Date: 5th June 2017

Subject: The Manchester and London terrorist attacks and the response of Mayors for Peace, and other recent local initiatives involving Mayors for Peace

1. Introduction
This report by the Chapter Secretary provides an overview of the Manchester terrorist attack at Manchester Arena and its aftermath, as well as a response from Mayors for Peace to it, and potential future work to promote solidarity on such issues. The Chapter Secretary also attended, on the invitation of the Mayor of Granollers, a special conference comparing and contrasting the bombing around Barcelona in the Spanish Civil War with the bombing in the London ‘Blitz’ of the Second World War. The conference considered the European ‘Memories’ project which is considering how past conflicts are remembered and the vision required to work for peace in the present day. The report also includes an overview of a recent ICAN UK campaigners meeting considering the UN’s process to develop a ‘nuclear weapons ban treaty’ and its potential impact on the UK and Ireland’s different policies on nuclear weapons. The draft text of the proposed nuclear weapons ban treaty was published on the 22nd May at the UN in Geneva.

2. Manchester terrorist attack incident, 22nd May
On the evening of the 22nd May, as a concert by American singer Ariana Grande was concluding, a terrorist detonated a suicide bomb in the foyer area of Manchester Arena. The Arena was holding an attendance of around 21,000 people (it is the largest covered arena in Europe) and many parents were in the foyer area awaiting their children to return (Grande is a very popular singer for the 8 – 18 age range in particular) when the bomb was detonated at around 10.30pm. The Arena is directly connected and adjoins Manchester Victoria Rail Station, a mainline station with trains to Leeds, Liverpool, Blackpool, Huddersfield, Wigan, Southport and Metrolink tram lines to Bury, Oldham, Rochdale and the city centre. The suicide bomb contained large amounts of nails and ball bearings, leading to many serious injuries and terrible burns.

The incident has led to an extensive response from the emergency services and Manchester City Council. 22 people were killed in the blast, with 59 injured, many of them seriously, and another 60 people walking wounded. What was particularly shocking about the incident was that it was clear that attacking children (particularly girls) and young adults appears to have been part of the motive for the attack. Those that have died and injured in the attack come from across the north of England, but as far away as the island of Barra in the Western Isles of Scotland. The train station had to be closed for a number of days after the incident, and a large area of Manchester city centre was cordoned off. The terrorist organisation known as Daesh (IS) claimed responsibility for the atrocity. The terrorist was a local man of Libyan ancestry. Early indications are of a young man previously living a ‘western’ culture who became radicalized quite quickly. Police actions to find the network who assisted has been intense. This radicalisation process appears common with terrorist incidents in similar events in Europe and around the world.
In the past couple of years, similar attacks have taken place in cities around Europe, including Paris, Brussels, Nice, Berlin, Istanbul, Stockholm and London. While there is a particular issue within Europe of regular attacks by ‘home grown’ terrorists, such actions also occur on a regular occasion across the Middle East (particularly Iraq and Syria), many countries in Africa (particularly Nigeria, Cameroon, Somalia, Egypt and Sudan), Asia (in recent times in Pakistan, Indonesia, Afghanistan and Bangladesh) and Australia. Indeed, just 9 days after the Manchester attack a terrorist incident in Kabul, Afghanistan, using an oil tanker, killed 90 people and injured over 400.

3. The political impacts and response to the incident

As is usual with these kind of attacks, they have provoked a real sense of shock, anger, upset, fear and solidarity. For Manchester, a Vice President of Mayors for Peace, with a long history of promoting itself as a city of peace, the attack has created much trauma and upset. The city quickly responded with solidarity and compassion to the attack. This began with a joint statement the morning after from the newly elected Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham, and the Leader of Manchester City Council, Sir Richard Leese.

On the early evening of the 23rd May, a moving vigil service was speedily organised by Manchester City Council. Led by the Lord Mayor of Manchester, Councillor Eddy Newman, it included speeches from the Bishop of Manchester, the Chief Constable of Greater Manchester Police and a specially commissioned and inspirational poem ‘This is the Place’ by the local poet Tony Walsh. Amongst those on the platform were political leaders from the Conservatives (Communities Minister Sajid Javid), Labour (its Leader Jeremy Corbyn) and the Liberal Democrats (its Leader Tim Farron), the Speaker of the House of Commons, the Archbishop of York and faith leaders from the Muslim, Jewish, Sikh, Jain and Hindu faiths amongst others. A large number of children took part and Mayors and Leaders from the 10 Greater Manchester Councils were also in attendance. An attendance estimated at over 7,000 people packed into Albert Square at an event that was carried live by news organisations from across the world. A book of condolence set up in the Town Hall was signed by the Prime Minister Theresa May, and the Queen made a special visit to Manchester Children’s Hospital to meet some of the children injured in the attack. A follow-up multi-faith event at Manchester Cathedral led to political, faith and community leaders signing a ‘We are Stronger Together’pledge to work together to improve community cohesion and tolerance across Greater Manchester.

