



# **MAYORS FOR PEACE EUROPEAN CHAPTER**

## **OPERATIONAL PLAN 2021**



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## **OVERVIEW**

### **1.1 Overview of the Mayors for Peace and European Chapter**

In August 1945, single atomic bombs dropped on the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki instantly reduced them to rubble, taking more than 210,000 precious lives. With more than 70 years since the bombings, many survivors (hibakusha) still suffer from the physical and emotional aftereffects of radiation. To spread throughout the world the hibakusha's ardent wish symbolized in the message that "no one should ever suffer as we have", and to ensure it is passed on to future generations, Hiroshima and Nagasaki remain steadfast in our assertion to the world that nuclear weapons are inhumane and continue to call for their abolition.

On June 24, 1982, at the 2nd UN Special Session on Disarmament held at the UN Headquarters in New York, then Mayor Takeshi Araki of Hiroshima called for cities throughout the world to transcend national borders and join in solidarity to work together to press for nuclear abolition. Subsequently, the Cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki established "The World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity" (now, Mayors for Peace), composed of mayors around the world who formally expressed support for this call. In 1991, the organization was registered as a NGO in Special Consultative Status with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

On August 5, 2001, the organization changed its name from "The World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity" to "Mayors for Peace".

European members of Mayors for Peace have always played a prominent role in its development and make up over 3,000 members of its 8,000 global membership. After the Mayors for Peace Executive and General Conference in 2017, European Lead Cities have worked together at ways to develop closer cooperation and a more formalised structure to develop projects and activities across the continent. There is also a desire to deepen membership interest and activity in the work of Mayors for Peace, as well as engage with European and international institutions. There was an added desire to also assist Hiroshima and Nagasaki in the promotion of nuclear disarmament initiatives in Europe, as well as support the promotion of safe, resilient and more peaceful towns and cities.

On November 4th, 2019 a special meeting was held after the Mayors for Peace Executive Conference of European Lead Cities in City Hall, Hannover. At this meeting it was agreed by European Lead Cities to establish a European Chapter of Mayors for Peace. It was agreed that the Chair of the Chapter would be the Mayor of Granollers, with the Vice Chair the Lord Mayor of Manchester. It was also agreed that the City of Granollers, a constituent part of the Provincial Council of Barcelona, would provide secretariat support to develop the European Chapter. An initial agreement for funding the development of this Chapter has also been made with the Provincial Chapter of Barcelona over the period 2020 - 2024.



## **1.2 Terms of Reference and Governance**

Throughout 2020, a European Lead Cities Working Group has developed the Chapter's activities and discussed its terms of reference and wider governance. This work has been delayed by the Covid-19 pandemic, which has prevented face-to-face meetings and meant activity has had to be moved online. This also prevented a European Chapter meeting at the postponed Executive and General Conference of Mayors for Peace, which had planned to take place in Hiroshima on the 3rd - 6th August 2020.

The City of Granollers has developed a full set of legal statutes with an international legal firm and these are being finalised and agreed by the Working Group. They will then need to be formally agreed by the Mayors of each European Lead City as part of the development of a Board of Trustees.

A full copy of the legal statutes can be found at: [xxx](#)

The core elements of governance of the European Chapter will be:

- The Chair of the Chapter is currently the Mayor of Granollers, as the Secretariat for the organisation lays with the City of Granollers.
- The Vice Chair of the Chapter is the Lord Mayor of Manchester. The position of Vice Chair will be elected at each Annual Meeting of the Chapter.
- The European chapter shall be formed by the European executive cities of Mayors for Peace: Hannover (Germany), Volgograd (Russia), Malakoff (France), Manchester (the UK), Ypres (Belgium), Biograd na Moru (Croatia), Granollers (Spain), Frogn (Norway), Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Grigny (France) and Cervia (Italy).
- The board is supported by officers from each of the European Chapter Lead Cities.
- Other European Lead Cities will be invited to join the board by the invitation of the Chair in association with the International Secretariat in Hiroshima.
- The Board will meet annually and at relevant occasions when the International Secretariat meets.

The next stage of the development of the Chapter will be to formalise a Secretariat office and recruit an officer or consultant that can help to develop its structure, plans and priorities for the future. This will require initial financial support from the Provincial Council of Barcelona to move this forward and develop an organisation that can become financially and organisationally self-sustaining.

This work will include engaging with European Lead Members and the Hiroshima Secretariat, as well as starting to look to develop links with European and international institutions and prominent European cities.



