

University Presidents for Peace Declaration

We, the University Presidents for Peace, have gathered in Hiroshima, Japan, for the Sixth University Presidents for Peace Conference, chaired by President Mitsuo Ochi of Hiroshima University.

As many years have passed since the atomic bombing, we have continued to reflect on how peace may be carried forward to future generations through learning and a deeper understanding of the events of 81 years ago. While we believe that sustained grassroots efforts can contribute meaningfully to the promotion of peace, the realities in different parts of the world call upon us to question how deeply we understand the value and dignity of life beyond our own surroundings. This year, we once again reaffirm our respect for every human life as a fundamental starting point for our reflections on peace and as an essential foundation for a sustainable future.

Universities serve as places of education, research, and interaction, where young people are encouraged to broaden their perspectives and, through engagement with diverse values and with others, deepen their understanding of the value of life. Life is not only an abstract ideal but a lived reality that informs our judgments and actions. Students are not only future leaders but active participants in the present, engaging in learning, dialogue, and reflection. Nurturing the capacity for thoughtful consideration, grounded in respect for human life and dignity, also remains a responsibility of higher education.

Our core mission continues to be the promotion of student mobility and the fostering of people-to-people connections through academic programs and educational initiatives. Accordingly, we reaffirm our commitment to pursuing the following goals and actions:

1. To nurture and expand a network of universities in support of peace and sustainability:

To strengthen education and research on peace and sustainability across participating institutions through collaborative efforts.

2. To expand opportunities for student and young researcher exchanges in peace and sustainability:

To develop exchange programs that transcend national borders and encourage international exposure and mutual understanding.

3. To strengthen institutional and collaborative efforts to secure sustainable support for these initiatives:

To work at the institutional level and collaboratively to identify and secure funding sources.

Through these commitments, we aim to further develop a global network of individuals who are educated, empathetic, and engaged, and who will contribute to advancing peace and sustainability. We will share this commitment with the broader international community.