



Mayors for Peace News Flash

October 2022 / No.154

Mayors for Peace Member Cities

8,213 cities

in **166** countries and regions

(as of October 1, 2022)

[Help us achieve 10,000 member cities!](#)

Check our website and follow us on social media:

Website 

<https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/en/>

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

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(provided by the Chugoku Shimbun Hiroshima Peace Media Center)

Mayors for Peace holds the 10th General Conference in Hiroshima on Oct. 19 & 20

On October 19 and 20, the 10th General Conference of Mayors for Peace was held in Hiroshima under the theme, “Creating a Peaceful, Nuclear-Weapon-Free World: Cultivating a Culture of Peace in Civil Society.” Attended by 176 on-site participants from 102 member cities in 9 countries, the Conference was concluded with great success.



Opening Remarks by President Matsui (Opening Ceremony)



Adoption of the Hiroshima Appeal (Closing Ceremony)

The General Conference decided to establish the Mayors for Peace Supporter System and adopted the Hiroshima Appeal commemorating the 40th anniversary of the establishment of Mayors for Peace. The Mayors for Peace Supporter System aims to intensively engage the younger generation to build a consensus in civil society in favor of the realization of a peaceful, nuclear-weapon-free world, which will urge policymakers to effect policy change. The Hiroshima Appeal declares that Mayors for Peace will work even harder to promote a deep-rooted culture of peace in civil society by means such as fostering youth leadership, and appeals to the UN and all national governments to take six actions to lower rising international tension and reduce the risk of the use of nuclear weapons. The Appeal is to be sent out to the UN and national governments soon.



Panel Discussion with former UN Under-Secretary-General Chowdhury (second from right)



Presentation by youth engaging in peace activities (Session III)

The Conference was visited by Ambassador Anwarul K. Chowdhury, the former Under-Secretary-General and High Representative of the UN, who has been advocating and promoting the “Culture of Peace.” Ambassador Chowdhury delivered the Commemorative Lecture, titled, “Advancing the Culture of Peace to Create a Better World with Communities at the Center,” followed by a panel discussion with the Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. In the sessions under the themes of “The Role of Member Cities” and “The Role of Young People as Successors of the Will of the *Hibakusha*,” member city representatives and young people engaged in peace activities shared many good examples of various initiatives.

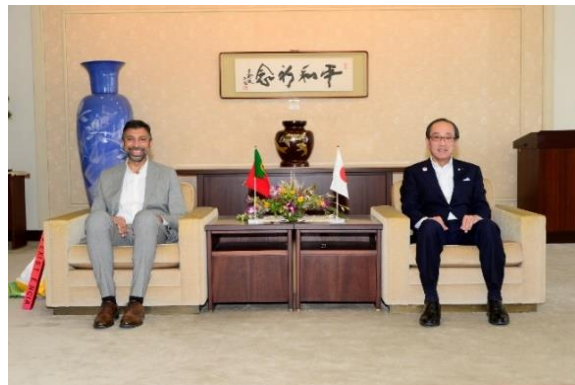
The decisions adopted at the General Conference and relevant materials are to be uploaded to the Mayors for Peace website soon.

Evora, Portugal, appointed Lead City

On September 14, Evora, Portugal, was appointed the Lead City of the country.

Since joining the Mayors for Peace network in 2007, Evora has been actively committed to implementing Mayors for Peace initiatives, such as nurturing seeds from atomic bomb survivor trees and calling on non-member cities in Portugal to join the network. Furthermore, Evora has been making active efforts to cultivate peace consciousness among youth, for example, by holding the Mayors for Peace Atomic Bomb Poster Exhibitions at schools in the municipality and organizing pottery workshops in which participants make pottery under the theme of peace.

To attend the 10th General Conference of Mayors for Peace on October 19 and 20, Vice-Mayor Alexandre Varela of Evora visited Hiroshima. At the General Conference, Vice-Mayor Varela gave a presentation of the municipality's initiatives toward peace. After the Conference, he met President Matsui and expressed Evora's willingness to further strengthen engagement with the Mayors for Peace initiatives as the Lead City.



Vice-Mayor Varela of Evora (left) and President Matsui (right)

Member Cities commemorate the International Day of Peace on Sept. 21

The United Nations has declared September 21 as the International Day of Peace (IDP), an annual day of non-violence and cease-fire. In support of this declaration, Mayors for Peace encourage all the member cities to commemorate the IDP.

Upon our call, many member cities held events to commemorate the IDP across the world on September 21, 2022.

