



Mayors for Peace News Flash

September 2021 / No.141

Mayors for Peace Member Cities

8,045 cities

in 165 countries and regions

(as of September 1, 2021)

Help us achieve 10,000 member cities!

Check our website and follow us on SNS:

Website 

<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/index.html>

Facebook 

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

Twitter 

<https://twitter.com/Mayors4Peace>

“Like” and share our Facebook and Twitter posts to help spread awareness of our mission.

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Messages of support for our new *PX Vision*

We received 5 messages of support for our new *Vision for Peaceful Transformation to a Sustainable World (PX Vision)*, adopted in July this year, including from Mr. António Guterres, United Nations Secretary-General.

Message from H.E. Mr. António Guterres, United Nations Secretary-General

I send warm greetings to Mayors for Peace and congratulate you on the adoption of your *Vision for Peaceful Transformation to a Sustainable World*. This new vision channels our shared human aspiration for world peace into a compelling call to action for people everywhere. The total elimination of nuclear weapons remains the highest disarmament priority of the United Nations, and recent political tensions among nuclear-armed States underscore the urgent need for progress. The cities of the world have unique moral authority as advocates for their citizens, and I commend every effort to inspire dialogue around a common vision of a nuclear-weapon-free world. I thank Mayors for Peace for your continued dedication to advancing the cause of peace, in honour of the *hibakusha* and in service to future generations.



UN/Photo Mark Garten

Message from Mr. Peter Maurer, the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

I warmly congratulate Mayors for Peace on the adoption of the new Vision and Action Plan, aimed at achieving a world without nuclear weapons, safe and resilient cities and a culture of peace. Your tireless work has kept the legacy of the *hibakusha* – their suffering, courage and determination – alive, and was instrumental in making the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons a reality. Nuclear weapons are a major threat to human security. United we must continue working to eradicate this threat and secure a sustainable future for humanity. Your Vision shapes an inspiring path towards this common goal.



Message from H.E. Mr. Alexander Kmentt, President-designate of the First Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

I am very impressed by this new approach by Mayors for Peace and by the Action Plan, which aims to turn this into reality. The formulated objectives “to realize “a world without nuclear weapons,” “safe and resilient cities,” and to “promote a culture of peace” are pertinent and particularly urgent today. This approach is also entirely consistent with what States Parties of the TPNW want to achieve with this new treaty. I am therefore also delighted that Mayors for Peace will also work towards the universalisation of the TPNW. In this context, I hope that your efforts of trying to convince the Japanese government to participate as observer at the 1st Meeting of States Parties will be successful. In any case, I very much look forward to seeing you in Vienna at the 1st Meeting of states Parties together with *Hibakusha* representatives who have done so much to make the TPNW a reality in international law. Let me close by expressing my gratitude and admiration for the continuous efforts by Mayors for Peace and by you personally to promote a world without nuclear weapons.



Message from H.E. Ms. Elayne Whyte, President of the UN Conference that negotiated the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

I commend Mayors for Peace for its continued and unwavering commitment to promoting a world free of nuclear weapons and to conveying the brave voice of the *Hibakusha*, who suffered the horrors of the atomic bombs. We are in a new era, a legal prohibition of nuclear weapons became a reality and most countries of the world have reiterated their absolute rejection of this abhorrent type of weapons. It is therefore encouraging to see that the new Action Plan places such emphasis on the efforts towards the universalization of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and I encourage the organization to continue on this excellent work.



Message from Ms. Beatrice Fihn, the Executive Director of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN)

On behalf of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), I would like to congratulate Mayors for Peace and express our steadfast support for the *Vision for Peaceful Transformation to a Sustainable World*, which is an exciting and bold commitment to tackling the world's most pressing issues, including ending the threat of nuclear weapons. Mayors for Peace has long been a leading advocate for the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and we are thrilled that universalization of the TPNW will be among its key goals going forward. We look forward to standing shoulder-to-shoulder with Mayors for Peace, while working with its member cities across the world, to realise this important vision.



Video Message from the President of Mayors for Peace at the UN High Level Forum on The Culture of Peace


At the UN High Level Forum on The Culture of Peace convened by the President of the 75th Session of the UN General Assembly at the UN headquarters in New York on September 7 (10 am to 6 pm local time), a video message from Mayors for Peace’s President Kazumi Matsui, who is also the Mayor of Hiroshima, was broadcasted during the panel discussion. President Matsui was invited by the President of the UN General Assembly, H.E. Mr. Volkan Bozkir, to offer a message on this occasion (see page 11 for a relevant article).

