

Mayors for Peace

1. Outline

In August 1945, atomic bombs dropped on the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki instantly reduced them to rubble, taking more than 210,000 precious lives. With more than 75 years since the bombings, many survivors (*hibakusha*) still suffer from the physical and emotional aftereffects of radiation. To spread throughout the world the *hibakusha*'s ardent wish symbolized in the message that "no one should suffer as we have," and to ensure it is passed on to future generations, Hiroshima and Nagasaki remain steadfast in our assertion to the world that nuclear weapons are inhumane and continue to call for their abolition.

On June 24, 1982, at the 2nd UN Special Session on Disarmament held at the UN Headquarters in New York, then Mayor Takeshi Araki of Hiroshima called for cities throughout the world to transcend national borders and join in solidarity to work together to press for nuclear abolition. Subsequently, the Cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki established "The World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity" (now, Mayors for Peace), composed of mayors around the world who formally expressed support for this call. In 1991, the organization was registered as an NGO in Special Consultative Status with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

*On August 5, 2001, the organization changed its name from "The World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity" to "Mayors for Peace."

2. Mission

The purposes of "Mayors for Peace" are to contribute to the attainment of lasting world peace by arousing concern among citizens of the world for the total abolition of nuclear weapons through close solidarity among member cities as well as by striving to solve vital problems for the human race such as starvation and poverty, the plight of refugees, human rights abuses, and environmental degradation.

3. Structure

1) Member Cities (as of April 1, 2025)

	Area	Countries & Regions	Member Cities
8,477 cities	Asia	39	3,365
	Oceania	9	137
	Africa	49	440
in 166 countries	Europe	41	3,449
	North America	3	343
& regions	Latin America and the Caribbean	25	743

Regions: Taiwan / Palestine / Northern Cyprus (Asia), Northern Mariana Islands / French Polynesia (Oceania), Somaliland (Africa), Kosovo(Europe), Greenland (North America), Puerto Rico (Latin America and the Caribbean)

2) Executive Cities

The following 21 cities are executive cities (From oldest to newest). President City:

Hiroshima (Japan)Vice President Cities:Nagasaki (Japan)Hannover (Germany)Malakoff (France)Muntinlupa (Philippines)Manchester (UK)Ypres (Belgium)Granollers (Spain)Halabja (Iraq)Biograd na Moru (Croatia)Des Moines (US)Montreal (Canada)

Executive Cities: <u>Santos</u> (Brazil) <u>Wellington</u> (New Zealand) <u>Sarajevo</u> (Bosnia and Herzegovina) <u>Bangkok</u> (Thailand) <u>Cartago</u> (Costa Rica) <u>Tehran</u> (Iran) Grigny (France) <u>Cervia</u> (Italy) <u>Evora</u> (Portugal)

*<u>Underlined</u> are Lead Cities in charge of their regional chapter: 19 cities

3) Secretariat

Address : c/o Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation

- 1-5 Nakajima-cho, Naka-ku, Hiroshima 730-0811 JAPAN
- E-mail : mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp
- Website : www.mayorsforpeace.org

4. How to Join

1) Registration Process

- i. If your city/municipality would like to join us, please send a "Registration Form" to the Secretariat.
- ii. The Secretariat registers its new member cities once a month (around the 20th).
- iii. Date of affiliation is the 1st day of the month following the date registration procedures are completed by the Secretariat. "Certification of Membership" will be sent out to newly affiliated cities after the date of affiliation.

2) Membership Fee

2,000 yen/year

3) Member Cities' Activities (Examples)

- i. Promote the petition drive calling for all states to join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons as soon as possible
- ii. Hold peace-related events such as the Mayors for Peace Atomic Bomb Poster Exhibition and share reports
- iii. Invite mayors of your sister cities and neighboring cities who are not yet members to join Mayors for Peace
- iv. Attend the General Conference

*Please see "Peace-Related Activities Offered to Members of Mayors for Peace" for more activities that member cities will get the opportunity to participate in.

5. Conferences

1) General Conference

Mayors for Peace holds a General Conference once every four years in principle. Hosted alternately between Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the General Conference is an opportunity for member cities to decide and adopt agenda items significant to the organization.

2) Executive Conference

Mayors for Peace holds an Executive Conference generally once every two years in one of the executive cities, where executives discuss future initiatives and plans for the next General Conference.