● Hiroshima, Japan

In Hiroshima, the International Day of Peace commemoration event was attended by representatives of *hibakusha* (atomic bomb survivors) organizations, high school students participating in petition drives calling for all countries to join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons as soon as possible, and others.

To pray for the abolition of nuclear weapons and lasting world peace, the participants rang the Peace Bell and observed a moment of silence at the Cenotaph for the A-bomb Victims, holding up a Mayors for Peace banner that reads, "Join us on a path of peace towards a world free of nuclear weapons!"



Hiroshima, Japan

● European Chapter

European local governments take part in our social media campaign, “Peace Starts Here”

Report by Mr. Jaume Puigpinós, the City of Granollers, Spain

Around 50 cities and towns have joined the #PeaceStartsHere initiative promoted by the European Chapter of Mayors for Peace on the occasion of the International Day of Peace (September 21 2022). Local representatives from Catalonia, Germany, France and the United Kingdom were particularly active in sharing their messages during the day.

Mayors, councillors and technical officers in charge of their municipalities’ agendas on peace shared pictures of their cities and towns together with short messages related to peace. Most of them recalled that local action is key to build more peaceful communities; thanks to civic participation, social inclusion policies and peace education activities.



Image: courtesy of the Mayors for Peace European Chapter

The European Chapter is looking forward to continuing mobilizing the network in order to make local governments’ contribution to peace more visible, and to publicly celebrate local leadership and commitment towards the peace and nuclear disarmament agenda.

● Grigny, France

The city of Grigny organizes a week of peace

Report by Ms. Loréna Schlicht, AFCDRP–Mayors for Peace France

Grigny celebrates the International Day of Peace every year on September 21, and this year, it launched a week-long program aiming at raising awareness of peace and non-violence, of living together, of the need to resolve conflicts peacefully and listen to and educate one another.

In partnership with the Comité des Fêtes (Festival Committee), the city of Grigny organized the Young Illustrator and Young Writer’s Prize around a theme that contributes to nourish a culture of peace in the minds of young Grignois and Grignoises. This year, everyone was able to create a visual or written project on the theme: *Citizen of Peace*.

On the occasion of the Lantern Evening on Wednesday, September 21, 2022 from 8:00 to 9:00 pm at the Canal Promenade, Philippe Rio—Mayor of Grigny and President of Mayors for Peace France (AFCDRP)—received Ambassador Abou-Hassira of Palestine in France.

President Rio said:

“Peace is much more than the silence of arms, it is the building of bridges between peoples so that a lasting harmony reigns. Let’s build peace at the local level so that it can spread throughout the world and fight for the progression of human rights!”




Lantern evening in Grigny



Alongside the children: Philippe Rio (Mayor of Grigny and President of Mayors for Peace France–AFCDRP), Mahamoud Soilihi (City Councillor in charge of the Culture of Peace and Municipal Councils for Children and Collegians), Lamine Camara (Deputy in charge of the Educative City and Youth), Yveline Le Briand (First Deputy Mayor), and Véronique Remond (Delegate of the Prefect in charge of Equal Opportunities)

Photos: courtesy of the Mayors for Peace France–AFCDRP

 Find the program of the week of Peace in French (Mayors for Peace France–AFCDRP website):

<https://afcdpr.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/programme-semaine-paix-2022-Grigny.pdf>

● Evora, Portugal

Évora marked the International Day of Peace with a programme of visits “From Peace to Freedom”

Report by Ms. Paula Helena Santos, the Municipality of Évora, Portugal

On 21 September 2022, marking the International Day of Peace, the Municipality of Évora initiated a programme of guided tours to the sites in Lisbon which help participants raise awareness of the struggle for peace, tolerance and the values of freedom. These sites include the Carmo’s Barracks, Museum of GNR (National Republican Guard), and Museum of Aljube–Resistance and Freedom. The programme is open to users of the Elderly Municipal Centre, employees of the Municipality of Évora, and secondary school students in Évora. This “From Peace to Freedom” programme, supported by the Museum of GNR and the Museum of Aljube, will be carried out until 20 April 2023, five days before the 49th anniversary of Portugal’s April 25th Revolution.



Image: courtesy of Evora

Regional chapter activities

● Catalan Chapter

Meeting of rural and metropolitan municipalities to foster local policy innovation on historical memory and culture of peace

Report by Mr. Jaume Puigpinós, the City of Granollers, Spain

Local government representatives from 20 Catalan cities and towns took part in a full-day meeting on this emerging subject for our network. The event was organized by the Mayors for Peace Catalan Chapter in cooperation with Santa Margarida i els Monjos and the Barcelona Province.