In line with the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace, which was adopted at the UN General Assembly in September 1999, this High Level Forum has been held every year since 2012 with the aim of promoting the culture of peace. H.E. Ambassador Anwarul Chowdhury, who served as Chair of the panel discussion, welcomed the new objective set forth by Mayors for Peace, which is to “promote a culture of peace,” as one of the objectives under a “*Vision for Peaceful Transformation to a Sustainable World (PX Vision)*” that was adopted in July this year, and this opportunity was made possible.

President Matsui offered a brief introduction of the new objective. An excerpt from the video is as follows:

In order to break the status quo in which tensions between nation states are rising, we need to create an environment where policymakers have no other choice than to shift from their nation-minded approach to a human-centered one by building a consensus in favor of the abolition of nuclear weapons. To do this, cultivating a culture of peace—a culture in which the everyday actions of each person are grounded in thinking about peace—is essential. That’s why Mayors for Peace introduced a new objective, ‘promote a culture of peace.’



 A recording of the panel discussion is available on the UN WebTV via the link below. (President Matsui’s message starts at the 24’10” mark.)
<https://media.un.org/en/asset/k12/k1207gqgdn>

Report on Mayors for Peace Youth Webinar for Peace Action

On August 26, Mayors for Peace held a peace education webinar titled Mayors for Peace Youth Webinar for Peace Action, aiming to further stimulate youth-led peace activities in member cities.

13 young activists from 9 peace organizations around the world, including those from Hiroshima and Nagasaki, gave presentations on their activities and answered questions from the audience. During one of the discussions between the presenters about their future activities, it was suggested that making use of the connections between the organizations created from this webinar would be a great way to further collaborate on peace activities, such as holding a joint online event.



Presenters

Youth Peace Volunteers	Mr. Yuto Nakamura (Japan)
Pax	Ms. Alejandra Muñoz (Netherlands)
University of Malaya	Ms. Sumayyah Mohd Mazlan and Ms. Aqidah Liman (Malaysia)
In Flanders Field Museum	Mr. Alexandro Yaramis (Belgium)
KNOW NUKES TOKYO	Mr. Yuta Takahashi and Ms. Suzuka Nakamura (Japan)
Nuclear Age Peace Foundation	Mr. Jack Moses (US)
New Zealand Red Cross	Mr. Sakhr Munassar (New Zealand)
UN Youth4Disarmament Initiative	Ms. Marykate Monaghan (UK) and Ms. Isa Begemann (Germany)
Nagasaki Youth Delegation	Ms. Ayane Murakami and Ms. Nao Suzuki (Japan)

This webinar was livestreamed on YouTube and watched by many. A recording of the webinar is available on the Mayors for Peace website via the link below.

 [Mayors for Peace Youth Webinar for Peace Action
http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/jp/whatsnew/news/210721_news.html](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/jp/whatsnew/news/210721_news.html)

US Conference of Mayors Calls on the United States to Welcome the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and to Act Now to Prevent Nuclear War and Eliminate Nuclear Weapons


USCM also Urges Support of the City & State Diplomacy Act

Report by Ms. Jacqueline Cabasso, Executive Advisor, Mayors for Peace

At the close of its 89th Annual Meeting, held virtually due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, on August 31, 2021, the United States Conference of Mayors (USCM) Executive Committee unanimously adopted a bold new resolution Calling on the United States to Welcome the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) and to Act Now to Prevent Nuclear War and Eliminate Nuclear Weapons.

The resolution calls on the United States government “to welcome the Treaty as a positive step towards negotiation of a comprehensive agreement on the achievement and permanent maintenance of a world free of nuclear weapons.” It continues: “The United States Conference of Mayors welcomes the June 16, 2021 Joint Statement by President Biden and Russian President Putin in which they ‘reaffirm the principle that a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought’; and calls on the Biden Administration to reduce nuclear tensions through intensive diplomatic efforts with Russia and China, and to actively pursue a verifiable agreement among nuclear-armed states to eliminate their nuclear arsenals in conformity with requirements of international law preceding the TPNW by decades.”



