



# Mayors for Peace News Flash

February 2022 / No.145

## Mayors for Peace Member Cities

**8,064** cities

**in 166 countries and regions**

(as of February 1, 2022)

**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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## Preparing for the 10th General Conference

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As we have previously announced, we postponed the 10th General Conference of Mayors for Peace, originally planned to be held in 2020, twice due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We have been making arrangements for it, and we are pleased to announce that it is scheduled to be convened from the afternoon of Thursday, 4th, to Friday, 5th of August this year (2022) in Hiroshima, commemorating the 40th anniversary of the establishment of Mayors for Peace. We will announce the details including the program, application, and accommodation in late March.

Given the current circumstances with the pandemic, we expect that it would still be difficult to have participants from overseas travel to Hiroshima to attend the General Conference in August, unfortunately. We, therefore, plan to convene it as a “hybrid” conference, to allow both in-person and online participation from overseas.

The fee for those attending the General Conference in-person is set to be 8,000JPY per person (subject to change). It will be free of charge for online participation.

We hope to have as many attendees as possible and are looking forward to your city’s participation!

 Past General Conferences of Mayors for Peace (Mayors for Peace website):  
<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/conferences/index.html>

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## President comments on the military conflict in Ukraine

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“The military conflict in Ukraine has claimed civilian lives. This must not lead to the use of nuclear weapons at any cost. I strongly urge for diplomatic efforts for a peaceful solution as soon as possible.”



February 24, 2022  
MATSUI Kazumi  
President of Mayors for Peace

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/Mayors4Peace>  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/mayorsforpeace>

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## Welcoming the first anniversary of the entry into force of the TPNW

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January 22 marked the first anniversary of the entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). On this occasion, President of Mayors for Peace Mayor Matsui of Hiroshima released a comment expressing our determination: “together with Mayors for Peace member cities, (we will) work to create consensus in civil society that a world free from nuclear weapons is the only world that humanity should strive for, and create an environment that encourages policymakers to take radical shifts in policy toward nuclear abolition, liberated from the nuclear deterrence theory.”



The full text of the comment is available at the link below.

Comment by President Regarding the First Anniversary of the TPNW:  
[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/statements/calling/data/2022/E\\_220121\\_Mayor\\_Matsuis\\_comment\\_TPNW1year.pdf](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/statements/calling/data/2022/E_220121_Mayor_Matsuis_comment_TPNW1year.pdf)

Marking and celebrating this anniversary, events, including ones reported on below, have been held in member cities around the world.

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## ● UK & Ireland Chapter

### **UK / Ireland Peace Councils celebrate first ‘banniversary’**

Report by Mr. Richard Outram, UK & Ireland Mayors for Peace Chapter Secretary

Local authorities working for peace as members of the UK and Ireland Mayors for Peace Chapter and Nuclear Free Local Authorities network (NFLA) celebrated the first ‘banniversary’ of the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (22 Jan) and vowed to continue the fight to put pressure on the UK Government to sign.

Manchester Councillor Eddy Newman, speaking for the Chapter, said:

“Despite world opinion favouring nuclear disarmament, nuclear weapon states, like the United Kingdom, continue to refuse to engage with this Treaty and refuse to honour their solemn promise made over 50 years ago as signatories to the Non-Proliferation Treaty to disarm.”

Leeds Councillor David Blackburn, who is the Chair of NFLA, said:

“One of our priorities as Mayors for Peace or NFLA Councils in the UK is to continue to put pressure on the UK Government to engage with the treaty. We are asking our member Councils to pass resolutions calling on the government to do so. This will be a priority for us over the coming year. Leeds and Manchester Councils have both done this, and we would like to see many more do so in 2022.”

## ● Catalan Chapter

### **Catalan Chapter supports a nationwide appeal for Spanish government to join TPNW**

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

On January 20, the Catalan Chapter of Mayors for Peace joined more than thirty Spanish organizations supporting the campaign “[10 Reasons to Sign the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons](#)” in the launch of a public appeal asking the Spanish government to adopt the TPNW. This initiative was held on the 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the treaty’s entry into force. The campaign also called for Spain’s participation as an observer state in the first meeting of States Parties to the TPNW (MSP1), which is to be held in Vienna this year.

Key supporters of the “10 Reasons” campaign took part in the press conference which introduced the TPNW initiative to the general public; among them was Vice President of Mayors for Peace and Mayor of Granollers, Josep Mayoral.

