



Mayors for Peace News Flash

November 2021 / No.143

Mayors for Peace Member Cities

8,054 cities

in 165 countries and regions

(as of November 1, 2021)

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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Children’s Art Competition “Peaceful Towns” 2021: Applications now closed —Thanks to everyone who applied!—

In order to expand peace education efforts in its member cities, Mayors for Peace holds an annual children’s art competition with the theme of “Peaceful Towns,” for children from 6 to 15 years old in all these cities.

For 2021, applications were open from April 12 to November 1, and the competition attracted 4,166 submissions by children in 105 cities across 18 countries around the world, which exceed last year’s. We would like to thank everyone who helped call for applicants in their member cities!

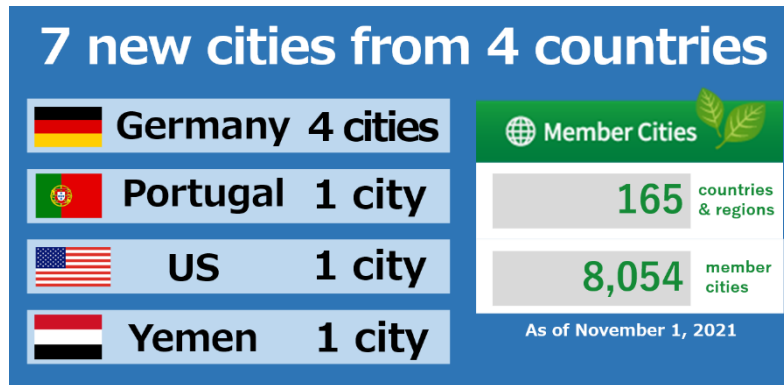


After an initial screening by each member city, 533 artworks were finally sent to the Mayors for Peace Secretariat. The Secretariat will start judging from now, and selection results will be announced on the Mayors for Peace website on January 17, 2022.

The 1st place artwork that wins the Mayors for Peace President’s Award will be printed on plastic folders, and will be used as outreach tools for member city recruitment and Mayors for Peace events.

If your city plans on holding an exhibition of submitted artworks or an award ceremony for this competition, please kindly let our secretariat know. We will be pleased to share it in our newsletter and on our website.

Mayors for Peace member cities - 8,054 cities in 165 countries/regions



Help us achieve 10,000 member cities!

On November 1, we gained 7 new member cities, bringing our total membership to 8,054. We thank all involved in promoting expanded membership for their invaluable support. Below is the breakdown of the new members.

Country	New Members	Total No.	Remarks
Germany	Breisach am Rhein Fronhausen Kirchhain Willich	726	
Portugal	Seixal	41	Thanks to efforts by Évora, a member city in Portugal.
US	Greenbelt (MD)	220	
Yemen	Taiz	3	

List of new members (PDF):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/03_newmembers/2021/newmembers2111_en.pdf

Membership by country (PDF):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/01_monthly_updating/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

<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/aboutus/join.html#section01>

Report by Executive Advisor

● Report on the European Chapter's Joint Webinar

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

The Webinar organized by the European Chapter of Mayors for Peace on 21 October 2021 had the title “Building a Nuclear Weapons Free World - the TPNW States Parties Conference and the Role of Cities, Key Institutions & Civil Society”. After opening remarks by the Mayor of Hiroshima Kazumi Matsui, President of Mayors for Peace, representatives of three European States Parties spoke. The Foreign Minister of Malta Evarist Bartolo underlined the importance of the TPNW and the need to overcome influence from nuclear weapon states negative to the treaty. Cardinal Silvio Tomasi of the Holy See focused on the immorality of spending huge sums on nuclear weapons, also in light of the shortage of funding for health as well as economic and social development. Mrs. Orlaith Fitzmaurice, Director for Disarmament in the Irish Foreign Ministry, stressed the strong link between the TPNW and NPT and that without a prohibition norm nuclear weapons could not be eliminated.

In his key note address Ambassador Alexander Kmentt, President designate of the First Meeting of States Parties of the TPNW, explained the important place of the TPNW in the disarmament treaties architecture and the issues that will be discussed at the First Meeting of States Parties of the TPNW from 22 to 24 March 2022 in Vienna. He also invited those states that are critical to the TPNW to enter into a real dialogue and to come to the Meeting as observers.

Helen Durham from the International Committee of the Red Cross gave an overview of the engagement of the ICRC since trying to provide assistance to the victims of the nuclear bombings in 1945 to today's promotion of the TPNW. Mrs. Masako Wada, a hibakusha from Nagasaki, told the story of her mother who survived in 1945, but whose life was scarred by the consequences of radiation. Even her own life was still affected. She gave a vivid testimony that the world should listen to the voices of the hibakushas.


Marianne Borgen, the Mayor of Oslo, told about the impact of cities and local communities in influencing the new Norwegian government to announce Norway's participation as an observer in the First Meeting of States Parties as the first NATO country to do so. While this is certainly not sufficient, it constitutes a first step into the right direction.