 To read the full text of the article, please visit the link below:

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/news/data/2021/USCM_resolution_2021.pdf

Call for applicants for the Children's Art Competition "Peaceful Towns" 2021!



**Children's Art Competition "Peaceful Towns" 2021
Call for Applicants !!!
Deadline: November 1 (Mon.)**



In order to expand peace education efforts in its member cities, Mayors for Peace holds a children's art competition with the theme of "Peaceful Towns," for children aged 6 to 15 years old. Applications are now open for the competition.

Age categories: Category 1 (6-10 years old)

Category 2 (11-15 years old)

Number of applications: up to 5 artworks for each category per member city

Deadline: 5 pm on November 1st, 2021 (Japan Standard Time)

We look forward to receiving your applications!

For more details, please visit the Mayors for Peace website below.

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/vision/initiatives/2021_Art_Competition.html

Submissions and inquiries

Email: mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp

Member city activities

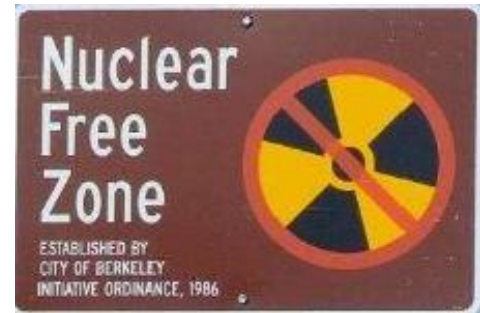
● Berkely, US

Berkeley, CA City Council Calls on the U.S. Government to Negotiate the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons

Report by Ms. Jacqueline Cabasso, Executive Advisor, Mayors for Peace

July 8, 2021, marked the 25th anniversary of the International Court of Justices' Advisory Opinion on the legal status of nuclear weapons, in which the Court found unanimously: "There exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control."

On July 27, 2021, the Berkeley, California City Council unanimously adopted a resolution "Calling on the U.S. to Negotiate the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons". Reciting the history of U.S. obligations under international law, beginning with the first United Nations General Assembly resolution in 1946, the resolution "calls on the United States government to reverse its opposition to the 2021 TPNW (Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons) and to welcome the Treaty as a positive step towards negotiation of a comprehensive agreement on the achievement and permanent maintenance of a world free of nuclear weapons, in conformity with requirements of international law preceding the TPNW by decades." See [City Council Regular Meeting eAgenda, July 27, 2021](#), consent calendar, item 26.



● Halabja, Iraq

Mayor of Halabja Supports Afghan Female Activists

Report by Mr. Zimnako Mohammed, the City of Halabja, Iraq

In the past weeks, thousands of families including Afghanistan's women activists left their homeland where they have planted the seeds of human rights and gender equality. Mayor of Halabja, Kwestan Akram with group of Kurdish women activists named Kurdistan Women Alliance gathered and prepared a declaration to ask the international community to protect civil people in Afghanistan especially young girls and women activists and don't let the political changes to take their achievements away which they obtained through the last 20 years.

It has been stated in the declaration, "We (Kurdistan Women Alliance), remind you about this call from the Afghan's women: (don't leave us alone, we are the Afghan's women who are half of the society, now we are imprisoned at our home and we need to pursue our freedom, please protect us)."

Mayor of Halabja, Kwestan Akram and Kurdistan Women Alliance have asked the Kurdistan Regional Government to cooperate with all related actors to support Afghan's activist women if they arrive to Kurdistan.



