



Mayors for Peace News Flash

September 2019 / No.117

Mayors for Peace Member Cities
7,789 cities
in 163 countries and regions
(as of September 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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■ 2019 Mayors for Peace Youth Exchange for Peace held in Hiroshima

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

➤ HIROSHIMA and PEACE (July 30 – August 9)

Eight young representatives from eight member cities around the world attended the 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. In addition to the university's course, they attended a Mayors for Peace workshop where each of them gave a presentation about their city's peace activities and shared their views on nuclear disarmament and peace.



Mayors for Peace workshop during "HIROSHIMA and PEACE" on August 7

▼ Facebook posts on the Mayors for Peace workshop during "HIROSHIMA and PEACE":

[July 30 program](#), [August 7 program](#)

▼ Presentations by representatives from eight member cities:

[Granollers \(Spain\)](#), [Imphal \(India\)](#), [Krasnodar \(Russia\)](#), [Kunitachi \(Japan\)](#), [Kyoto \(Japan\)](#), [Manchester \(UK\)](#), [Santos \(Brazil\)](#), [Tehran \(Iran\)](#)

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

[Group 1: Santos, Kyoto, Granollers, Imphal](#)

[Group 2: Krasnodar, Kunitachi, Manchester, Tehran](#)

➤ **The International Youth Conference for Peace in the Future, Hiroshima 2019** (August 4 – August 12)

The International Youth Conference for Peace in the Future (IYCPF) is an annual youth conference which aims to bring together youth (high school and college students) from cities including Hiroshima's sister and friendship cities and have them think about peace. Four young representatives from Grigny (France), Hannover (Germany), Tehran (Iran), Ypres (Belgium) attended this conference with the support from Mayors for Peace.



Mayors for Peace workshop during IYCPF on August 7

On August 7, they participated in a Mayors for Peace workshop and gave presentations about their cities' peace activities. Later, all the participants had group discussions on what they could do to contribute to the realization of a world without nuclear weapons, and gave group presentations.

▼ Facebook post on the Mayors for Peace workshop:

<https://www.facebook.com/mayorsforpeace/posts/2197453710515350>

More detailed reports on the two programs will be posted on the Mayors for Peace website soon.

Hiroshima hosts a forum to commemorate the TPNW's 2nd anniversary

[July 7, 2019]

On July 7, on the occasion of the second anniversary of the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons at the UN, the Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation, which houses the Mayors for Peace Secretariat, hosted a public forum titled “The Role of Youth in Preserving the Experience of the Atomic Bomb – Commemorating the 2nd Anniversary of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons” in collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). The forum was attended by about 180 citizens, including high school and college students.



Mr. Kazumi Matsui, Mayor of Hiroshima and President of Mayors for Peace, shared his hope for the participants that they use this opportunity to think about what they can do to create a world without nuclear weapons. Then, Mr. Magnus Løvold, Policy Adviser of the Arms Unit in ICRC's Legal Division, made a speech in which he stressed that “a world without nuclear weapons depends on the continued active involvement of younger generations” and shared his hope for everyone to “muster the courage to speak out and act with hope and determination” to solve the problem of nuclear weapons.

The forum also featured a panel discussion inviting four young people. They talked about the peace activities they have involved, such as “Collaborative A-bomb paintings project between high school students and hibakusha” and the Mayors for Peace petition drive calling for all states to join TPNW. Following the presentations, they also exchanged views with an A-bomb survivor and an A-bomb Legacy Successor on the roles of young generation in building peace.

In its Action Plan, Mayors for Peace refers to ICRC as one of the organizations with which we would like to build a network. Mayors for Peace intends to further promote collaboration with ICRC and other international peace organizations to achieve our common goal of abolishing nuclear weapons.

▼ The e-briefing on the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons published by ICRC and Cambridge University Press (The ICRC Website):

[“A price too high: Rethinking nuclear weapons in light of their human cost”](#)

■ 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. 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 2018 IDP in Hiroshima (Mayors for Peace website):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/news/180921_news.html

<<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

■ “Peace News from Hiroshima”

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

Pieces of Fukuya Department Store’s original A-bombed exterior walls will be on display for the first time beginning next month. The exhibit, held at the Hatchobori main store location, begins October 1st, and coincides with the 90th anniversary of the store’s establishment. Fukuya is hosting the exhibit in commemoration of the upcoming 75th anniversary of the atomic bombing, and to showcase its history prior to the war.

The five terracotta pieces on display were removed from the store’s original exterior in 1972, and examined in 1990 by the late Hiromi Hasai, a professor emeritus in nuclear physics at Hiroshima University. Hasai’s research concerned gaining an estimation of the radiation dose received when the bomb detonated over Hiroshima in 1945. Visitors can also see this terracotta wall piece that Hasai examined. Previously hollowed-out for testing, it now has a round plate covering the area where surface material was removed. No part of the current exterior walls of the department store are from the time of the bombing.

In addition to displaying the wall pieces, a commemorative plaque will be installed on the façade of the building facing Hatchobori’s main streetcar-trafficked street. The plate references the name of the department store and that it survived the atomic bombing. A plan exists to provide, in both Japanese and English, information about how the department store overcame the tragedy and became a symbol of Hiroshima’s reconstruction.

The department store is located 710 meters from the bomb’s hypocenter. Its inside was incinerated on the day of the bombing, but it reopened in February the following year. Since then, the building has been enlarged, renovated and quakeproofed.