The event was held at the medieval castle of Castell de Penyafort, a captivating site located at the heart of Penedès region in the Barcelona Province. It welcomed contributions by key networks, civil society initiatives and regional representatives to explore emerging practices and co-create a shared action agenda on historical memory focused on the exchange of practices, advocacy and better communication.



Photo: courtesy of the Mayors for Peace Catalan Chapter

The values and mission of the Mayors for Peace network were highlighted in this context.

The event stressed the importance of local governments’ commitment around democratic values, human rights and social cohesion. Historical memory policies are a key tool at local governments’ hands to advance this vision through intergenerational dialogues, participatory democracy, peace education and development and cooperation projects.

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.

● French Chapter

A representative of Mayors for Peace France (AFCDRP) spoke at the 5th Normandy World Peace Forum

Report by Ms. Loréna Schlicht, AFCDRP–Mayors for Peace France

AFCDRP–Mayors for Peace France, represented by Guillaume du Souich, City Councillor of the City of Villejuif in charge of the Associative Movement, International Solidarity, Culture of Peace, attended the 5th Normandy World Peace Forum at the Abbaye aux Dames in Caen on September 23 and 24. The Normandy World Peace Forum is organized by the Normandy Region, member of AFCDRP–Mayors for Peace France. The theme of this year’s Forum was: *“Down with the walls! These confinements that make wars”*.

Guillaume du Souich took part in the session on Friday, September 23 from 3:45 to 4:30 pm on the theme of *“Ukraine: the impetus of solidarity from French local authorities.”* Moderated by François-Xavier Priollaud, Vice-President of the Normandy Region at the Normandy Peace Platform, this session aimed at highlighting the actions taken by local authorities and their commitments to support the Ukrainian people in the context of the war in Ukraine. The session was also attended by Jean-Paul Guihaumé, delegate for the external action of local authorities at the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, and Ambassador Vadym Omelchenko of Ukraine to France.

Guillaume Du Souich delivered a message from Mayors for Peace, in which he recalled the importance of city diplomacy and city networks in carrying out advocacy actions for peace and disarmament. He further emphasized the importance of culture of peace and the Sustainable Development Goals to rebuild the cities and promote international cooperation. The importance of peace education was also highlighted to promote a worldwide citizenship for young people and citizens in order to face the challenges of insecurity.



(from left to right) Jean-Paul Guihaumé, Vadym Omelchenko, François-Xavier Priollaud, Guillaume du Souich



Normandy World Peace Forum

Photos: courtesy of the Mayors for Peace France–AFCDRP

🔗 The program of the 5th Normandy World Peace Forum:

<https://normandiepourlapaix.fr/forum-2022-a-bas-les-murs>

🔗 Live broadcast of the Forum:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aV6jxn5LtoU>

Call for input: examples of peace education initiatives

The Mayors for Peace Secretariat has been seeking examples of peace education initiatives conducted by any organization (city government/school/NGO, etc.) in Mayors for Peace member cities. 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:

<https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/en/visions/initiatives/edu-examples/>

Mayors for Peace member cities - 8,213 cities in 166 countries/regions

On October 1, we gained 7 new member cities, bringing our total membership to 8,213. We thank all involved in promoting expanded membership for their invaluable support. Below is the breakdown of the new members.

Country/Region	New Members	Total No.	Remarks
Ecuador	Yantzaza	19	Thanks to efforts by the Association of Municipalities of Ecuador.
France	Blainville-sur-Orne and Clamecy	169	Thanks to efforts by Malakoff, a Vice President and Lead City.
Germany	Ilm-Kreis and 2 other cities	840	Thanks to efforts by Hannover, a Vice President and Lead City.
Hungary	Nagykanizsa	6	Thanks to efforts by Puchheim, a German member city and Nagykanizsa's sister city.



List of new members (PDF):

https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/file-2209-newmembers2210_en.pdf

Membership by country (PDF):

https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/wp-content/uploads/monthly/file-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

<https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/en/about-us/resources/#recruit>

Your continued cooperation is highly appreciated!

