



# Mayors for Peace News Flash

August 2023 / No.164

## Mayors for Peace Member Cities

**8,271** cities

in **166** countries and regions

(as of August 1, 2023)

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

Check our website and follow us on social media:

**Website** 

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

**Facebook** 

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

**X (Twitter)** 

<https://x.com/Mayors4Peace>

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

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## Mayors for Peace delegation attends the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the 11th NPT Review Conference

A Mayors for Peace delegation attended the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the Eleventh Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, which met in Vienna from July 31 to August 11. President Matsui (Mayor of Hiroshima), Vice President Suzuki (Mayor of Nagasaki), and Secretary General Kagawa headed the delegation that included eight high school students from Hiroshima. The delegation conveyed the *hibakusha*'s sincere desire for the abolition of nuclear weapons and emphasized the need for advancing nuclear disarmament to representatives of national governments and the UN.

Mayors for Peace also hosted a side event, "Mayors for Peace Youth Forum," which provided a platform for eight youth groups from around the world including the students from Hiroshima, Nagasaki, and Vienna to present their activities and exchange their views toward realizing a world without nuclear weapons and lasting world peace.

In his speech during the NGO presentations session on August 2, President Matsui mentioned that the G7 Hiroshima Summit provided an opportunity for G7 leaders, including those from nuclear-weapon States, to deeply understand the "will of Hiroshima." He emphasized that the flawed theory of nuclear deterrence, which is now in a state of collapse, must be abandoned, and that we must now start taking tangible action for the total elimination of nuclear weapons. He concluded his speech by expressing the hope to witness a significant and unwavering step forward in advancing concrete nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation measures during the session.

Vice President Suzuki elaborated further on the importance of comprehending the realities of the atomic bombings, emphasizing that it is the starting point on the path toward a world without nuclear weapons and serves as a driving force in bringing about change in the world. He continued, stating, "Nuclear weapons are not only a threat confined to Hiroshima and Nagasaki's pasts; they are a present and future issue with which everyone living on Earth must contend," and closed his statement by sharing the message, "Make Nagasaki the last wartime atomic bombing site."

🔗 Mayors for Peace statements at the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the 11th NPT Review Conference by [President \(Mayor of Hiroshima\)](#) and [Vice President \(Mayor of Nagasaki\)](#)



President Matsui delivering his statement (left) and Vice President Suzuki (second from left)



UN Under-Secretary-General Nakamitsu (center) and high school students from Hiroshima

On this occasion, the delegation had opportunities to meet with representatives of national governments and the UN to exchange views on the unfolding situation of the world concerning nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. In the meetings, the delegation called on the representatives to take concrete actions toward a world without nuclear weapons and requested support for the expansion of Mayors for Peace membership.

The high school students from Hiroshima, who have been engaging in the petition drive calling for all states to join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons at the earliest date, met with Ms. Izumi Nakamitsu, UN Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, and handed over the certificate of approximately 44,000 signatures, which included those collected by the students and the member cities.

In order to further promote the culture of peace as outlined in Mayors for Peace's [Vision for Peaceful Transformation to a Sustainable World \(PX Vision\)](#) in close collaboration with the member cities, the UN, and other NGOs, Mayors for Peace will continue to develop youth leadership by utilizing its network and establish a civil society which urges policymakers to demonstrate decisive leadership to effect peace-oriented policy change.

🔗 Reports on Mayors for Peace activities in Vienna (Mayors for Peace website): <https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/en/news/2023/post-230822-2/>

## Commemorative events around the world marking 78 years since the atomic bombings

The annual Peace Memorial Ceremonies were held in Hiroshima and Nagasaki on August 6 and 9, respectively, marking 78 years since the atomic bombings.



