



# Mayors for Peace News Flash

November 2019 / No.119

## Mayors for Peace Member Cities

**7,847** cities

**in 163 countries and regions**

(as of November 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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## ■ The 11th Executive Conference of Mayors for Peace

[November 11-12, 2019, Hannover, Germany]

Representatives of 10 Executive Cities gathered in Hannover from November 11 to 12 for the 11th Executive Conference of Mayors for Peace to discuss matters such as assessment of the 2020 Vision and the current Action Plan’s progress, as well as formulation of the next Vision and Action Plan.

The participants discussed and agreed upon the basic concepts of the new Vision to be launched in 2021. This includes the two objectives “Realize a world without nuclear weapons” and “Realize safe and resilient cities”, which we believe will lead to our ultimate goal of lasting world peace. A consensus was also reached on the third objective, “Promote a culture of peace”, which encourages people to actively engage in concrete actions that are conducive to the other two objectives. It was agreed that discussions would continue with the Executive Members and other concerned parties ahead of the adoption of the new Vision and Action Plan at the 10th General Conference in Hiroshima in August next year.

The Executive Conference decided to set the following three items as priorities for action until the end of 2020, the final year of the 2020 Vision:

1. Expand membership to support the agreed goals of Mayors for Peace, including the entry-into-force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons



2. Conduct peace education to raise awareness among future generations
3. Strengthen support for existing projects to receive youths in Hiroshima and Nagasaki such as “The Youth Exchange for Peace Support Program”

In addition, the Executive Conference approved a proposal by the City of Granollers and some other European Executive Cities to formally launch a transnational European Chapter of Mayors for Peace in January of next year. The European Chapter held its first meeting after the close of the Executive Conference.

The Secretariat reported to the Executive Conference about collective actions planned in conjunction with the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics and actions for the 2020 NPT Review Conference. Three of the Executive Cities each made a report on their peace initiatives: Manchester, UK, on their peace education utilizing atomic-bombed trees; Muntinlupa, Philippines, on their International Day of Peace event to raise peace consciousness; and Hannover, Germany, on its membership recruitment efforts as a Lead City.

The Executive Conference was brought to a close after the adoption of [summary notes](#), with sincere gratitude being expressed to the host city, Hannover, for its excellent organization and hospitality.

More detailed reports of the Conference and the first European Chapter meeting will be posted on Mayors for Peace website soon.

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## ■The 9th Japanese Member Cities Meeting

[October 24 - 25, 2019, Kunitachi, Tokyo]

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On October 24 and 25, the 9th Japanese Member Cities Meeting was held in Kunitachi City, Tokyo, attended by 147 representatives from 83 municipalities, including 37 municipal heads.

The first day of the Meeting featured “Peace from Kunitachi” organized by the host city Kunitachi, which included presentations on the city’s peace initiatives, musical performances and presentations by residents of Kunitachi among others.



The second day began with activity reports from two member cities, followed by reports by the Mayors for Peace Secretariat on the finances for the 2018 fiscal year concerning revenue from Mayors for Peace membership, on membership recruitment efforts, and on projects planned in conjunction with the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics. Then, Mr. Takashi Koizumi, Secretary General of Mayors for Peace, gave a presentation on recent global developments in nuclear disarmament and on Mayors for Peace initiatives.

The participants discussed and approved the submission to the Japanese government of a letter of request asking for promotion of initiatives for the abolition of nuclear weapons, addressed to the Prime Minister of Japan. The Meeting closed with the adoption of the 9th Mayors for Peace Japanese Member Cities Meeting Summary Notes.

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## ■The Children’s Art Competition “Peaceful Towns” 2019 – Thank you for your participation

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Since last year, Mayors for Peace has hosted a children’s art competition on the theme of “Peaceful Towns” in order to further promote peace education in member cities around the world. The 2019 competition was open for submissions until November 20, 2019.

We are pleased that we have received more than 1,000 submissions from 64 member cities in 19 countries and would like to thank everyone that submitted works.

Prize-winning works will be selected through a careful screening process and the results will be announced on the Mayors for Peace website in late December. The Mayors for Peace President Award will be given to one of the two First Prize artworks and will be printed on plastic folders which Mayors for Peace will be using to promote its work. All the prize winners will be presented with an award certificate.

