



# Briefing paper

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Date: 19<sup>th</sup> August 2019

No.24

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**Subject: Hiroshima and Nagasaki Day commemoration events and wider progress report**

## 1. Introduction

This report has been developed by the Chapter Secretary and provides members with an overview of the events held in Hiroshima and Nagasaki for the 74<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the atomic bombing of their cities, as well as commemoration events held around the UK and Ireland and selected international Vice Presidents of Mayors for Peace. Some of these events were also held in conjunction with the UK and Ireland Nuclear Free Local Authorities (NFLA) and local or national branches of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND)

The report also provides brief updates on other notable initiatives, including the Peterloo anniversary in Manchester and the upcoming Chapter meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> September.

## 2. Context to the Hiroshima and Nagasaki Peace Ceremonies - the collapse of the INF Treaty and a lack of détente on the nuclear weapons issue

Every August 6<sup>th</sup> and August 9<sup>th</sup> since 1946, the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki – who are also President and Co-Vice-President of Mayors for Peace – hold peace memorial ceremonies. These are the exact dates of the atomic weapon attacks on their cities, at 8.15am on the 6<sup>th</sup> August in Hiroshima and at 11.02am on the 9<sup>th</sup> August in Hiroshima.

The ceremonies are major national events in Japan, where they are shown live on national television and, through the NHK World news channel, across the world. Amongst those invited to the ceremonies are the Prime Minister of Japan, Shinzo Abe, and a representative of the United Nations Secretary General – this year the Under Secretary General and High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, Ms Izumi Nakamitsu. A large number of National Ambassadors to Japan also attend the ceremony, along with Mayors from Japan and around the world, hibakusha (atomic weapon survivors) groups and members of the public from the two cities and visitors from around the world.

The context to this year's peace ceremonies was a growing breakdown in the nuclear weapons diplomatic regime. Just a few days before the ceremonies, both the United States and the Russian Governments confirmed they were formally leaving the arrangements of the Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty. This Treaty signed by President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev in the 1980s did much to de-escalate tensions over nuclear weapons in Europe and led to significant nuclear disarmament. The abrogation from the Treaty allows both countries to develop a new programme of nuclear weapons, and there is mounting evidence both are doing so. The most obvious recent concern in this area has been what appears to be a very serious accident in the Russian city of Severodvinsk, in which an explosion took place during a rocket engine test on a sea platform. The Russian Weather Service confirmed a radiation spike of 16 times above the normal reading from the accident, which still remains clouded in secrecy. (See - <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/russia-nuclear-accident-explosion-nyonoksa-evacuate-chernobyl-missile-a9055796.html> for some detail.)

## THE UK & IRELAND CHAPTER OF MAYORS FOR PEACE

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Added to this is the ongoing tensions over Iran's nuclear programme and North Korea's nuclear weapons programme, neither of which are seeing any real success from diplomacy at present. This raises real concern over the future of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty which will have its next full Review Conference in New York in May 2020.

Perhaps one of the few positive elements in the nuclear weapons issue is around the ratification of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), which may fully take place in 2020. This Treaty was agreed in July 2017 by 122 UN member states, and Bolivia became the 26<sup>th</sup> state to ratify it, formally doing so on Hiroshima Day, the 6<sup>th</sup> August. At the point when 50 states have ratified it the Treaty then becomes a part of international law. This shows the large majority of states are working together to encourage multilateral nuclear disarmament.

### **3. Hiroshima and Nagasaki Peace Declarations 2019**

The central part of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki Peace Ceremonies is the annual Peace Declaration given by each Mayor.

With the context noted above, both Peace Declarations were arguably considerably more political than usual. In the Hiroshima Peace Declaration Mayor Kazumi Matsui raised the concerns over 'self-centred nationalism' making the world a much more dangerous place. For the first time he explicitly called for Japan to join the TPNW and to uphold the pacifism of the Japanese constitution. In his address, the Prime Minister of Japan declined to do so, arguing that the treaty does not reflect current security realities. Abe instead pledged Japan to be a mediator between nuclear weapons states and non-nuclear weapon states to find a way out of the current impasse.

In the Nagasaki Peace Declaration Mayor Tomihisa Taue echoed calls for Japan to sign the TPNW, which he has done over the past two previous ceremonies. Mayor Taue used even more direct language this time, noting that Japan should: "seize the trend toward denuclearisation on the Korean Peninsula and to initiate efforts to make Northeast Asia a nuclear-free zone where all countries coexist under, not a 'nuclear umbrella,' but a 'non-nuclear umbrella.'"

Both Mayors acknowledged the welcome role played by civil society and groups like Mayors for Peace in articulating the call for a nuclear weapons free world. Mayor Taue noted that civil society groups, including A-bomb survivors, have "shown the power time and again to change the world," and that "(t)he power of a single individual is small but by no means weak."

Both Mayors noted that the world was now in an "extremely dangerous" situation as the opinion that nuclear weapons are useful is "once again gaining traction" and the danger of a nuclear calamity is "mounting." In terms of the review of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty next spring, Mayor Taue said, "All the nuclear states should recall the meaning of the treaty."

In the address given on behalf of the UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres, he noted that, "the only true guarantee against the use of nuclear weapons is their total elimination. This remains the United Nations' and my personal highest disarmament priority."

It is calculated that the combined number of remain hibakusha (A-bomb survivors) now stands at 145,844 as of March 2019, which is around 9,000 less from 2018. Their average age now is 82 years old.

It is expected in November that Pope Francis will visit Hiroshima and Nagasaki as part of a short visit to Japan, and call on greater actions to bring about nuclear disarmament. The visit may assist galvanising and focusing some of the real anger and frustration that exists among the hibakusha that core states are not living up to their disarmament responsibilities.

The Peace Declarations of Hiroshima and Nagasaki Mayors are attached as Appendix 1.

Next year will be the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the atomic weapon attacks, and plans are underway to commemorate this milestone appropriately within the Mayors for Peace General Conference.

#### 4. **UK & Ireland, and wider international Hiroshima and Nagasaki Day events**

The Chapter is very pleased to report a wide range of events held around the UK and Ireland to commemorate the 74<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic weapon attacks.

Here is a snapshot of some of those events:

##### **England –**

- Lead City and Vice President of Mayors for Peace, Manchester City Council held a formal ceremony in Manchester Museum, which is a part of Manchester University. The ceremony included the laying of a white flowered wreath by the Lord Mayor of Manchester, the reading of the Hiroshima Peace Declaration and the reading of Hiroshima and Manchester peace poems. All at the ceremony then read the UN Peace Affirmation. A paper crane folding workshop was then held for children and their families – the paper crane is one of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki symbols for peace. Local events were also held at Heaton Park, in Bolton, in Stockport and in Littleborough.
- The main event held in London was in Tavistock Square. The Mayor of Camden placed a wreath at the peace sculpture and there were speeches from Baroness Jenny Jones and the General Secretary of CND, Kate Hudson. Highlights of the event included a rendition of peace songs by a local choir.
- One of the biggest events held in commemoration of those who died in the Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic weapon attacks took place in Bradford. A peace parade started in the city centre and walked to Lister Park, where a multicultural peace festival took place in the presence of the Lord Mayor of Bradford. Close by in Leeds, the Deputy Leader of Leeds City Council placed a wreath by the Mayors for Peace commemorative plaque and ginkgo tree in the Park Square gardens in the city centre. The Deputy Leader read out the Nagasaki Peace Declaration and the Chair of the UK & Ireland NFLA read out the Hiroshima Peace Declaration. Other events held in Yorkshire include ceremonies in Keighley, Sheffield and Hebden Bridge, where the Mayor of Hebden Royd noted their formal support for the TPNW.
- The Coventry Lord Mayor's Committee of Peace and Reconciliation organised its annual Hiroshima vigil at Coventry Cathedral. The ceremony was hosted by the Lord Mayor with a representative from the Japanese Embassy. The event included reflections, poems and music. Such an event has been held since 1987 as part of Coventry's formal friendship partnership with Hiroshima.
- Liverpool's Hiroshima Day ceremony was held in the Peace Garden within St John's Garden in the city centre. A wreath was placed in the garden by the Lord Mayor of Liverpool and speeches were given by a number of invited guests. It was organised by Merseyside CND and Liverpool Pax Christi.
- Winchester District Council held a Hiroshima Day special ceremony which also allowed it to announce that it was going to formally join Mayors for Peace. The event included the Mayor of Winchester, representatives from the university and SGI-UK, who presented the Mayor with a paper crane garland.
- Oxford held its annual Hiroshima Day ceremony in Bonn Square in the city centre. A senior Oxford councillor spoke at the event, which included a minute's silence.
- Many other civic and peace group events were held around England such as in Southampton, Crawley, Salisbury, Kingston-upon-Thames, Birmingham, Milton Keynes, Chester, Bristol, Derby, Nottingham, Leicester and Norwich.

