



# Mayors for Peace News Flash

January 2018 / No.97

**Mayors for Peace Member Cities**  
**7,536 cities**  
**in 162 countries and regions**  
(as of January 1, 2018)

**Please also check our website and Facebook page:**

**Website:**

<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/index.html>

**Facebook:**

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

“Like” our Facebook page to help spread awareness of our mission.

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## Executive Director of ICAN’s Visit to Hiroshima and Nagasaki

[January 12-18, 2018]

Ms. Beatrice Fihn, the Executive Director of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), chose Japan as the destination of her first trip overseas since ICAN received the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize. She visited the two A-bombed cities of Nagasaki and Hiroshima as well as Tokyo.

After visiting Nagasaki where she made public lectures, Ms. Fihn visited Hiroshima. In addition to touring the Peace Memorial Museum and listening to an eyewitness testimony by a hibakusha, she attended a public forum that featured open conversation between Ms. Fihn and Japanese youngsters. She made a speech under the title “We Shall Not Repeat the Evil: How Japan Can Lead us Towards a Nuclear Free World,” in which she stressed that what happened to Hiroshima and Nagasaki must not be forgotten and called on people to work together to make sure that there are no more hibakusha. The forum was attended by about 340 people, many of whom were high school and college students. Everyone seemed inspired by the dialogue with Ms. Fihn.



Ms. Fihn exchanging views with young people in Hiroshima

In Tokyo, Ms. Fihn participated in a debate with Japanese parliamentarians as well as a public symposium.

In its Action Plan for the year 2020 adopted at the General Conference last year, Mayors for Peace refers to ICAN as one of the organizations with which we would like to build a network. Mayors for Peace intends to further promote collaboration with ICAN to achieve our common goal of abolishing nuclear weapons.

The video of the public forum in Hiroshima will be posted on the Mayors for Peace website soon.

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## ■Receiving an Intern from Volgograd at the Mayors for Peace Secretariat

[December 4- 20, 2017]

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Mayors for Peace has conducted an internship program since 2014, inviting staff from member cities to the Mayors for Peace Secretariat in Hiroshima City and having them engage in peace- and Secretariat-related work. This program was established with the aim of improving the international functions of the Secretariat. It is hoped that the experience of learning about the realities of the atomic bombing in Hiroshima and sharing in the city's wish for peace will help interns identify more personally with the organization, inspiring them to contribute to its development and to peace activities in their home countries, and ultimately strengthening the network among member cities.

Ms. Elena Samigulina, from Volgograd, Russia, a Vice President and Lead City of Mayors for Peace, worked as an intern at the Mayors for Peace Secretariat from December 4 to 20. The Secretariat will have hosted two more interns from Tehran (Iran) and Granollers (Spain) by the end of March 2018.

▼ Posts on the Mayors for Peace Facebook page about Ms. Samigulina's internship in Hiroshima:

<https://www.facebook.com/mayorsforpeace/posts/1828753994051992>

<https://www.facebook.com/mayorsforpeace/posts/1831660620427996>

<https://www.facebook.com/mayorsforpeace/posts/1832159043711487>

<https://www.facebook.com/mayorsforpeace/posts/1835057120088346>

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## ■Regional Chapter Activities

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### < German Chapter >

#### \* Signing the Mutlangen Manifesto

To mark the 30th anniversary of the INF-Treaty, a success of the peace movement, and to recall the danger this disarmament treaty is in, member mayors of the German Chapter of Mayors for Peace and representatives of the peace movement signed the Mutlangen Manifesto on December 5 2017. Mutlangen is a former deployment site of nuclear Pershing II missiles. The Mutlangen Manifesto states that disarmament treaties create security and demands to maintain the INF-Treaty and to sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

There are 37 signatories so far, including mayors, district counsellors, a pastor, and peace group representatives. The signers are looking for support from other former deployment sites and will present the Manifesto at the NPT-PrepCom in Geneva this year and in Büchel, the last nuclear deployment site in Germany.