Feargal Dalton, Glasgow City Councillor, shared his own experience as a nuclear weapons officer on a UK submarine that led him to become active against nuclear weapons. Glasgow, being quite close to the two bases of the British nuclear submarines, would be heavily affected by any accident or bombing there. All parties with the exception of one represented in the Glasgow City Council voted for his resolution against nuclear weapons and in favour of the TPNW.

Thomas Hermann, First Deputy Mayor of Hannover, reported on the manifold activities of the City of Hannover on nuclear disarmament and especially within Mayors for Peace.

Beatrice Fihn, Executive Director of ICAN, stressed the significance of good cooperation with Mayors for Peace and other organizations, with diplomates and representatives of international organisations and within civil society without which the TPNW would not have been created.

Mayor of Granollers Josef Mayoral, Chair of the Mayors for Peace European Chapter, gave closing remarks in which he invited cities and local communities to set further activities and request from their governments at least to be present at the First Meeting of States Parties of the TPNW.

 Link to recording of the webinar on YouTube:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Gvv5mg2pP8>

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

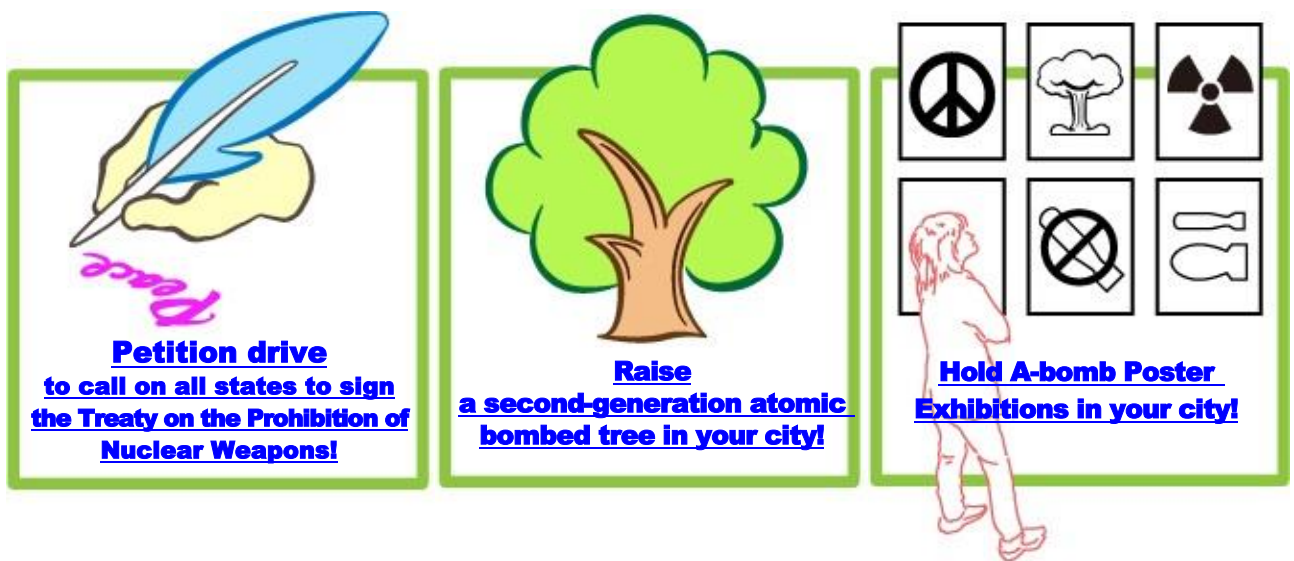
At the 12th Executive Conference of Mayors for Peace held online in July this year, we adopted our new Action Plan (2021-2025). Together, let us continue our utmost efforts toward our ultimate goal of realizing lasting world peace. Please implement initiatives outlined in the Action Plan within your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

📄 Initiatives implemented under the Action Plan:

<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/vision/initiatives.html>



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.

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.

Request for payment of the 2021 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 19 USD/16 Euro as of March 2021) 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 2021 membership fee was sent to each city by email on April 1. We deeply appreciate your kind cooperation.


* If you want to know your city's payment status or if you have not received the email of request for payment, please contact the Secretariat.

 Request for the 2021 Mayors for Peace Membership Fee (Mayors for Peace website):
<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/aboutus/fee.html>

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

Call for input: examples of initiatives to foster peace-seeking spirit

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.

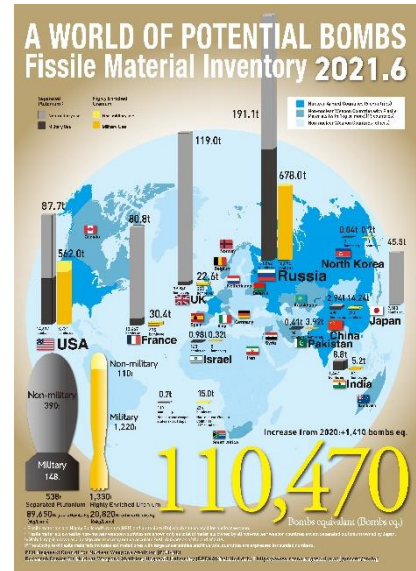
 Call for Input on the Mayors for Peace website:
http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/vision/initiatives_examples.html

A closer look at the “World’s Fissile Material Inventory” in 2021” Part 2 Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition, Nagasaki University (RECNA)

Some special materials are indispensable for producing nuclear weapons: highly enriched uranium (HEU) and plutonium. As you may know, HEU was used in the Hiroshima atomic bomb, and plutonium was used in the Nagasaki bomb dropped 76 years ago. The state-of-art hydrogen bomb is made of both HEU and plutonium.