Peace Memorial Ceremony of Hiroshima  
(Photo: courtesy of the City of Hiroshima)



Peace Memorial Ceremony of Nagasaki  
(Photo: courtesy of Nagasaki City)

Starting in 2020, the City of Hiroshima had limited the number of attendees at the annual ceremonies to prevent the spread of COVID-19. However, this year's ceremony reverted to the normal attendance levels that were in place before the pandemic. On the other hand, due to a typhoon, Nagasaki City held the ceremony indoors with only the city personnel attending it to ensure the safety of other planned participants.

The Peace Declarations, which were presented by each mayor to the world during their respective city's ceremony, are available on the following websites.

### 🔗 “Peace Declaration” by Mayor of Hiroshima

Full text (website of the City of Hiroshima): <https://www.city.hiroshima.lg.jp/site/english/348500.html>

Video (Official YouTube Channel of the City of Hiroshima): [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X0zfbsof\\_iv](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X0zfbsof_iv)

### 🔗 “Nagasaki Peace Declaration” by Mayor of Nagasaki

Full text (Nagasaki City website): [https://www.city.nagasaki.lg.jp/heiwa/3070000/307100/p036998\\_d/fil/en.pdf](https://www.city.nagasaki.lg.jp/heiwa/3070000/307100/p036998_d/fil/en.pdf)

Video (Official YouTube Channel of Nagasaki City): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TKcrugDnQQ8>

The attendees of the Peace Memorial Ceremony in Hiroshima included Mayors for Peace Vice President Onay (Mayor of Hannover, Germany) and Vice President Knez (Mayor of Biograd na Moru, Croatia).



Vice President Onay (Mayor of Hannover, Germany)



Vice President Knez (Mayor of Biograd na Moru, Croatia)

Photos: courtesy of the City of Hiroshima

Many member cities around the world joined the two atomic-bombed cities to commemorate the bombings, as illustrated by the following reports (please refer to the next page, page 4). Mayors for Peace sincerely appreciates the efforts of those organizing such events to console the souls of atomic bomb victims and pray for peace.

● **Montreal, Canada**

Report by Mr. Arber Fetiu, the City of Montreal

In a poignant ceremony held on Saturday, August 5th, at 19:15 local time (corresponding to August 6th, 8:15 am in Hiroshima), Montreal’s City Council President, Mrs. Martine Musau Muele, joined forces with Japan’s Consul General in Montreal, Mr. Jun Saito, to honor the 78th year since the Hiroshima bombing. This heartfelt event aimed to stand in solidarity with the citizens of Hiroshima.

Montreal, a proud Vice President and Lead City of Mayors for Peace, showcased its dedication to peace as the two distinguished figures rang the resonant Hiroshima peace bell.

Notably, this year’s commemoration held added significance, aligning with the 25th anniversary of the twinning between Montreal and Hiroshima. The ceremony saw the presence of numerous dignitaries, as well as young students from Hiroshima, who attended the ceremony as part of an exploratory tour of our metropolis.

In their remarks, both President Mrs. Musau Muele and Consul General Mr. Saito stressed the vital importance of the Hiroshima commemoration, emphasizing the centrality of peace, particularly in these troubled times. Mrs. Musau Muele also acknowledged the diligent efforts undertaken by Mayors for Peace in pursuit of peace.



One minute silence



Mrs. Muele and Mr. Saito ringing the Hiroshima peace bell

Photos: courtesy of the City of Montreal

● **Cervia, Italy**

**No more Hiroshima! No more Nagasaki!: Cervia commemorates 78th year since the dropping of the atomic bombs**

Report by Ms. Bruna Rondoni, the City of Cervia, Italy

On the occasion of the 78th year since the dropping of the atomic bombs on Hiroshima (August 6, 1945) and Nagasaki (August 9, 1945), the City of Cervia undertook commemorative initiatives to foster awareness of the atomic bombings and the significance of abolishing nuclear weapons.

At 9 pm on both August 6 and 9, in Piazza Garibaldi Square, the City of Cervia organized the event titled “Gift of Peace.” This event distributed copies of the Italian and English translations of the Peace Declarations by Mayor Matsui of Hiroshima and Mayor Suzuki of Nagasaki to its participants. The participants also received materials from the “Italy, think again” campaign, promoted by the Italian Peace and Disarmament Network and Senzatomica.

The Peace Councillor Michela Brunelli explained about the Peace Declarations, stating, “The two mayors call on like-minded people around the world to pledge to do everything in our power to abolish nuclear weapons and light the way to lasting world peace, and to spread the message of the *hibakusha*, those who survived the atomic bomb, because ‘no one else should suffer as we did.’”

From August 5 to 19, the City of Cervia also hosted an exhibition titled “Tips of Peace” at Maria Goia Central Town Library of Cervia, showcasing books dedicated to peace and disarmament.



Distribution of copies of the Peace Declarations



Books showcased in the “Tips of Peace”

Photos: courtesy of the City of Cervia

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**Call to hold events to mark the 2023 International Day of Peace on September 21**

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The United Nations has established September 21 as the International Day of Peace (IDP), which is dedicated to world peace with a focus on 24 hours of non-violence and cease-fire. Mayors for Peace has been a supporter of the IDP. In the message titled, “100-Day Countdown Message for the International Day of Peace (September 21, 2023),” issued on June 13, Mayors for Peace encouraged all member cities to organize their own events on the IDP, aiming to unite the peace aspirations of citizens worldwide.

🔗 100-Day Countdown Message for the International Day of Peace (September 21, 2023), issued on June 13: [https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/file-2306-230613\\_IDP100days\\_message\\_E.pdf](https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/file-2306-230613_IDP100days_message_E.pdf)

🔗 International Day of Peace 21 September (UN website): <https://www.un.org/en/observances/international-day-peace>

We invite all member cities to join us in organizing the 2023 IDP commemorative events on September 21, 2023 to encourage every citizen to share in the wish for peace and to offer prayers for its realization.

For information about the commemorative events member cities organized on the 2022 IDP, please refer to the following reports on the Mayors for Peace website.

🔗 Event Commemorating 2022 International Day of Peace Held (Hiroshima): <https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/en/news/2022/post-221027-5/>

🔗 The city of Grigny organizes a week of peace (Grigny, France): <https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/en/activities/2023/post-230220-11/>

🔗 European local governments take part in our social media campaign, “Peace Starts Here” (European Chapter): <https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/en/activities/2023/post-230220-13/>

🔗 Évora marked the International Day of Peace with a programme of visits “From Peace to Freedom” (Évora, Portugal): <https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/en/activities/2023/post-230220-15/>

**Please share information on your city’s 2023 IDP events!**

The Secretariat welcomes reports on your city’s events commemorating the IDP. After you host commemorative events, please share event reports with the Secretariat, so that we could share the information with other member cities on [our website](#), News Flash, and/or other forms of media.

The Secretariat also highly appreciates to you for informing us of any plans for commemorative events in advance.

Please share the information with the Secretariat via email at: [mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp](mailto:mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp)

## Invitation for the Children’s Art Competition “Peaceful Towns” 2023

In order to expand peace education efforts in its over 8,200 member cities in 166 countries and regions around the world, Mayors for Peace holds a children’s art competition on the theme of peace, for children from 6 to 15 years old in all these cities.

**Categories:** [Category 1] 6-10 year olds [Category 2] 11-15 year olds

**Theme:** What Peace Means to Me

**Number of applications allowed per city:** Up to 5 artworks for each category


**Submission Deadline:** 5:00 PM (Japan Standard Time), October 31, 2023

**Submission:** Via Google Forms: <https://forms.gle/X4FMTDq7VXk9YDss7>

To ensure that submissions are only received from member cities, the form is password protected. The password was emailed to respective member cities. Please contact the Secretariat for any inquiries.

**Note:** If it is difficult to submit artworks via the form, member cities can submit them by email. Please send the scanned artworks and application form, along with a cover sheet, to the Secretariat.

**Inquiries:** Email the Secretariat: [mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp](mailto:mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp)

 Details of the Children’s Art Competition “Peaceful Towns” 2023 (Mayors for Peace website): <https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/en/visions/initiatives/arts/>



Artworks winning the Mayors for Peace President Award 2022 (left) and the Mayors for Peace President Award 2021 (above)

## Request for payment of the 2023 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 16 USD/15 Euro as of March 27, 2023) 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 2023 membership fee was sent to each city by email on April 4. We deeply appreciate your kind cooperation.

 Request for the 2023 Mayors for Peace Membership Fee (Mayors for Peace website): <https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/en/about-us/joins/fees/>

## Member city and regional chapter activities

### ● German Chapter

#### Showing the flag for a nuclear-free and peaceful world!

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

The ongoing Russian war of aggression on Ukraine and the modernization of nuclear arsenals by the nuclear powers set the backdrop for the Mayors for Peace Flag Day, which took place on July 8. Through this action, more than 550 cities in Germany displayed a visible sign for a peaceful world without nuclear weapons and once again expressed their solidarity with Ukraine.

Mayor Belit Onay of Hannover, Vice President of Mayors for Peace, showed solidarity with the people in Ukraine and reaffirmed commitment to promotion of nuclear disarmament, stating, “On Flag Day, we once again show solidarity with Ukraine. Despite the poor security situation, we remain committed to the goal of promoting nuclear disarmament, even when current indications suggest otherwise.”

On Flag Day, Mayors for Peace German Chapter commemorates a legal opinion issued by the International Court of Justice in The Hague on July 8, 1996. The Court concluded, “the threat or use of nuclear weapons would generally be contrary to the rules of international law applicable in armed conflict.” In addition, the Court found that there is an obligation under international law “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.”

🔗 Flag Day on July 8, 2023 (Mayors for Peace German Chapter website; in German):

<https://www.hannover.de/Leben-in-der-Region-Hannover/Politik/Politische-Gremien/Mayors-for-Peace/Aktivitaeten/Mayors-for-Peace-Flaggentag-am-8.-Juli-2023>



Mayors for Peace flag in Hannover  
Photo: courtesy of the City of Hannover



Mayors for Peace logo in the Peace Square, Dortmund  
Photo: courtesy of the City of Dortmund

### ● Dortmund, Germany

#### Peace dove in Dortmund: Mayors for Peace logo painted in the Peace Square on Flag Day

Report by Ms. Sandra Rogowski, City of Dortmund, Germany

To generate even more attention for this year’s Flag Day of the Mayors for Peace German Chapter on July 8, the Dortmund city administration came up with something very special.

The logo of the Mayors for Peace network, the peace dove with the “Peace” lettering, was spray-painted in a size of 4.5x4.5 meters with spray chalk on the paved ground of the Peace Square (Friedensplatz). Located in the city center, it is an important hub of public life in Dortmund, as the city hall and the city’s civic services are located here and the square is very popular for events. Thus, the glowing logo quickly catches the eyes of people strolling through the square.

The idea for the campaign originated from the Office for International Relations of the City of Dortmund. The visible sign against nuclear weapons, in addition to the hoisting of the Mayors for Peace flag on Flag Day in the German Chapter, is intended to raise awareness of the dangers of these weapons among the people of Dortmund.

The action was well received in civil society. Two organizations that have long supported and been involved in the Mayor for Peace Flag Day in Dortmund—the Dortmund branch of the German-Japanese Society and the IPPNW (International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War)—expressed enthusiasm for the action and eager anticipation of its recurrence.

● **Bad Homburg vor der Höhe, Germany**

**Appeal for peace: Mayors for Peace flag flies at Bad Homburg City Hall**

Report by Mr. Thomas Steinforth, Bad Homburg vor der Höhe, Germany

In the context where the threat to humanity from nuclear weapons is increasing, especially in light of the Russian war of aggression in Ukraine, Mayor Alexander Hetjes of Bad Homburg vor der Höhe raised the flag of Mayors for Peace on July 8 to mark the Flag Day of the Mayors for Peace German Chapter. Mayor Hetjes stated, “Together with many other cities nationwide and worldwide, we are setting an example for peace and nuclear disarmament.” The City of Bad Homburg vor der Höhe has been a member city of Mayors for Peace since 2011.



