



MAYORS FOR PEACE ACTION TOOL KIT

[Rev. 4/17/25]

[Mayors for Peace](#), founded in 1982 and led by the Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, is working for a world without nuclear weapons, safe and resilient cities, and a culture of peace, in which peace is a priority for every individual. As of April 1, 2025, Mayors for Peace has grown to 8,477 cities in 166 countries and territories, with 229 U.S. members. Mayors for Peace's next membership goal is to reach 10,000 member cities as quickly as possible. [Is your mayor a member?](#)

Member Cities (as of April 1, 2025)

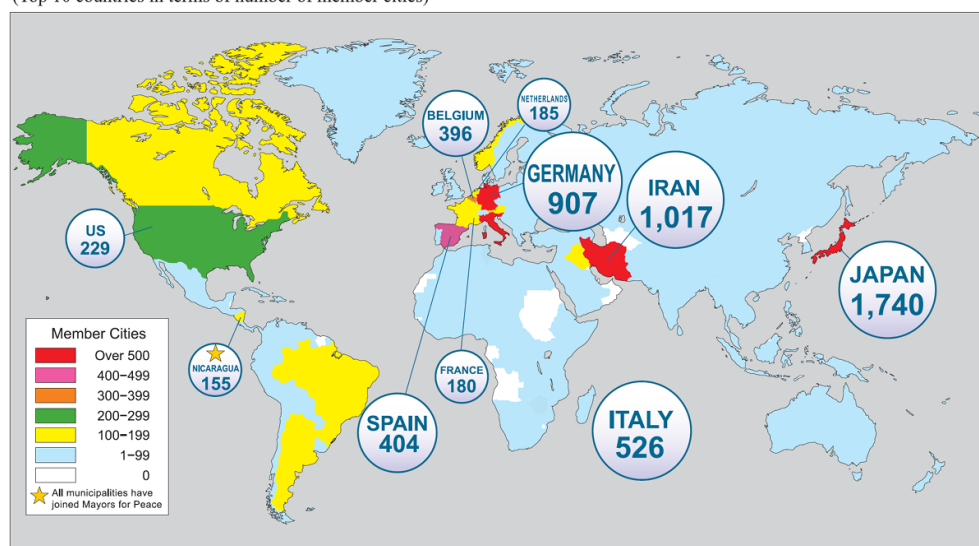
<div>8,477 cities</div> <div>in 166 countries & regions</div>	Area	Countries & Regions	Member Cities
	Asia	39	3,365
	Oceania	9	137
	Africa	49	440
	Europe	41	3,449
	North America	3	343
	Latin America and the Caribbean	25	743

Regions: Taiwan / Palestine / Northern Cyprus (Asia), Northern Mariana Islands / French Polynesia (Oceania), Somaliland (Africa), Kosovo (Europe), Greenland (North America), Puerto Rico (Latin America and the Caribbean)

Help Mayors for Peace reach its goal of 10,000 member cities! Can we recruit 50 new U.S. members this year? Check out the numbers below. *Let's catch up in the U.S.!*

[Map Showing Mayors for Peace Member Cities]

(Top 10 countries in terms of number of member cities)



(As of April 1, 2025)

Learn more. [Click here to watch a Mayors for Peace introductory video](#) (10 minutes).

The prestigious [U.S. Conference of Mayors](#) (USCM), the nonpartisan association of 1,408 American cities with populations over 30,000, has adopted bold [Mayors for Peace resolutions for 19 consecutive years](#). Resolutions adopted at annual meetings become official USCM policy.

The Mayors for Peace resolution adopted by the 2023 USCM annual meeting is titled, "[Calling for Urgent Action to Avoid Nuclear War, Resolve the Ukraine Conflict, Lower Tensions with China, and Redirect Military Spending to Meet Human Needs](#)." For the first time, a USCM resolution on nuclear disarmament lent the organization's support to a specific legislative measure, [H. Res. 77](#), "Embracing the Goals and Provisions of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons."

The Mayors for Peace resolution adopted by the 2024 USCM is titled, "[The Imperative of Dialogue in a Time of Acute Nuclear Dangers](#)." Reflecting the urgency of the current moment, the resolution opens with a warning that, "the Russian war of aggression on Ukraine, with its attendant nuclear threats, brings into sharp focus the increasing risks of nuclear war by accident, miscalculation, or crisis escalation that make disarmament that much more urgent," and adds that, "an intensifying array of antagonisms among nuclear-armed governments is also occurring in North-East Asia, the South China Sea, South Asia, and the Middle East." It declares: "as long as nuclear weapons exist, it will always be the right time to be thinking concretely and constructively about how we will eliminate them forever."