##### **Scotland –**

- Edinburgh held a commemoration service on Princes Street and the adjoining gardens. The ceremony included an address from senior councillors and a minute's silence to remember all those who have died in conflict since 1945.
- Glasgow's commemoration ceremony was held by the Hiroshima Peace Tree in Kelvingrove Park. The NFLA Scotland Convener were amongst the speakers at the ceremony.
- Renfrewshire held its annual ceremony in the peace garden within Barshaw Park with speeches from senior councillors and the local MSP.
- The Faslane Peace Camp, which is close to the military base where Trident submarines are located, held remembrance vigils on the 6<sup>th</sup> and the 9<sup>th</sup> August.

- In Dundee, the traditional peace walk up Dundee Law took place on the 6<sup>th</sup> and the 9<sup>th</sup> August with local councillors in attendance.
- Perth held a peace walk between the two peace poles at St Ninian's Cathedral and Rodney Gardens.
- In Peebles, the Tweedale Peace Group held a silent vigil, followed by the casting of rose petals into the River Tweed.
- Other events took place in Aberdeen, Stirling, Anstruther, Kilmarnock, Arran and Dunbar.

### ***Wales and Ireland –***

- Each year a Hiroshima event is held by CND Wales at the National Eisteddfod, this time in Llanwrst in north Wales.
- A Hiroshima vigil event was held by the river in Haverfordwest, including speeches and placing flower petals into the river.
- An annual commemoration event was held in Cardiff with speeches, music and reflection.
- In Dublin, the Lord Mayor of Dublin took part in an annual ceremony in Merrion Square Gardens organised by Irish CND with a senior representative from the Japanese Embassy.

A selection of photos from some of these events are attached at Appendix 2.

### **5. UK & Ireland Mayors for Peace Chapter meeting, September 13<sup>th</sup>, Manchester**

Following on from the Hiroshima and Nagasaki commemoration events, the UK and Ireland Mayors, Provosts and Leaders for Peace Chapter will take place on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September in Manchester Central Library, and will link in with International Peace Day events taking place around the world the following week.

The seminar will focus on the humanitarian impacts of nuclear weapons, the need to develop Peace Studies Departments in universities or peace education work at councils and at government level, and a consideration of the huge costs and risks from the UK's current nuclear weapons programme.

Speakers include:

- An opening address from the Lord Mayor of Manchester, with the seminar being chaired by Manchester City Council's permanent Mayors for Peace representative, Councillor Eddy Newman.
- The keynote speaker will be Karipbek Kuyukov, a peace ambassador from Kazakhstan, who was directly affected by the Soviet Union nuclear weapons test programme in the 1970s. He was born without arms but is an accomplished mouth painter and campaigner to help the many communities affected by nuclear weapon tests around the world. His involvement is part of a tour to Westminster and the Scottish Parliament organised by the Embassy of Kazakhstan.
- Dr Becky Alexis-Martin of Manchester Metropolitan University is an advisor to the British Nuclear Test Veterans Association and has done research looking at communities around the world affected by radiation from nuclear tests. She will talk briefly about this work and her recently published book, 'Disarming Doomsday'.
- Vijay Mehta of Uniting for Peace is a long-term campaigner for peace education. He will be talking about the need to develop more Peace Studies departments at universities and to encourage peace offices in government as well.
- Dave Cullen, Director of the Nuclear Information Service, will conclude the seminar by considering its new report analysing the costs and risks in developing the new Trident replacement programme.

Registration is now open for this meeting and Chapter members are strongly encouraged to attend it. The flyer for it is attached as Appendix 3.

### **6. Peterloo festival and memorial events for its 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary**

In the same month as the Hiroshima and Nagasaki commemoration events, Manchester remembered a core event of peace and justice in its own history – the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 'Peterloo' massacre.

Peterloo was a pivotal event in the long struggle to bring universal suffrage to the UK. Taking place just four years after the Battle of Waterloo, there had been increased agitation for the widening of the franchise and fair representation of Members of Parliament across the country. In 1819, the vote was only available to a very small minority of the population. On August 16<sup>th</sup>, 1819, a major demonstration of largely working communities, including a considerable number of women and children, walked from across south Lancashire to a major rally in St Peter's Fields, Manchester which was to have been addressed by the radical orator Henry Hunt.

Fearful of the huge demonstration – there were as many as 60,000 at the event – the local yeomanry were sent in and in the ensuing chaos, 18 people were killed and over 700 people injured. The 'Peterloo' massacre as it became known was a major shock to society. The Manchester Guardian newspaper was one of the by-products of the incident and an increased campaign for the vote and the Chartist movement also emerged out of it. The Great Reform Bill of 1832 brought an extension of the vote, but it was not until 1928 that full suffrage for men and women was finally granted.

To commemorate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this event, a major Peterloo cultural festival has taken place across Greater Manchester and the events can be found at the website <https://peterloo1819.co.uk>.

Over the weekend of the 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> August a variety of major events, including re-creating the march to St Peter's Fields and a 'March for Democracy' are taking place. A Peterloo memorial was also opened in front of the Manchester Central Conference Centre. Designed by the Turner Prize artist Jeremy Deller, this memorial includes a series of concentric stone circles with the names of the people who died in the incident, and the places where communities travelled to Manchester from around each circle. An adjoining circle has compass points and mentions subsequent peaceful demonstrations which have been put down violently such as the Sharpeville massacre in South Africa, the 'Bloody Sunday' deaths in Northern Ireland and the attack on the Tianamen Square protest in China.

Manchester will have other notable monuments being unveiled in the near future as well, including a statue to Mahatma Gandhi, a monument to those who died in the Manchester Arena attack (expected in 2020), and the creation of a new Manchester contemplative peace garden in Lincoln Square close to the Town Hall in the city centre (being planned for Spring 2021).

## **7. Mayors for Peace Executive Conference, Hanover, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

Every two years, the Executive Board of Mayors for Peace comes together to review its Action Plan and consider its future development. The UK and Ireland Chapter will be represented at this year's meeting by a former Lord Mayor of Manchester and the Chapter Secretary.

The Executive Conference will be held in Hanover, Germany on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> November. The Conference is considering the wider development of Mayors for Peace and the creation of national / cross-national Chapters.

A major focus for discussion will be its activity in 2020, which will be the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first use of nuclear weapons in war, and to discuss progress beyond 2020. For Hiroshima and Nagasaki 2020 is a very important date as it may be one of the last formal events directly including survivors, or 'hibakusha', of the atomic weapon attacks on their cities. Most hibakusha are now in their 80s and 90s.

The Executive Conference will also focus on the second pillar of the Mayors for Peace remit – the creation of safer and more resilient cities. This brings in discussion over the other serious threats to peace around the world – such as civil war, terrorism and political extremism, climate change, the refugee crisis and the poverty crisis. Within this a special European Lead Cities meeting is also taking place to discuss further the development of a more definitive European structure.

As part of the conference, the city of Hanover has organised a major public meeting on the subject – 'Between Washington and Moscow: does Europe need its own security architecture?' Speaking

at this meeting will be the ICAN Executive Director Beatrice Fihn, and German Bundestag Foreign Policy Committee member Jurgen Tritten. This is important to consider given the collapse of the INF Treaty and concerns it could bring nuclear weapons back to the continent of Europe.

## **8. Conclusions and recommendations**

This briefing provides a welcome summary of many events held around the UK and Ireland promoting the values of Mayors for Peace and the ongoing need to campaign for a world free of nuclear weapons, so that there will never again be a nuclear weapon attack. Many of the events also commemorated millions of other civilians that have been killed in warfare and terrorist attacks up to the present day. The Chapter Secretariat in Manchester and the International Secretariat in Hiroshima sincerely thanks member authorities and peace groups for organising such a wide range of events.

Chapter members are recommended to try and attend its International Peace Day seminar in Manchester Central Library on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September. This is an opportunity for members to see the issues that the Chapter and Mayors for Peace seeks to pursue and support.

Member authorities are encouraged as well to continue to develop and support local initiatives promoting peace, as well as peace education and promotion. Member authorities will also be receiving a survey and voluntary invoices shortly as well, which we hope you will process. Our key aim is to increase the range and depth of the organisation amongst our member authorities. The upcoming Executive Conference may well assist in delivering a more effective structure to campaign not just on the nuclear weapons issue, but one on a wider range of issues which affect all communities across Europe.

Further information on other events and initiatives will be provided in new Policy Briefings later in the year.

## Hiroshima and Nagasaki Peace Declarations 2019

**Hiroshima Peace Declaration**

Around the world today, we see self-centred nationalism in ascendance, tensions heightened by international exclusivity and rivalry, with nuclear disarmament at a standstill. What are we to make of these global phenomena? Having undergone two world wars, our elders pursued an ideal—a world beyond war. They undertook to construct a system of international cooperation. Should we not now recall and, for human survival, strive for that ideal world? I ask this especially of you, the youth who have never known war but will lead the future. For this purpose, I ask you to listen carefully to the hibakusha of August 6, 1945.

A woman who was five then has written this poem:

Little sister with a bowl cut / head spraying blood  
embraced by Mother / turned raging Asura.

A youth of 18 saw this: “They were nearly naked, their clothes burned to tatters, but I couldn’t tell the men from the women. Hair gone, eyeballs popped out, lips and ears ripped off, skin hanging from faces, bodies covered in blood—and so many.” Today he insists, “We must never, ever allow this to happen to any future generation. We are enough.” Appeals like these come from survivors who carry deep scars in body and soul. Are they reaching you?

“A single person is small and weak, but if each of us seeks peace, I’m sure we can stop the forces pushing for war.” This woman was 15 at the time. Can we allow her faith to end up an empty wish?

Turning to the world, we do see that individuals have little power, but we also see many examples of the combined strength of multitudes achieving their goal. Indian independence is one such example. Mahatma Gandhi, who contributed to that independence through personal pain and suffering, left us these words, “Intolerance is itself a form of violence and an obstacle to the growth of a true democratic spirit.” To confront our current circumstances and achieve a peaceful, sustainable world, we must transcend differences of status or opinion and strive together in a spirit of tolerance toward our ideal. To accomplish this, coming generations must never dismiss the atomic bombings and the war as mere events of the past. It is vital that they internalize the progress the hibakusha and others have made toward a peaceful world, then drive steadfastly forward.

World leaders must move forward with them, advancing civil society’s ideal. This is why I urge them to visit the atomic-bombed cities, listen to the hibakusha, and tour the Peace Memorial Museum and the National Peace Memorial Hall to face what actually happened in the lives of individual victims and their loved ones. I want our current leaders to remember their courageous predecessors: when nuclear superpowers, the US and USSR, were engaged in a tense, escalating nuclear arms race, their leaders manifested reason and turned to dialogue to seek disarmament.

This city, along with the nearly 7,800 member cities of Mayors for Peace, is spreading the Spirit of Hiroshima throughout civil society to create an environment supportive of leaders taking action for nuclear abolition. We want leaders around the world to pursue negotiations in good faith on nuclear disarmament, as mandated by Article VI of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, and respond to the yearning of civil society for entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), a milestone on the road to a nuclear-weapon-free world.

I call on the government of the only country to experience a nuclear weapon in war to accede to the hibakusha’s request that the TPNW be signed and ratified. I urge Japan’s leaders to manifest the pacifism of the Japanese Constitution by displaying leadership in taking the next step toward a world free from nuclear weapons. Furthermore, I demand policies that expand the “black rain areas” and improve assistance to the hibakusha, whose average age exceeds 82, as well as the many others whose minds, bodies and daily lives are still plagued by suffering due to the harmful effects of radiation.

Today, at this Peace Memorial Ceremony commemorating 74 years since the atomic bombing, we offer our heartfelt consolation to the souls of the atomic bomb victims and, in concert with the city of Nagasaki and kindred spirits around the world, we pledge to make every effort to achieve the total elimination of nuclear weapons and beyond that, a world of genuine, lasting peace.

**August 6, 2019**

**Kazumi MATSUI, Mayor, City of Hiroshima**

### **Nagasaki Peace Declaration 2019**

Close Your Eyes and Listen:

While thousands of arms and legs were torn off  
Intestines drooping out  
Maggots swarming in bodies,  
Those still breathing searched for loved ones

And cremated the dead they found.  
The smoke of burning corpses rose into the sky  
And innocent blood stained the water of Urakami River.  
Leaving only keloid scars, the war finally came to an end.

But  
My mother and father are gone.  
My brothers and sisters will never return.  
People are weak and quick to forget;  
They repeat the same mistakes again and again.

But  
This one thing must never be forgotten.  
This one thing must never be repeated  
Under any circumstances whatsoever...

This poem was written by a woman exposed to the Nagasaki atomic bombing at 11:02 a.m., August 9, 1945. Seventeen years old, she lost her family and suffered serious injuries. The poem expresses her fervent belief that no one else in the world should ever have to experience the same tragedy.

The atomic bombs were built by human hands and exploded over human heads. It follows that nuclear weapons can be eliminated by an act of human will and that the source of that will is, without question, the mind of each human being.

The present world situation involving nuclear weapons is extremely dangerous. The opinion that nuclear weapons are useful is once again gaining traction. The United States is developing smaller, more manageable nuclear weapons, and Russia has announced the development and deployment of new nuclear weaponry. Moreover, the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty that ended the cold war arms race is facing dissolution, just as the continuation of the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (New START) is imperilled. The achievements of humankind and the results of our longstanding efforts to rid the world of nuclear weapons are collapsing one after another, and the danger of a nuclear calamity is mounting.

Have the desperate appeals of the atomic bomb survivors, endeavouring to ensure that the living hell caused by nuclear weapons is "never repeated," failed to reach the ears of the world?

The answer is no. There are many people in the United Nations, in governments and municipalities, and especially in civil society groups including the atomic bomb survivors who share the same opinion and are speaking out.

As a collection of small voices, civil society groups have shown the power time and again to change the world. The testing of hydrogen bombs in the Bikini Atoll in 1954 stirred up a wave of protests that swept across the globe and resulted in the conclusion of test ban treaties. Similarly, the power of citizens' movements played an important role in the conclusion of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in 2017. The power of a single individual is small but by no means weak.

I call out to civil society throughout the world.

Let us continue to discuss our experiences of war and the atomic bombings and pass the information on to future generations. Knowledge of the horror of war is an important first step to peace.

Let us continue to promote trust between people across country borders. The bridges of trust built by individuals will help to prevent the outbreak of war due to national conflicts.

Let us inform our children about the importance of understanding the pain of others. That will sow the seeds of peace in children's hearts.

There are many things that we can do in the cause of peace. Let us avoid despair and indifference and continue to cultivate a culture of peace. Let us raise our voices and insist that nuclear weapons are unnecessary.

This is the big role that all of us can play, however small we may seem.

Leaders of the world. Visit the atomic-bombed cities and see, hear and feel what happened under the mushroom cloud. Imprint in your minds the inhumanity of nuclear weapons.

Leaders of the nuclear states. The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) will reach its fifty-year milestone next year. All the nuclear states should recall the meaning of the treaty, which promises to eliminate nuclear weapons and compels each country to fulfil that duty. I appeal to the United States and Russia, in particular, to assume responsibility as nuclear superpowers by demonstrating to the world concrete ways to drastically reduce nuclear stockpiles.

I also appeal to the Japanese government. Japan has turned its back on the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. As the only country in the world to have experienced the devastation caused by nuclear weapons, Japan must sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons as soon as possible. As a means to that end, I ask Japan to seize the trend toward denuclearization on the Korean Peninsula and to initiate efforts to make northeast Asia a nuclear-free zone where all countries coexist under, not a "nuclear umbrella," but a "non-nuclear umbrella." And above all, I ask the Japanese government to uphold the spirit of "never resort to war" enshrined in the Japanese Constitution and to take the lead in disseminating that spirit around the world.

The average age of the atomic bomb survivors has exceeded 82. I ask the Japanese government to adopt further measures to support the aging survivors and take steps to assist the people who were exposed to the atomic bombings but are yet to be recognized as survivors.

As a city exposed to nuclear devastation, Nagasaki will continue to support the people of Fukushima, who are still struggling with radioactive contamination eight years after the nuclear power plant disaster.

My heartfelt thoughts go out to the people who perished in the atomic bombing, and I declare Nagasaki's determination, along with Hiroshima and people everywhere committed to peace, to strive relentlessly for the abolition of nuclear weapons and the realization of lasting world peace.