The UK and Ireland Mayors, Provosts and Leaders for Peace Secretariat published a statement of support and solidarity to Manchester and all those affected by the incident on the 24th May. This included statements from the Leader of Manchester City Council and the Lord Mayor of Manchester. The statement was fully supported by the Mayors for Peace’s International Executive, including the Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and Mayors from 23 other nations. It is attached below as Annex 1. The statement also contains the full poem ‘This is the Place’.

On the 25th May a national commemorative minutes silence was held in Manchester and towns and cities across the UK and Ireland. As is common with other previous terrorist incidents, many cities around the world showed their solidarity with Manchester, such as the lights on the Eiffel Tower in Paris being ceremonially switched off, and the colours of the UK flag portrayed on buildings in cities as diverse as Belfast, Berlin, Hong Kong and Dubai. Messages of support and solidarity have inundated the city of Manchester, and are all very much appreciated.

Manchester City Council is working on appropriate memorials to remember those killed and injured in the incident. A number of immediate events have already been held and in time a full civic memorial service is likely to take place. A major concert was held by the Halle Orchestra, BBC Philharmonic Orchestra and Manchester Camerata in the Bridgewater Hall, and a special concert led by Ariana Grande and a host of musicians was held at Old Trafford Cricket Ground, being shown live on television (this is expected to raise £2 million for charity). By early June, an emergency ‘We Love Mcr’ fund had raised over £7 million with donations large and small, including £1 million from Manchester United and Manchester City football clubs – ‘a City United’ became one of the slogans of the city after the attack. All of these acts show a city dedicated to promote peace and tolerance, and are in keeping with its active membership within Mayors for Peace.
4. ** Longer term response, which could include Mayors for Peace**

For Manchester City Council, the focus of the incident has now moved into a recovery phase, looking to restore the buildings damaged by the bomb, considering longer-term memorials and initiatives and providing humanitarian assistance to those affected by the incident.

Manchester is not the first, and sadly is unlikely to be the last, town and city to be affected by the horror of terrorist attacks. Mayors for Peace was established in 1982 by the Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki as a focus for solidarity between towns and cities for the promotion of a world free from nuclear weapons and to promote peaceful initiatives. Many of its Executive Board are cities that have been directly affected by the scourge of war and terrorism, such as Hiroshima, Nagasaki, Volgograd, Granollers, Sarajevo, Ypres and Halabja.

The Chapter and Executive statement on the Manchester attack is a first and important sign to create solidarity amongst Mayors for Peace members with Manchester. Considerable discussion has taken place, and will continue to take place, in the UK and Ireland Mayors for Peace Chapter, and across other national chapters and members of Mayors for Peace in the world, about ways to work together to campaign not just for a nuclear weapons free world, but for a more peaceful world. Such discussions will continue at the upcoming Executive Conference of Mayors for Peace in August. The Mayors for Peace’s ‘Cities are not Targets!’ campaign could be one such way to bring members from around Europe and the wider world together in solidarity for a world against such indiscriminate acts and the parallel use of weapons of mass destruction.

The Chapter Secretary is also in discussion with the Lord Mayor of Manchester and senior councillors and officers to look at ways its involvement in Mayors for Peace can be a part of longer-term memorials and initiatives. Further information on the outcomes of such discussion will be shared with Chapter members and at the upcoming Mayors for Peace Executive Conference.

5. **London terrorist attack, June 3rd**

Just as this report was about to be published, a second terrorist attack, and the third in the UK in 10 weeks, took place around the London Bridge and Borough Market area of London.