The resolution "condemns Russia's illegal war of aggression on Ukraine and its repeated nuclear threats and calls on the Russian government to withdraw all forces from Ukraine," and calls on the President and Congress "to maximize diplomatic efforts to end the war in Ukraine as soon as possible." It also "calls on the government of the United States to make good faith efforts to reduce tensions with the government of the People's Republic of China, seeking opportunities for cooperation on such global issues as the environment, public health, and equitable development, and new approaches for the control of nuclear arms."

Noting that "the U.S. is planning to spend \$2 Trillion over the next 30 years to maintain and modernize its nuclear triad, the resolution "calls on the Administration and Congress to reconsider further investments in nuclear weapons and find ways that our finite federal resources can better meet human needs, support safe and resilient cities, and increase investment in international diplomacy, humanitarian assistance and development, and international cooperation to address the climate crisis."

Finally, the USCM resolution "calls on member cities to take action at the municipal level to raise public awareness of the growing dangers of wars among nuclear-armed states, the humanitarian and financial impacts of nuclear weapons, and the urgent need for good faith U.S. leadership in negotiating the global elimination of nuclear weapons," and it "**encourages all its members to join Mayors for Peace to advance the objectives of the organization and to help it reach its goal of 10,000 members.**"

August 6 and August 9, 2025 will mark the 80th anniversary of the U.S. atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. As former Mayor Frank Cownie of Des Moines, Iowa, past U.S. Vice-President of Mayors for Peace, said, "**If you don't think nuclear weapons are a local issue, ask the Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.**" Mayors are well placed to understand the dangers of nuclear war as well as the impacts of grotesquely bloated military spending on human needs and on the public services we all depend on. During the pandemic, and now the Russian war on Ukraine and Israeli war on Gaza, these powerful resolutions calling for new priorities provide an important opportunity to get that message heard.

Help Mayors for Peace reach its goal of 10,000 member cities! Can we recruit 50 new U.S. members this year? [Find out if your mayor is a member of Mayors for Peace](#) (click on Country/Region for US).

- If they are not a member, please invite them to join. [Click here](#) for a letter of invitation from Hiroshima Mayor Kazumi Matsui, the President of Mayors for Peace, information about how to register, and examples of member cities activities.

- If you're planning to ask your City Council to adopt a [Back From the Brink](#) resolution or the [ICAN Cities Appeal](#), or some combination, **ask your mayor to join Mayors for Peace at the same time.**
- Even better, **include an operative clause in your resolution making it City policy for the mayor to join Mayors for Peace.**
- Cite recent USCM resolutions (see above) and quote from them in your local resolution.
- If your mayor is already a member of Mayors for Peace, ask them to actively support adoption of your resolution by the City Council.
- Take copies of recent USCM resolutions to meetings with members of Congress or their staff; include them in correspondence with members of Congress and State legislators.
- Refer to and quote from the USCM resolutions in articles, op-eds, and letters to the editor.

THINGS MAYORS CAN DO with the support of local peace and disarmament groups:

Public education

- Issue a Proclamation on the Hiroshima-Nagasaki anniversary
- [Host an A-Bomb poster exhibit](#) in City Hall or another public location
- [Participate in the annual Mayors for Peace Children's Art Competition, "Peaceful Towns"](#)
- (Note: the 2025 competition will be announced soon)
- [Plant a seedling from an A-bombed tree](#) at a public location
- Place educational resources in public libraries
- Host a Town Hall meeting
- Host a film showing or film series
- Publish an op-ed in a local newspaper
- [Sign and promote the Mayors for Peace petition](#), Calling for all states to join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons as soon as possible.
- [Click here for more ideas](#)



Work with your City Council

- Pass a resolution in support of the [Back From the Brink](#) campaign, the [ICAN Cities Appeal](#) or a hybrid
- Hold a city budget hearing on [local impacts of nuclear weapons and military spending](#)
- Divest city funds from nuclear weapons producers and investors ([Don't Bank on the Bomb](#))

Lobby the federal government

- If your city is a member of the U.S. Conference of Mayors (population over 30,000), co-sponsor this year's Mayors for Peace resolution (will be open for co-sponsors May 21 – June 19, 2025.)
- [Ask your Congressional Representative to co-sponsor H. Res. 317](#), (the successor to Resolution to H. Res. 77), **Urging the United States to lead the world back from the brink of nuclear war and halt and reverse the nuclear arms race.** (See the last page for more information.)

- Join with other Mayors for Peace members to lobby Congress using the USCM and municipal resolutions
- Recruit your Congressional Representatives and Senators to join [Parliamentarians for Nuclear Nonproliferation and Disarmament](#) and sign the [ICAN Parliamentary Pledge](#).

