

January 30, 2019

His Excellency Mr. Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin
President
Russian Federation

Letter of Request

Excellency:

We hope this letter finds you in the best of health and spirits.

On behalf of Mayors for Peace's 7,700 member cities across the world, we would like to convey to you the wishes of civil society regarding the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty.

The INF Treaty was the first agreement concluded between the Soviet Union and the United States in 1987 designed to curb the nuclear arms race and lead to steps towards nuclear disarmament. Civil society, wishing for a world without nuclear weapons, has high expectations that efforts based on this treaty will be further promoted. However, we are deeply concerned the demise of the treaty without alternative measures will increase the risk of the use of nuclear weapons.

Russia and the United States are integral to the peace and stability of our planet. It is our earnest desire that Russia, a signatory nation of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, will overcome mutual suspicions, make steady efforts and engage in dialogue based on reason towards nuclear disarmament and elimination, and build an unshakable relationship of trust with the United States.

So as not to repeat the tragedies of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, we sincerely ask you to take to heart the wishes of civil society, put forward concrete proposals, and exercise leadership in order to realize a world free from nuclear weapons.

In closing, we offer our best wishes for your health and every success in your endeavors.

Respectfully,



MATSUI Kazumi
Mayor of the City of Hiroshima
President of Mayors for Peace



TAUE Tomihisa
Mayor of the City of Nagasaki
Vice President of Mayors for Peace