### **1.3 Key priorities of the European Chapter**

The overall objective of the European Chapter is to develop a vision and practical actions to promote and deepen the role of cities and local authorities in building more peaceful societies across the continent. The key priorities are to:

- Campaign for nuclear disarmament initiatives with a European focus on security and community cohesion/tolerance.
- Address other key issues related to SDG 16 (Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development) and other relevant UN Sustainable Development Goals.
- Create a more pronounced Mayors for Peace identity in Europe by implementing an advocacy/communications strategy.
- Increase membership within Europe, but also assist in making Mayors for Peace membership more visible and encouraging more active members – this includes increasing the number of Lead Cities and national / cross-national Chapters of Mayors for Peace across the continent.
- Develop a robust and more longer-term and sustainable structure in Europe by establishing an autonomous organization and implementing a targeted fundraising strategy.

### **1.4 Chapter actors, partners and stakeholders to engage with**

- Mayors for Peace Secretariat
- European Commission and European Parliament
- The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN)
- Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)
- Nuclear Free Local Authorities (NFLA)
- United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)
- Global Parliament of Mayors
- Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (PNND)
- Council of European Municipalities and Regions
- Eurocities
- Provincial Council of Barcelona



**OBJECTIVES, ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES FOR 2021**

<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>ACTIVITIES PLANNED</b>	<b>EXPECTED OUTCOMES</b>
2.1 Develop a Communications strategy for activities and events	2.1.1 Design a Chapter website, develop a Wordpress platform and update the content on demand 2.1.2 Send a quarterly newsletter to all European member cities 2.1.3 Develop a Communications Action Plan 2.1.4 Create new social media channels: Twitter, Facebook and YouTube	2.1.1 Website launched on March 2021 and updated weekly/monthly by all European Lead Cities through Wordpress users 2.1.2 Newsletter template developed on April 2021 and schedule fixed for this year 2.1.3 Communications Action Plan developed before July 2021 2.1.4 Accounts activated on April 2021
2.2 Deliver a high quality, flexible Secretariat to member authorities	2.2.1 Host the European Secretariat in Granollers City Council in cooperation with Barcelona Provincial Council 2.2.2 Activate an email address for the European Secretariat as well as other corporative channels 2.2.3 Develop joint strategies with the European Executive Advisor, in close coordination/communication with the Executive Board of the Chapter and the Secretariat	2.2.1 Legal statutes agreed and registered on May 2021 2.2.2 Email address activated on March 2021 2.2.3 The European Executive Advisor attend the European working group meetings and participate in the decision-making
2.3 Develop webinars, conferences and relevant events	2.3.1 Organize a webinar about "The TPNW before its First Meeting of States Parties" 2.3.2 Organize an online first meeting Board of the European Chapter	2.3.1 Webinar developed on December 2021 2.3.2 Meeting developed on June 2021 2.3.3 Meeting developed on



	<p>2.3.3 Attend the 10<sup>th</sup> online Executive Conference hosted by Hiroshima</p> <p>2.3. 4 Support a Hiroshima and Nagasaki-led delegation to the UN Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference</p>	<p>August 2021</p> <p>2.3.4 Coordination established with the Secretariat on the agreed date</p>
<p>2.4 Influence Local and National Governments, the European Commission, the European Parliament and other international institutions to support the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons</p>	<p>2.4.1 Support and encourage more towns and cities to pass resolutions supporting the TPNW</p> <p>2.4.2 Write letters to the President of the European Parliament and the Vice-President in charge of coordinating the external action of the European Union to support the TPNW</p> <p>2.4.3 Write letters and schedule meetings with the Foreign Minister of Member States requesting its participation as an observer in the First Meeting of States Parties</p> <p>2.4.4 Prepare position statements and any other material relevant to such activity</p>	<p>2.4.1 At least 10 new European cities support the resolution</p> <p>2.4.2 Letters sent before August 2021</p> <p>2.4.3 Letter sent before December 2021</p> <p>2.4.4 The European Chapter release at least 5 annual statements</p>
<p>2.5 Develop and enhance existing and new coalitions of support</p>	<p>2.5.1 Identify key cities which could be contacted with a view to becoming more formally involved in this structure</p> <p>2.5.2 Develop connections with parts of Europe where Mayors for Peace would like to see more activity</p>	<p>2.5.1 At least 1 new capital European city establish formal contact with the European working group</p> <p>2.5.2 At least 5 new key European Cities become a member of Mayor for Peace</p>