



Mayors for Peace News Flash

March 2024 / No.171

Mayors for Peace Member Cities

8,374 cities

in **166** countries and regions

(as of March 1, 2024)

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 hosts peace education webinar: Recording now available online

Aiming at stimulating youth-led peace activities in member cities, on February 28, Mayors for Peace hosted and livestreamed a peace education webinar to provide an opportunity for young leaders involved in peace activities to share information on their activities and engage in dialogue.

In this year’s webinar, fervent youths committed to peace activities worldwide delivered presentations on their activities and had a vigorous exchange of opinions regarding challenges they face, as well as potential future activities.



Snapshots from the webinar

The recording of the webinar is available on the Mayors for Peace website:

<https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/en/news/2024/post-240307-2/>

[Webinar Outline]

- Program:
 - Video Message from President MATSUI Kazumi of Mayors for Peace (Mayor of Hiroshima)
 - Outline of Webinar Proceedings
 - Lecture on the International Situation Surrounding Nuclear Weapons by Facilitator, Prof. Nakamura
 - Presentations by Youths
 - Discussion
 - Summary and Closing Remarks by Facilitator, Prof. Nakamura
- Facilitator: Ms. Keiko Nakamura (Associate Professor, Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition, Nagasaki University)
- Presenters (in the order of presentation):

Organization / Title	Name	Participating from
Hiroshima Municipal Funairi High School	Ms. Himari Ideno Ms. Miku Oda	Japan
Wellington City Council	Ms. Phoebe Lockett	New Zealand
Universiti Malaya	Mr. Ho Yong Qi	Malaysia
ICAN Germany	Ms. Janina Rüter	Germany
Nagasaki Youth Delegation	Ms. Chinami Hirabayashi Ms. Noa Yasumoto	Japan
Communications and Sustainable Security Consultant	Ms. Vanda Proskova	Belgium
Members of the first-ever cohort of the Youth Leader Fund for a World Without Nuclear Weapons, UNODA	Ms. Kerese Oakley-Williams	Jamaica

Regional chapter activities

● UK and Ireland Chapter

Leicester Shows Love for Valentine's Day Tree

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

The UK/Ireland Mayors for Peace Chapter Secretary Richard Outram recently visited Nottingham to talk to peace activists and a Councillor about engaging the city in Mayors for Peace activity and passing a motion calling on the UK Government to sign the nuclear ban treaty.

He then went onto Leicester, where he gave a slide show and spoke to a packed meeting about how Hiroshima became a city of peace and about the history and aims of Mayors for Peace. Richard also told the audience about his first-hand experience of being on a placement with the Mayors for Peace Secretariat in Hiroshima in January 2023. Participants enjoyed some delicious homemade cake!

On the following day, Richard met privately with the elected Mayor of Leicester Sir Peter Soulsby to talk about appointing a peace champion to reinvigorate Mayors for Peace activity in the city. Richard then joined Sir Peter and activists in Victoria Park to plant a cherry tree for peace. Victoria Park is part of the University of Leicester which was established as a project to promote peace at the end of the First World War. Appropriately the ceremony was held on St Valentine's Day.



Peace tree planting in Leicester

Photo: courtesy of Mayors for Peace UK and Ireland Chapter

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

* 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: 8,374 cities in 166 countries/regions

On March 1, we gained 11 new member cities, bringing our total membership to 8,374. 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
Albania	Lezha	5	Thanks to efforts by Pathways to Peace.
Germany	Eningen unter Achalm	881	Thanks to efforts by Hannover, a Vice President and Lead City.
Jordan	Al Shou'leh and 6 other cities	34	Thanks to a request from Ambassador of Jordan to Japan, who attended the Peace Memorial Ceremony of Hiroshima in August 2023.
Turkey	İnegöl and Kilis	23	Upon a request from Ambassador of Turkey to Japan, who met with Deputy Mayor Susume of Hiroshima in November 2023, Turkey's Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a letter urging municipalities to join Mayors for Peace.

11 new cities from 4 countries

- Albania** 1 city
- Germany** 1 city
- Jordan** 7 cities
- Turkey** 2 cities

Member Cities
8,374 member cities

166 countries & regions

As of March 1, 2024

Help us achieve 10,000 member cities!

List of new members (PDF): https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/file-2402-newmembers2403_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 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!

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 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

🔗 Initiatives implemented under the Action Plan:
<https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/en/visions/initiatives/>



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 programs.

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

A closer look at the “World’s Fissile Material Inventory in 2023” Part 3: Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition, Nagasaki University (RECNA)

As mentioned in the previous article, highly enriched uranium (HEU) or plutonium are materials essential for producing nuclear weapons. Modern nuclear weapons are made using both HEU and plutonium, and uranium enrichment or reprocessing—chemical treatment of spent fuels to separate plutonium—facilities are required for obtaining these fissile materials.