This attack differed from the other two in including three men. A van was used to deliberately hit a number of pedestrians. The three assailants then ran to the popular Borough Market area stabbing people as they went along. They were shot dead by the Police, and it has become clear they were wearing fake ‘suicide vests’. At present 7 people have been killed, with 48 injured, many of them seriously. The Chapter and Mayors for Peace members in general condemn this senseless attack and support the messages of solidarity being passed on to London from political leaders across the world. A statement will be sent out in similar terms to that of the previous attacks. A national minutes silence will take place at 11am on June 6th.

6. **ICAN UK campaigners meeting, London, May 22nd**

The Chapter Secretary was invited to a special meeting organised by the UK branch of the International Campaign to Ban Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) held in London. The meeting brought together 22 ICAN-UK affiliated groups to discuss the recent UN Nuclear Weapon Ban Treaty Conference in April, the recent Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Preparatory Conference held in the first half of May, and the upcoming second Nuclear Weapon Ban Treaty Conference being held at the end of June / early July.


The UK Government, like all nuclear weapons states, most NATO members and states under its ‘nuclear umbrella’, did not attend the first nuclear weapon ban treaty conference, and are not likely to attend the second conference. The Republic of Ireland Government, in contrast, is one of the leading members of states seeking to develop a treaty and move the multilateral nuclear disarmament debate forward. The ICAN UK meeting considered the state of the debate on such issues, which had been hardened and to some extent polarized during the recent general election campaign in the UK. The lack of significant UK media coverage of the first conference, in comparison to much of the rest of the world, was particularly noted.
During the meeting, attendees watched the formal announcement by the Conference Chair, the Ambassador of Costa Rica to the UN, presenting the text of a draft treaty that will be considered at the second conference later this month. The consensus of the ICAN UK meeting was that the draft treaty had much within it to support, particularly in its recognition of the ‘hibakusha’ (survivors of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic bomb attacks) and other communities affected by nuclear weapons, such as nuclear test veteran groups. There were a number of views on whether the Treaty would encourage the nuclear weapon tests to eventually cooperate with this process, and if the text of the Treaty would ever be acceptable to them.

The meeting heard from a number of groups organising relevant events within the general election campaign and over the summer. There was also considerable discussion about overcoming the difficulties of getting the positive message of the conferences out at a time of limited engagement with such issues from the media. Work is ongoing to engage with existing and new MPs and a small Parliamentary delegation is expected to go to the late June conference at the UN.

A Mayors for Peace delegation led by its Secretary General will be attending the second conference and interacting with ICAN delegates in New York. The outcomes of the conference will be a core part of discussion within its Executive and General Conference in August. Mayors for Peace are keen to find ways of ‘bridging the gap’ between nuclear weapon states and non-nuclear weapons states, and the second conference in June will be pivotal in considering ways on how this process can assist in positive actions for multilateral nuclear disarmament.

7. Barcelona / London ‘Memories’ Conference, Imperial War Museum, May 23rd

The Chapter Secretary was invited by the Mayor and staff of Granollers, a fellow Vice President of Mayors for Peace, to a special conference in the Imperial War Museum, London organised by the Public Diplomacy Council of Catalonia, the European Observatory on Memories and Barcelona University, in collaboration with the University of Brighton Centre for Research in Memory Narrative. The conference was co-funded by the ‘Europe for Citizens’ Programme of the European Union.

The conference considered the shared experiences of Barcelona and London from intensive aerial bombardment of the cities and surrounding areas during the Spanish Civil War and what is called the London ‘Blitz’ in the first half of the Second World War. The symposium aimed to explain and disseminate the shared experiences and consider present-day remembrance policies of those attacks on peace and democracy.

Amongst the speakers was the eminent historian Antony Beevor, who compared the early bombardments on the Basque and Catalan regions in the Spanish Civil War with the heavy intense and long-term bombardment of London and many cities across the UK, including Coventry, Belfast, Manchester, Hull, Clydebank / Glasgow, Leeds, Bristol and Liverpool. Presentations from Catalan speakers compared and contrasted the remembrance of these events, which have been quite different, as in Spain the Fascist anti-democratic forces were triumphant, whilst in the UK Allied forces prevailed, in what is often called ‘Britain’s finest hour’.

In Catalonia much work is continuing to restore the ‘memories’ of what actually happened on both sides between 1936 and 1939, after much of it was suppressed by the Franco dictatorship. There remains a sense of bitterness that true peace and reconciliation was not developed thoroughly enough as Spain became a democracy after Franco’s death, and the divisions that remain have not healed. The ‘Memories’ project is one way to try to come to terms with the civil war and remember the suffering that took place then and for decades afterwards. The conference also looked at the different way Barcelona protected its citizens from aerial bombing in comparison to London, where much of the remarkable construction of underground tunnels under Barcelona were not replicated in London until after the Second World War, during the ‘Cold War’ era.

