



## Policy Council on the Right to the City and Inclusive Territories

**Tuesday 9 February 2021, 15:00-17:00 CET**

Register here:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEvcOmprD8jHND01Iig41uqbX\\_AD0SzYiFp](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEvcOmprD8jHND01Iig41uqbX_AD0SzYiFp)

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*Interpretation will be available in English, French and Spanish.*

The meeting of the Policy Council on the Right to the City and Inclusive Territories will provide an opportunity to enhance the work around the Right to the City as a critical area towards **urban and territorial governance**, the promotion of **human rights**, the **reduction of inequalities**, and towards prosperity and well-being for all.

The meeting will allow a space to discuss concrete proposals on how to enhance the Council's 2021 objectives particularly on the areas of mobility and migration, right to adequate housing, digital and cultural rights and for all, as critical tools in leaving no one and no place behind, ensuring an **equitable recovery** and **cities for all**.

### Agenda of the Session

#### 1. Introduction by the Co-Chairs of the Policy Council

a. Moderated by **Emilia Saiz**, Secretary General, UCLG

- **Philippe Rio**, Mayor of Grigny, Co-Chair of the UCLG Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights
- **Armand Béouindé**, Mayor of Ouagadougou, President of the Association of Municipalities of Burkina Faso (AMBF), Vice-President of UCLG for Africa

#### 2. Inspiring Pitch from our Special Guests

- **Todd Howland**, Chief of the Development, Economic & Social Issues Branch, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
- **Hannes J. Lagrelius**, General Assembly of Partners (GAP) Co-Chair of the Persons with Disabilities PCG and Program Officer for Inclusive & Accessible Urban Development of the World Blind Union

#### 3. Open floor with the Policy Councillors

a. Moderated by **Jean Pierre Elong Mbassi**, Secretary General, UCLG-Africa

- **Mohamed Aydi**, Deputy Mayor of Sfax
- **Laia Bonet**, Deputy Mayor of Barcelona in charge of 2030 Agenda and Digital Transition

- **Pedro del Cura**, Mayor of Rivas Vaciamadrid
- **Àstrid Desset**, Mayor of Anglès, Vice-President of the Catalan Association of Municipalities (ACM)
- **Carola Gunnarsson**, Mayor of Sala, First Vice-President of the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR), Vice-President of UCLG for Europe
- **Annie Chrystel Limbourg Iwenga**, Deputy Mayor of Libreville, UCLG Policy Councillor
- **Salvatore Martello**, Mayor of Lampedusa
- **Catarina Vaz Pinto**, Deputy Mayor for Culture of Lisbon
- **Linda Voortman**, Co-Mayor of Utrecht, Co-Chair of the UCLG Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights
- **Zinnur Büyükgöz**, Mayor of Gebze

#### **Focal points:**

- Guillem Ramírez, Adviser to the Deputy Mayor, Barcelona
- Mònica Batlle, Deputy Director of International Affairs, Barcelona
- Álvaro García, International Relations Officer, Barcelona
- Lina Ramírez, Adviser, Bogotá
- Nadia Noura, Cabinet of the Mayor, Grigny
- Heléne Lundberg, Senior Adviser, SALAR

The **Policy Council on the Right to the City and Inclusive Territories** is an essential mechanism to advance UCLG members' conversation on the Right to the City. While continuing to address key priorities such as shifting the narrative around migration and the right to housing, this mechanism is now set to explore a wider emerging agenda: From renewing approaches equality and accessibility to advancing a new generation of rights.

Since its creation in 2017, the Council has functioned as a platform for in depth policy debate where political representatives can influence the agenda of the World Organization and establish synergies as well as discuss how scale-up specific impact of initiatives led by members, such as the work on housing that led to the adoption of the "[Cities for Adequate Housing](#)" Declaration in 2018 and the contribution to the [Marrakech Mayors Declaration on Migration](#) that marks the path on a new narrative on Human Mobility. The Council represents a periodic and structural meeting point to address **UCLG's commitment towards the Right to the City** as recognized in the Bogotá Commitment and the New Urban Agenda (both adopted in 2016).