There are countries that are equipped with the above two facilities as “nuclear fuel cycle” facilities for nuclear power production. Having even small-scale nuclear fuel cycle facilities gives a country the capability to produce fissile materials for military purposes. Subsequently, if nuclear fuel cycle capabilities spread throughout the world, the risk of nuclear weapons proliferations will also significantly increase.

In fact, the increasing stockpile of plutonium recovered through reprocessing for civilian use is becoming a serious issue in terms of international security. The amount of non-military-use plutonium used in this poster as of the end of 2021 is 403 tons. Since 2011, the amount of military-use plutonium has remained unchanged, but there has been an increase in non-military-use plutonium of 108 tons. Stopping this upward trend has been a global challenge.

Among non-nuclear weapon states, Japan has the largest amount of civilian plutonium: 45.8 metric tons at the end of 2021, the equivalent of 7,633 Nagasaki atomic bombs (assuming they contained 6 kg of plutonium). Japan has as much as 8% of the world’s separated plutonium, possessing the fifth largest amount of separated plutonium after Russia, the United Kingdom, the United States, and France. In contrast, the other non-nuclear weapon states combined possess only 0.5% or less of the world’s separated plutonium. From this one can tell that Japan is a very unique outlier (see table).

For more detailed information, please visit RECNA’s website: <https://www.recna.nagasaki-u.ac.jp/recna/en-topics/44785>

Separated Plutonium around the World
(as of the end of 2021)

Country	Military use (tons)	Non-military use (tons)	Total (tons)
Russia	88.0	103.5	191.5
United States	38.4	49.4	87.8
France	6.0	85.0	91.0
China	2.9	0.04	2.94
United Kingdom	3.2	116.5	119.7
Israel	0.8		0.8
Pakistan	0.5		0.5
India	9.2	0.4	9.6
North Korea	0.04		0.04
Japan		45.8	45.8
Other non-nuclear weapon states*		2.5	2.5
Subtotal	149	403	
Total	552		

*The Netherlands, Italy, Spain, Germany, Switzerland

NB: The stockpile of fissile materials includes estimated ones with different isotopic composition and with large uncertainties, and thus total quantities are expressed in rounded numbers.

Courtesy of RECNA

Peace-related news from Hiroshima

(provided by the Chugoku Shimbun Hiroshima Peace Media Center)

The Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum has set up a display area in its main building with the title “Away from Home.” The display highlights non-Japanese victims of Hiroshima’s atomic bombing, including people from the Korean Peninsula and German priests, as well as so-called “Southern Special Students” from Southeast Asian countries who were studying at the Hiroshima University of Literature and Science (present-day Hiroshima University). Last month, Dzulkifli Bin Abdul Razak, oldest son of the late Abdul Razak, paid a visit to Hiroshima. Dzulkifli’s father was one of the Southern Special Students who experienced the atomic bombing. After returning to his native Malaysia, Abdul made great efforts to promote positive relations with Japan.

Being able to tour the museum’s display appeared to be a poignant experience for Dzulkifli. On the same visit, he also had the opportunity to meet with Meiko Kurihara, a woman who had accompanied his father for several days in the immediate aftermath of the bombing, and listen to her recollections of that time. Ms. Kurihara said, “I’m opposed to war. It is important to live by helping each other, without resorting to the production of any nuclear weapons.” The words spoken to Dzulkifli by the 97-year-old A-bomb survivor are simple but surprisingly powerful on an emotional level. We hope to share her words with the people of Malaysia and with others around the world.

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

On visit to Japan, oldest son of Southern Special Student from Malaysia has first meeting with woman who knew his father from A-bombing

<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=139455>

International conference to be held in Hiroshima this August to connect young people from other nations and the A-bombed cities as part of a future leader development to realize nuclear abolition

<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=139385>

Belongings of former director’s father, who died in A-bombing without learning of wife’s pregnancy, exhibited once again at Peace Museum

<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=139736>

Wristwatch displaying A-bombing time sold for 3.7 million yen

<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=139877>

International Women’s Day 2024 — Young people from Kanto work on lectures, animated films for consideration of nuclear weapons from perspective of gender

<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=139856>

Mayors for Peace Official Social Media Accounts

<X (Twitter)>  @Mayors4Peace
<https://x.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:

Mayors for Peace Secretariat

1-5 Nakajima-cho, Naka-ku, Hiroshima 730-0811 Japan

Tel: +81-82-242-7821 Fax: +81-82-242-7452

Email: mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp