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## ■ Regional Chapter Activities

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### <UK and Ireland Chapter>

#### **International and UK Progress with the ICAN Cities Appeal – over 150 cities now supporting the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW)**

Since the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) was agreed upon in July 2017, a process has begun for its full ratification into international law, which takes place when at least 50 states ratify it into their national law. At present, 33 states have ratified this treaty. However, a clear coalition of Nuclear Weapon States, NATO members and states in their sphere of influence have consistently opposed the TPNW. In December 2018, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) established an ‘ICAN Cities Appeal’ to encourage municipalities in these states to pass resolutions to show there was considerable local support for the TPNW.

Over 150 prominent cities, towns and counties have now passed resolutions giving their full support to the TPNW. The latest cities to have supported this initiative include Philadelphia (USA), Leipzig (Germany) and Norwich (UK). They join a number of prominent Mayors for Peace President and Vice Presidents who support the appeal including Hiroshima, Nagasaki, Manchester, Hannover and Granollers.

In the UK, six Mayors for Peace members have passed resolutions supporting the TPNW. They are Manchester, Edinburgh, Renfrewshire, Norwich, Fife and Hebden Royd. A number of other members are in the process of doing so. The UK and Ireland Mayors for Peace Secretary Sean Morris can provide a model resolution if that would be helpful. Email: [s.morris4@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:s.morris4@manchester.gov.uk)

Mayors for Peace would welcome other towns, cities, counties and federal regions to consider passing similar resolutions and supporting the Cities Appeal / TPNW. It also encourages states to continue to ratify the TPNW so that it becomes international law in 2020.

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

▼ More information on ICAN Cities Appeal:

<http://nuclearban.org/cities/getinvolved>

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## ■ Member City Activities

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### <Évora, Portugal>

#### **Marking the International Day of Peace with exhibition “Defending Peace against Nuclear Weapons”**

To commemorate the International Peace Day on September 21st, the Évora City Council inaugurated the exhibition “Defending Peace against Nuclear Weapons” in the City Hall, within the framework of its partnership with the CPPC - Portuguese Council for Peace and Cooperation.



(Photo: Évora City Council)

At the inauguration ceremony, the Mayor of Évora, Carlos Pinto de Sá, welcomed the representatives of the CPPC, to whom he thanked the presence, as well as the availability for the partnership that allowed to bring Évora this exhibition.

In addition to marking the symbolic importance of this day, this exhibition also marks the active involvement of the Municipality of Évora in the organizations "Mayors for Peace" and "Movement of Municipalities for Peace", which is an initiative of the Municipality of Seixal with CPPC, making clear the unequivocal position of the Municipality of Évora in the defense of Peace in the World.

<Report by the Communication Office of the Municipality of Évora >

### <Manchester, UK>

#### **50 Cities, 50 Traces art exhibition launched in Manchester**

Manchester, a Mayors for Peace Vice President and the Lead City of the UK & Ireland Chapter, was the latest city to host the contemporary art exhibition ‘50 Cities, 50 Traces’ at a special launch event in Manchester Central Library.

The launch took place in Manchester on the 5th November, the 39th anniversary of the City Council’s famous ‘nuclear weapons free city’ resolution in 1980. This resolution led to the creation of the UK and Ireland Nuclear Free Local Authorities (NFLA), which cooperates closely with Mayors for Peace.

This international art project ‘[50 Cities, 50 Traces](#)’ was created by the Stuttgart based artist Klaudia Dietewich and curator Raimund Menges, and developed in association with Hannover, a Mayors for Peace Vice President and the German Chapter’s Lead City. It commemorates the 50th anniversary of the creation of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), the cornerstone of the multilateral nuclear disarmament regime.



The exhibition in the Central Library including its artist Klaudia Dietewich (centre) (Photo: Manchester City Council)

Speaking at the launch of the exhibition were the Lord Mayor of Manchester Councillor Abid Latif Chohan, Councillor Eddy Newman who is Manchester’s permanent Mayors for Peace nominated representative, and the last remaining councillor on the Council who co-signed the 1980 resolution; and the exhibition curator Raimund Menges. Also speaking at the launch was theatre director Neil Bartlett, who talked about the upcoming ‘[24 Hours of Peace](#)’ which takes place in Manchester on the 10th and 11th November.