Photo: courtesy of Bad Homburg vor der Höhe

● **French Chapter**

**Mayors for Peace France participates in the commemoration of Hiroshima during a national meeting of ecological, peace and disarmament NGOs and associations**

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

In resonance with various local peace initiatives and commemorative events in France on August 6th, Loréna Schlicht, the coordinator of Mayors for Peace France, played an active role in representing the organization at a national meeting of NGOs and associations known as “Les Résistantes 2023” and the commemoration of the Hiroshima atomic bombing, which was organized as part of this event.

In “Les Résistantes 2023,” over the course of four days from August 3 to 6, more than 7,500 individuals engaged in 175 training sessions, workshops, and conferences. These gatherings provided a platform for citizens and various organizations to collaborate on a range of actions aimed at increasing awareness about the humanitarian catastrophes caused by nuclear weapons. The participation in this meeting aimed to encourage French local authorities and elected officials to align with Mayors for Peace.

In an effort to commemorate the Hiroshima atomic bombing, a solemn peace ceremony was organized during the event. Following speeches advocating for collaborative endeavors towards nuclear disarmament and the endorsement of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) by the French government, participants embarked on a symbolic walk across the grounds, accompanied by musical interludes and readings of *hibakusha* poetry. The ceremony culminated in a moment of silence, paying tribute to the victims of the atomic bombing.



Photos: courtesy of Mayors for Peace France (AFCDRP)



● **Cordes-sur-Ciel, France**

**Elected officials from member cities and representatives from Mayors for Peace France attend the peace events organized by Cordes-sur-Ciel**

Report by Ms. Loréna Schlicht, Mayors for Peace France (AFCDPR)

As a member of Mayors for Peace France, Cordes-sur-Ciel responded to the call for promoting the culture of peace and tolerance between August 6 and 9, the dates of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic bombings.

Mayor Bernard Andrieu of Cordes-sur Ciel and Deputy Mayor Catherine Manuel for Sustainable Development of Cordes-sur-Ciel invited elected representatives of Mayors for Peace France members, such as Mayor Michel Soriano of Lasseran and Mayor Martine Laborde of Cazeuneuve, and Loréna Schlicht, Coordinator of Mayors for Peace France, for the following two events:

**Ceremony:**

On August 7th, at 5:30 pm, a ceremony was organized featuring the flag of Mayors for Peace France. Mayors, elected officials, and representatives delivered speeches to the citizens present. Representing Mayors for Peace France, Loréna Schlicht declared, “Our thoughts today are with the *hibakusha* and their families. [...] Faced with the risk of nuclear weapons being used, we must continue to take action and mobilize our consciences to overcome this threat.”

During the ceremony, Mayor Soriano of Lasseran presented Mayor Andrieu of Cordes-sur-Ciel with a peace painting and a ginkgo tree. This tree was nurtured by Lasseran from seeds of an atomic bomb survivor ginkgo in Hiroshima, which were shared by the Mayors for Peace Secretariat.



**Land Art for Peace Exhibition:**

On August 8th, Loréna Schlicht collaborated with the [Sentinels of Peace Association](#) during their Land Art for Peace exhibition in Cordes-sur-Ciel, discussing joint projects with members of Mayors for Peace France. The group aims to unite individuals for a peaceful world through diverse initiatives, complementing the mission to end nuclear weapons and foster world peace.



Photos: courtesy of Mayors for Peace France (AFCDPR)

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

Share your city's peace activities with fellow member cities! 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 'the culture of peace' are especially welcome! We look forward to your submissions!

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.