In the city of Hiroshima, there remain only 85 buildings that survived the atomic bombing. Only eight (including Fukuya) are owned by private businesses. One is the Hiroshima Electric Railway Company’s Sendamachi Substation. Another, Hiroshima Andersen, one of the most well-known of the remaining structures, is now being reconstructed. This work is evidence these companies are determined to preserve these buildings as “witnesses to history.”

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

- Fukuya Hatchobori Main Store to display A-bombed exterior wall: Witness to tragedy and restoration in Hiroshima

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=93563>

- Interview with Yoji Oshimo, President of Fukuya Co., Ltd.: Significance of carrying out a business in a building that survived the atomic bombing

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=93527>

- Museum experts to hold symposium in Hiroshima to discuss war damage and the passing down of experiences
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=93484>
- High School Peace Ambassadors report on their activities in Switzerland, express determination to continue calling for nuclear abolition
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=93532>
- Young participants at international forum deliver Hiroshima Declaration to share plans for nuclear-free world
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=93530>

■ Announcement from Hiroshima City University: Admission information for HCU's Graduate School of Peace Studies

Hiroshima City University, a public university in Hiroshima, established the Graduate School of Peace Studies (Master's Degree Program) in April this year for the purpose of serving as a world-class hub for education and academic research on peace and peace building.

The Graduate School aims to contribute to the realization of world peace by providing a curriculum that fosters graduates who have acquired: i) analytical academic methodologies in specialized areas such as peace studies, international politics, international law and international relations, and ii) the specialized wide-ranging skills needed to analyze a diverse range of real problems.

▼ Message from the Dean of the Graduate School of Peace Studies

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/data/2019/Sep2019_HCU_letter_EN.pdf

To welcome students from abroad, HCU will conduct special entrance examinations for international students and will teach some of the Graduate School of Peace Studies' courses in English to accommodate such students. Tuition exemption is available (based on an application review) in order to support workers engaged in the work of making and spearheading peace.

Please share this information with officials in your municipal government as well as with any relevant educational institutions.

More details on course curricula, entrance examinations, and related matters are available on the Hiroshima City University website (to be updated in early October):

▼ The Graduate School of Peace Studies, Master's Degree Program

<https://www.hiroshima-cu.ac.jp/english/graduate-school/masters-degree-program/graduate-school-of-peace-studies/>

▼ Entrance Examination Information (Special Entrance Examination for International Students, Application Guidelines)

https://www.hiroshima-cu.ac.jp/uploads/2018/07/EN_01_application-guideline-20180906014127763.pdf

■ 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>

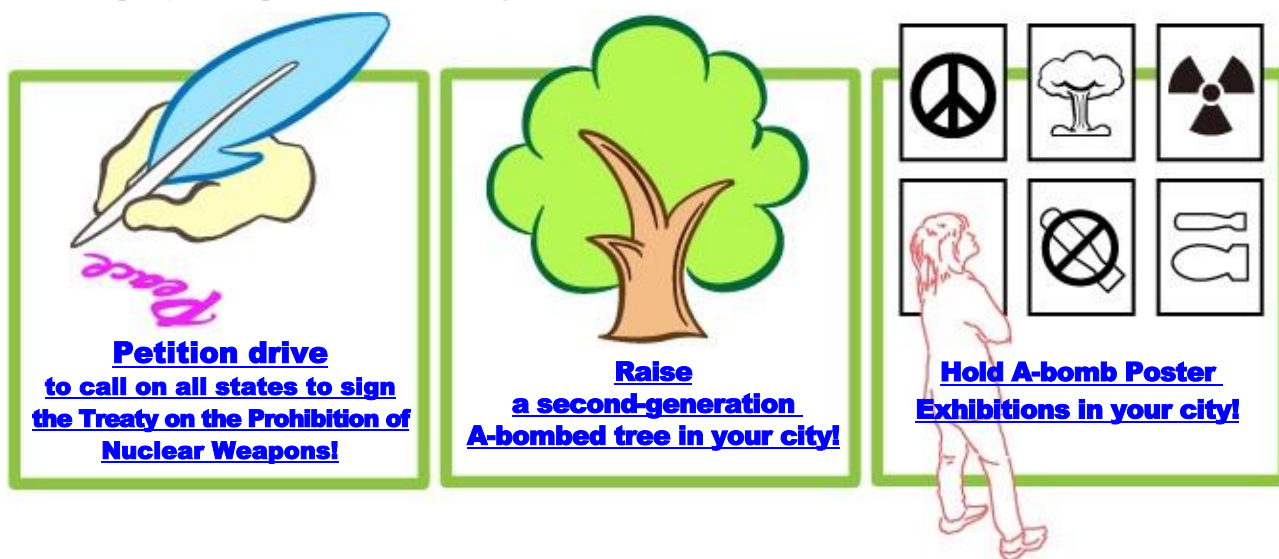
■ Request to promote various measures based on the Mayors for Peace Action Plan (2017-2020)

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”:



■Visitor to the President of Mayors for Peace (August 7 - 31)

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

*August 26 - Mr. Nikhil Seth, Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)

■Mayors for Peace Member Cities - 7,789 Cities in 163 Countries/Regions

Thanks to your invaluable support, on September 1, we gained 4 new member cities, bringing our total membership to 7,789.

From Germany, one city joined thanks to the continued efforts of Hannover, a Vice President City and Lead City of the German Chapter of Mayors for Peace. We also welcomed one city each from France, Italy, and the US.

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/newmembers1909_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:

Mayors for Peace Secretariat

1-5 Nakajima-cho, Naka-ku, Hiroshima 730-0811 Japan

Tel: +81-82-242-7821 Fax: +81-82-242-7452

Email: mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp
