

100-Day Countdown Message for the International Day of Peace

There are only 100 days left until the International Day of Peace on September 21.

The International Day of Peace was established by the United Nations for the purpose of commemorating and strengthening the ideals of peace both within and among all nations and people, and it is an important day to reflect on the importance and preciousness of peace. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt respect to United Nations Secretary-General Mr. António Guterres for the leadership he has shown in strongly promoting this day.

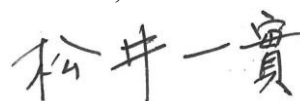
As a way toward lasting world peace, Mayors for Peace has established and is working for three main objectives: "Realization of a world without nuclear weapons", "Realization of safe and resilient cities" and "Promotion of a culture of peace". We fully support the ideas behind the International Day of Peace, and have held commemorative events and called on our member cities to participate by holding their own events.

In 2022, we once again call upon our 8,174 member cities in 166 countries and regions around the world to hold events on the International Day of Peace, September 21, along with August 6 and August 9, which respectively mark the dates of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, in order to share the desire for peace with as many people as possible and pray for its realization.

Currently, the international state of affairs is extremely alarming. Russia's aggression against Ukraine not only brings the escalated risk of the use of nuclear weapons, but also puts nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime at risk—systems which international society has made a tremendous effort to build. Now is the time for Mayors for Peace to cultivate peace consciousness in civil society all over the world. I believe that by working in solidarity, across countries and political parties, with all member cities responsible for ensuring their citizens' peaceful daily lives, we will be able to achieve it.

Taking the International Day of Peace as an opportunity, let us reunite as members of Mayors for Peace, bring together citizens' wishes for peace, and create real momentum for the realization of a peaceful world without nuclear weapons.

June 13, 2022

Handwritten signature in black ink, reading '松井一貴' (Matsui Kazumi).

MATSUI Kazumi
Mayor of Hiroshima
President of Mayors for Peace