▼ The Mutlangen Manifesto on the Mayors for Peace website:

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/data/2018/Mutlangen\\_Manifesto\\_2017\\_en.pdf](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/data/2018/Mutlangen_Manifesto_2017_en.pdf)

▼ Full report and a photo on the Mayors for Peace website:

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/180125\\_Mutlangen\\_Manifesto.html](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/180125_Mutlangen_Manifesto.html)

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## ■Member City Activities

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### < Devonport, Tasmania, Australia >

#### \*Public appeal for the donation of winter coats for the homeless & needy - "Coat Day"

Coat Day is an initiative led by the not for profit, community based youth committee called "Enormity", which was founded on the North-West Coast of Tasmania in 1996. This annual appeal collects and distributes donated coats and winter woollens for the homeless and needy. Mayor Steve Martin of Devonport is the founder and mentor of "Enormity" and the Devonport City Council has been a supporter of the "Coat Day" initiative since 2010.

Saturday July 7<sup>th</sup> 2018 marks the twentieth anniversary of "Coat Day" and the group is hoping that this will be the year that they reach their target of collecting 100,000 coats. Only 800 more coats are needed for this

goal to be achieved. The City of Devonport is requesting that members of Mayors for Peace support this initiative, either by promoting this cause, or donating to it.

▼ Letter of request from members of “Enormity” on the Mayors for Peace website:

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/data/2018/Coat\\_Day\\_Devonport.pdf](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/data/2018/Coat_Day_Devonport.pdf)

▼ The website of “Enormity”:

<https://www.stevemartin.com.au/enormity/>

### < Hannover, Germany >

#### **\*Invitation to participate in an international traveling art project**

#### **“50 Cities - 50 Traces”: One World without nuclear weapons**

This year marks 50 years that the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons was opened for signature. To commemorate this anniversary and increase momentum for a ban on nuclear weapons around the world, the City of Hannover, a Mayors for Peace Vice President City and the Lead City of the German Chapter, invites member cities of Mayors for Peace to host an international traveling art project titled “50 Cities - 50 Traces.” The artwork is comprised of 50 photographic panels of “traces” of human presence found in different Mayors for Peace cities. It will travel around the world until 2020.

▼ For more information about the project:

[www.50cities-50traces.org](http://www.50cities-50traces.org)

▼ Please contact the City of Hannover to learn more about this project:

Email: [mayorsforpeace@hannover-stadt.de](mailto:mayorsforpeace@hannover-stadt.de)

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### ■ **“Peace News from Hiroshima”** (Provided by the Hiroshima Peace Media Center)

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As the new year begins, a spotlight has fallen on a particular photo. The photo was taken by Joe O’Donnell, a U.S. serviceman, shortly after the atomic bomb was dropped on the city of Nagasaki. Titled “Boy standing at a cremation site,” this image of the Nagasaki A-bombing is well known in Japan. With his dead brother on his back, the boy stands at attention, biting his lips while waiting for his brother’s body to be cremated. Pope Francis has recently instructed that copies of this photo be distributed around the world.

Reportedly, the Pope, an influential figure on the international stage, holds a strong desire for the abolition of nuclear weapons and has expressed explicit criticism of the nuclear weapon states. In fact, the Vatican has been one of the first nations to ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. The Pope’s message can be interpreted: Now is the time for us to return to the starting point of this problem and turn our eyes to the tremendous tragedy that nuclear weapons and war can produce.

2018 will surely be an important year for the effectuation of the nuclear weapons ban treaty. “Let this be the beginning of the end of nuclear weapons,” said A-bomb survivor Setsuko Thurlow at the award ceremony for the Nobel Peace Prize held last December. We must once again take these words to heart. For the treaty to enter into force, at least 50 nations must ratify it. Mayors for Peace, with its global network, will certainly play a key role in encouraging countries to ratify the treaty in the quest to attain this number. In Japan, the only country where nuclear weapons have been used in war, nearly all municipalities are members of this organization.

