



Mayors for Peace News Flash

April 2023 / No.160

Mayors for Peace Member Cities

8,247 cities
in **166** countries and regions
(as of April 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>

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

“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)

Join us in promoting the culture of peace

Mayors for Peace outlines three objectives in the *Vision for Peaceful Transformation to a Sustainable World (PX Vision): Peacebuilding by Cities for Disarmament and Common Security*. One of them is to promote the culture of peace, which the PX Vision explains as follows:

[W]e will cultivate peace consciousness and cause the culture of peace—the culture in which the everyday actions of each member of the public are grounded in thinking about peace—to take root in civil society as the foundation of lasting world peace.

This April Issue of the Mayors for Peace News Flash features some of Mayors for Peace initiatives promoting the culture of peace. We hope these examples will inspire your city to implement initiatives promoting the culture of peace.

 *Vision for Peaceful Transformation to a Sustainable World (PX Vision): Peacebuilding by Cities for Disarmament and Common Security* and *Mayors for Peace Action Plan (2021 – 2025)*:

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

Celebrate the Month for the Culture of Peace

We encourage your cities to celebrate one particular month of the year as the “Month for the Culture of Peace” holding a variety of cultural events to raise peace awareness among citizens. The aim is to have them think about the importance of peace through music, fine art, and other forms of art expressing desire for peace, as well as through sports and other activities that emotionally connect people across language barriers.

The City of Hiroshima, since 2021, has designated November as the “Month for the Culture of Peace.” This Month sees a variety of events under the theme of the culture of peace held intensively in cooperation with private sector companies and groups of citizens. These events include, for example, lectures on the culture of peace and stage performances and art exhibitions by youths.

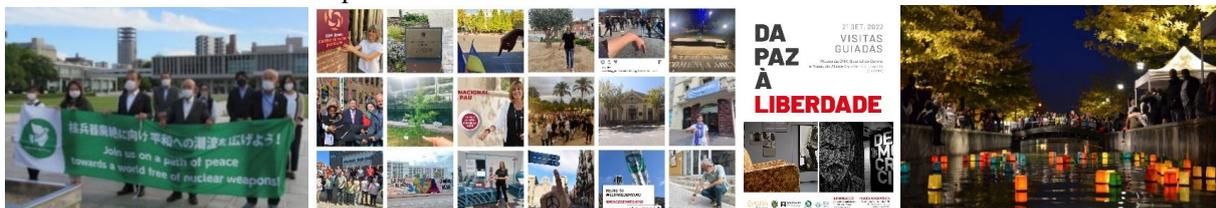
 “Month for the Culture of Peace 2022” by the City of Hiroshima (in Japanese): <https://heiwabunka.info/>



“Month for the Culture of Peace” by the City of Hiroshima

Organize Events to Commemorate the International Day of Peace

We recommend your cities organize outreach activities and commemorative events on the UN’s International Day of Peace, which is observed on September 21st every year, to have as many citizens as possible share in the wish for the abolition of nuclear weapons.



Events commemorating the UN’s International Day of Peace in 2022 at:
(from left to right) the City of Hiroshima, Mayors for Peace European Chapter, Evora (Portugal), and Grigny (France)

Pass down Atomic Bomb Experiences through Testimonies

We encourage member cities to provide their citizens with opportunities to hear *hibakusha*'s testimony while using online video conference platforms or on video to have as many people as possible share in the *hibakusha*'s sincere desire for the abolition of nuclear weapons and to encourage them to take action for peace.

If your city wishes to set up an opportunity to hear a testimony online, please contact the Secretariat.

🔗 Providing opportunities to hear *hibakusha*'s testimony (Mayors for Peace website):

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



Online *hibakusha* testimony at Cervia (Italy)

Hold Mayors for Peace Atomic Bomb Poster Exhibitions

Mayors for Peace provides member cities with “Mayors for Peace Atomic Bomb Posters,” which visually present the realities of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, consequences of nuclear weapons use, and Mayors for Peace initiatives, featuring photos, drawings created by *hibakusha*, and other images. Posters are available in the following nine languages: English, German, French, Russian, Dutch, Spanish, Catalan, Portuguese, and Japanese. To have more citizens deepen their understanding of the realities of the atomic bombings and share in the wish for the abolition of nuclear weapons, we encourage member cities to organize poster exhibitions at facilities to which many residents have access, such as city halls, community centers, and public libraries.



Mayors for Peace Atomic Bomb Poster Exhibition at Occitanie/Pyrénées-Méditerranée Région (France)

🔗 Mayors for Peace Atomic Bomb Poster Exhibition (Mayors for Peace website):

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

To download the posters from the above webpage, please contact the Mayors for Peace Secretariat to obtain a user ID and a password.

Exhibition organizers are encouraged to set up a petition booth at the venue for visitors to sign the petition calling for all states to join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) at the earliest day. The petition form and the poster encouraging people to join the petition are available on the Mayors for Peace webpage below.

🔗 Petition drives calling for all states to join the TPNW at the earliest date (Mayors for Peace website):

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

Nurture seeds and seedlings from atomic bomb survivor trees

We distribute to member cities seeds from *hibaku* trees—atomic bomb survivor trees which have survived the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. We encourage you to raise second-generation *hibaku* trees, which serve as symbols of peace, to help raise citizens’ peace consciousness.