## Mayors for Peace member cities: 8,271 cities in 166 countries/regions

On August 1, we gained 7 new member cities, bringing our total membership to 8,271. 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
Austria	Mödling	124	
Germany	Kaufbeuren and 3 other cities	859	Thanks to efforts by Hannover, a Vice President and Lead City.
Japan	Mutsu	1,739	The Secretariat mailed an invitation letter.
Mauritania	Benichab	15	

# 7 new cities from 4 countries

	<b>Austria</b>	<b>1 city</b>
	<b>Germany</b>	<b>4 cities</b>
	<b>Japan</b>	<b>1 city</b>
	<b>Mauritania</b>	<b>1 city</b>

**Member Cities**

**8,271**

member cities

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**166**

countries & regions

As of August 1, 2023

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

List of new members (PDF):

[https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/file-2307-newmembers2308\\_en-1.pdf](https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/file-2307-newmembers2308_en-1.pdf)

Membership by country (PDF):

[https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/wp-content/uploads/monthly/file-07\\_membership\\_by\\_country\\_en.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 11 different languages: Chinese, English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese (BZ), Portuguese (EU), 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!

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## Report by Executive Advisor

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### ● Update on the UN’s “New Agenda for Peace”

Report by Dr. Randy Rydell, Executive Advisor for Mayors for Peace

On 18 July, the UN released Secretary-General António Guterres’ “New Agenda for Peace”, his contribution to the UN’s 2024 Summit of the Future, which will focus on strengthening multilateral approaches to global challenges.

The report surveys numerous crises facing the world community that can only effectively be addressed through expanded multilateral cooperation, including disarmament, climate change, crisis management, conflict resolution, gender equality, human rights, and the rule of law.

The New Agenda focuses on five key challenges: addressing global strategic risks; preventing violent conflict; strengthening peace operations; preventing the weaponization of new technologies; and strengthening international governance.

Its first recommended “Action” is to eliminate nuclear weapons and it urged possessor states to “negotiate further limits and reductions on strategic nuclear weapons”.

The report echoes many priorities of Mayors for Peace, especially nuclear disarmament and reducing threats to cities. While recognizing disarmament as a key UN mission, it also emphasizes measures for the peaceful resolution of disputes, which will also help in disarmament. In sum, the report is an appeal for expanded multilateral cooperation to address global challenges, with nuclear disarmament as a top priority, and for recognition of the mutually reinforcing relationship between peace and disarmament.

🔗 United Nations. “Our Common Agenda Policy Brief 9: A New Agenda for Peace”, July 2023 (UN website): <https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/our-common-agenda-policy-brief-new-agenda-for-peace-en.pdf>

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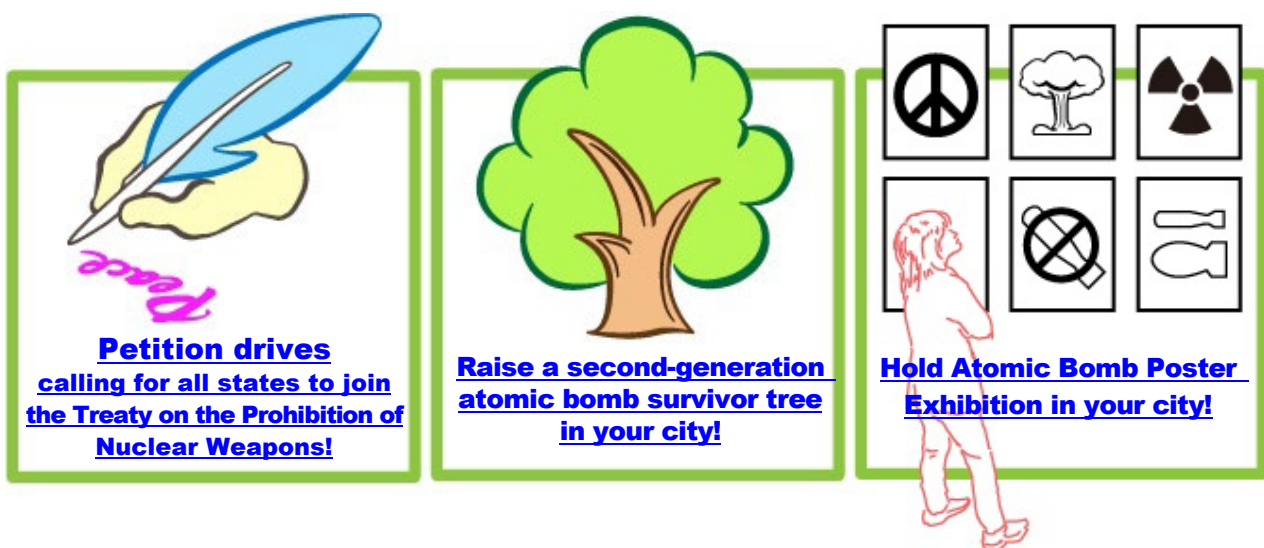
## Request to implement initiatives outlined in the Mayors for Peace Action Plan