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

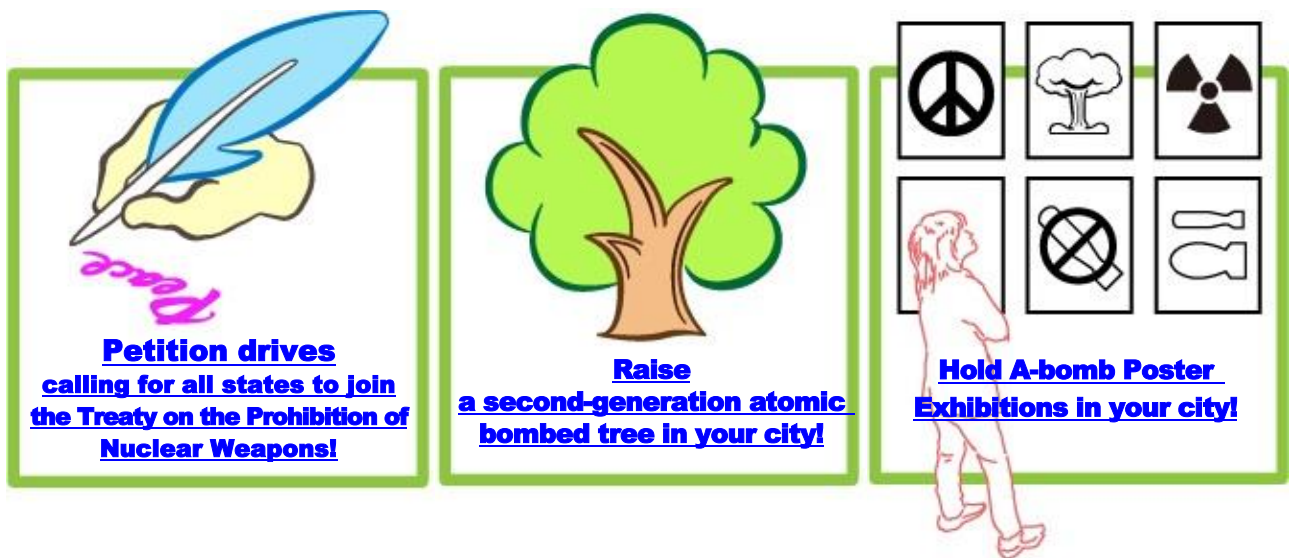
At the 12th Executive Conference of Mayors for Peace held online in July last year, we adopted our new Action Plan (2021–2025). Together, let us continue our utmost efforts toward our ultimate goal of realizing lasting world peace. Please implement initiatives outlined in the Action Plan within your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

🔗 Mayors for Peace Action Plan (PDF):

https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/file-PX_Vision_Action_Plan_en.pdf

🔗 Initiatives implemented under the Action Plan:

<https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/en/visions/initiatives/>



Request for payment of the 2022 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 17 USD/15 Euro as of March 2022) 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 2022 membership fee was sent to each city by email on April 1. We deeply appreciate your kind cooperation.

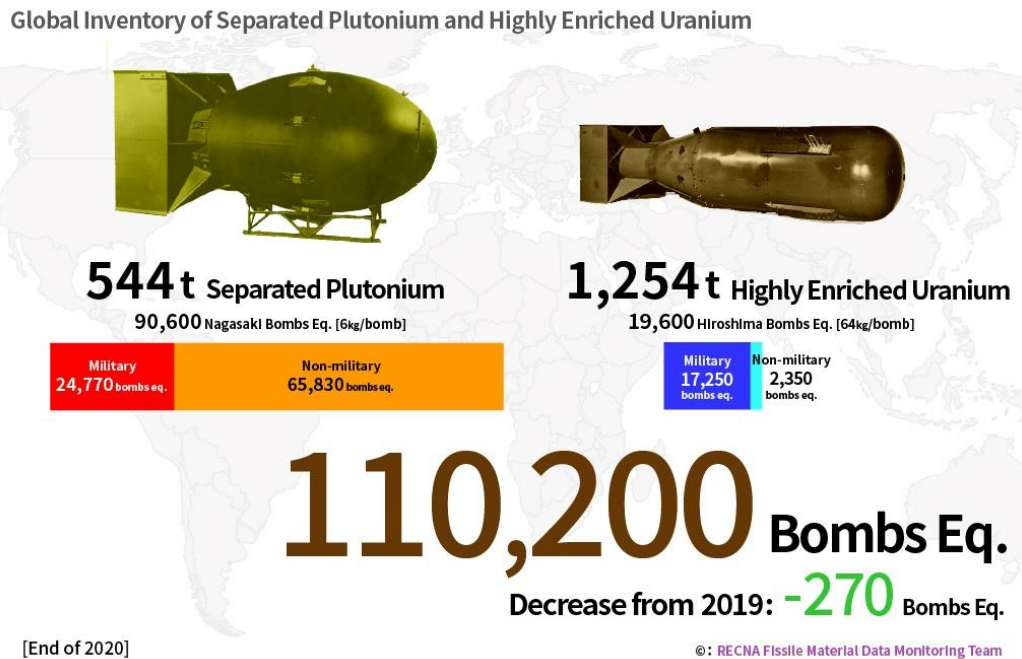
* If you want to know your city's payment status or if you have not received the email of request for payment, please contact the Secretariat.