‘50 Cities, 50 Traces’ will be exhibited in Manchester Central Library from the 5th November to the 30th January. It will then transfer on to Bristol City Hall in February. Bristol is a twin city of Hannover and also a member of Mayors for Peace.

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

▼ Full report with more photos on the Mayors for Peace website:

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/data/2019/50\\_Cities\\_50\\_Traces\\_Manchester.pdf](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/data/2019/50_Cities_50_Traces_Manchester.pdf)

▼ 50 Cities, 50 Traces official website:

<http://www.50cities-50traces.org/index-j.html>

▼ 24 Hours of Peace official website:

<https://24hoursofpeace.co.uk/discover-100-stories/>

### <Volgograd, Russia>

#### The 6th International Forum of People’s Diplomacy

On October 31 and November 1, the City of Volgograd, a Vice President of Mayors for Peace and the Lead City in Russia, hosted the 6th International Forum of People’s Diplomacy “Dialogue on the Volga: Peace and Mutual Understanding in the 21st Century”, welcoming delegates from 40 world countries to discuss the issues of global agenda, cultural and humanitarian cooperation and, for the first time, the perspective of economic interaction and its galvanization.



(Photo: The City of Volgograd)

Held on October 31—World Cities’ Day, designated by the UN General Assembly—this year’s Forum was dedicated to the 75th anniversary of the international twin city movement that started with Volgograd and Coventry in 1944.

This year, a large number of young people attended the Forum as participants of the “New Generation” Federal Program coordinated by the “Rossotrudnichestvo” (Federal Agency for the Commonwealth of Independent States Affairs, Compatriots Living Abroad, and International Humanitarian Cooperation), which for the first time became the Forum’s co-organizer.

Following a panel discussion titled “Future of international relations: challenges and possible responses”, the participants were offered a choice between 7 round tables. On November 1, the Forum adopted a resolution calling on the world community to contribute to the strengthening of peace in international relations, to bolster international cooperation and to strengthen global partnership.

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

▼ Full report on the Mayors for Peace website:

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/data/2019/Dialogue\\_on\\_the\\_Volga\\_2019.pdf](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/data/2019/Dialogue_on_the_Volga_2019.pdf)



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## ■“Peace News from Hiroshima”

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

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Denis Mukwege, 64, a 2018 Nobel Peace Prize awardee, gave a lecture in Peace Memorial Hall at the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum recently. The obstetrician-gynecologist has been supporting victims of sexual violence caught up in the armed conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo. He pointed out that the country’s problem is linked directly with fighting for mineral resource in demand around the world. He urged Japan and the international community to pay more attention to the problem as their own.

It is believed that six million lives have been lost in Congo since the armed conflict broke out in the 1990s. In recent years, both government and antigovernment armed groups have conducted repeated and systematic rape, especially in the eastern part of the country where Dr. Mukwege lives, and controlling the residents through terror. That part of the country has abundant mineral resources essential for smartphone production, among other things.

According to Dr. Mukwege, the women who are raped and the family members who witness the atrocities are both victims. They have no choice but to become internally displaced or remain being controlled. Local communities have been strategically destroyed. He said that, in addition to the Congolese government, international society should assume the blame for not making serious efforts to punish the perpetrators. He added that we must fight against indifference.

After the lecture, Dr. Mukwege granted an exclusive interview to the Chugoku Shimbun. He said it is our male-dominated society that tolerates rape, and that education is very important, adding that we have to teach throughout the world that men and women are equal. He also said a sense of value must be developed that ensures humanity is equally guaranteed for men and women.

Dr. Mukwege also gave an interview to junior writers of the Chugoku Shimbun—students in junior high and high school. He wrote a message on a card to the effect that he hoped that young people of Hiroshima would work for the equality between women and men, for the dignity of both men and women and to end the violence based on gender.