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At the 12th Executive Conference of Mayors for Peace held online in July 2021, we adopted the latest 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](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/>




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## Call for input: examples of peace education initiatives

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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 programs.

 Call for Input on the Mayors for Peace website:  
<https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/en/visions/initiatives/edu-examples/>

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## Peace-related news from Hiroshima

(provided by the Chugoku Shimbun Hiroshima Peace Media Center)

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On August 6, 2023, 78 years after the U.S. military dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, the Hiroshima City government held the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Ceremony. Needless to say, August 6 represents the anniversary of the deaths of many A-bomb victims as well as a day “to commemorate peace.”

The ceremony marked the first anniversary of the atomic bombing since the summit meeting of the G7 (Group of Seven industrialized nations) was held this past May. According to the city government, about 50,000 people were in attendance at the ceremony. Seating was arranged for around 7,000, twice the number of seats available at last year’s event. Attendees at the ceremony included A-bomb survivors, representatives of bereaved families of A-bomb victims from 30 prefectures, officials of Japan’s national government including Japan Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, and representatives from a record 111 nations. In his Peace Declaration, Hiroshima City Mayor Kazumi Matsui referred to the Hiroshima Vision, a nuclear-disarmament document released at the summit, and pointed out that “Leaders around the world must confront the reality that nuclear threats now being voiced by certain policymakers reveal the folly of nuclear deterrence theory. They must immediately take concrete steps.” In his address, Hiroshima Prefecture Governor Hidehiko Yuzaki criticized those who support deterrence based on nuclear weapons—“Should the regime of nuclear deterrence break down, how do you take responsibility for the lives of all human beings?”

While an increasing number of nations support the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), which is based on the conviction that nuclear weapons are an “absolute evil,” many nations still regard nuclear weapons as “useful” and depend on them. Japan belongs to the latter camp. The world cannot be changed all at once. However, we believe the accumulation of the small, countless efforts to profoundly consider peace—by the many Japanese and overseas tourists that gathered in Hiroshima on August 6 to remember the atomic bombing, as well as by the world leaders who visited Hiroshima earlier in the year for the G7 summit—will bring about major change.

For related articles, please see the following.

Website of A-bomb exhibit held last year at U.N. headquarters to open next month  
<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=134760>

Hiroshima Panels’ vividness restored — Maruki Gallery to reveal Panel I to public today  
<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=135667>

Maruki Gallery to close in summer 2025, undergo renovation, reopen in 2027  
<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=135634>

Traces of ideas to “testify about A-bombed city of Hiroshima” — Writings between Japan and US, Miyoko Matsubara and Barbara Reynolds discovered  
<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=135669>

Survivors of Hiroshima atomic bombing account for 60% of A-bomb Survivor’s Certificate holders as of end of March 2022: Survey by city government  
<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=135193>

**Mayors for Peace Official Social Media Accounts**

〈X (Twitter)〉  **@Mayors4Peace**  
<https://x.com/Mayors4Peace>



〈Facebook〉  **@mayorsforpeace**  
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If you have any comments or questions, please contact us at:

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