ypres, it has traveled outside of Germany for the first time. The exhibition is scheduled to visit a number of Mayors for Peace member cities including Montreal (Canada), Pittsburgh (U.S.), Hiroshima (Japan). The City of Hannover continues to invite Mayors for Peace member cities to join this initiative and participate in this project.

▼ 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)

### <Five cities in Italy - Mira, Mirano, Noale, Salzano, Spinea>

#### \*Organizing a traveling peace exhibition on a bus

From 4 to 9 August, on the occasion of the 73rd anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, a series of peace events called "PikadonBus - A stop for Peace" were held by “Tavolo Intercomunale per la Pace” (The Inter-communal Table for Peace), an association of cities for peace that involves five cities in northern Italy: Mira, Mirano, Noale, Salzano, Spinea.

The symbol of this initiative was a bus named PikadonBus, which carried inside an exhibition on the history of nuclear weapons, the current nuclear threat, the number of nuclear weapons in the world and in Italy, how much money is spent on such weapons, and what people can do to get rid of them. While the bus traveled through the six cities of Dolo, Mira, Mirano, Noale, Spinea and Venice, various associated events were held including flash mobs, readings, theatrical performances, and speeches by guests including Lisa Clark, the Co-President of the International Peace Bureau (IPB), and Father Albino Bizzotto, the President of "Beati i costruttori di pace" ("Blessed Are the Peacemakers"). The series of events gathered about 1,000 visitors in total.



(Photo: Tavolo Intercomunale per la Pace)

Giovanni Litt, council member of Spinea who was involved in organizing this initiative, says as follows: “We believe that ‘There is no way to Peace, Peace is the way’. This is why we decided to bring the bus to people and different places and not the contrary: we need as many people as possible to be touched by Peace and understand that the way starts from each of these thoughts and gestures.”

▼ More photos and reports on the Facebook of “Tavolo Intercomunale per la Pace”:

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

<<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 at:

[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 September 7):

[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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November 11 will mark the 100th anniversary of the conclusion of the armistice that ended the fighting of World War I. In waging this war, tanks were produced by diverting advanced technology for military use, aircraft were used for air raids, and attacks were carried out with chemical weapons. This all-out war involved not only soldiers but also civilians. World War I, in which more than 10 million people lost their lives, should be remembered as the time that weapons of mass destruction and mass murder were first conceived and carried out. These ideas then eventually led

to the utter destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in the atomic bombings of World War II. During World War I, the world's first chemical weapons were used in Ypres, Belgium, which is now a Vice President City of Mayors for Peace.

In 1919, the Treaty of Versailles was signed and World War I was officially brought to an end. The keen regrets felt over this war then led to the birth of the field of peace studies in 1919, said Gen Kikkawa, the president of Hiroshima City University's Hiroshima Peace Institute, which is now in its 20th year since it was established. Over the past 100 years, people have been exploring ways to maintain peace and prevent war.

In April of next year, Hiroshima City University will open a graduate school of peace studies. This program will seek to foster human resources who can contribute to creating a more peaceful world, sending them out into the world from the A-bombed city. Training will be provided to nurture journalists and people who will become part of administrative bodies like the United Nations and be involved in policymaking. Japanese public officials and other working adults will be able to apply for the program. International students will be able to take a special entrance exam and complete their degrees in English. The university will call on students from member cities of Mayors for Peace to apply for the course. The graduate school is expected to cultivate human resources who can learn from and act on lessons drawn from the two World Wars and the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.



The website of the Chugoku Shimbun's Hiroshima Peace Media Center was redesigned in August. To help young people with their peace studies, a new section was added to the site which provides easy-to-understand information on the damage caused by the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, including: the city's postwar reconstruction; the Atomic Bomb Dome, which is a World Heritage site; and the story of Sadako Sasaki. Please visit our website and share the link with others.

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

- Los Angeles City Council recognizes A-bomb survivor group for its work  
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=86544>
- U.N. Secretary-General meets with Hiroshima and Nagasaki mayors and A-bomb survivors  
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=86616>
- Editorial: Dialogue is the starting point for peace  
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=86288>
- Hiroshima Peace Media Center website is redesigned to help readers learn more about Hiroshima  
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=85604>

## ■Request to Promote Various Measures Based on the Mayors for Peace 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](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 Collaboration with “The Hibakusha Appeal” Signature Campaign

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Based on the Action Plan decided at the 9<sup>th</sup> General Conference in August 2017, Mayors for Peace is promoting a petition drive urging the nuclear-armed states and their allies to participate in the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. It was also decided that in doing so, Mayors for Peace would collaborate with “The Hibakusha Appeal”, a signature campaign launched by the hibakusha of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The Mayors for Peace Secretariat will compile the number of signatures collected and present it to affiliates of the United Nations.

▼ For more information about “The Hibakusha Appeal”:



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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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## ■ Mayors for Peace Member Cities - 7,650 Cities in 163 Countries/Regions

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Thanks to your invaluable support, on September 1, we added 18 new member cities, bringing the total membership to 7,650.

From Iran, thanks to the continued efforts of the team at the Tehran Peace Museum, six cities joined this month. From Congo, we welcomed eight cities thanks to the work of the City of Fongo Tongo, a Mayors for Peace Vice President and the Lead City in Cameroon (located next to Congo). From Togo, we welcomed the City of Tsevie. In May this year, President Matsui attended the Monthly Meeting of African Diplomatic Corps in Tokyo, where he requested African Ambassadors to Japan for their help in expanding the membership of Mayors for Peace in Africa. The Ambassador of Togo to Japan responded to this call and invited mayors in his country to join Mayors for Peace, which led to Tsevie’s decision to join our network. From Germany, one city joined thanks to the continued efforts of Hannover, a Vice President and Lead City of the German Chapter of Mayors for Peace. This month we also welcomed one city each from Argentina and Japan.

We encourage further initiatives to promote membership and can provide support from Hiroshima as needed. Please continue inviting 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/newmembers1809\\_en.pdf](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/pdf/03_newmembers/2018/newmembers1809_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:

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