Should you wish to receive seeds from *hibaku* trees, please contact the Secretariat.

🔗 Distribute and nurture seeds from atomic bomb survivor trees (*hibaku* trees) (Mayors for Peace website):

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



Planting ceremony in Hannover (Germany)

Participate in the Children’s Art Competition “Peaceful Towns”

Mayors for Peace organizes the annual Children’s Art Competition “Peaceful Towns” for children in all the member cities to further promote peace education in the member cities.

We organize the competition this year, too. Please see the next page (p.4) for details.

Member city activities

● UK and Ireland Chapter

UK/Ireland Chapter Launches Petition Drive at Stockport Meeting

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

The UK/Ireland Mayors for Peace Chapter launched its petition drive at a recent meeting of the Stockport for Peace Group.

The Mayor of Stockport, Councillor David Wilson, was the guest of honour at the group's Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 25 March, and the keynote speaker was UK/Ireland Chapter Secretary Richard Outram, who spoke of the history and work of Mayors for Peace and his recent visit to Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Mr Outram used the occasion to promote awareness of the Mayors for Peace social media accounts and the international petition calling for a nuclear weapon free world that is sponsored by Mayors for Peace.

A lively discussion ensued about the ways in which Stockport could become more actively involved with the work of Mayors for Peace, including engaging young people in peace education and making school links with Japan. Stockport for Peace can also now begin collecting signatures on the petition on its street stalls.

Stockport has also recently applied to receive seeds from atomic bomb survivor trees (*hibaku* trees).

The event concluded with participants signing the petition, led by the Mayor of Stockport who signed in a personal capacity.



Photos: courtesy of
Mayors for Peace
UK and Ireland Chapter



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 'the 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.

Introducing Executive Cities on Mayors for Peace social media accounts

At Mayors for Peace, whose member cities have reached a total of 8,247 in 166 countries and regions (as of April 1, 2023), [21 cities](#) from different parts of the world serve as Executive Cities.

To let more people know about the Executive Cities, [the Mayors for Peace official Twitter account \(@Mayors4Peace\)](#) and [Facebook account \(@mayorsforpeace\)](#) present the following three kinds of information from Executive Cities: (1) messages from the Mayors, (2) what the Cities are famous for, and (3) peace events.

The Mayors for Peace News Flash also introduces these Executive Cities. This April Issue introduces Manchester.

● Manchester, UK



(1) Message from Mayor Donna Ludford

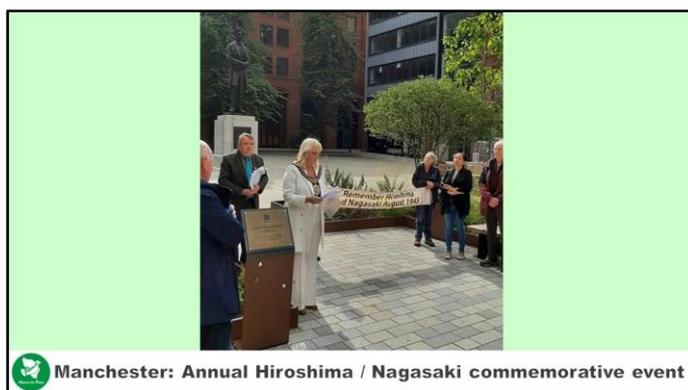
“Manchester was the World’s first declared nuclear-free city.

We are proud to be a Vice President City of Mayors for Peace campaigning for a nuclear weapon free and peaceful world.”



(2) What Is the City Famous for?

Manchester is well known for being the world’s first declared nuclear-free city, the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution, and a city of diversity and inclusion!



(3) Peace Events

Manchester City Council hosts an annual Hiroshima / Nagasaki commemorative event.

The Mayors for Peace official social media accounts present a variety of news stories with photos and images. Please follow us!

 Mayors for Peace official Twitter account ([@Mayors4Peace](#))
<https://twitter.com/Mayors4Peace>

 Mayors for Peace official Facebook account ([@mayorsforpeace](#))
<https://www.facebook.com/mayorsforpeace>

Regional chapter activities

● French Chapter

AFCDRP–Mayors for Peace France raises awareness of nuclear disarmament in cooperation with Maison du Japon

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

In February and March 2023, AFCDRP–Mayors for Peace France organized two events to raise awareness of nuclear disarmament among Japanese and international students in Paris in cooperation with Maison du Japon, Cité Internationale Universitaire de Paris.

First, in a one-day seminar at Maison du Japon on February 25, Loréna Schlicht and Miho Shima Cibot on behalf of AFCDRP–Mayors for Peace France gave a presentation on the Mayors for Peace network, the history of nuclear weapons and issues posed by them, and the history of peace movements, which was followed by a discussion with the students. Second, on March 22, AFCDRP–Mayors for Peace and Maison du Japon screened *Prophecy*, the documentary on the atomic bombings directed by Susumu Hani, and held a photo exhibition on the consequences of nuclear weapons for one week in the lounge of Maison du Japon.

