



# MAYORS FOR PEACE ACTION TOOL KIT

**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 June 1, 2026, Mayors for Peace has grown to 8,579 cities in 166 countries and territories, with 245 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 June 1, 2026)

| <div style="background-color: #004d00; color: white; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p><b>8,579</b> cities</p> <p>in <b>166</b> countries<br/>&amp; regions</p> </div> | Area                            | Countries & Regions | Member Cities |
|--|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|
|  | Asia                            | 39                  | 3,376         |
|  | Oceania                         | 9                   | 139           |
|  | Africa                          | 49                  | 444           |
|  | Europe                          | 41                  | 3,513         |
|  | North America                   | 3                   | 359           |
|  | Latin America and the Caribbean | 25                  | 748           |

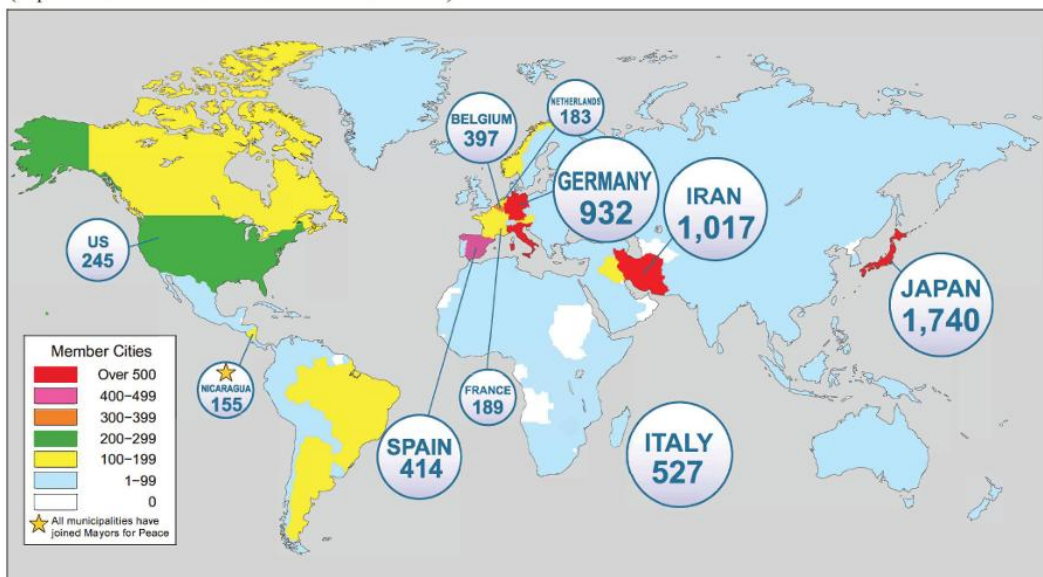
Regions: Taiwan / Palestine / Northern Cyprus (Asia), Northern Mariana Islands / French Polynesia (Oceania), Somaliland (Africa), Kosovo(Europe), Greenland (North America), Puerto Rico (Latin America and the Caribbean)

**Help Mayors for Peace reach its goal of 10,000 member cities!**

**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 June 1, 2026)

**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 over 1,500 American cities with populations over 30,000, has adopted bold [Mayors for Peace resolutions for 21 consecutive years](#). Resolutions adopted at annual meetings become official USCM policy.

The Mayors for Peace resolution adopted by the 2026 USCM Annual Meeting is titled, "[Urging the United States to Lead a Global Effort to Halt and Reverse the Nuclear Arms Race](#)." The resolution opens with a stark reminder: "[M]ore than 12,000 nuclear weapons.... remain in the global nuclear arsenal and continue to pose an intolerable risk to humanity" and "the last remaining U.S. – Russian arms control agreement, New START, expired on February 5, 2026.... [F]or the first time in 50 years, there are no limits on the number of U.S. and Russian deployed nuclear weapons."

The resolution notes: "[T]he President's proposed 2027 budget request seeks to raise spending on U.S. nuclear weapons by 12 percent to maintain and modernize its nuclear triad...." and "[T]he qualitative and quantitative nuclear modernization programs underway in the U.S., Russia, China, France, and the UK violate their [Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty] Article VI disarmament obligation, in force since 1970."

Reflecting the urgency of the moment, the resolution "calls on the Administration.... to lead a global effort to prevent nuclear war, move the world back from the nuclear brink, and halt and reverse a new global nuclear arms race....," and "urges Congress to pass H. RES. 317, 'Urging the United States to lead the world back from the brink of nuclear war and halt and reverse the nuclear arms race' and S. RES. 323, 'Urging the United States to lead a global effort to halt and reverse the nuclear arms race....'"