Throughout his appearance at the press conference, Mayor Mayoral highlighted the work done by Mayors for Peace and its allies in terms of advocacy of the TPNW and raising public awareness. He also emphasized how, in the coming months, these same efforts will focus on expanding the number of cities supporting the anti-nuclear weapons cause while strengthening alliances with other key players and networks, all of which are in the run-up to the MSP1.

ICAN’s Digital Campaign Coordinator, Lucero Oyarzún was also present at the meeting. He stressed the already visible outcomes of the TPNW’s effect, which include financial divestment trends in the nuclear weapons sector ([\\$63 billion fall since 2019](#)).

Representatives of other key Spanish organizations supporting the “10 Reasons” campaign were also present at the meeting, including AIPAZ, Centre Delàs and Fundipau.

Reach [info@alcaldesperlapau.cat](mailto:info@alcaldesperlapau.cat) to know more about this initiative or [follow us on Twitter](#).

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In this one-year period since the TPNW’s entry into force, 8 states (Cambodia, Philippines, Comoros, Seychelles, Chile, Mongolia, Guinea-Bissau, and Peru) newly ratified the treaty, bringing the total Signatories (states that have signed the treaty) to 86, and Parties (states that are (or soon to be) legally bound by the treaty) to 59. We, Mayors for Peace, will continue our efforts promoting the universalization of the TPNW to achieve the realization of a peaceful, nuclear weapon-free world.

## Relevant Information

- 🔗 To learn more about the TPNW and how it differs from the NPT, visit the “Nuclear Disarmament Archive” page on the Mayors for Peace website:  
<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/library/index.html>

## Mayors for Peace Atomic Bomb Posters update: available for download in 9 languages

Following our recent update of the Mayors for Peace Atomic Bomb Posters in English and Japanese with the *PX Vision* adopted in July last year, we completed updating the posters in Catalan, Dutch, French, German, Russian, and Spanish. We also newly added the posters in Portuguese. The Atomic Bomb Posters are available on the Mayors for Peace website for download in 9 different languages now- please make use of the posters in the language of your convenience.



We have received reports from many member cities about their poster exhibitions this year as well. If your city has not yet held an exhibition, please consider doing so, so that more citizens can deepen their understanding of the realities of the atomic bombings and share the importance of realizing the abolition of nuclear weapons.

The posters can be downloaded at any time throughout the year from the link below. When downloading the posters, you will need to enter an ID and password of your city. If your city needs to receive them, please contact the Mayors for Peace Secretariat. We look forward to hearing about your exhibitions!

- 🔗 Download the Mayors for Peace Atomic Bomb Posters (Mayors for Peace website):  
[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/vision/initiatives\\_poster.html](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/vision/initiatives_poster.html)

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



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## Member city activities

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### ● Lasséran, France A village for peace

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

Highly committed to the promotion of a culture of peace, on October 23 last year, Mayor Michel Soriano of Lasséran, unveiled a fresco dedicated to peace which was painted by the artist Francis Roca. The painting, inspired by Leonardo da Vinci's "The Last Supper," brings together notable figures, such as Louise Michel, Averroès, Ghandi, Martin Luther King Jr., John Lennon, Mother Teresa, Johnny Clegg, Joan Baez, Nelson Mandela, Jean Jaurès, Cabu, and Marianne; those who worked to better racial and cultural understandings between others.

A reproduction of this fresco was hung on the wall of Lasséran public school. Under this painting, schoolchildren stamped their handprints and written their own messages of peace.

Mayor Soriano and the municipal team of Lasséran (a member city of Mayors for Peace France), have already carried out many projects for peace; among them are installation of peace garden, peace square, panels representing Nobel prizes, signs with messages calling for solidarity, and a "washhouse (*lavoir*) for peace," as well as planting an olive tree. He was awarded with the "Innovation" prize for his peace actions at the "Mon beau village (My beautiful village)" contest in October 2021.



Photos: courtesy of AFCD RP-Mayors for Peace France

### 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, [including reports on events celebrating the 1st anniversary of the TPNW's entry into force!](#)

Email: [mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp](mailto: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.

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## Announcement: No plans for invitations to this year's HIROSHIMA and PEACE course

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Mayors for Peace annually hosts selected youth from member cities in Hiroshima and provides them with financial support to participate in the summer course HIROSHIMA and PEACE offered by Hiroshima City University. In addition, we ask the young participants to give presentations on their cities' peace activities and to share their views on peace.

However, due to the continuing uncertainties surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, Hiroshima City University has informed the Secretariat that HIROSHIMA and PEACE 2022 will be provided as a series of online lectures, as was the case last year. Given their decision, we have decided not to invite young people to Hiroshima this year.

Please refer to the link below for details.

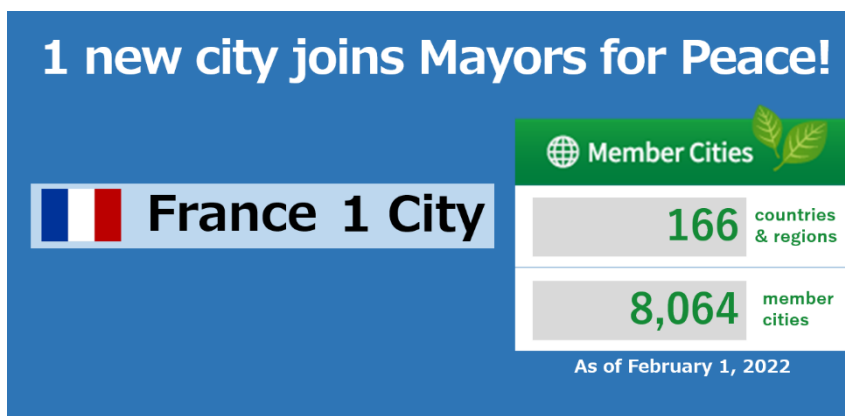
 Hiroshima City University's website:  
<https://intl.hiroshima-cu.ac.jp/hiroshima-and-peace/>

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## Mayors for Peace member cities - 8,064 cities in 166 countries/regions

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On February 1, we gained 1 new member city (Arradon) from France, bringing our total membership to 8,064. We thank all involved in promoting expanded membership for their invaluable support.



Help us achieve **10,000** member cities!



 List of new member (PDF):  
[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/03\\_newmembers/2022/newmembers2202\\_en.pdf](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/03_newmembers/2022/newmembers2202_en.pdf)

 Membership by country (PDF):  
[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/01\\_monthly\\_updating/07\\_membership\\_by\\_country\\_en.pdf](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/01_monthly_updating/07_membership_by_country_en.pdf)


(Ref.) Number of Member Cities in five nuclear-weapon states

| State  | Number of Member Cities |
|--------|-------------------------|
| US     | 220                     |
| Russia | 67                      |
| UK     | 84                      |
| France | 162                     |
| China  | 7                       |
| Total  | 540                     |

## 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>

Your continued cooperation is highly appreciated!

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## Report by Executive Advisor

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### ● **First Meeting of States Parties to the TPNW postponed**

Report by Mr. Thomas Hajnoczi, the Executive Advisor for Mayors for Peace

Due to the ongoing pandemic, the States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) decided to postpone the First Meeting of States Parties which was scheduled for 22 to 24 March 2022 in Vienna. In their decision, they stressed the importance they attach to a full participation of civil society. Under the present restrictions, this would not have been possible. A tentative reservation for 19-21 July 2022 at the UN premises in Vienna was made. Prior to this meeting, on 18 July 2022, Austria would invite to a conference on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons. The President-designate was authorized to explore alternative dates and report back to States Parties not later than 28 February 2022. It is widely expected that the numbers of COVID cases will be substantially lower in summer.

Also, the Review Conference of the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) had to be postponed from the January dates to later this year. The conference was originally planned for spring 2020, but the pandemic did not allow the holding of this four-week-long conference until now. The President-designate made a tentative reservation for the period 1 to 26 August at the UN in New York, but this would overlap with the dates of the Review Conference of the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention in Geneva which originally was foreseen for 30 August to 8 September 2021. Now he tries to find dates during this spring in New York or elsewhere and will soon organize a new round of consultations of States Parties.


The backlog of important multilateral disarmament conferences and the uncertainty concerning the future development of the pandemic make it extremely difficult to organize these meetings. On the positive side, the postponement of the two major nuclear disarmament conferences can be used for further preparation. The States Parties to the TPNW consult regularly on the main issues to be decided at the First Meeting of States Parties and are progressing in their attempt to establish a common understanding.