These events, made possible by the invitation from Director of Maison du Japon, Professor Maki Nishiumi of Chuo University, Japan, are part of the efforts of AFCDRP–Mayors for Peace France to develop new projects in partnership with associations of Japanese residents in France aiming at raising awareness of the realities of nuclear weapons and the importance of peace.



Photos: courtesy of AFCDRP–
Mayors for Peace France

● Portuguese Chapter

Évora holds the 1st Youth Meeting of the Portuguese Member Cities of Mayors for Peace

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

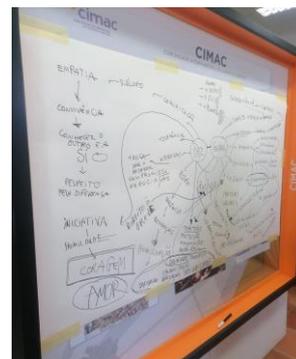
The Municipality of Évora, Lead City of the Mayors for Peace Portuguese Chapter, in collaboration with *Évora_27, European Capital of Culture* Team, organised a Youth Meeting of the Portuguese Member Cities of Mayors for Peace on March 28. With the goal of promoting the culture of peace among young people with a focus on values of tolerance, sustainability and cooperation, we invited 30 youths to Évora from the following 12 Member Cities which agreed to send youth delegates: Cascais, Setúbal, Mourão, Santa Maria da Feira, Guarda, Grândola, Almada, Lagos, Porto, Fafe, Serpa, Seixal and Évora.

After the meeting started with a welcoming address by Councilor Alexandre Varela, the workshop “Cobblestone Path” invited the youths to reflect on peace and activate their thoughts collectively through group exercises and brainstorming led by Facilitator and Director Vera Alvelos. At the end of the workshop, the peace thinkers wrote a collective Manifesto for Peace based on Eugénio de Andrade’s poem, *Urgentemente* (*Urgently* in English), stressing the urgent importance of peace and *vagar*—slow living philosophy and a way of living and being cultivated in Évora and the Alentejo Province.

The workshop “Cobblestone Path” is a first step in involving youths in a major thematic conference, “What about Peace?,” to be held in 2025 on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings as part of the conference programme of *Évora 2027, European Capital of Culture*.



Photos: courtesy of the Municipality of Évora



Mayors for Peace member cities: 8,247 cities in 166 countries/regions

On April 1, we gained 8 new member cities, bringing our total membership to 8,247. 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	Prutz and Ried im Oberinntal	123	
Germany	Aukrug and 2 other cities	848	Thanks to efforts by Hannover, a Vice Present and Lead City.
Italy	Modena	521	
Japan	Aogashima	1,738	The Secretariat mailed an invitation letter to the non-member municipalities. Three more cities until all cities in Japan join us.
Portugal	Vila Viçosa	44	Thanks to efforts by Évora, an Executive and Lead City.



 List of new members (PDF):

https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/file-2303-newmembers2304_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 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/>

Peace-related news from Hiroshima

(provided by the Chugoku Shimbun Hiroshima Peace Media Center)

On its website, the Chugoku Shimbun has updated its portal page for the summit meeting of the G7 (attended by the Group of Seven industrialized nations), scheduled to be held in Hiroshima City in May. The update incorporates new digital content titled “What happened under the mushroom cloud,” in a look back at the horror of the atomic bombing.

Access the new content at: <https://www.chugoku-np.co.jp/stp/UndertheAtomicCloud/>

The content was created on the basis of “Striving to fill voids in Hiroshima,” a series produced by the newspaper that captures the reality of devastation caused by the A-bombing that has yet to be revealed. Scrolling down the site enables viewers to experience photographs, explanations, and other information in chronological order about Hiroshima soon after the A-bombing. The materials are linked to a map showing the locations where the photos were taken and allow viewers to trace the reality of the A-bombing and its aftermath to the end of 1945. An English version of the content will be available around the end of April.

People in Japan and overseas whose interest in the A-bombed city of Hiroshima has been heightened because of the Hiroshima Summit can learn from the content about the catastrophic consequences of the atomic bombing. It is also hoped that the information will catch the attention of government officials representing the G7 nations and be of use in their deliberations at the summit to bring the world one step closer to the abolition of nuclear weapons.

The portal site includes an expansion of summit-related news, with many articles also appearing in English. Information relevant to daily life, such as traffic regulations to be enacted during the summit, will be added to the site in the future.

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

Hiroshima Summit, May 19-21: Mitsuo Kodama special exhibit conveying enthusiasm for A-bomb testimony being held in Hiroshima
<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=129927>

Hawaii elementary, junior-high, high school students to stage musical in Hiroshima in September about life of Sadako Sasaki, with aim of building bridges
<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=130697>

Survivors’ Stories: Hirotooshi Morimoto, 90, Naka Ward, Hiroshima City—Most classmates were killed
<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=130694>

Striving to fill voids in Hiroshima, evidence of victims remains—Deaths from leukemia, Part 1: Children of the A-bomb
<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=130699>

Hiroshima Summit—Recovery after A-bombing, Part 1: Hiroshima Toyo Carp
<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=130731>

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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