As mentioned in the previous article, as of the end of 2019, there are 1,330 tons of HEU and 538 tons of separated plutonium in the world, from which we can produce more than 110,000 Hiroshima- and Nagasaki-type bombs. In this article, we will explain in detail what HEU and plutonium are.

Uranium is an element that exists in nature with a number of isotopes. Most of uranium (99.3%) that exists in nature is less fissionable uranium-238, while only 0.7% of uranium is fissile: uranium-235. Natural uranium cannot be used as materials for producing nuclear weapons or fueling power reactors as it is. The ratio of uranium-235 therefore needs to be increased in a process known as uranium enrichment. Uranium enriched to 90% or more is weapons-grade material, but uranium enriched to 20% or more is considered to be usable for nuclear weapons as well. This is called highly enriched uranium (HEU). On the other hand, the nuclear fuel installed in ordinary nuclear power plants contains uranium enriched to about 3 to 5%, and is called low-enriched uranium (LEU).



Plutonium, in contrast, does not exist in nature, and is automatically produced when nuclear reactors are operated. The method of extracting plutonium from spent fuel is called reprocessing. The plutonium extracted from ordinary nuclear power plants is called reactor-grade plutonium, which some of you might consider as unsuitable for nuclear weapons production unlike purer weapon-grade plutonium. But this is not accurate. We could produce nuclear weapons even with reactor-grade plutonium.

For more detailed information, please visit RECNA’s website (<https://www.recna.nagasaki-u.ac.jp/recna/en-nwdata/worlds-nuclear-warheads-count>).

Peace news from Hiroshima

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

On October 27, news was received of the death of Sunao Tsuboi, co-chairperson of the Japanese Confederation of A-and H-bomb Sufferers Organizations (*Nihon Hidankyo*) who also served as chairperson of the Hiroshima Prefectural Confederation of A-bomb Sufferers Organizations (*Hiroshima Hidankyo*). He was 96.

Mr. Tsuboi experienced the atomic bombing when he was 20 and, as a result, was severely burned and nearly died. He ultimately came to serve as the principal of a junior high school all while enduring repeated bouts of illness. After his retirement, he became involved in the A-bomb survivors' movement and continued to communicate to people both in Japan and overseas his harsh experiences in the atomic bombing. Many have come away from their meetings with Mr. Tsuboi more encouraged than what they could give, buoyed by his oft-repeated mottos of "Never compromise, never surrender" and "Never give up."

The world is still only partway down the road to realization of the elimination of nuclear weapons and the Treaty on Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), both of which Mr. Tsuboi unwaveringly continued to demand. In January this year, the TPNW finally entered into force, but the prospect is bleak for nuclear powers and other nations such as Japan, which continue to rely on nuclear deterrence from their allies, to join the treaty. Younger generations have a responsibility to receive the anti-nuclear baton from Mr. Tsuboi and continue his work.

The actor Sahel Rosa recently visited Kazuzo Tagashira, 92, an A-bomb survivor and rose breeder who lives in Hatsukaichi City, Hiroshima Prefecture, taking the opportunity of her visit to Hiroshima to speak during this designated Peace and Culture Month. Ms. Sahel carefully cultivates a rose variety called "ICAN," which Mr. Tagashira produced based on his desire for the elimination of nuclear weapons. Finally able to meet face-to-face for the first time, the two spent time sharing their views on peace. Listening to testimonies of A-bombing experiences, learning more about the atomic bombing at the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, and making an effort to take in the ideas and feelings of A-bomb survivors. These are some of the things everyone can do to pick up the baton from the aging A-bomb survivors.

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

Striving to fill voids in Hiroshima 76 years after the atomic bombing—Life of A-bomb orphan child is captured in picture-story show depicting his wish of seeing his parents again

<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=112166>

77.4 % of respondents support signing nuclear ban treaty: Survey by Nihon Hidankyo 703 lawmakers surveyed, response rate 30%, no response from prime minister

<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=112289>

Striving to fill voids in Hiroshima 76 years after the atomic bombing — 85-year-old grandson weeps when grandmother's remains are returned

<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=112169>

Sunao Tsuboi, survivor of Hiroshima atomic bombing and co-chair of Nihon Hidankyo, dies at 96

<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=112437>

Obituary: Sunao Tsuboi traveled the world calling for nuclear abolition, and now that baton has been passed to future generations

<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=112027>

As attendees mourn Sunao Tsuboi's death, Toshiyuki Mimaki appointed chair of Hiroshima Prefectural Hidankyo at its general assembly

<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=112439>

Actor Sahel Rosa visits rose garden in Hatsukaichi City and discusses peace with breeder of "ICAN" roses named on basis of wish for nuclear abolition

<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=112251>

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>

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

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