The resolution "calls on the Administration and Congress to carefully weigh the immense costs of proposed nuclear modernization against the urgent domestic needs of American cities, and to ensure that finite federal resources are prioritized to adequately support vital municipal assistance programs.

Finally, the USCM "calls on its members to take action at the municipal level to raise public awareness about the growing dangers of nuclear war.... and the urgent need for good faith U.S. leadership in negotiating the global elimination of nuclear weapons" and "***invites.... its members to join Mayors for Peace to help the organization reach its membership goal of 10,000 cities.***"

August 6 and August 9, 2026, will mark the 81<sup>st</sup> anniversaries 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 ongoing Russian war on Ukraine and U.S.-Israeli war on Iran, 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](#) (click on Country/Region for US).

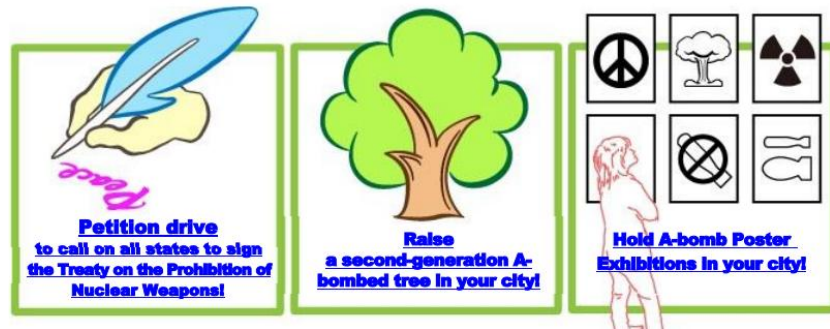
- If they are not a member, invite them to join. [Click here](#) for a letter of invitation from Hiroshima Mayor Kazumi Matsui, the President of Mayors for Peace, information about how to register, and examples of member cities activities.
- If you're planning to ask your City Council to adopt a [Back 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, letters to the editor, and social media posts.

**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”](#) (Deadline for submissions is October 31, 2026.)
- [Nurture seeds from an A-bombed tree and plant the saplings in public locations.](#)
- 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**

- [Ask your Congressional Representative to co-sponsor H. Res. 317](#) and [ask your Senator to co-sponsor S. Res. 323](#). (See [Back From the Brink](#) section, below.)
- 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
- If you are a member of the USCM, co-sponsor next year’s Mayors for Peace USCM resolution

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

***Let's do this! Let's help Mayors for Peace reach its goal of 10,000 members!!***

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

**For more information or assistance**, contact Jackie Cabasso, Mayors for Peace North American Coordinator: [wslf@earthlink.net](mailto: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](#) along with 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, 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 June 27, 2026, 2,000 Yen is only \$12.36! (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 8,579 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 more than 1,500 such cities. At its Annual Meetings, usually held in June, the USCM adopts dozens of resolutions dealing with a wide range of issues important to cities. Resolutions adopted at its annual meetings become official USCM policies. For the last 21 years, the USCM has adopted bold resolutions calling for nuclear disarmament, submitted by Mayors for Peace members. The 2026 resolution, "[Urging the United States to Lead a Global Effort to Halt and Reverse the Nuclear Arms Race](#)," was adopted by the USCM at the close of its 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting on June 2026. [Here's a list with links](#) to all Mayors for Peace resolutions adopted by the USCM from 2004 – 2026.

**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 2026 (Tax Year 2025), the total U.S. nuclear weapons programs expenditure was \$137,230,000,000. That's more than 137 BILLION DOLLARS!** [Click here](#) to calculate how much your city spent in Tax Year 2025.

***Mayors for Peace is working with the Back From the Brink Campaign to get more Congressional Co-sponsors for H. Res. 317 and S. Res. 323***



[Back from the Brink \(BftB\)](#) is a U.S.-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 five different annual resolutions submitted by members of Mayors for Peace.**

[H. Res. 317](#), introduced by Representative Jim McGovern in the House of Representatives on April 9, 2025, titled, *“Urging the United States to lead the world back from the brink of nuclear war and halt and reverse the nuclear arms race,”* encompasses the entire Back From the Brink platform. It currently has 58 co-sponsors.

A companion resolution, [S. Res. 323](#), *“Urging the United States to lead a global effort to halt and reverse the nuclear arms race,”* was introduced in the Senate on July 16, 2025 by Senator Ed Markey. It currently has 8 co-sponsors.

While these resolutions will not be adopted by the current U.S. Congress, they are serving as important tools for education and organizing.

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](#)**

**[Urge your Senator to co-sponsor S. Res. 323](#)**