



Mayors for Peace

Secretariat

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Mayors for Peace is a global network of municipalities committed to the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the realization of lasting world peace.

During the reporting period, Mayors for Peace sent three Youth Delegations—comprising high school students from Hiroshima engaged in peace activities—to the Review Conferences and Preparatory Committee Sessions of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). These Youth Delegations participated in a range of activities: they delivered presentations and exchanged views with conference participants and youth from around the world at Mayors for Peace Youth Forums held as side events to the conferences, observed the official sessions, and submitted petitions to United Nations representatives. The petitions, calling on all states to join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons at the earliest possible date, included signatures collected by the student delegates and Mayors for Peace member cities worldwide.

In addition, Mayors for Peace organized and livestreamed peace education webinars, providing a platform for young leaders involved in disarmament and peacebuilding to share their experiences and engage in global dialogue. In the 2024 webinar, eight youth speakers from six countries—Japan, Spain, the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, and Somalia—shared their experiences and ideas. The event also featured messages from the Mayor of Hiroshima and the Co-Chair of Nihon Hidankyo (the Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations), along with a lecture on the international situation from the Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition (RECNA) at Nagasaki University.

To mark the International Day of Peace on September 21, 2024, Mayors for Peace held the event “UNite for Peace.” Fifteen youth participants heard an inspiring talk from the Head of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Hiroshima Office, who shared her experiences and perspectives on building a peaceful world. Following this, they joined a guided tour of the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park led by Youth Peace Volunteers to learn about the realities of the atomic bombing.

Furthermore, the Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation, which houses the Mayors for Peace Secretariat, welcomed participants of the Youth Leader Fund for a World Without Nuclear Weapons in Hiroshima in 2024. As part of the program, the

participants visited the Peace Memorial Park, deepened their understanding of the atomic bombing and shared their learnings and renewed commitment to a world without nuclear weapons. (390 words)