



Mayors for Peace News Flash

November 2018 / No.107

Mayors for Peace Member Cities
7,675 cities
in 163 countries and regions
(as of November 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.

Table of Contents

- **Mayors for Peace Participates in “The 2nd World Forum on Urban Violence and Education for Coexistence and Peace”**
- **Launch of the ICAN Cities Appeal**
- **Invitation for applicants to the Children’s Art Competition “Peaceful Towns”**
- **Call for Input: Examples of initiatives to foster peace-seeking spirit**
- **Comment by Mayor of Hiroshima regarding the US President’s statement to withdraw from the INF Treaty**
- **Receiving an Intern from Santos at the Mayors for Peace Secretariat**
- **Regional Chapter Activities**
- **Member City Activities**
- **Peace News from Hiroshima” (Provided by the Hiroshima Peace Media Center of the CHUGOKU SHIMBUN)**
- **Mayors for Peace Collaboration with “The Hibakusha Appeal” Signature Campaign**
- **Request for Payment of the 2018 Mayors for Peace Membership Fee**
- **Last Month’s Visitors to the President of Mayors for Peace**
- **Mayors for Peace Member Cities - 7,675 Cities in 163 Countries/Regions**

■ **Mayors for Peace Participates in “The 2nd World Forum on Urban Violence and Education for Coexistence and Peace”**

[Madrid, Spain; November 5-8, 2018]

Following the first Forum in April last year, the City of Madrid, a member city of Mayors for Peace, hosted the second edition of the World Forum on Urban Violence and Education for Coexistence and Peace from November 5 to 8. This global meeting gathered local leaders, international organizations and networks, academics, NGOs and civil society from all over the world in a joint process of debate in order to foster more peaceful urban environments. Since the first Forum Mayors for Peace has been among the networks supporting the event.

Mayor Josep Mayoral of Granollers, a Vice President of Mayors for Peace and the Lead City of Catalan Chapter, took part in different round tables where the participants shared strategies for and experiences in promoting a culture of peace and non-violence in cities. Mayor Mayoral stressed that education and culture are the key elements in making cities more inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.



Mayor of Granollers addressing at the Forum
(Photo: The Catalan Chapter of Mayors for Peace)

The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) was present at the Forum launching its new campaign: the ICAN Cities Appeal, a global call from cities and towns in support of the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. Beatrice Fihn, the Executive Director of ICAN, expressed her wish to receive support from local governments to work to draw attention to the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons and combine efforts to achieve a treaty-based prohibition of such weapons. Mayor Mayoral, who has been working for nuclear disarmament since the city joined Mayors for Peace, stressed his commitment to share this petition with other cities and to encourage this initiative to be included in the agenda of Spanish local governments.

The Forum ended with the adoption of the “Commitment to the Agenda of Cities for Coexistence and Peace” with guidelines on how to involve more local governments in this challenging task.

▼Commitment to the Agenda of Cities for Coexistence and Peace:

[English](#), [Spanish](#), [French](#)

➤ **Meeting “How cities tackle challenges of peace in their public agendas”**

In the framework of the Forum, the Catalan Chapter of Mayors for Peace along with the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces (FEMP) and the Spanish Association of Peace Research (AIPAZ) organized a meeting titled “How cities tackle challenges of peace in their public agendas”. The meeting gathered mayors, local leaders and experts to discuss, reflect on and share experiences on how to include peace issues in local agendas and city action plans.

Mayor Mayoral of Granollers said during the meeting, “With the implementation of UN Agenda 21, local governments are now more aware that they must take into account environmental impacts in carrying out any projects. Likewise, in a few years’ time, we need to create an effective instrument that would encourage local governments to include policies to promote coexistence in their projects.” It is expected that this event will be followed by more discussions to draw up a document for local governments with guidelines on what cities can do to create a mindset that makes it possible to build a culture of peaceful coexistence.

Mayor Mayoral also presented a video “Cities for Peace” produced by the Catalan Chapter with an aim of encouraging all cities to join Mayors for Peace and to raise awareness for peace through regional activities.

▼Video “Cities for Peace” available on YouTube:

[English](#), [Catalan](#), [Spanish](#)

<Report by Helena Aranda Mayor, staff of the Catalan Chapter of Mayors for Peace>

■ **Launch of the ICAN Cities Appeal**

On November 7, at the 2nd World Forum on Urban Violence and Education for Coexistence in Madrid, ICAN announced the launch of the Cities Appeal, a commitment by cities and towns to show support for the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and call on their governments to join.

▼ICAN Cities Appeal:

<http://nuclearban.org/cities>

Mr. Yasuyoshi Komizo, Secretary General of Mayors for Peace, has sent a letter to executive members of Mayors for Peace explaining the basic stance of Mayors for Peace toward this new initiative of ICAN’s.

▼Letter from the Secretary General of Mayors for Peace regarding ICAN Cities Appeal:

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/news/data/20181122/Letter_from_MfPSG_re_ICAN_Cities_Appeal.pdf

Mayors for Peace and ICAN are working together in harmony to achieve our common goal of a world without nuclear weapons, while respecting each other’s different but complementary approaches to create greater impact. We also believe that each chapter/individual city knows best about what is specifically needed and what approach is most effective in its country or region to reach our common goal. Therefore, we honor the judgement of each member city/local chapter and leave it up to each of them to decide whether to join this initiative of ICAN’s. If your city decides to join this Appeal, we would appreciate it if you could kindly inform the Mayors for Peace Secretariat.

■ Invitation for applicants to the Children’s Art Competition “Peaceful Towns”

Mayors for Peace has put emphasis on peace education to raise awareness among future generations as its intensified program in the Action Plan from 2017 to 2020, which was adopted at the 9th General Conference.



In order to further promote peace education in its over 7,600 member cities in 163 countries and regions around the world, Mayors for Peace has decided to host a children’s art competition on the theme of “Peaceful Towns” targeted at children in all these cities.

Please advertise this program widely among schools and other organizations in your city, gather up interested local applicants, and submit the required materials by email to the Mayors for Peace Secretariat by Friday, December 28, 2018.

▼ Application Guidelines on the Mayors for Peace Website :

<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/ecbn/projects.html#section08>

Submission:

Email the application materials to the Mayors for Peace Secretariat at mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp

Submission Deadline:

December 28 (Friday), 2018

■ Call for Input: Examples of initiatives to foster peace-seeking spirit

The Mayors for Peace Secretariat is now seeking examples of initiatives to foster peace-seeking spirit conducted by our member cities around the world. Through sharing them on our website and in Mayors for Peace News Flash, we are hoping that more cities will follow suit and become inspired to launch their own peace education program.

We look forward to hearing from many of you about your city’s inspiring examples of peace education!

▼ Call for Input on the Mayors for Peace Website :

<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/ecbn/projects.html#section10>

■ Comment by Mayor of Hiroshima regarding the US President’s statement to withdraw from the INF Treaty

[October 22, 2018]

It was reported that the United States announced on October 20th its intention to withdraw from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty. Mayor Kazumi Matsui of the City of Hiroshima issued a comment on the news.

▼ Comment by the Mayor of Hiroshima on the Mayors for Peace Website:

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/statement/protest/data/181022_INF_translation.pdf

■ Receiving an Intern from Santos at the Mayors for Peace Secretariat

[October 22 – November 2, 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 work related to peace and the Secretariat. From October 22 to November 2, Ms. Kelly Elaine Fonseca Freitas, from the City of Santos, a Vice President City of Mayors for Peace and the Lead City in Brazil, served as an intern at the Mayors for Peace Secretariat. Ms. Freitas made the following comment about her internship: “The internship at Mayors for Peace Secretariat was one of the greatest experiences of my entire life. It was a great opportunity for learning and growth. The Japanese people are a great example of strength and overcoming. Everything I have seen and heard in Hiroshima has touched my heart and strengthened my commitment to working for a world of peace and free from

nuclear weapons.” The Secretariat will have hosted three more interns from Tehran (Iran), Volgograd (Russia), and Montreal (Canada) by the end of March 2019.

▼ Post on the Mayors for Peace Facebook page about Ms. Freitas’ internship in Hiroshima:

https://www.facebook.com/mayorsforpeace/posts/2016654645261925?_tn=-R

https://www.facebook.com/mayorsforpeace/posts/2021228721471184?_tn=-R

■ Regional Chapter Activities

< UK and Ireland Chapter >

* Hiroshima A-bomb Legacy Ambassadors’ visit to Manchester, Oldham and Coventry

Four members of the Hiroshima A-bomb Legacy Ambassadors came to the UK to spread the message of the hibakusha to schoolchildren. From this year the Hiroshima National Peace Memorial Hall for the Atomic Bomb Victims has started overseas dispatches of A-bomb Legacy Successors, who give hibakusha’s testimonies on their behalf, and Memoir Readers, who read testimonies and poems written by hibakusha. The ambassadors’ role is to share with schoolchildren and the wider public the messages of hibakusha, whose average age now is over 82, and that there should never be another nuclear weapon attack. After holding sessions at a number of peace events and schools across Japan, this visit to the UK is the first to an overseas audience for these delegates.