More

- Put a Mayors for Peace logo on the City's or the Mayor's website
- Organize a regional Mayors for Peace meeting
- Recruit more members for Mayors for Peace

There's no "one size fits all" approach. Be creative. Explore the [Mayors for Peace website](#) for more ideas. Check out especially, the monthly [News Flash](#) and [Member Cities' Activities](#).

Let's do this! Let's recruit 50 new U.S. members of Mayors for Peace this year!!

To connect with other U.S. Mayors for Peace campaigners, [join the new Mayors for Peace interest group](#).

For more information or assistance, contact Jackie Cabasso, Mayors for Peace North American Coordinator: wslf@earthlink.net; (510) 839-5877 (Oakland, CA)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. How do I find out if my mayor is a member of Mayors for Peace?

A. [Find out if your mayor is a member of Mayors for Peace](#) and the month and year the city joined (click on Country/Region for US). Once a mayor joins Mayors for Peace, their successors are automatically considered members, unless they withdraw (this has happened only a very few times). But your mayor may not know they are a member. If your city joined a number of years ago, you should try to engage the current mayor in some of the Mayors for Peace activities described above. You can also ask your mayor to reaffirm their support for Mayors for Peace by signing and sending in a new [Mayors for Peace registration form](#). Here's a [printable document](#) listing all of the U.S. members of Mayors for Peace organized by state.

Q. Does Mayors for Peace have membership dues?

A. Mayors for Peace asks for an [annual membership fee of 2,000 Japanese Yen](#). Before you freak out, you should know that as of April 17, 2025, 2,000 Yen is only \$14.04! (Here's an [international currency converter](#).) The fee can be paid by credit card to avoid bank transfer fees that would be greater than the membership fee.

Q. What's the difference between Mayors for Peace and the United States Conference of Mayors?

A. [Mayors for Peace](#) is an international network of nearly 8,500 cities in 166 countries and territories. The [U.S. Conference of Mayors](#) (USCM) is the official nonpartisan association of cities with populations over 30,000. There are approximately 1,400 member cities. At its annual meetings, usually held in June, the USCM adopts about 100 resolutions dealing with a wide range of issues important to cities. Resolutions adopted at its annual meetings become official USCM policies. For the last 19 years, the USCM has adopted bold resolutions calling for nuclear disarmament, submitted by Mayors for Peace members. It is anticipated that the 2025 resolution will be available for mayors to co-sponsor May 21 – June 19, 2025. Here's a [list with links](#) to all Mayors for Peace resolutions adopted by the USCM from 2004 – 2024.

Q, How can I find out how much my city is spending annually on nuclear weapons?

A. Every April, Dr. Bob Dodge, Co-President of the Board of Physicians for Social Responsibility-Los Angeles), calculates the full cost of all nuclear weapons programs to our communities.. **For FY 2025 (Tax Year 2024), the total U.S. Nuclear Weapons Programs expenditure was \$110,344,000,000! That's more than 110 BILLION DOLLARS.** [Click here](#) to calculate how much your city spent in Tax Year 2024.

Mayors for Peace is working with the Back From the Brink Campaign to get more Congressional Co-sponsors for H. Res. 317



[Back from the Brink \(BftB\)](#) is a US-based grassroots coalition of individuals, organizations and elected officials working together toward a world free of nuclear weapons and advocating for common sense nuclear weapons policies to secure a safer, more just future. BftB calls on the United States to lead a global effort to prevent nuclear war by:

- Actively pursuing a verifiable agreement among nuclear-armed states to eliminate their nuclear arsenals
- Renouncing the option of using nuclear weapons first
- Ending the sole, unchecked authority of any U.S. President to launch a nuclear attack
- Taking U.S. nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert
- Cancelling the plan to replace the entire U.S. nuclear arsenal with enhanced weapons

More than 80 cities, towns, counties, and states have passed BftB resolutions, and over 400 organizations large and small have endorsed BftB. The U.S. Conference of Mayors has endorsed BftB in three annual resolutions submitted by members of Mayors for Peace.

On April 9, 2025, Rep. Jim McGovern (D-MA) and Rep. Jill Takuda (D-HI), with 13 initial co-sponsors, introduced **[H. Res. 317](#)** in the U.S. House of Representatives, ***“Urging the United States to lead the world back from the brink of nuclear war and halt and reverse the nuclear arms race”***, which lays out how we can fundamentally reform U.S. nuclear weapons policy and achieve a world free of nuclear weapons.

Rep. McGovern introduced a similar resolution (**[H. Res. 77](#)**) in the last Congressional Session which attracted 44 co-sponsors. **We need your help to substantially increase that number during the 119th Congress.**

Let your member of Congress know that we can't keep kicking the can down the road on this existential issue. We must create a safer world — a world without nuclear weapons — for us and for generations to come.

[Urge your Congressional Representative to co-sponsor H. Res. 317!](#)