The Mayor of Granollers was the closing speaker of the Conference, arguing that Mayors for Peace could be a place where towns and cities can come together to both remember the past and call for a more peaceful present and future. He also mentioned the potential for relaunching
the Mayors for Peace’s ‘Cities are not Targets!’ campaign, particularly in Europe. Granollers has co-organised a Mediterranean Mayors for Peace conference for the past four years, and the latest will take place in Tarragona later this year for members across southern Europe, the Middle East and North Africa.

The conference was held in the Imperial War Museum at a time when it is hosting a major conference on the history of the UK peace movement over the past century. This exhibition considers the initiatives to promote international peace and solidarity before the First World War and the development of the ‘conscientious objector’ movement in both world wars and beyond. It also looks at the development of the ‘Ban the Bomb’ movement in the UK in the 1950s onwards which reached its height in the 1980s, and the ‘Stop the War’ Movement that grew in the 1990s and again reached its height with the 2 million people who demonstrated against the upcoming Iraq War. The exhibition considers the effectiveness of this movement and how it has changed and adapted to wider historical change. The exhibition continues at the museum until the end of August.

8. Mayors for Peace Executive and General Conference, Nagasaki, August 7th – 10th

The Lord Mayor of Manchester and the Chapter Secretary will represent Manchester at the upcoming Executive and General Conference of Mayors for Peace. Executive Conferences take place every two years (often in Europe) and will set its policy from 2017 – 2020. The General Conferences take place every four years and rotate between Hiroshima and Nagasaki. They bring prominent speakers from the disarmament and peace community to talk with Mayors for Peace members on ways forward for the organisation. The Conference is also likely to look at the development of national / cross-national Chapters of Mayors for Peace and ways to promote deeper membership and increasing solidarity between members.

The General Conference is open to all members of Mayors for Peace to attend – further details are on the Mayors for Peace website http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english.index.html. A full report on these meetings will be provided in late August.

Manchester is also pleased that two students, Rachel Kean from Manchester University and Chris Moss from Manchester Metropolitan University, will be representing the city as Youth Ambassadors at different programmes in August, funded by the City of Hiroshima and Hiroshima University.

9. Conclusion

This report has been drafted to promote the need for continuing to increase solidarity between members of Mayors for Peace in the UK and Ireland and around the world on dealing with conflict of many kinds. The terrorist attacks in London in April and Manchester in May have brought to its members the real threat to civilian populations from radicalised people inspired by the ‘Daesh’ movement. The terrible and indiscriminate nature of the attacks has truly shocked all of us. The positive and determined response to them and the call for peace, tolerance and solidarity very much tallies with the call of the Mayors for Peace organisation that towns and cities should not be targets for warfare and attacks, and more peaceful ways have to be found to deal with our problems.

Future action on how Mayors for Peace can play a positive and more pro-active role in promoting the values of peace, tolerance and solidarity need to be carefully considered and encouraged. The Chapter Secretariat sincerely thanks those who have sent in many messages of good will, sympathy and solidarity from around the world after the London and Manchester terrorist attacks. It is now incumbent to work together to promote peace and tolerance within our diverse communities.
Mayors for Peace UK and Ireland Chapter Statement, 24th May 2017

Mayors for Peace sends its deepest sympathy and solidarity to those killed and injured in the terrorist incident in Manchester

The UK and Ireland Mayors, Provosts and Leaders for Peace Chapter – the constituent chapter of the international Mayors for Peace movement – which is based in Manchester City Council, joins with Executive Members of Mayors for Peace, led by the Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, to remember those who tragically died in Manchester in a terrorist incident on the evening of the 22nd of May.

The Chapter, which is led by the Lord Mayor of Manchester, along with all Executive Board members of Mayors for Peace, sends its sympathy and joins in solidarity with the city of Manchester after the tragic events of the evening of the 22nd May, which has seen at present 22 people killed and 59 seriously injured after a terrorist attack at Manchester Arena in the city centre. (1)

The Chapter and the Executive Board members fully supports the words of the Leader of Manchester City Council, Councillor Sir Richard Leese, speaking outside Manchester Town Hall yesterday, when he said: “This is an absolutely horrifying incident and our thoughts are with everyone affected, especially those who have lost loved ones or been injured and traumatised. (The) attack is a monstrous act but also a deeply futile one. Manchester is a proud, strong city and we will not allow terrorists who seek to sow fear and division to achieve their aims.

We give heartfelt thanks to our emergency services for their response and our council staff are doing all they can to support.” (2)

This incident follows on from a litany of similar events that have taken place in recent years in the likes of Brussels, Paris, Nice, Istanbul, Berlin, Stockholm and London, many of whom are members of the Mayors for Peace. By attacking cities in such an indiscriminate way, the aim is to harm innocent peace-loving people. It is an attack on all of those who want to see a more peaceful world.

Manchester is a city of Peace and has been a Vice President of Mayors for Peace, led by the Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, since 2001. The City Council works closely with Executive Members of Mayors for Peace to achieve ways to create a more peaceful world, free of weapons of mass destruction. The Mayors for Peace Executive and UK and Ireland Chapter members also want to see our own towns and cities being beacons of peace, tolerance and understanding and these tragic events affect all of us in the UK and the Republic of Ireland, and across the world.

Our thoughts are currently with those directly affected in this incident and the people of Manchester, but they remain also with the many other people and communities across our world who live under the threat of terrorism and the scourge of urban civil war.

We stand together for peace and an end to violence in all its many forms.

An online book of condolence is available for anyone who wishes to make a personal statement – http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/TKKJ2

A ‘We Love Mcr Emergency Fund’ has been launched by Manchester City Council in partnership with the British Red Cross to support the people who have been injured or bereaved by the attack. (3) Commenting on the fund, the Lord Mayor of Manchester, Councillor Eddy Newman said: “We are incredibly grateful to the huge amount of people reaching out to offer their support. This incredible response is a testament to the true spirit of the city of Manchester, which remains open for business despite this horrific attack.” (4)
Manchester City Council held a special vigil event last night outside Manchester Town Hall led by the Lord Mayor of Manchester with national political leaders, the Mayor of Greater Manchester Andy Burnham, the Leaders and Mayors of the 10 Greater Manchester local authorities, faith leaders and the Chief Constable of Greater Manchester Police, representing the emergency services.

The vigil concluded with an inspirational poem, ‘This is the Place’ by Manchester-born poet Tony Walsh, which summed up the solidarity, vitality and community of Manchester. It includes the words: “Because this is a place that has been through some hard times: oppressions, recessions, depressions, and dark times. But we keep fighting back with Greater Manchester spirit. Northern grit, Northern wit, and Greater Manchester’s lyrics. And these hard times again, in these streets of our city, but we won’t take defeat and we don’t want your pity. Because this is a place where we stand strong together, with a smile on our face, greater Manchester forever.” (5)

Ends

For further information contact the Chapter Secretary, Sean Morris on 00 44 (0)161 234 3244.

Notes:
(1) The statement of support and solidarity was agreed by members of the Mayors for Peace Executive Board and supported by the Chapter. Members of the Mayors for Peace Executive Board include the cities of Manchester, Hiroshima (Japan), Nagasaki (Japan), Halabja (Iraq), Granollers (Spain), Malakoff (France), Hannover (Germany), Ypres (Belgium), Malakoff (France), Biograd na Moru (Croatia), Frogn (Norway), Brussels (Belgium), Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Volgograd (Russia), Muntinlupa (Philippines), Fongo-Tongo (Cameroon), Mexico City (Mexico), Bangkok (Thailand), Fremantle (Australia), Semey (Kazakhstan), Cochin (India), Montreal (Canada), Wellington (New Zealand), Santos (Brazil), Cartago (Costa Rica), Bogota (Colombia), Des Moines (USA) and Tehran (Iran).
(3) Manchester City Council media release, 23rd March 2017, http://www.redcross.org/manchester, call 0300 456 4999 or through any British Red Cross shops.
(4) We Love Mcr Emergency Fund for those affected by the attack of the 22nd May – donate at
http://www.redcross.org/manchester, call 0300 456 4999 or through any British Red Cross shops.
(5) Text from ‘This is the Place’ by Manchester poet Tony Walsh:
This is the place

In the north-west of England. It’s ace, it’s the best
And the songs that we sing from the stands, from our bands
Set the whole planet shaking.