As the Pope encourages, we must remember the horrors of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and take action to advance the abolition of nuclear weapons.

Visit the following links for articles from the Hiroshima Peace Media Center.

- Mayors for Peace urges last 25 non-member in Japan

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=80175>

- Hiroshima Peace Media Center marks 10th anniversary

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=80289>

- Reopening of Peace Memorial Museum’s main building delayed

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=80189>

- Editorial Nobel Peace Prize ceremony

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=79625>

- Special exhibition at Nobel Peace Center

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=79513>

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## ■Request to Promote Various Measures Based on the New Action Plan (2017-2020)

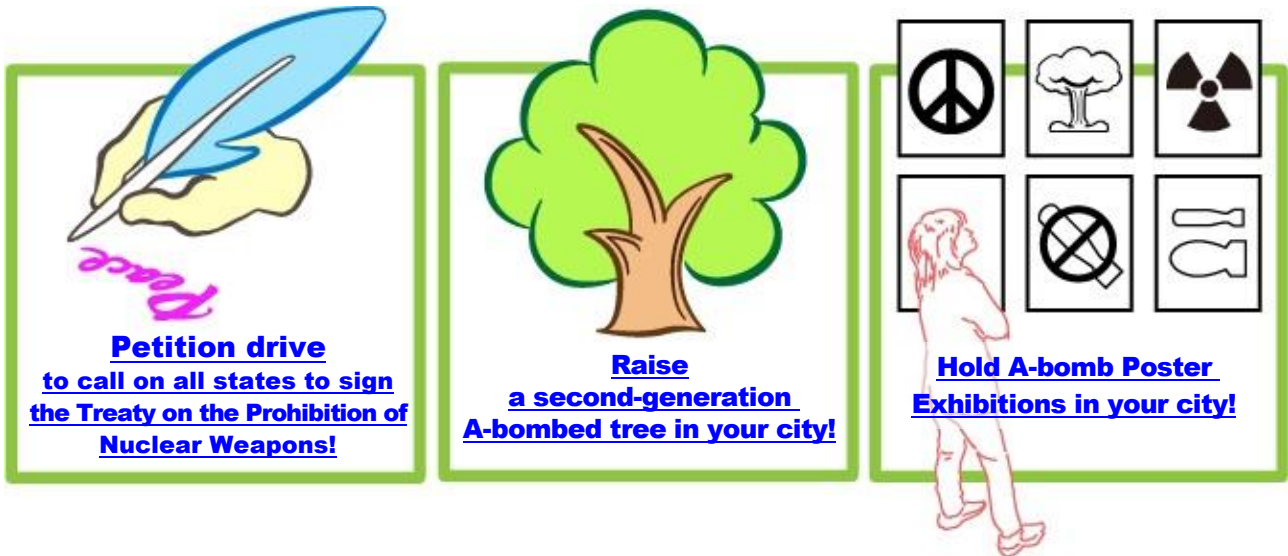
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At the 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace held in Nagasaki August 2017, we decided our Action Plan for up to the year 2020, aiming for lasting world peace. Together, we hope to make significant strides toward realizing this goal. Please promote all appropriate measures based on the Action Plan within your own municipality or regional group.

▼Mayors for Peace Action Plan (2017-2020):

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/report/meeting/data/9th\\_meeting/Action\\_Plan\\_2017-2020\\_E.pdf](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/report/meeting/data/9th_meeting/Action_Plan_2017-2020_E.pdf)

For example, you can promote the following measures:



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## ■Request to Promote the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Course in Higher Education

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Mayors for Peace is seeking to increase the number of colleges and universities providing the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Course, a program for higher education designed to analyze, systematize, and convey the reality of the atomic bombings and messages of hibakusha to younger generations.