The delegation’s meeting with the Lord Mayor of Manchester (third from the right)
(Photo: The City of Manchester)

The delegation, which included one A-bomb Legacy Successor and two Memoir Readers, gave talks to students of Heald Place Primary School in Manchester, to councillors and members of Oldham Youth Council and had meetings with the Lord Mayor of Manchester and the Mayor of Oldham. They also unveiled a tree in Oldham’s Peace Garden. The delegation continued to Coventry to speak to councillors and children in the city, which has a long-standing friendly relationship with Hiroshima.

The event was a great success, and further visits around the world are now being planned.

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

■ Member City Activities

< Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, US >

* U.S. Debut of “50 Cities - 50 Traces” Art and Peace Exhibit

On September 21, the International Day for Peace, the Mayors for Peace “50 Cities - 50 Traces; Against Traceless Oblivion” art and peace exhibit opened in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the first U.S. city to show the exhibit. Sponsored by Hannover, Mayors for Peace Lead City in Germany, the exhibit features the photography of Stuttgart-based artist Klaudia Dietewich. The artistic concept behind “50 Cities - 50 Traces” is to juxtapose individual traces from 50 Mayors for Peace cities, highlighting the diversity and beauty of these cities and the daily life taking place therein. The exhibition is conceived as an invitation to respect and preserve the world’s visible remains, which are bearers of memory. It is an appeal against the deployment of nuclear weapons and the destruction of our cities, in support of the Mayors for Peace “Cities Are Not Targets” appeal.



(Photos: Jackie Cabasso and Raimund Menges)

“50 Cities - 50 Traces”, which will be on display through December 9, is officially hosted by “Welcoming Pittsburgh”, an initiative in the office of Mayor William Peduto, in collaboration with the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, the city’s largest arts organization, and City of Asylum, an arts organization that provides a safe haven for writers and artists who voice ideas that are new, different, or provocative. It was organized by a local peace group, Remembering Hiroshima; Imagining Peace.

<Report by Jackie Cabasso, Mayors for Peace North American Coordinator>

▼ Full report on Mayors for Peace website:

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/181126_50-50_Pittsburgh.html

▼ More information about “50 Cities - 50 Traces” :

www.50cities-50traces.org

▼ Pittsburgh Cultural Trust: World Premiere - Part of the Pittsburgh International Festival of Firsts:

<https://trustarts.org/exhibit/15245/50-cities-50-traces>

< Sydney, Australia >

* Sydney City Council passes resolution to support TPNW

Lord Mayor of Sydney Clover Moore has long supported nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament. In October 2018, the City of Sydney Council passed a resolution calling on the Australian Federal Government to sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

The City of Sydney also endorsed the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), which was originally established in Australia in 2007. They later went on to win the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize for their efforts to achieve a global treaty for the prohibition of nuclear weapons.

This is not the first time the City has supported the cause. In 2010, the City unanimously passed a resolution of nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament. In New South Wales, there continues to be widespread opposition against the sale of uranium to any country that is not a party to the non-proliferation treaty.

Lord Mayor Clover Moore said: "Uranium mining produces radioactive waste and can significantly and irreversibly damage our environment. The spread of nuclear weapons is not something the people of NSW want to contribute to. The legacy of Hiroshima and Nagasaki will continue to haunt generations to come and should be a reminder to the world of the danger of nuclear weapons."

The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted at the UN last year by 122 nations around the world, and while the Federal Australian Government supports the goal of a world free of nuclear weapons, it has not yet signed or ratified the Treaty. The City of Sydney is a proud member of Mayors for Peace and will continue to support and endorse calls for nuclear disarmament.

<Report by the Office of the Lord Mayor of Sydney, Clover Moore>

▼ The resolution available on the City of Sydney website:

<https://meetings.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/documents/s21126/International%20Campaign%20to%20Abolish%20Nuclear%20Weapons%20ICAN%20Cities%20Appeal.pdf>

< Ypres, Belgium >

* Hosting a Hiroshima-Nagasaki Atomic Bomb exhibition

On November 9, an atomic bomb exhibition was opened in the Ypres Museum in the City of Ypres, a Vice President City of Mayors for Peace and the Lead City of Belgium Chapter. The opening ceremony was held in attendance of Mr. Hajime Hayashi, the Japanese ambassador to Belgium, Mr. Kenji Shiga, the Director of the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum and Mayor Jan Durnez of Ypres. The exhibition was organized to inform the citizens and visitors to Ypres about what happened in Hiroshima and Nagasaki on August 6 and 9, 1945 and the consequences of the atomic bombings.