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

🔗 Request for the 2022 Mayors for Peace Membership Fee (Mayors for Peace website):

<https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/en/about-us/joins/fees/>

A closer look at the “World’s Fissile Material Inventory in 2022” Part 1
Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition, Nagasaki University (RECNA)



Courtesy of RECNA

In the last four issues of this newsletter, we explained the World’s Nuclear Warheads Count. In the next few posts, we would like you to have a closer look at the World’s Fissile Material Inventory. Since 2015, RECNA has released graphic illustrations of the inventory of the materials which can be used for nuclear weapons (namely highly enriched uranium (HEU) and separated plutonium) by country and by purposes.

As of the end of 2020, there are 1,254 tons of HEU and 544 tons of separated plutonium in the world, both for military and non-military use*. How many atomic bombs used on Hiroshima and Nagasaki 77 years ago can be made by using the highly enriched uranium and plutonium which are available today? It is estimated that the Hiroshima bomb contained 64kg of HEU and that the Nagasaki bomb had 6kg of plutonium. Thus, the global fissile materials combined are equivalent to 19,600 Hiroshima bombs and 90,600 Nagasaki bombs, adding up to more than 110,000 bombs. (Given that there are many uncertainties, they are only approximate and estimated values.)

As there are about 12,720 nuclear warheads in the world, we can develop many times more nuclear weapons than we currently possess. It should be noted that, given today’s progress of technology, it is possible to produce an atomic bomb with a much smaller amount of nuclear material than 77 years ago. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) deems it possible to build an implosion-type nuclear weapon with 25kg of uranium-235 or 8kg of plutonium.

For more detailed information, please visit RECNA’s website:
<https://www.recna.nagasaki-u.ac.jp/recna/en-topics/41356>

* Military and Non-military Uranium:

Military: HEU used in nuclear warheads, or for reactor fuel for naval nuclear propulsion.

Non-military: HEU used for fuel for research and testing reactors; and that declared as “excess” for military purposes.

Military and Non-military Plutonium:

Military: Plutonium used in nuclear warheads.

Non-military: Plutonium separated from spent nuclear fuel in nuclear reactor for non-military purposes; and plutonium declared as “excess” for nuclear weapons.

Peace-related news from Hiroshima

(Provided by the Chugoku Shimbun Hiroshima Peace Media Center)

About eight months have passed since the start of the Ukraine crisis, which has only grown more intense since that time. Most concerning is that the use of nuclear weapons, a threat Russia's President Vladimir Putin has implied since the start of the invasion, gradually seems to be moving closer to reality. That is the result of Mr. Putin's statement that he would utilize "all available means" if Ukraine were to try and take back the four regions Russia is working to newly annex by local referendums. For the time being, U.S. President Joe Biden is warning that the risk of nuclear "Armageddon" is at its highest level since the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis. The idea that nuclear weapons will actually be used is not widely held among people in the United States, but that does not change the fact that the situation remains serious.

What in the world would happen if even one nuclear weapon were to be used? Even nuclear weapons with minimal explosive force have a destructive capacity rivaling that of the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima. The detonation of a single bomb would turn entire cities to ruins. Now is the perfect time for the world to learn from the tragedies of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The Chugoku Shimbun's news reports are written by staff writers desperately hoping their articles can serve to assist in that effort.

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

Junior Writers Reporting: Special report on date commemorating war's end — Walking around Ohkunoshima Island, also known as "poison gas island"

<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?junior=2022-14>

Poet Sankichi Toge's 50 handwritten correspondences from later years found in Hiroshima, reveal lifelong passion for poetry: "Overcoming the many crises, we shall move forward"

<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=124074>

Silent Witness: Fabric bag

<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=124558>

Mushroom Club members with microcephaly caused by A-bombing celebrate 76th birthdays, cheerfully catch up with each other's lives

<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=124556>

Guinness world record for longest single string of origami paper cranes measures 15.5797 kilometers, made up of 579,658 cranes donated by 351 groups in Hiroshima

<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=124553>

Mayors for Peace Official Social Media Accounts

<Twitter>  @Mayors4Peace
<https://twitter.com/Mayors4Peace>



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



 The latest and archived issues of Mayors for Peace News Flash are available at:

<https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/en/news/newsflashes/>

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

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