Our inventions are legends. There’s nowt we can’t make, and so we make brilliant music

We make brilliant bands
We make goals that make souls leap from seats in the stands
And we make things from steel
And we make things from cotton
And we make people laugh, take the mick summat rotten
And we make you at home
And we make you feel welcome and we make summat happen
And we can’t seem to help it
And if you’re looking from history, then yeah we’ve a wealth
But the Manchester way is to make it yourself.
And make us a record, a new number one
And make us a brew while you’re up, love, go on
And make us feel proud that you’re winning the league
And make us sing louder and make us believe that this is the place that has helped shape the world
And this is the place where a Manchester girl named Emmeline Pankhurst from the streets of Moss Side led a suffragette city with sisterhood pride
And this is the place with appliance of science, we’re on it, atomic, we struck with defiance, and in the face of a challenge, we always stand tall, Mancunians, in union, delivered it all
Such as housing and libraries and health, education and unions and co-ops and first railway stations
So we’re sorry, bear with us, we invented commuters. But we hope you forgive us, we invented computers.
And this is the place Henry Royce strolled with Rolls, and we’ve rocked and we’ve rolled with our own northern soul
And so this is the place to do business then dance, where go-getters and goal-setters know they’ve a chance
And this is the place where we first played as kids. And me mum, lived and died here, she loved it, she did.
And this is the place where our folks came to work, where they struggled in puddles, they hurt in the dirt and they built us a city, they built us these towns and they coughed on the cobbles to the deafening sound to the steaming machines and the screaming of slaves, they were scheming for greatness, they dreamed to their graves.
And they left us a spirit. They left us a vibe. That Mancunian way to survive and to thrive and to work and to build, to connect, and create and Greater Manchester’s greatness is keeping it great.
And so this is the place now with kids of our own. Some are born here, some drawn here, but they all call it home.
And they’ve covered the cobbles, but they’ll never defeat, all the dreamers and schemers who still teem through these streets.
Because this is a place that has been through some hard times: oppressions, recessions, depressions, and dark times.
But we keep fighting back with Greater Manchester spirit. Northern grit, Northern wit, and Greater Manchester’s lyrics.
And these hard times again, in these streets of our city, but we won’t take defeat and we don’t want your pity.
Because this is a place where we stand strong together, with a smile on our face, greater Manchester forever.
And we’ve got this place where a team with a dream can get funding and something to help with a scheme.
Because this is a place that understands your grand plans. We don’t do “no can do” we just stress “yes we can”

Forever Manchester’s a charity for people round here, you can fundraise, donate, you can be a volunteer. You can live local, give local, we can honestly say, we do charity different, that Mancunian way.

And we fund local kids, and we fund local teams. We support local dreamers to work for their dreams. We support local groups and the great work they do. So can you help us, help local people like you?

Because this is the place in our hearts, in our homes, because this is the place that’s a part of our bones.
Some photos from the Manchester attack community response

Greater Manchester Mayor Andy Burnham and Manchester City Council Leader Sir Richard Leese giving a statement to the media the morning after the Manchester attack (courtesy GM Fire Service)

“We Stand Together” banner and bouquets of flowers in memorial to those who had died in the attack outside Manchester Town Hall

The Leader of Manchester City Council, the GM Mayor and the Lord Mayor of Manchester Eddy Newman (far right) with volunteers and others at the official minutes silence ceremony in St Ann’s Square

The Lord Mayor of Manchester speaking to community and faith leaders in a special meeting following the Manchester attack to sign the ‘We Stand Together’ pledge

Political, faith and community leaders outside Manchester Cathedral after the signing of the ‘We Stand Together’ pledge cooperating for a peaceful and tolerant Manchester
Some of the literally thousands of flower and heart-shaped balloon memorials in front of St Ann’s Church and St Ann’s Square – which had become the remembrance site after the attack in the city centre

The temporary memorial remembering those who had died and were injured in the Manchester attack in Victoria Train Station, which adjoins Manchester Arena

**Some pictures from the event at the Imperial War Museum, London**

The Mayor of Granollers speaking at the London & Barcelona Conference

'Blessed are the Peacemakers' banner in the peace movement centenary exhibition

“Change your life” – a fragment of the Berlin Wall outside the Imperial War Museum in London

The Language Pillar in the Tibetan Peace Garden, adjoining the Imperial War Museum in London