Ypres decided to host this exhibition as the city also has suffered the use of a weapon of mass destruction. Ypres was in the centre of the Western front during World War I, and the city saw the first large-scale use of lethal poison gas on the battlefield on April 22, 1915. In the thirty years after Ypres became the victim of a weapon of mass destruction, military technology evolved to such an extent that a single bomb was sufficient to completely destroy cities.

During the exhibition that will last until December 2, Ypres will welcome Ms. Sadae Kasaoka, an A-bomb survivor from Hiroshima, who will share the impact of the bomb on her life with youngsters and adults. The City has also launched a participatory initiative for all citizens, in which everyone is invited to learn about the story of Sadako Sasaki and make paper cranes. The completed paper cranes will be sent to Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 2019 to wish them a year full of success. Some of the paper cranes will be sent to the prime minister of Belgium with the request to sign the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. As many as 800 paper cranes had been folded by elementary school students before the opening of the exhibition.



Paper cranes folded by local elementary school students
(Photo: The City of Ypres)

<Report by Filip Deheegher, City of Ypres, Lead City of Belgium Chapter>

▼ More photos on the Mayors for Peace website:

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/181126_A-bomb_Exhibition_Ypres.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 at:

mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp

▼ List of peace events as based on those in the Mayors for Peace Action Plan (As of November 14):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/pdf/03_newmembers/2018_List_of_Activities_en.pdf

■ "Peace News from Hiroshima"

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

As a result of the midterm elections in the United States, the Republicans have strengthened their majority in the Senate while the Democrats have won back the House of Representatives. How this outcome will impact the administration of President Donald Trump is now being closely watched.

But one important concern is U.S. policy when it comes to nuclear weapons. Mr. Trump jolted Hiroshima in October when he said that the United States intends to withdraw from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, which has been in effect since the time Russia was still the Soviet Union.

I was in the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park the day the treaty was concluded in 1987. The treaty, which was signed by the U.S. and Soviet leaders during the time of tensions between East and West, was limited and insufficient. Still, it helped advance the thaw in their Cold War relations and the beginning of nuclear disarmament efforts. In front of the Cenotaph for the A-bomb Victims, located in the park, one survivor said, "Finally, the world has begun to change." Then she joined her hands together in prayer. I still recall this scene clearly. We must remember the sense of crisis felt in those days over reducing the numbers of nuclear weapons by all means possible.

Of course, the United States does not bear full responsibility for this situation. In addition to intermediate-range missiles, we must not overlook the policies being pursued by Russia and China with regard to their nuclear arsenals, which include strengthening their nuclear capabilities. If the INF Treaty dissolves, a three-way arms race involving China could escalate. This would move the world away from the aim of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, which was realized after much diligent effort. How can we prevent a new cold war from breaking out so that we won't have to live with the fear of nuclear weapons being used again? Since some members of Mayors for Peace are located in nuclear nations, it is vital that they send out a call for restraint and peaceful dialogue.

<Makoto Iwasaki, Executive Director of the Hiroshima Peace Media Center>

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

- Hiroshima citizens respond with anger to U.S. withdrawal from INF treaty

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=87514>

- A-bomb survivors protest U.S. subcritical nuclear test

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=87388>

- Protests take place in A-bombed Hiroshima against U.S. subcritical nuclear test

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=87396>

- Trump administration turns its back on global public opinion

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=87516>

- Prime minister of Lithuania visits Hiroshima

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=87510>

■ Mayors for Peace Collaboration with "The Hibakusha Appeal" Signature Campaign

Based on the Action Plan decided at the 9th 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”:



■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

■Last Month’s Visitors to the President of Mayors for Peace

President Kazumi Matsui welcomed the following visitors last month and asked them to support the activities of Mayors for Peace and cooperate on membership expansion.

*October 3 - H.E. Mr. Emomali Rahmon, President of the Republic of Tajikistan

*October 10 - H. E. Dr. Khaled Atef Abdelghaffar, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research in Egypt

*October 11 - H.E. Mr. Saulius Skvernelis, Prime Minister of Lithuania

■Mayors for Peace Member Cities - 7,675 Cities in 163 Countries/Regions

Thanks to your invaluable support, on November 1, we added 7 new member cities, bringing the total membership to 7,675.

From Italy, we welcomed the City of Camponogara, thanks to the encouragement of the local peace association “Beati i costruttori di pace” (Blessed Are the Peacemakers). From Germany, four cities joined thanks to the continued efforts of Hannover, a Vice President and Lead City of the German Chapter of Mayors for Peace. We also welcomed one city each from Canada and Lebanon this month.

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/newmembers1811_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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