#### **Potential priorities for the next phase include leading a policy and action-oriented work that engages the whole network in:**

- Expanding the *policy discussion on human rights* throughout the definition of the People's Axis on the Pact of the Future, exploring concepts such as the new generation of rights that includes the right to peace, accessibility, technology, mobility and culture.
- Generate Discussions to support the renewal of [the Global Charter-Agenda for Human Rights in the City](#) which will be promoted by the Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights (UCLG-CSIPDHR).
- Informing the partnership with the *Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights* (OHCHR) and participation within the UN Human Rights system (e.g UN Special Procedures).

- Accelerating the localization of human rights in the city by adopting and promoting universal accessibility as a common good and pillar to equitable public service provision, sustainable development and participatory democracy.
- Assessing the impact of *COVID-19 on the local implementation of the right to the city* and how a rights-based approach can contribute to the UN concept of **Build Back Better and the equitable Decade of Action**.
- Co-creating a political declaration on Migration and Human Rights to expand upon Lampedusa's proposal of a Charter for Peace in the Mediterranean.
- Explore and reinforce a territorial vision that addresses and protects human mobility as a right at all stages of the migration process and regardless of legal status.
- Addressing the reduction of inequalities through community-driven narratives that value diversity and equity; exploring the following issues: *cities as a common good, challenges of peripheral territories, violence against women and girls, migration, universal accessibility, digital rights, cultural rights, and rights to public services*.
- Exploring an Agenda on Dignity in response to the rights of all populations to the city.

### **Links with other Policy Councils:**

Discussions on the mandate and work of this Policy Council relate and provide potential for strong linkages with the debates of other councils, including priority areas such as **women's leadership, gender equality and the right to peace and solidarity**. The links stemming from these priority areas are essential to further developments on the implementation of the **New Urban Agenda** and the **objectives of the Policy Council on Opportunities for All**.

### **Links with international processes:**

- **Local Governments and Human Rights (United Nations):** Recognition by the Human Rights Council and Partnership with the OHCHR.
- **On the Right to the City:** Global Platform for the Right to the City on "cities as common goods" and dialogue with UN Special Procedures.
- **On Migration:** Global Compact on Migration, UN Migration Network, Mayors Mechanism of the Global Forum on Migration Development.
- **On Generation Equality:** Beijing +25 review process.
- **On Housing:** Partnership with the UN Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing.
- **On Accessibility:** UN Conference of States Parties to the UNCRPD, Global Compact on Inclusive & Accessible Cities, and Partnership with UN Special Envoy on Accessibility & Disability.
- **On Digital Rights:** Cities Coalition for Digital Rights & Smart City Expo World Congress
- **Localization of the 2030 Agenda and the New Urban Agenda:** High Level Political Forum and the review of the New Urban Agenda.

### **Links with other consultation mechanisms:**

The World Organization will continue to encourage collaborations across different parts of network. The **Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights (UCLG-CSIPDHR)** will offer a rallying point for members and partners to advance, throughout the year and in a more systematic way, the goals of the Policy Council concerning human rights. Other relevant consultation mechanisms include:

- Communities of Practice on Housing, Migration, Accessibility and Digital Cities
- International Observatory on Participatory Democracy
- Committee on Culture
- Forum on Peripheral Cities

## Links with Pact for the Future axes:

Members' contributions in the next phase of this Policy Council are intended to pioneer the inclusion of frontier contents and priorities in UCLG's discussions around the Pact for the Future (to be adopted in 2022) with a special emphasis on its axis on the **Pact for People**.

The Pact for People will address issues related to socioeconomic inclusion in the aftermath of the COVID-19 crisis. This Policy Council's focus - local approaches to human rights, new generation rights, the transformation of social inclusion and equality agendas, the narrative around migration, and the promotion of the right to housing - will be instrumental in providing fresh perspectives, innovative approaches and expertise by leading local governments on this matter, accelerating the transformation of the municipal movements' social agenda in the coming period.

