Mayors for Peace

Mayors for Peace News Flash

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Mayors for Peace Member Cities <u>8,063</u> cities in 166 countries and regions (as of January 1, 2022)

Help us achieve 10,000 member cities!

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https://twitter.com/Mayors4Peace

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

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Video of presentation by Mayors for Peace prepared for the NGO presentations of the Tenth NPT Review Conference released

The Tenth Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) was scheduled to open on January 4 at the UNHQ in New York but was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

We, Mayors for Peace, released a video of presentation by President Matsui (Mayor of Hiroshima) and Vice President Taue (Mayor of Nagasaki), which was originally prepared to be broadcasted at the NGO presentations of the Review Conference.

We hope to have as many people as possible including officials of the NPT States Parties watch this video, to have them share in our sincere message from the atomic bombed cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and that it would stimulate active and earnest dialogue among the States Parties for advancing nuclear disarmament before the postponed Review Conference to be finally held.



Video of presentation by Mayors for Peace: http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/news/220107_news.html

Relevant Information

Comment by President Matsui in response to the Joint Statement of the Leaders of the Five Nuclear-Weapon States
<u>http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/statements/calling/data/2022/E_220104_Mayor_Matsuis_comment</u> <u>re_P5_JS.pdf</u>

Joint Statement from Civil Society to NPT states parties (endorsed by 91 organizations, including Mayors for Peace) <u>https://reachingcriticalwill.org/images/documents/Disarmament-fora/npt/revcon2022/ngo-materials/joint-ngo-npt-statement_Jan2022.pdf</u>

To learn more about the NPT and how it differs from the TPNW, visit the "Nuclear Disarmament Archive" page on the Mayors for Peace website: http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/library/index.html#section03

Selection Results: Mayors for Peace Children's Art Competition "Peaceful Towns" 2021

In order to expand peace education efforts in its member cities, Mayors for Peace holds an annual Children's Art Competition "Peaceful Towns" for children from 6 to 15 years old in all member cities.

For the 2021 competition, a total of 4,166 artworks were submitted to 105 member cities in 18 countries. They went through a screening process handled by their respective member cities, after which 533 artworks were sent to the Mayors for Peace Secretariat in Hiroshima. The final screening was conducted by the Secretariat, and 12 artworks were awarded prizes.

The prize-winning artworks are now displayed on the <u>Mayors for Peace website</u> with each artist's message of peace that inspired their works. Please have a look at these excellent pictures.

The winner of the Mayors for Peace President's Award will be printed on clear plastic folders, which we will use in a variety of settings.



The Mayors for Peace President's Award winning work by Honoka Yamada (14 yrs) from Hiroshima, Japan



Member city activities

Montréal, Canada

3rd Mayors Summit on Living Together held to discuss challenges around social cohesion and diversity

Report by Ms. Lucie Lavoie, the City of Montréal

<u>The 3rd Mayors Summit on Living Together</u> was held on December 7 and 8 online, as well as on December 10 in Izmir, Turkey, on the occasion of <u>Human Rights Day</u>.

Co-organized by the <u>International Observatory of Mayors on Living Together</u> - an initiative by the City of Montréal - and the Izmir Metropolitan Municipality, the Summit brought together mayors and city representatives, as well as representatives of UN agencies, city networks and other experts, to discuss current challenges in terms of social cohesion, in a context of global recovery from COVID-19.

As part of the event, <u>a series of thematic workshops</u> presented cities the best practices on: resilience; diversity and inclusion; and dialogue and solidarity in cities.

Initiated by Montréal, and held every two years, the Summit is a high-level meeting of mayors from all regions in order to discuss the main challenges around social cohesiveness and diversity in cities worldwide.



Photos: courtesy of the City of Montréal

Regional chapter activities

• French Chapter

Peace organizations and citizens call for a Europe of Peace and ratification of TPNW Report by Ms. Loréna Schlicht, AFCDRP-Mayors for Peace France

Prior to the European summit of ministers of defense and foreign affairs held in Brest, a march and side events by citizens and NGOs took place in the streets of Brest on January 8 and 9 under the slogan of "For a Europe truly acting for peace, climate, nuclear disarmament, social justice, human rights and a dignified welcome for migrants."

Mayors for Peace France (AFCDRP) supported the events together with more than 200 peace organizations through the network of the Collectif National des marches pour la paix, which is one of the organizers of the events along with the Collectif Finistérien contre les Armes Nucléaires (CIAN 29), the European University for Peace (UEP), and ICAN France. AFCDRP helped spread information about the events through the network of Mayors for Peace member cities in France.

At the events, participants called on European governments to eliminate nuclear weapons through the implementation of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons which entered into force a year before on January 22, 2021.

<u>Link (Collectif en marche pour la paix)</u>

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 <u>website</u> 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, <u>including reports on events celebrating</u> the 1st anniversary of the TPNW's entry into force!

Email: <u>mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp</u>

*Please write a <u>SHORT</u> (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.

