



## CONCEPT NOTE

### Lampedusa Charter for Human Mobility

*Dignity and territorial solidarity at the center, accompanying peace processes*

15 June 2022, 10:30 – 12:00

Location: Sala Albaicín, FIBES, Seville

Hosted in the Framework of the Mediterranean Urban Migration Forum

#### Background:

*“Protect people, not borders”*

*Walls of Lampedusa*

On October 3, 2013, 368 migrants lost their lives after a boat carrying them to Europe sank off the southern Italian island of Lampedusa. Ever since then, over 15,000 migrants are estimated to have lost their lives in the Mediterranean during their migration journeys. Yearly, survivors and their families, civil society organizations and national and European authorities, gather in the island to honor their loss and to claim for a renewed framework that protects all.

#### The Lampedusa Charter process:

For local and regional governments, migration and displacement are not a border tale as these phenomena include a variety of flows within countries. Beyond trends of workforce concentration, rapid urbanization and growing territorial imbalances, a variety of interrelated factors related to climate change, inequalities and other forms of oppression, expose growing parts of the population to move in extremely harsh conditions, particularly for those groups that have been structurally discriminated for reasons like gender, age, race, religion and other.



Beyond the provision of basic services and the protection of the groups of the population that are more exposed to vulnerability and structural discrimination, municipalities and territories have a key role to play in transitioning from border-centred approaches to a people-centred vision of citizenship, underpinned by a sense of community and the notions of dignity, care, human rights universality, gender responsiveness, peace, collective memory and belonging, participation and diversity, irrespective of administrative status.

With a determined realization to realize this role, Salvatore “Totò” Martello, Mayor of Lampedusa and Councilor of the Policy Council on the Right to the City and Inclusive Territories, proposed to work towards the co-creation of our collective narrative on human mobility at the UCLG World Council of October 2020. The Policy Council embraced the commitment to foster a new narrative rooted on inclusion and pursuing the respect of human rights protection, solidarity and peace. The UCLG Executive Bureau endorsed this process and invited the different parts of the network to lead territorial consultations.

Moreover, in light of the and the realities that we are going through in 2022, peace has become a cornerstone of the agenda of our World Organization. Local and regional governments as essential actors for Peace and Reconciliation. Our resolve to become a municipalist movement driven by peace, solidarity, equality and local democracy and in the midst of a pandemic, armed conflicts and human mobility crises remains at the core of all our efforts.

Two years after kicking-off the process, and in the run-up to the 2022 UCLG World Congress, the World Secretariat has supported a period of online consultations through the UCLG Meets Platform to co-create a draft Charter that reflects the priorities and realities of all parts of the network. Our constituency shaped the Lampedusa Charter draft text through #CitiesAreListening sessions, written inputs from UCLG sections and thematic sessions of the Executive Bureau. Key axioms of the municipalist legacy and global agendas on human mobility -including the Global Compact for Migration, the Global Compact for Refugees and the 2030 Agenda- were identified, discussed and enriched with the support of UCLG governing bodies, consultation mechanisms and key partners.

With the Lampedusa Charter, local and regional governments take the responsibility to put dignity, memory and peace at the forefront of a discussion that needs to be tackled by involving the whole society and all levels of government, in a meaningful way, with a renewed vision centered on the power of communities and the value of diversity in our societies. Local and regional governments have a key role to play in raising awareness among the communities.

## Objectives:

As part of the co-creation process of the Lampedusa Charter, this session will explore the interlinkages between the municipalist vision of human mobility and the UCLG peace agenda. The discussion will pay particular attention to the role of youth and territorial solidarity as drivers of a new governance of migration that includes and benefits all people.



## Agenda

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### 15, June 2022

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10:30 – 10:40

#### Opening and Welcome

- **Emilia Saiz**, Secretary General, UCLG

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10:40 – 11:20

#### Interventions

- **Nikolaus Meletiou**, Mayor of Aspropyrgos
- **Ricardo Rio**, Mayor of Braga
- **Taneen Rudyk**, President of the Canadian Federation of Municipalities (FCM), Vice-President of UCLG for North America
- **Alba Barnusell**, Mayor of Granollers
- **Juan Manuel Bermúdez**, Mayor of Conil de la Frontera
- **Xolile George**, Chief Executive Officer, SALGA
- **Mounir Elloumi**, Mayor of Sfax
- **Imen Ouardani**, Deputy Mayor of Sousse

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11:30 – 11:50

#### Reactions from partners

- **Elana Wong**, Youth Representative, UNMGCY
- **IOM representative**
- **Vincent Cochetel**, UNHCR Special Envoy for the Mediterranean

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11:50 – 12:00

#### Wrap up and conclusions

- **Mehmet Duhman**, Secretary General, UCLG MEWA
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