**August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019**  
**Tomihisa TAUE, Mayor, City of Nagasaki**

Selected photos from Hiroshima and Nagasaki commemorations in the UK and Ireland



Manchester's ceremony – the Chapter Secretary, the Lord Mayor of Manchester, the Chief Executive of Manchester City Council and Cllr Yasmine Dar



The Mayor of Hebden Royd Council speaks at the Hebden Bridge Hiroshima and Nagasaki ceremony



London's Hiroshima Day event at Tavistock Square with the Mayor of Camden, Baroness Jones and Kate Hudson of CND



Oxford's Hiroshima Day event at Bonn Square with Oxford Cllr John Tanner and members of Oxford peace groups



The Acting Lord Mayor of Liverpool places a wreath during its Hiroshima Day event at the Peace Garden in St John's Gardens



Some of the participants in Coventry's Hiroshima Day event held in Coventry Cathedral



Leeds Councillor and NFLA SC Chair David Blackburn reads the Hiroshima Peace Declaration in Park Square, Leeds



The Lord Mayor of Bradford and attendees at the Bradford Peace Parade and Festival in Lister Park, Bradford



The Mayor of Winchester receiving a peace crane garland from a representative of SGI-UK during its Hiroshima commemoration



The NFLA Scotland and Glasgow Councillor Fergal Dalton speaking at Glasgow's Hiroshima Day commemoration



Edinburgh's Hiroshima Day commemoration event taking place in front of Edinburgh Castle



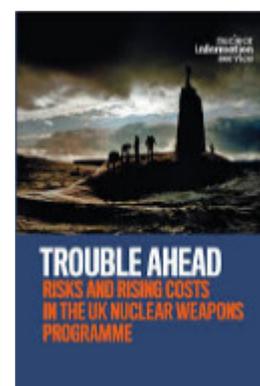
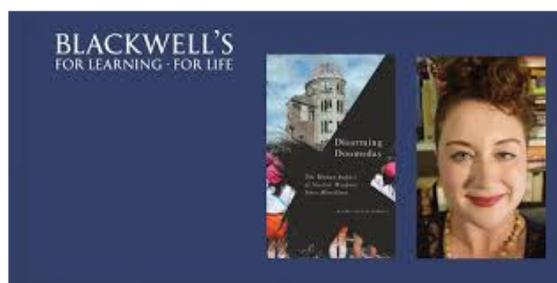
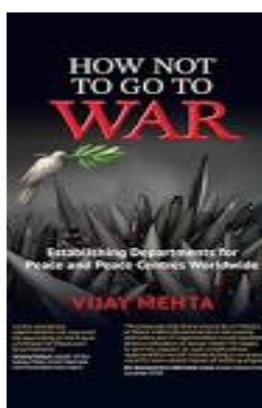
A Japanese Embassy official, the Chair of CND Ireland and the Lord Mayor of Dublin at its Hiroshima Day commemoration

Flyer for the Mayors for Peace Chapter meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> September

**NFLA and UK & Ireland Mayors, Provosts and Leaders for Peace  
Chapter Seminar: Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2019, Meeting Room 1, Level  
2, Central Library, St Peter's Square, Manchester, M2 5PD  
1.30pm – 3.30pm**

## The humanitarian impacts, costs & dangers of nuclear weapons in the wider campaign for a more peaceful world

Understanding the damage of nuclear testing on people around the world, the costs and risks of upgrading UK nuclear weapons and why we need more Peace Studies departments in UK and Irish universities



### Speakers:

- Councillor Eddy Newman, Manchester City Council Mayors for Peace representative – seminar introduction
- Karipbek Kuyukov, Kazakh artist and nuclear non-proliferation campaigner – the personal effects of nuclear weapons testing and the need for a nuclear weapons free world
- Dr Becky Alexis-Martin, Lecturer in Political & Cultural Geography, Manchester Metropolitan University – Disarming Doomsday, the Human Impacts of Nuclear Weapons since Hiroshima
- Vijay Mehta, Co-founder of Uniting for Peace – How not to go to War: Establishing Departments for Peace and Peace Centres Worldwide
- Dave Cullen, Director of Nuclear Information Service – Trouble Ahead: Risks and Rising Costs in the UK Nuclear Weapons Programme