Mayor Kwestan Akram of Halabja (left)
Photo: courtesy of the City of Halabja

Regional chapter activities

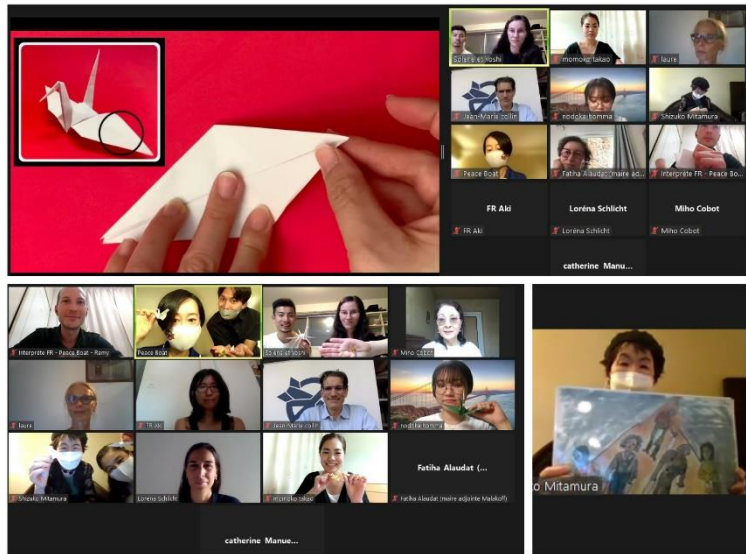
● French Chapter

Online *Hibakusha* Testimony on August 9, 2021 organized by PEACE BOAT, ICAN and Mayors for Peace France

Report by Ms. Lorena Schlicht, AFCD RP-Mayors for Peace France

As part of Peace Boat's global online project, with the support of Nihon Hidankyo (Japanese Confederation of A- and H-bomb Victims' Organizations) and Mayors for Peace, an online event in French and Japanese was organized on August 9, 2021 in commemoration of the Nagasaki atomic bombing. The event was held as a joint initiative of Peace Boat, ICAN France and Mayors for Peace France.

Ms. Mitamura, a survivor of the Nagasaki atomic bombing, shared her poignant testimony using illustrated cards. She explained that the explosion was not the only threat the survivors of the nuclear weapon had to face. However, *hibakusha* also suffer from the long-term and harmful after effects, notably of the radiation. Ms. Mitamura is now dedicated to telling the stories of the survivors to the people around the world through the trips on the Peace Boat and their online project, titled “Every Second Counts for the Survivors”.



The event started with the opening remark by Ms. Fatiha Alaudat, Deputy Mayor of Malakoff and Vice President of Mayors for Peace France, and representatives of each organization shared their valuable expertise and initiatives for nuclear disarmament. The first one was offered by Ms. Miho Cibot-Shimma, a Hiroshima Peace Ambassador from the French Chapter of Mayors for Peace. Mr. Jean-Marie Collin from ICAN France gave the second speech about the various initiatives to promote the nuclear weapons ban treaty in France. Thirdly, Laure Norest, a staff member of Peace Boat introduced the organization. At the end of the event, a French student Solene Petitcol spoke about Sadako Sasaki and the origami paper crane, which is a symbol of peace and nuclear abolition; a live workshop folding paper cranes was also held to raise awareness of Sadako’s story and importance of peace.

🔗 The documentary film, “I was her age,” documenting the Peace Boat voyage to share the horrors of nuclear weapons and call for their ban and eradication, is available on the following link:

<https://vimeo.com/137809836> (The video was created by a video maker from the UK, Emma Baggott)

🔗 The recorded video of this online event is available on the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oGkcU73MRfs>

● German Chapter

Hiroshima Memorial Day 6 August 2021 (Hannover)

Report by Ms. Evelyn Kamissek, the City of Hannover, Germany

To commemorate the 76th anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hannover's twin city Hiroshima in 1945, the Hiroshima Alliance Hannover was invited to the Hiroshima Grove on the evening of August 6. The theme was "Conversation with a puppet - a *hibakusha* speaks about what conveys the urgent need to abolish all nuclear weapons".



Photos: courtesy of the City of Hannover

On the morning of the remembrance day, Mayor Hermann and City Superintendent Müller-Brandes struck the Peace Bell in the Aegidien Church at 8:15 a.m. in memory of the victims of the atomic bombing. A special feature was the musical contribution of singers of the Chamber Choir Hannover and the World Choir for Peace under the direction of Nicol Matt. In the afternoon, in addition to a multi-religious peace devotion, a haiku reading took place by the German-Japanese Society of Hannover Chadokai. The German-Japanese Friendship Circle Yukokai informed about its peace work in the theatre "Kommunales Kino" and showed the film "A Mother's Prayer." At the end of the commemoration day, the Chamber Choir Hannover and singers of the World Choir for Peace gave a free concert in the Masch-Park behind the Town Hall, while paper lanterns were traditionally set out on the Masch-lake.

🔗 To read the Speech of Mayor Belit Onay (in German) , please visit:

<https://www.hannover.de/Leben-in-der-Region-Hannover/Politik/Politische-Gremien/Mayors-for-Peace/Aktivit%C3%A4ten/Hiroshima-Tag-am-5.-und-6.-August-2021>

● European Chapter

Invitation to Joint Webinar “Building a Nuclear Weapons Free World - the TPNW States Parties Conference and the role of cities, key institutions and civil society”

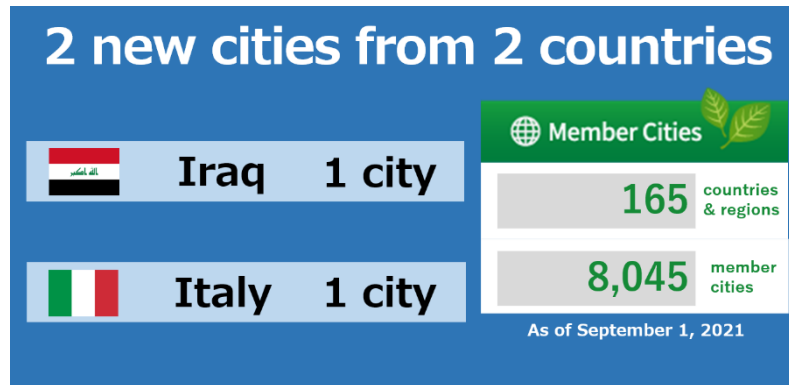
Report by Mr. Sean Morris, UK & Ireland Mayors for Peace Chapter Secretary

The European Chapter of Mayors for Peace invites all Member Cities, civil society groups and disarmament groups to attend a webinar that the Chapter is hosting jointly with NFLA and ICAN. The webinar is preparing for the First Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. It will take place on 21st October from 2pm to 3.30pm (CET) on Zoom and YouTube. The webinar will bring together Foreign Ministers of TPNW supporting states, the President-designate of the States Parties meeting, leading Mayors and civil society experts on nuclear disarmament to talk of the strategy to encourage more states to support this important treaty, and what role can local government, civil society and TPNW supporting states play in promoting multilateral nuclear disarmament.

🔗 See the flyer for more details and registration:

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/news/data/2021/EC_Webinar_2021.pdf


Mayors for Peace member cities - 8,045 cities in 165 countries/regions




Help us achieve 10,000 member cities! 

On September 1, we gained 2 new member cities, bringing our total membership to 8,045. We thank all involved in promoting expanded membership for their invaluable support. Below is the breakdown of the new members.

Country	New Members	Total No.	Remarks
Iraq	Mergasor	143	Thanks to efforts by a former mayor of Halabja, a Vice President and Lead City.
Italy	Mantova	517	

 List of new members (PDF):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/03_newmembers/2021/newmembers2109_en.pdf


 Membership by country (PDF):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/01_monthly Updating/07_membership_by_country_en.pdf

Help us achieve 10,000 member cities!

Mayors for Peace aims to achieve 10,000 member cities to foster international public support for the realization of a world without nuclear weapons. Invite other cities in your country, as well as your sister cities and any other cities with which you have relations to join Mayors for Peace. You can download a letter of request and document pack below.

The document pack is available in 10 different languages: Chinese, English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish.

 Letters of request to join Mayors for Peace and document pack

<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/aboutus/join.html#section01>

Report by Executive Advisor

- **Virtual Meeting: High-level Forum on the Culture of Peace**
Transformative Role of the Culture of Peace: Promoting Resilience and Inclusion in Post-Covid Recovery

Interactive Panel Discussion (PM session), UN General Assembly, 7 September 2021
Report by Mr. Randy Rydell, the Executive Advisor for Mayors for Peace

On 7 September 2021, the UN General Assembly (UNGA) hosted its annual High-Level Meeting on the Culture of Peace—the tenth such meeting since 2012. The six-hour event consisted of a 3-hour plenary session in the morning hosted by UNGA President Volkan Bozkir and another 3-hour interactive session in the afternoon, whose speakers included video remarks by Hiroshima Mayor Kazumi Matsui.

The meeting offered UN Member States, Observers, and other stakeholders a forum to discuss the implementation of the UNGA’s 1999 “Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace,” with special emphasis on tackling the diverse impacts of the global COVID pandemic, including “vaccine nationalism,” xenophobia, racism, hate speech, inequality, and human rights violations.