10th General Conference (October 2022, Hiroshima)

6. Vision for Peaceful Transformation to a Sustainable World (PX Vision)

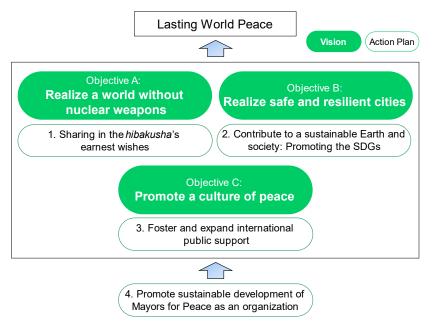
- Peacebuilding by Cities for Disarmament and Common Security -

1) Outline

In order to achieve a world in which all people can perpetually benefit from peace by realizing the total elimination of nuclear weapons and by attaining and maintaining peaceful coexistence between the whole of humanity, subsequent to the 2020 Vision, Mayors for Peace adopted the *Vision for Peaceful Transformation to a Sustainable World (PX Vision): Peacebuilding by Cities for Disarmament and Common Security* at the 12th Executive Conference in July 2021. Based on this, we build cities where citizens act with a strong sense of solidarity for the ultimate goal of realizing lasting world peace.

2) Initiatives

For cities to ensure the safety and security of their citizens from the great threat of nuclear weapons and to attain and maintain peaceful coexistence between the whole of humanity, under three objectives set forth in the Vision, Mayors for Peace member cities implement the initiatives outlined in the Mayors for Peace Action Plan (2021 – 2025) to promote peacebuilding by cities.



[Main Initiatives]

- 1. Appeal to the UN and national governments
- 2. Mayors for Peace Atomic Bomb Poster Exhibition
- 3. Providing opportunities to hear hibakusha's testimonies
- 4. Distribute and nurture seeds from atomic bomb survivor trees (hibaku trees)
- 5. Children's Art Competition "Peaceful Towns"
- 6. Peace Education Webinar
- 7. Collaboration with member cities



Speech by the President at the second Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (November 2023, New York)



Meeting with UN Secretary-General Guterres (November 2023, New York) "Photo provided by: UN / Evan Schneider"



Meeting with national government representatives (November 2023, New York)



Presentation by Mayors for Peace youths at the Mayors for Peace Youth Forum held in UNOG (August 2023, Vienna)



Planting ceremony of a second generation atomic bomb survivor trees seedling by a member city (March 2024, Obu)



Holding a Peace Education Webinar (February 2024, Hiroshima)



Petition Drive by the President and high school students in the street (August 2022, Hiroshima)



Presenting signatures to the representatives of UN by high school students participating in the petition drive (July 2023, Vienna)



Holding the Mayors for Peace Atomic Bomb Poster Exhibition by a member city (August 2023, Kadogawa)



Mayors for Peace

Secretariat

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Upon joining Mayors for Peace, your city will have the opportunity to participate in activities and programs which reflect the ultimate goal of the Mayors for Peace Action Plan: lasting world peace. We hope you will join us and that together, we will make significant strides towards realizing our goal.

Below please find a list of activities which we offer to our member cities:

1. Seeds from Atomic Bomb Survivor Trees

Mayors for Peace distributes seeds from trees that survived the atomic bombings to all member cities who wish to receive them. It is our hope that by taking care of these trees, which serve as symbols of peace, member cities can foster the ideals of peace amongst their citizens.



Seeds are provided free of charge.

2. Children's Art Competitions

Based on the art prompt "Peaceful Towns", Mayors for Peace has held an art competition for children ages 6 to 15 in member cities since 2018 with the aim of furthering the promotion of peace education in younger generations around the world.

3. Atomic Bomb Poster Exhibitions

Mayors for Peace calls on member cities to hold exhibitions of Hiroshima-Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Posters and other related materials to foster a deepened understanding of the realities of the atomic bombings and strengthen the resolve towards nuclear abolition among their citizens.

Posters are available in: Japanese, English, German, French, Russian, Dutch, Spanish, Catalan, and Portuguese

Posters are provided free of charge (files can be downloaded from the Mayors for Peace website).







Peace-Related Activities Offered to Members of Mayors for Peace

4. Online Hibakusha Testimonies

By request, Mayors for Peace can help connect venues in member cities to the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum so they can experience online *hibakusha* testimonies.

Available free of charge.



5. Peace Education Webinar

Mayors for Peace holds a Peace Education Webinar annually with the aim of stimulating youth-led peace activities in member cities. This webinar provides an opportunity for young leaders involved in peace activities to share information and engage in dialogue.



For more information, please contact:

Mayors for Peace Secretariat

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