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, as essential measures for the realization of lasting world peace. As of September 1, 2022, Mayors for Peace has grown to 8,206 cities in 166 countries and regions, with 222 U.S. members—representing in total over one billion people. Mayors for Peace’s next membership goal is to reach 10,000 member cities as quickly as possible. Is your mayor a member?

Help Mayors for Peace reach its goal of 10,000 member cities! Check out the numbers in Japan, Iran, Germany, Italy, Spain, and Belgium. Let’s catch up in the U.S.!

Learn more. Click here to watch a Mayors for Peace introductory video (10 minutes).
The U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM), the nonpartisan association of 1,408 American cities with populations over 30,000, has unanimously adopted Mayors for Peace resolutions for 17 consecutive years. Resolutions adopted at annual meetings become official USCM policy.

The Mayors for Peace resolution adopted by the 2022 USCM annual meeting is titled, “Forging a Path to Peace and Common Security.” Addressing the need for common security, the resolution “calls on the President and Congress to exercise restraint in U.S. military engagement in Ukraine, while maximizing diplomatic efforts to end the war as soon as possible by working with Ukraine and Russia for an immediate ceasefire and negotiations with mutual concessions, in conformity with the United Nations Charter, knowing that the risks of wider war grow the longer the war continues.”

The resolution “calls on the U.S. and the other nuclear-armed states parties to the NPT…. to implement their disarmament obligations by committing to a process leading to the adoption no later than 2030 of a timebound plan for the global elimination of nuclear weapons by 2045….”

Addressing the need for human security, the resolution “calls on the Administration and Congress to rein in military and nuclear weapons spending, and to redirect funds to support safe and resilient cities and meet human needs, including by providing accessible and affordable health care for all, housing and food security, …. green sustainable energy, and environmental protection and mitigation; and to increase investment in international diplomacy, humanitarian assistance and development, and international cooperation to address the climate crisis.”

The Mayors for Peace resolution adopted by the 2021 USCM annual meeting was titled, Calling on the United States to Welcome the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and to Act Now to Prevent Nuclear War and Eliminate Nuclear Weapons. The Mayors for Peace resolution adopted by the 2020 USCM annual meeting, Calling for Human-Centered Security in a Time of Global Pandemic, affirmed for the third time the USCM’s support for the Back From the Brink Campaign.

As Mayor Frank Cownie of Des Moines, Iowa, the U.S. Vice-President of Mayors for Peace, has 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 ongoing pandemic, and now the Russian war on Ukraine, 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! Find out if your mayor is a member of Mayors for Peace. 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 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 it 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

- **Plant a seedling from an A-bombed tree** at a public location
- **Host an A-Bomb poster exhibit** in City Hall or another public location
- Issue a Proclamation on the Hiroshima-Nagasaki anniversary
- Place relevant books 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 makers

Lobby the federal government

- 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:

- Contact U.S. Mayors for Peace Vice-President Mayor Frank Cownie of Des Moines, Iowa and let him know you’re interested in getting involved
- 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

Explore the **Mayors for Peace website** for more ideas. Check out especially, the monthly **News Flash** and **Member Cities’ Activities**.

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