The interactive session was hosted by Bangladesh Ambassador Anwarul Chowdhury, a leading UN proponent of the culture of peace. ICAN director, Beatrice Fihn, delivered a keynote speech, followed by remarks by Mayor Matsui and statements by many UN delegations and civil society groups. The remarks by Ms Fihn and Mayor Matsui were the only statements that specifically emphasized disarmament’s contributions to the culture of peace. Amb. Chowdhury applauded Mayors for Peace for including the culture of peace as part of its Vision.

Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake, the UN Secretary-General’s youth envoy, emphasized the role of young people in pursuing a culture of peace. Other key speeches included: Costa Rica, Bangladesh, South Africa, the former Director-General of UNESCO (Federico Zaragoza), and the UN Under-Secretary-General for economic and social affairs (Liu Zhenmin). There were no statements by European delegations, any state possessing nuclear weapons, or Japan.

Additional information:

- 1) a video of the afternoon event on UN WebTV is available at: <https://media.un.org/en/asset/k12/k1207gqgdn>
- 2) for a Concept Note and Programme see: <https://www.un.org/pga/75/wp-content/uploads/sites/100/2021/08/PGA-2nd-Letter-HLF-Culture-of-Peace-Concept-note-and-Programme.pdf> and
- 3) the text of the 1999 declaration and programme of action is at: <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/285677?ln=en>

Request to implement initiatives outlined in the Mayors for Peace Action Plan

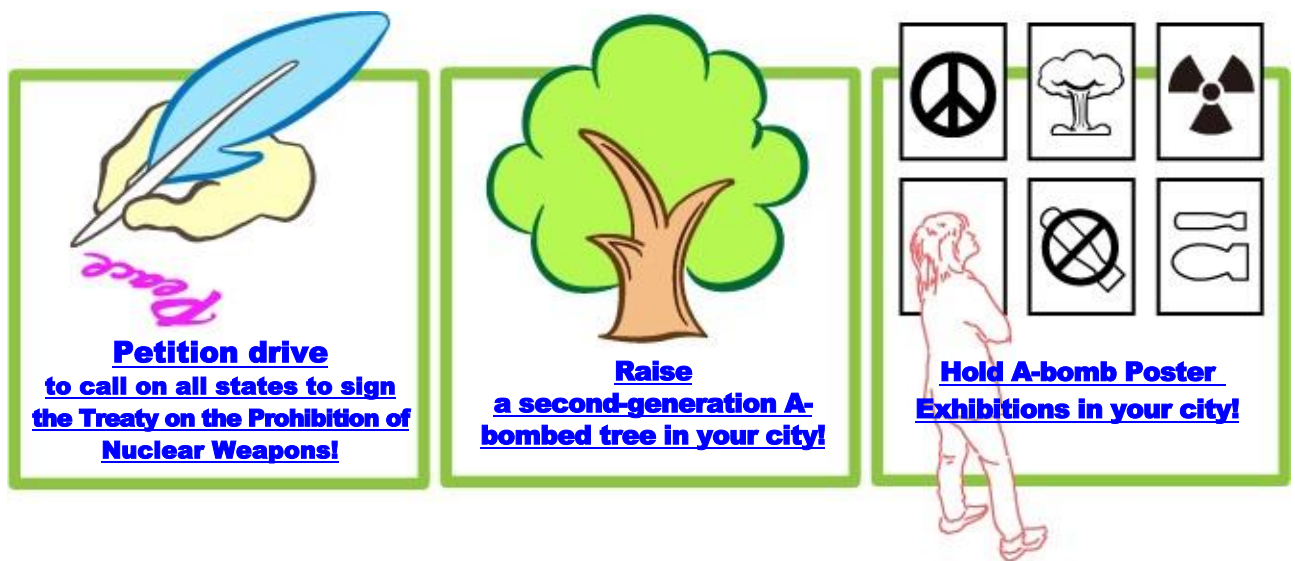
At the 12th Executive Conference of Mayors for Peace held online in July this year, we adopted our new Action Plan (2021-2025). Together, let us continue our utmost efforts toward our ultimate goal of realizing lasting world peace. Please implement initiatives outlined in the Action Plan within your own municipality or regional group.

📄 Mayors for Peace Action Plan (PDF):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/conferences/executive/data/12th_ec/PX_Vision_Action_Plan_en.pdf

📄 Initiatives implemented under the Action Plan:

<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/vision/initiatives.html>



Please send us a report on your city's peace activities

Help us tell other members what you are doing! Please send the Secretariat a short report on a peace activity or initiative by your city based on the Action Plan so that we can share it on our [website](#) or the News Flash. Reports on your city's activity or initiative that stimulate youth to be engaged in peace activities or promote 'a culture of peace' are especially welcome! We look forward to receiving ones.

Email: mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp

*Please write a short (up to 200 words long) report in English, and send it to the above email address with photos (if any). Please include key information such as the date, venue, description, and result.

Request for Payment of the 2021 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 2021) 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](#).

A request for payment of the 2021 membership fee was sent to each city by email on April 1. We deeply appreciate your kind cooperation.


* If you want to know your city's payment status or if you have not received the email of request for payment, please contact the Secretariat.

 Request for the 2021 Mayors for Peace Membership Fee (Mayors for Peace website):
<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/aboutus/fee.html>

Contact: Mayors for Peace Secretariat (email: mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp)

Call for input: examples of initiatives to foster peace-seeking spirit

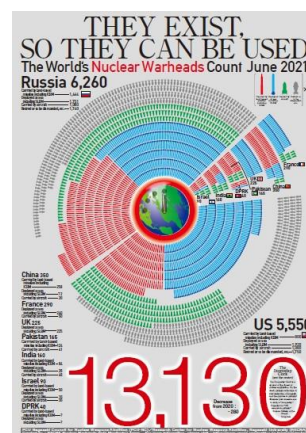
The Mayors for Peace Secretariat has been seeking examples of peace education initiatives conducted by any organization (city hall/school/NGO, etc.) in Mayors for Peace member cities that are conducive to raising peace-seeking spirit among future generations. The Mayors for Peace Secretariat accepts 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/vision/initiatives.html#section10>

A closer look at the “World’s Nuclear Warheads Count in 2021” Part 3 Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition, Nagasaki University (RECNA)

In the previous two articles, we have looked at the current status of nuclear weapons owned by the United States and Russia. This time, we will focus on the other nuclear weapons possessing states.

The United Kingdom has the smallest nuclear arsenal among the five nuclear weapon states under the NPT. One of the major events of this year was that the country stopped making progress on nuclear reductions. The British government had announced its plan to reduce the number of its nuclear warheads to 180 by mid-2020. Accordingly, the numbers of the U.K. warheads has been on the decline on our posters since 2013. However, in an official paper released in March 2021, the British government announced that it would raise the limit on its nuclear warhead stockpile to 260, citing the growing international threats. In this poster, we estimate the number to be 225, an increase of 30 from the previous year. The fact that three countries among the five nuclear weapon states with NPT disarmament obligations – Russia, U.K. and China – are actually increasing their military stockpiles will lead to a wider gap between the nuclear weapon states and non-nuclear weapon states, which have been calling for the acceleration of nuclear disarmament efforts.



Continuing from previous years, China, India, Pakistan and North Korea have been expanding their nuclear capabilities. As the table on the right shows, in the past eight years, China, India, Pakistan, and North Korea are believed to have increased their nuclear warheads by 100, 50-70, 45-65, and at least 30, respectively. In addition, the development and deployment of various types of missiles and other delivery means are also in progress at a rapid pace. There is currently no sign of a halt to these trends.

Table

Changes in the estimated number of nuclear warheads of nuclear armed countries (2013-21)			
	2013	2021	increase/decrease
North Korea	<10	40	30 or more increase
India	90-110	160	50-70 increase
Pakistan	100-120	165	45-65 increase
Israel	80	90	10 increase
United Kingdom	225	225	No increase or decrease
China	250	350	100 increase
France	300	290	10 decrease
United States	7,650	5,550	2,100 decrease
Russia	8,514	6,255	2,259 decrease

For further information, please see: <https://www.recna.nagasaki-u.ac.jp/recna/en-top>

Peace news from Hiroshima

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

We want to inform our readers that all articles published in the Chugoku Shimbun related to the atomic bombing are being posted on the website of the Chugoku Shimbun Hiroshima Peace Media Center (<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/>). Major articles are translated into English to enable people all over the world, in addition to those throughout Japan, to read such news free of charge. We consider it our mission as a news media organization based in one of the only two A-bombed cities in the world to communicate to the extent possible Hiroshima's calls for peace and A-bomb survivors' accounts of their experiences in the bombings.