Mayors for Peace member cities - 8,063 cities in 166 countries/regions

On January 1, we gained 5 new member cities, bringing our total membership to 8,063. 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
Germany	Trossingen, Wülfrath	730	
Myanmar	Mandalay, Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon	3	This is the first member registration from Myanmar.

List of new members (PDF):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/03_newmembers/2022/newmembers2201_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 <u>available in 10 different languages</u>: 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

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): 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



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 examples.html

Introducing the book "La Bombe (The Bomb)"

Title: La Bombe

Authors: Didier Alcante, Louis-Frédéric Bollée, Denis Rodier

Inspired by one of the authors' visit to the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum in his childhood, the comic book "La Bombe" documents the historical background of the devastation inflicted by the atomic bombing of Hiroshima on August 6, 1945. This graphic-novel-style comic book was originally written in French by 3 authors from Belgium, France and Canada, and it has now been translated into 14 different languages to date.

Book Review

by Mr. Michel Cibot and Mrs. Miho Cibot-Shimma, Mayors for Peace France



"La Bombe" is a big piece of realistic manga (comic book) that is over 450 pages long. According to the "Afterword" by Didier Alcante, one of the authors of this book, its story puts the main focus on the process of the making and using of the atomic bombs, because the harmful effects of the atomic bombings on the human body and the suffering of the *hibakusha*, atomic bomb survivors, have already been described in many books, including Keiji Nakazawa's "Gen d'Hiroshima (Barefoot Gen)." It also depicts the fact that plutonium was injected and tested on 18 patients, including four-year-old, without their consent in the US between 1945 and 1947.

We consider that the value of this well-documented comic book, backed by detailed research, will be enhanced by reading it together with the testimonies of the *hibakusha*. We also recommend reading the book "J'avais six ans à Hiroshima (I was 6 years old in Hiroshima)," a biography of Keiji Nakazawa published in France, along with "La Bombe".

Cover image: courtesy of and the copyrighted material of Glénat

Peace news from Hiroshima

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

As was the case with other countries and cities around the world, Hiroshima welcomed in the new year, 2022, facing yet another outbreak of the coronavirus. The pandemic has had a variety of global impacts, with one being the postponement of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference, scheduled to be held at the United Nations headquarters in New York City starting on January 4. To ensure the delay does not negatively impact worldwide momentum toward nuclear disarmament, Hiroshima must continue communicating its message as the A-bombed city.

January 22 marked the one-year anniversary of the entering into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). Over that one-year period, the rift between nuclear- and non-nuclear weapon states appears to have not only not narrowed but widened ever further. The reality is that nuclear-weapon states have been pushing forward with enhancement of their own nuclear arsenals, both in terms of quantity and quality. During the same time span, many reports in Hiroshima have announced the passing from the scene of numerous A-bomb survivors, people who had experienced themselves the inhumanity of nuclear weapons. The fact is, year by year, there are fewer and fewer opportunities to come to terms with the true horror of nuclear weapons with any sense of urgency.

Amid that situation, the Chugoku Shimbun newspaper has put together photographs of Hiroshima captured within a two-kilometer radius of the hypocenter before the city was devastated in the atomic bombing and posted them onto one of the two websites managed by the company's Hiroshima Peace Media Center. The website, "Striving to fill voids in Hiroshima—Recreating cityscapes," can be accessed at the following URL: <u>https://hiroshima75.web.app/</u>. The site was redesigned this month, with more than 100 photos capturing the scorched city uploaded and superimposed onto a Google map as "Records of A-bombing disaster." A total of 1,300 photos, including those taken before and immediately after the atomic bombing, will ultimately be made available for viewing on the site. The atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima was created at the initial stages of nuclear weapons development but, even still, that single bomb resulted in the tragedy of the atomic bombing and the devastation of people's lives, as evidenced in the photos, which are a visual representation of that reality. There are no guarantees the same kind of tragedy will never be repeated somewhere in the world. With that, we invite you all to visit our website and witness for yourselves.

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

Striving to fill voids in Hiroshima, evidence of victims remains in records of A-bombing disaster—Many photos taken after A-bombing added as new content to redesigned website https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=114856

Former students and younger generations attend Sunao Tsuboi's memorial service, take on his wishes for nuclear weapons abolition https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=114746

No More Hibakusha Project, aimed at inheriting memories of A-bomb survivors, commemorates 10th anniversary https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=114748

Hidankyo submits 650,000 signatures calling for TPNW ratification to Japan's national government <u>https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=114750</u>

Construction of "Peace Bell" Tower at Carter Center, base of former U.S. President Jimmy Carter who have close bond with town, and the bell originally sent to Japanese military as offering during wartime, to deepen US-Japan friendship

https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=114675

Hiroshima Panels sent from Maruki Gallery, Saitama, for restoration expected to be completed in 2023 <u>https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=114702</u>

Mayors for Peace Official Social Media Accounts

⟨Twitter⟩ ♥ https://twitter.com/Mayors4Peace





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