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

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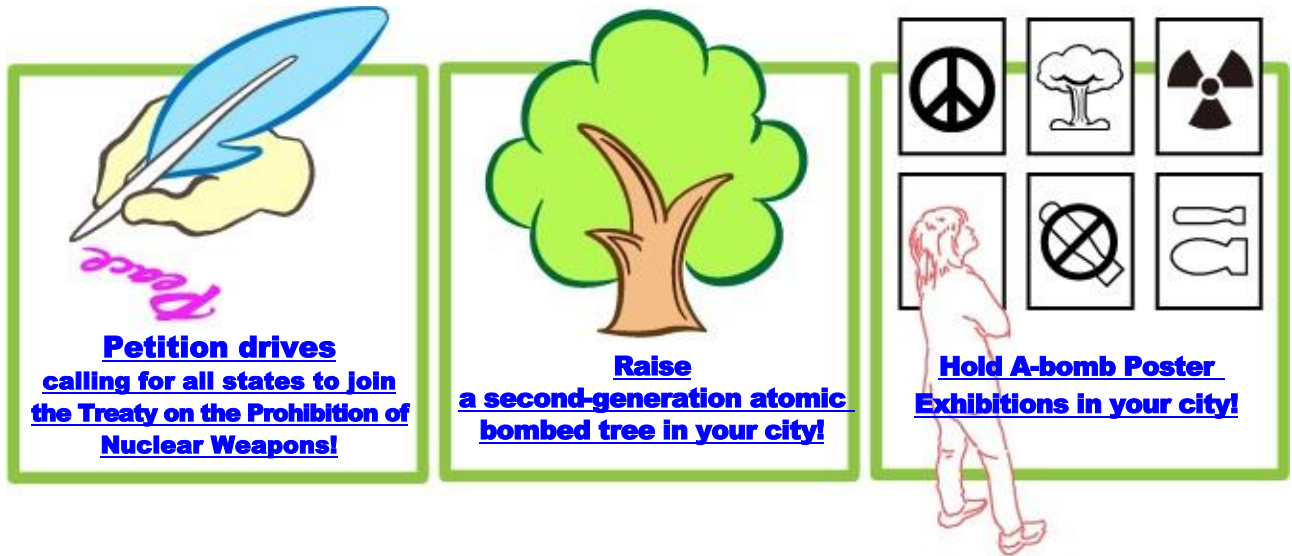
At the 12th Executive Conference of Mayors for Peace held online in July last year, we adopted our new Action Plan (2021-2025). Together, let us continue our utmost efforts toward our ultimate goal of realizing lasting world peace. Please implement initiatives outlined in the Action Plan within your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



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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/vision/initiatives\\_examples.html](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/vision/initiatives_examples.html)



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## Peace news from Hiroshima

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

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After yet another delay in the holding of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference, originally scheduled for January of this year, the First Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) was also postponed. In Hiroshima, A-bomb survivors expressed disappointment. With no clear end in sight to the coronavirus pandemic, survivors are increasingly worried that the global health outlook might lead to further stagnation in such efforts aimed at achieving nuclear disarmament. On the other hand, the delays could also be interpreted as providing extra time for encouraging Japan and other countries that have turned their backs on the TPNW to take part in the first meeting as observers at the very least. Such a delay in timing of the meeting could prove meaningful because having government representatives of signatory nations gather together at a meeting venue, rather than in an online setting, could well lead to fruitful deliberations.

Meanwhile, January 22 marked the first anniversary of the TPNW's entry into force. In Hiroshima, numerous gatherings and activities were held to call on Japan's national government to sign and ratify the treaty. With some thought, there are likely any number of things that can be done during this new "grace period" before the NPT Review Conference and the Meeting of State Parties to the TPNW are actually convened.

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

A-bomb survivors stress inhumanity of nuclear weapons in videos filmed by Hiroshima NPO in conjunction with first anniversary of TPNW's entering into force

<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=116211>

Hiroshima City to begin training children, grandchildren of survivors as "Family A-bomb Legacy Successors" in 2022 to communicate A-bombing experiences

<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=116277>

Editorial: One year after TPNW enters into force, why won't the A-bombed nation of Japan participate in meeting as observer?

<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=116285>

'Don't turn your back on TPNW': As Japan hesitates one year after TPNW's enactment, Hiroshima calls for treaty ratification as first step to nuclear abolition

<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=116279>

Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum updates its Peace Database, adding new content and enabling easier access to archived information

<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=116287>

U.S. ambassador meets for first time with Japan prime minister, expresses desire to visit Hiroshima; two countries confirm partnership to achieve world without nuclear weapons

<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=116476>

**Mayors for Peace Official Social Media Accounts**

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

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

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

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