With that in mind, our website was updated last month, including a redesign of the top page. In addition to our regular news article sections, new content was added to the site. One example is a page where readers can access PDF files of the front pages of morning edition newspapers published on August 6 and 7th, starting in 1946 until the present time (https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?post_type=m_newspaper).

In the late 1940s, the terms "reconstruction" and "peace" frequently appeared in such news. Numerous were reports about divisions in the movement aiming to ban atomic and hydrogen bombs, anger in response to nuclear weapons testing, tensions amid the Cold War waged by the United States and the Soviet Union, and so on. From those newspaper front pages, events taking place in a certain year can be understood. Surprisingly, it is only in the recent past that the phrase "abolition of nuclear weapons" surfaced. Readers might also take note of how some news that would ordinarily have been published did not make it into print. The August 7, 1950, issue, for example, did not carry any articles featuring news about the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Ceremony. That year, the Korean War had begun and the peace ceremony was cancelled in accordance with a directive handed down by the General Headquarters (GHQ) for the Allied Powers, which occupied Japan at the time. In 1953, the year in which a ceasefire agreement was reached in the Korean War and one year after Japan regained its independence following the occupation, the Chugoku Shimbun once again carried on its front pages articles about the Peace Memorial Ceremony.

Access to such news provides readers a glimpse into how August 6, the date of the atomic bombing, has changed since that time for Hiroshima and the world. The articles reflect social conditions over the course of those 75 years. We invite you to access information from past August 6 and 7th morning editions in this way.

Please access the following websites and read our peace-related news.

Survivors' Stories: Kazuo Imanishi, 80, Hiroshima—Buried under the collapsed house and suffered keloid scars
<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=109201>

Striving to fill voids in Hiroshima, evidence of victims remains 76 years after atomic bombing—Shima Hospital drawings discovered, considered important information on incinerated hospital, area around hypocenter
<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=108559>

Striving to fill voids in Hiroshima, evidence of victims remains 76 years after the atomic bombing—Hospital director writes of regrets about 80 A-bombing deaths
<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=109234>

Striving to fill voids in Hiroshima, evidence of victims remains 76 years after atomic bombing—First Girls' School victim's family considers donating backpack to pass on memory to next generations
<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=109112>

Chronicle: Akito Hirotani—Miracle violin that survived the A-bombing, Part 1
<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=109069>

Announcement from Hiroshima City University: publication of a new book


More than 75 years have passed since the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. As the *Hibakusha*, the survivors of the A-bomb attacks, grow older it becomes essential to convey their memories and interpret their experiences to new generations. This urgency, alongside a fervent desire to work pragmatically towards a peaceful future, are the driving forces behind the publication of the new book, **A Hiroshima Approach to Peace Studies** [*Hiroshima hatsu no heiwagaku*] (Hiroshima Peace Institute ed., Kyoto: Horitsu Bunka Sha, 2021).

The book consists of chapters contributed by the 13 professors at the Hiroshima Peace Institute of Hiroshima City University. These authors, from many countries and working in a variety of academic disciplines, approach their subjects fully cognizant that their work stems from an academic institute situated in the first A-bombed city, Hiroshima. From this common origin each works to analyze the significance and influence of the experiences of Hiroshima on the challenges we face to sustainable peacebuilding in today's diverse international society, providing perspectives from multiple national and academic vantage points.

Each author approaches their topic with the following questions in mind. 1) What does the word "Hiroshima" symbolize? How is Hiroshima's self-image shared, reflected or challenged in other countries? 2) Is it possible to maintain and achieve peace in a non-violent way, counter to the logic of "peace through power"? and 3) How can nuclear issues be perceived as global issues, including global environmental issues?

This book explores the conditions fundamental to building a peaceful world, reframing the lessons of A-bomb experiences of Hiroshima through multiple theoretical and national lenses, and diagnosing the factors that threaten human survival and dignity.

(Hitoshi Nagai, Vice-Director of the Hiroshima Peace Institute, Professor)

 More information can be found at the Hiroshima Peace Institute website.
<https://www.peace.hiroshima-cu.ac.jp/books/hiroshima-hatsu-no-heiwagaku/>

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 The latest and archived issues of Mayors for Peace News Flash are available at:
<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/statements/newsflash.html>

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