Currently, Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Courses have been established at 71 universities (50 in Japan, 21 overseas).

Please urge colleges and universities of your municipality to establish the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Course. Whether newly established or previously existing, courses that fulfill the necessary criteria can be recognized as Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Courses.



▼ More information about the Course on the Mayors for Peace website:

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/hnpc/hnpc\\_top.htm](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/hnpc/hnpc_top.htm)

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## ■Mayors for Peace Information System

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An online information system for Mayors for Peace has been launched in order to facilitate information sharing among member cities. This system enables searches for member cities' information, the renewal of records by each member as well as payment of membership fees by credit card without any transfer charges. We hope that each member city will utilize this system for their activities related to Mayors for Peace.

Please check your city's information on the system, such as the name and contact information of the mayor, contact person, etc. If this information needs revision, we ask that you log into the system and make corrections. We would greatly appreciate each city keeping its own information up-to-date.

If you have lost or forgotten your login information, please contact the administrator at the following email address.

▼ Mayors for Peace Information System:

<https://www.mfpinfosys.org/>

▼ Mayors for Peace Information System Operating Manual:

[https://www.mfpinfosys.org/manual/secure/pdfs/lec7/lm/07manu\\_pdf\\_en.pdf](https://www.mfpinfosys.org/manual/secure/pdfs/lec7/lm/07manu_pdf_en.pdf)

▼ Please email us at the following address if you have any inquiries about the Mayors for Peace Information System:

[mfpssystem@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp](mailto:mfpssystem@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp)

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## ■ Mayors for Peace Membership Fee

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Since 2015, Mayors for Peace has instituted an annual membership fee. We ask each member city to pay a Fee of 2,000 Japanese yen per city every year (about USD 19/ EUR 15 as of January 22). We would like to thank everyone for their 2017 membership fee contributions. The funds raised by this fee will be utilized as a resource for the projects listed on the Mayors for Peace Action Plan.

The request for the payment of 2018 membership fee will be sent in April. We deeply appreciate your annual cooperation.

▼ Request for the 2017 Mayors for Peace Membership Fee (Mayors for Peace website):

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/outlines/membership\\_fee.html](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/outlines/membership_fee.html)

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## ■ Visitor(s) to the President of Mayors for Peace Last Month

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President Kazumi Matsui welcomed the following visitors last month and asked them to support the activities of Mayors for Peace and cooperate towards membership expansion.

\*December 4 - H. E. Thulani Dlomo, Ambassador of the Republic of South Africa to Japan

\*December 13 - H. E. Lui Tuck Yew, Ambassador of the Republic of Singapore to Japan

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## ■ Mayors for Peace Member Cities - 7,536 Cities in 162 Countries/Regions

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Thanks to your invaluable support, on January 1, we added 22 new member cities, bringing the total membership to 7,536.

From Germany, we welcomed seven cities thanks to the continued efforts of Hannover, a Vice President and Lead City of the German Chapter of Mayors for Peace. From Australia, we welcomed Ballina Shire as a new member. In December 2016, a staff member of Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation and a delegation from Hiroshima Japan-Australia Society visited Mayor David Wright of Ballina Shire Council and asked him to consider joining Mayors for Peace.

From the US, we also welcomed the City of Ithaca (NY). In September 2017, Mr. Toyokazu Ihara, a Nagasaki atomic bombing survivor, delivered a speech at Cornell University in Ithaca. Taking this opportunity, he handed over a letter of friendship from Mayor Taue of Nagasaki City, which included the request to join Mayors for Peace. With the assistance of Professor Hirokazu Miyazaki at Cornell University, Ithaca city joined Mayors for Peace.

We also welcomed eight cities from Japan, two cities from Ethiopia, and one city each from France, Ghana, and Kyrgyzstan this month.

We encourage further initiatives to promote membership and can provide support from Hiroshima as needed. Please invite mayors who are not yet members to join Mayors for Peace.

▼ List of New Members (PDF):

