



Mayors for Peace

Secretariat

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August 18, 2025

Dr. Ingrid Farzin
Mr. Arno Lohmann
IPPNW – Regional Group Bochum

Mr. Thomas Eiskirch
Mayor of Bochum

Dear Dr. Farzin, Mr. Lohmann, and Mayor Eiskirch,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits.

First of all, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for your heartfelt letter and for sending more than 20,000 paper cranes. As President of Mayors for Peace, I am deeply delighted to see that each of these cranes carries the wishes for peace from Bochum's citizens, and to learn that, on Flag Day, citizens across Germany ardently aspire to peace in solidarity.

This year marks 80 years since the atomic bombing of Hiroshima. On that day, the city was instantly reduced to ashes, and many precious lives were lost. Those who survived also continue to bear great suffering from the aftereffects of radiation.

Nevertheless, under current international circumstances, the risk of nuclear weapons being used is increasing, as nuclear-armed states pursue the modernization and expansion of their arsenals. I am deeply concerned about this situation, as I believe that issues between nations should be resolved peacefully through dialogue, not through military force. In these circumstances, it is vital for civil society to act as one—with shared determination and hope—and to urge policymakers to shift their diplomatic policies.

Mayors for Peace, together with over 8,500 member cities in 166 countries and regions, continues to foster peace awareness in civil society and create a world filled with the culture of peace, thereby urging policymakers who rely on nuclear deterrence to shift their diplomatic policies toward peaceful solutions through dialogue. I sincerely hope you will stand with us in solidarity to eliminate nuclear weapons and pave the way toward lasting world peace.

In closing, I would like to once again express my sincere gratitude for your letter and paper cranes, and to extend best wishes for your good health and the well-being of all the citizens of your city.

Sincerely yours,

MATSUI Kazumi
President of Mayors for Peace
Mayor of Hiroshima