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

- Seismic reinforcement work on main building of Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum is completed  
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=94187>
- Hiroshima Prefecture to send doctors to five cities in North America to give health advice to local A-bomb survivors  
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=94211>
- Setsuko Thurlow and Dr. Henry Shibata attend Emperor’s enthronement ceremony, hope A-bomb survivors will be heard  
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=94215>
- American artist and colleagues create 3D images of A-bombed artifacts for “ZERO Project Hiroshima” event  
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=94213>
- Zero Project Hiroshima to open on October 22 with wishes for peace expressed through art  
<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=94178>

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## ■Request for payment of the 2019 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 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](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/outlines/membership_fee.html)

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

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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>

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

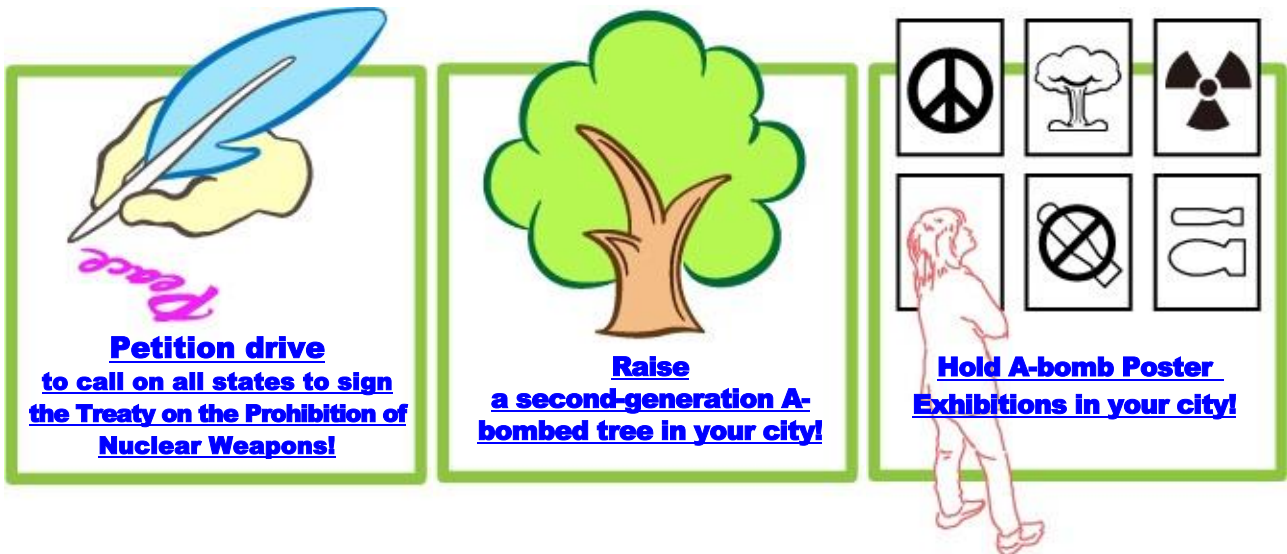
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At the 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace held in Nagasaki in August 2017, we decided our Action Plan for up to the year 2020, aiming for lasting world peace. Together, we hope to make significant strides toward realizing this goal. Please 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 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”:



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**■ Mayors for Peace Member Cities - 7,847 Cities in 163 Countries/Regions**  
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Thanks to your invaluable support, on November 1, we gained 18 new member cities, bringing our total membership to 7,847.

From Jordan, we welcomed four new cities, thanks to the invitation from Ambassador of Jordan to Japan, who attended this year's Hiroshima Peace Memorial Ceremony and invited Jordan cities to join Mayors for Peace in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Local Management in Jordan,

From Malta, we welcomed the City of Ta' Kerċem. Honorary Consul of Malta in Hiroshima attended this year's Peace Memorial Ceremony and accepted our request to expand membership in Malta. He then asked support of the Ambassador of the Republic of Malta to Japan, who sent invitations to Maltese cities to join Mayors for Peace.

From Turkey, we welcomed the City of Beşiktaş, thanks to the invitation from its German sister city Erlangen.

From Slovenia, we welcomed the City of Slovenske Konjice, thanks to the recruitment efforts of Biograd na Moru, which is Slovenske Konjice's sister city in Croatia. Biograd na Moru serves as a Vice President of Mayors for Peace and the Lead City of Croatian Chapter.

From Germany, 8 new 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 Mexico, the Netherlands, and Spain. 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/newmembers1911\\_en.pdf](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/pdf/03_newmembers/2019/newmembers1911_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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