



Mayors for Peace News Flash

August 2019 / No.116

Mayors for Peace Member Cities
7,785 cities
in 163 countries and regions
(as of August 1, 2019)

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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■ Peace Memorial Ceremonies in Hiroshima and Nagasaki

[August 6 and 9, 2019]

The Cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki marked the 74th anniversary of the atomic bombings with commemorative ceremonies on August 6 and 9, respectively.

On August 6, the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Ceremony was held and attended by approximately 50,000 people, including representatives from 89 countries and the European Union (EU). Representatives from Fongo-Tongo, Cameroon and Bangkok, Thailand, attended the ceremony and offered a wreath of flowers at the ceremony on behalf of the Executive Members of Mayors for Peace. On August 9, the Nagasaki Peace Ceremony was held and attended by approximately 5,200 people, including representatives from 66 countries.

The mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki announced the 2019 Peace Declarations. The full texts of the declarations are available at the links below.

▼Hiroshima Peace Declaration in English:

<http://www.city.hiroshima.lg.jp/www/contents/1343890585401/index.html>

▼Nagasaki Peace Declaration available in 11 languages:

<https://nagasakipeace.jp/japanese/peace/appeal/2024.html>

■Hiroshima Day and Nagasaki Day commemorations around the world

Many cities, municipalities and peace organizations around the world observed commemorative events on and around Hiroshima Day (August 6) and Nagasaki Day (August 9). Mayors for Peace sincerely appreciates the efforts of those around the world who organize commemorative events to console the souls of A-bomb victims and pray for peace.

A list of events including those marking the Hiroshima and Nagasaki anniversaries, as based on reports received from member cities, is available at the link below.

▼ List of peace events as based on those in the Mayors for Peace Action Plan (As of August 13):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/pdf/04_list_of_activities/2019_List_of_Activities_en.pdf

■Call to hold events to mark the 2019 International Day of Peace on September 21

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 for 2019 is “Climate Action for Peace” The theme draws attention to the importance of combatting climate change as a way to protect and promote peace throughout the world.

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. In accordance with these initiatives, the City of Takayama, Japan, a member city of Mayors for Peace, will organize a Peace Bell Ceremony where like-minded bell owners in the city, such as temples and churches, will sound their bells in unison at noon on the IDP. Furthermore, the mayor of Takayama City requests our member cities to do the same at noon in their own, local times, in order to offer as many people as possible an opportunity to renew their determination to bring peace to the globe.



Event to mark the IDP 2018 in Hiroshima

In this context, we humbly ask that you consider calling for the ringing of bells at noon on September 21 at facilities and organizations which own bells in your city. If you intend to organize such an event, the Secretariat would be pleased if you would inform our office.

▼ Request from Takayama City (Mayors for Peace website):

<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/news/data/20190819.pdf>

<<PLEASE SEND INFORMATION ON YOUR CITY'S 2019 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

■Hosting an intern from Granollers at the Mayors for Peace Secretariat

[July 9 – 26, 2019]

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 July 9 to 26, the Mayors for Peace Secretariat welcomed Ms. Eulalia Carrillo, who is the head of the Municipal Support and Strategies Section at Barcelona Provincial Council. Ms. Carrillo was invited as an intern from the City of Granollers, a Vice President City of Mayors for Peace and the Lead City of Catalan

Chapter. In addition to getting involved in the work of the Mayors for Peace Secretariat, Ms. Carrillo participated in a number of activities to learn about the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, including listening to a *hibakusha*'s eyewitness testimony. She also made a presentation about Barcelona and its peace initiatives to members of the public.

Ms. Carrillo made the following comment about her internship: "I feel very honored to have had the chance to know all the activities done by the Mayors for Peace Secretariat. Mayors for Peace is a clear example that peace must be built up from the cities and also how powerful it is when these cities cooperate with each other. Visiting places like the Peace Memorial Museum and the Memorial Hall helped me out to catch the spirit and commitment of the city regarding peace. These are very touching places since they look not only at the figures of the war (like the number of victims, the bomb's power, destroyed buildings and so on) but also show the human side, the individuals. The milestones of my internship have been, without any doubt, the opportunity of listening to the Legacy Successor's talk, the recitation session of remembrances of the A-bombing and also meeting an A-bomb survivor. All of them were truly emotional and unforgettable experiences. What occurred on 6th August 1945, at 8.15 a.m. must never happen again. This is going to be my personal commitment from now on."

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

https://www.facebook.com/mayorsforpeace/posts/2175079562752765?_tn=-R

https://www.facebook.com/mayorsforpeace/posts/2183389511921770?_tn=-R

https://www.facebook.com/mayorsforpeace/posts/2185843595009695?_tn=-R

■ "Peace News from Hiroshima"

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

Seventy-four years have passed since the United States used an atomic bomb in war for the first time in human history. The City of Hiroshima held its annual Peace Memorial Ceremony in the Peace Memorial Park in central Hiroshima on August 6. In his Peace Declaration, Hiroshima Mayor Kazumi Matsui referred to "nuclear disarmament at a standstill" and urged the Japanese government to "accede to the hibakushas' request" and sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, while the government remains opposed to it. At a press conference held after the ceremony, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe again made it clear that the government would not join the treaty.

About 50,000 people attended the first Peace Memorial Ceremony in the Reiwa era. Because of typhoon no. 8, the ceremony was held in the rain for the first time since 2014. Representatives from 89 countries and the European Union attended the event. Among them were representatives from the United States, Russia, and four other nuclear weapon states. There were 36 prefectural representatives from the families of A-bomb victims.

At 8:15 a.m., the time the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, the Peace Bell was tolled by two representatives, one from the victims' relatives and the other from children, and all in attendance offered silent prayers. Two sixth-graders then read out the "Commitment to Peace." They expressed their determination to hand down Hiroshima's experience with these words: "We carry the strong voices of the souls of the hibakusha... and we will relay these voices to the next generation and to the world at large."

During the ceremony, the register of the A-bomb victims was placed in the stone chest beneath the Cenotaph for the A-bomb Victims. The names of 5,068 people who were confirmed dead during the past year have been added, and the register now contains the names of 319,186 victims in 117 volumes.

According to the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, the number of hibakusha who hold the Atomic Bomb Survivor's Certificate totaled 145,844 as of the end of March, falling below 150,000 for the first time. Their average age is now 82.65. It is urgent that we work to hand down their experiences and realize the abolition of nuclear weapons, the long-cherished goal of the hibakusha.

Please see the following articles for more peace-related news.

- Representatives from 89 nations and EU attend Hiroshima Peace Memorial Ceremony, voice different views on nuclear weapons

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=93169>

- A-bomb survivors' groups express mixed feelings over Hiroshima mayor's Peace Declaration
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=93049>
- ICAN Academy: Young people from 11 nations discuss nuclear weapons ban treaty with ambassadors
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=93165>
- Brother's blood-stained shirt at Peace Memorial Museum conveys A-bomb's catastrophic results
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=93167>
- Concert with A-bombed piano is held on Peace Boat with pianist Mami Hagiwara
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=93044>

■ Regional Chapter Activities

<Belgium Chapter>

Flag Day of Belgium Members of Mayors for Peace

The Belgium Chapter of Mayors for Peace launched a new initiative inspired by the [German Flag Day](#), a German Chapter initiative held annually on July 8th. The City of Ypres, a Vice President City of Mayors for Peace and the Lead City of Belgium Chapter, called on all Belgium members to pay their annual membership fee. Cities which paid the fee received a Belgian Mayors for Peace Flag. All member cities with a flag were asked to fly the flag from 8:15 a.m. of August 6th until 11:02 a.m. of August 9th in order to commemorate the time when two atomic bombs exploded in the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. This year, one hundred Belgian cities took part in this new initiative and the events were covered widely by local media.



(Photo: The City of Ypres)

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

▼Photos of the ceremony in Ypres on August 6 (The City of Ypres Facebook):

<https://www.facebook.com/StadIeper/photos/pcb.2963105570395789/2963091747063838/?type=3&theater>

▼Photos of the flags in some other cities can be found [here](#)

< UK and Ireland Chapter>

UK and Ireland Chapter members support Hiroshima and Nagasaki Day

UK and Ireland members of Mayors for Peace commemorated the 74th anniversary of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic weapon attacks with a number of wide-ranging commemorative events.

Lead City Manchester held a commemorative event in Manchester Museum, close to a Hiroshima exhibit in its Living Worlds Gallery. The Lord Mayor of Manchester led a minute's silence and unveiled a peace wreath for all civilians killed by war or terrorism from August 6th 1945 to the present day. The Council's permanent Mayors for Peace representative Councillor Eddy Newman read out the Hiroshima Peace Declaration. Poems were also read by the likes of the Vice President for Social Responsibility at Manchester University, the Chief Executive of Manchester City Council, as well as multi-faith and peace group leaders. An origami workshop for children and their families to fold peace cranes was held after the service.



(Photo: The Manchester City Council)

Many other events were held around the country including commemoration events in the likes of London, Leeds, Liverpool, Birmingham, Dublin, Glasgow, Edinburgh and Cardiff. In Bradford, a peace parade and festival was held in Lister Park. Winchester held an official ceremony, following on shortly after the Council's Cabinet decision to join Mayors for Peace. The UK & Ireland Mayors for Peace Secretariat welcome the range and amount of events that took place.

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

▼Order of Service from Manchester's Hiroshima Day event (The Mayors for Peace Website):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/data/2019/HN_74th_anniversary_order_of_service.pdf

■ Member City Activities

< Hannover, Germany > Hiroshima Day 2019 – ‘A sign against oblivion’

The City of Hannover, a Vice-President City of Mayors for Peace and the Lead City of the German Chapter, annually commemorates the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, a twin city of Hannover's. The Cultural Office of Hannover invited citizens to various events held on August 5 and 6 to observe the 74th anniversary of the bombing.

At Aegidien Church, with a striking of the Peace Bell, participants renewed their commitment to prevent the same tragedy from happening again. Representatives of different religions offered prayers and meditation.



(Photo: The City of Hannover)

Also held as part of commemorative events were: a traditional Japanese tea ceremony conducted by a tea master and cultural ambassador of the City of Hiroshima, and a photo exhibition by a photographer Thomas Damm titled ‘Black Rain Hibakusha – Children of the Black Rain’, which will run until October 2. 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. A live report from the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Ceremony was brought to Hannover's Town Hall by youth participants of the *International Youth Conference for Peace in the Future*.

To close the day of reminder and remembrance of August 6, lantern floating ceremony was held at the pond behind the Town Hall.

<Report by Evelyn Kamissek, Office for International Affairs, the City of Hannover>

< Manchester, UK > Manchester remembers the 200th anniversary of the 'Peterloo' massacre and unveils memorial to this pivotal events

The 'Peterloo' Massacre took place at St Peter's Field in Manchester, on Monday 16 August 1819, when cavalry charged into an estimated crowd of 60,000 people who had gathered to demand the reform of parliamentary representation. In the ensuing confusion, 18 people were killed and as many as 700 people were injured. The massacre was given the name 'Peterloo' in an ironic comparison to the Battle of Waterloo, which had taken place four years earlier. It is one of the defining events in the history of Manchester and in the wider campaign for universal suffrage, which was not finally given in the UK until 1928.

A major 'Peterloo' festival of exhibitions, talks, films and cultural and live events has taken place across Greater Manchester over the past few months. This is culminating in an anniversary weekend around the 16th –18th August where there are a whole host of events planned including a march for democracy, a live concert, art events, walking tours and a special anniversary event by the new public memorial to 'Peterloo'. The memorial is in front of the Manchester Central Convention Complex, close to where St Peter's Field was originally located.

For Manchester City Council, a Lead City and Vice President of Mayors for Peace, 'Peterloo' remains a clear reminder of the ongoing campaigns around the world calling for peace, democracy and social justice.

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

▼ Full report on the Mayors for Peace website:

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/190816_Peterloo_Manchester.html

▼ For more information about the Peterloo 2019 festival and anniversary weekend of events:

<https://peterloo1819.co.uk/>

https://issuu.com/manchesterhistories/docs/peterloo_weekend_8pp_for_issu

< Volgograd, Russia > Peace Memorial Ceremony Report

In the early morning of August 6, 2019, “Stalingrad Battle” panorama museum hosted a Peace Memorial Ceremony as a sign of solidarity with the city of Hiroshima and a tribute to its civilian residents who perished in the atomic bombing in 1945.

The ceremony brought together various representatives of public organizations, school and university students, members of the “Volgograd-Hiroshima”



(Photo: The City of Volgograd)

Friendship Society and such prominent figures as the Chair of Volgograd City Council Andrey Kosolapov and the Chair of Volgograd regional branch of the “Russian Peace Foundation” Yury Starovatykh, both Honorary Citizens of Hiroshima.

At 8:15 sharp – the moment the A-bomb exploded in the sky above Hiroshima 74 years ago, the “Stalingrad Battle” panorama museum was filled with the toll of the Peace Bell given to Volgograd as a present by the authorities of their Japanese twin-city. Participants of the Memorial Ceremony had a minute of silence to pay a tribute to the victims of the bombing. Following the local tradition, the flower-laying ceremony at the foot of the bell featured not only live carnations, but also paper cranes – a symbol of non-acceptance of war.

<Report by Maria Deeva, International Relations Officer, The City of Volgograd>

▼ Full report on Mayors for Peace website:

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/data/2019/Report_Volgograd_Aug_6_2019.pdf

<<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 August 13):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/pdf/04_list_of_activities/2019_List_of_Activities_en.pdf

■ Invitation for the Children’s Art Competition “Peaceful Towns” 2019

Mayors for Peace places emphasis on peace education to raise awareness among future generations as part of its intensified efforts in the Action Plan from 2017 to 2020, which was adopted at the 9th General Conference. With the aim of further promoting peace education in member cities, Mayors for Peace is pleased to hold its second edition of the children’s art competition on the theme of “Peaceful Towns” targeted at children in all these cities.

Please advertise this competition widely among schools and other organizations in your city. Member cities are asked to accept entries from interested local applicants, select up to 5 artworks for Category I (6-10 years old) and Category II (11-15 years old), and submit the scanned artworks in PDF along with the other required documents by email to the Mayors for Peace Secretariat by the designated deadline.

▼ Details of the competition on the Mayors for Peace Website :

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/ecbn/projects/2019_Art_Competition.html

Submission Deadline:

September 30 (Monday), 2019

Submission:

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

■ Request for payment of the 2019 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 March 19, 2019) 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 2019 membership fee was sent to each city by email on April 1. We deeply appreciate your kind cooperation.

▼ Request for the 2019 Mayors for Peace Membership Fee (The Mayors for Peace website):
http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/outlines/membership_fee.html

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

The Mayors for Peace Secretariat has been seeking examples of peace education initiatives conducted by any organization (city hall/school/NGO, etc.) in Mayors for Peace member cities that are conducive to raising peace-seeking spirit among future generations. The Mayors for Peace Secretariat accepts reports on a rolling basis, so please send your report whenever your project is completed. The submitted reports will be posted on our website and in the Mayors for Peace News Flash as a source of information for other member cities that are planning to launch their own peace education program.

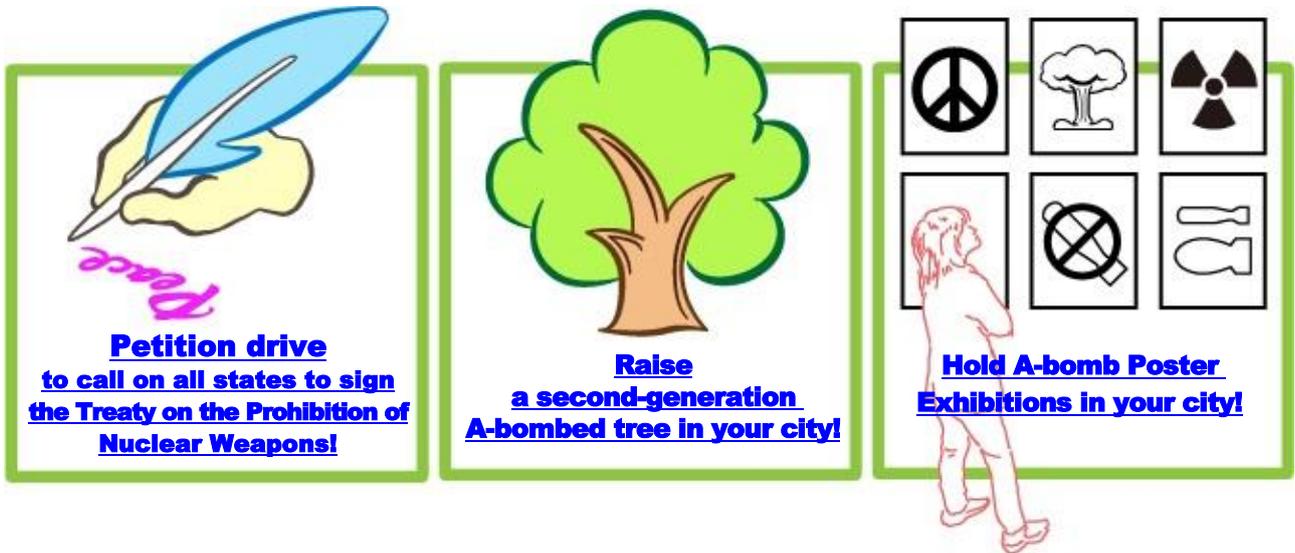
▼ Call for Input on the Mayors for Peace website:
<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/ecbn/projects.html#section10>

■ 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

For example, you can promote the following measures:



■ 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”:



■Visitors to the President of Mayors for Peace (July 1 - August 6)

Hiroshima City received many visitors on and around August 6. President Kazumi Matsui welcomed the following visitors and asked them to support the activities of Mayors for Peace and cooperate towards membership expansion.

- *July 12 – H.E. Mr. Syed Hasrin Syed Hussin, Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations in New York
- *July 24 – H.E. Professor Tijjani Muhammad-Bande, President-elect of the 74th session of the United Nations General Assembly
- *August 5 – Mr. Kriangyos Sudlabha, Deputy Governor of Bangkok
- *August 5 – Mr. Ikaika Anderson, Chair of the Honolulu City Council
- *August 5 – Dr. Lassina Zerbo, Executive Secretary of the CTBTO
- *August 5 – Ms. Izumi Nakamitsu, Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for Disarmament Affairs of the United Nations

■Mayors for Peace Member Cities - 7,785 Cities in 163 Countries/Regions

Thanks to your invaluable support, on August 1, we gained 13 new member cities, bringing our total membership to 7,785.

From Germany, 8 cities joined thanks to the continued efforts of Hannover, a Vice President City and Lead City of the German Chapter of Mayors for Peace. From Italy, we welcomed the City of Chieti, thanks to the invitation from Chieti’s Japanese sister city Minamishimabara, Nagasaki Prefecture. We also welcomed a total of 4 cities from France, Norway, the US, and Argentina.

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/2019/newmembers1908_en.pdf

▼ Map of Member Cities:

<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/memberscity/map.html>

If you have any comments or questions, please contact us at:

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