Promoting Diversity

Debates

Dates for tweetchats

Fostering Wellbeing
In the framework of the World Summit of Local and Regional Leaders, debates will be organized on the following themes that implicate local and regional governments all over the world: **Fostering Wellbeing, Strengthening Solidarity among Territories, Supporting new Local Governance and Promoting Diversity.** These debates will be structured as follows:

### Online Debates

These themes will firstly be analysed and discussed through online debates that will take place **throughout the month of September** via Twitter.

As you will see in the windows below, each theme under debate has its own unique hashtag and launch question. Tweet on the theme that most interests you and take part in the debate!

You can also contribute by leaving a comment on the window at the bottom of this page.

### Thematic Round Tables

Four thematic round tables will then take place in Rabat on the 3rd of October and will feature participation by well-known experts and speakers from academic and political spheres as well as the media.

Keep up to date with the latest developments of the Summit through [#Rabat2013](#Rabat2013) and [@uclg_org](@uclg_org).

- Fostering Wellbeing
- Strengthening Solidarity Among Territories
- Supporting New Local Governance
- Promoting Diversity

The objective of this session is twofold: to pursue the exploration of the various dimensions and
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challenges in relation to governance and public management, and to attempt to identify concrete policies that show to what extent acknowledging urban diversity can constitute a substantial opportunity for innovation on political, social, cultural, economic and territorial levels.

Identify the differing dimensions of diversity: the multi-dimensional concept of diversity will be examined along with the stakes that citizens face to manage it in a globalising world context characterised by increased mobility. Furthermore, the session will address, among others, questions of political diversity (the diverse forms of organisation and representation of residents of cities), social diversity (in socio-economic, educational, professional terms etc.), ethnic and cultural diversity, gender diversity, inter-generational diversity, diversity in terms of urban landscapes (constructed and natural), diversity of urban territories (“formal” city vs. informal settlements, centre vs. periphery), etc.

Valuing diversity as a political opportunity. Managing diversity is a highly complex phenomenon; nevertheless, it is also a great source of innovation. Recognising and valuing diversity and its multi-dimensional nature through local and regional public policies can lead to the construction of cities that enjoy greater economic, social, cultural, political and territorial potential. The extent to which a city recognises its diversity is reflected, fundamentally, in the following aspects:

1. the way in which political participation by all residents is ensured (men and women; youth and the elderly; migrants and natives; entrepreneurs and informal workers; inhabitants and informal settlement organizations; cultural actors...);
2. the priority given to social policies aimed at combating social and spatial exclusion;
3. the implementation of economic means aimed at reinforcing and stimulating diversity-promoting entrepreneurialism and the creation of reliable spaces for economic investment on different levels;
4. an integrated urban planning that guarantees diverse and decentralised use of spaces, services and installations;
5. the consideration of culture as a pillar for human development, democratic government and sustainability.

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**hashtag:** UCLGdiversity  
**Número del debate:** 2  
**Pertenece:** debate 2  
**Ponentes:** Adilson Pires  
Aysen Nikolaev  
Catherine Cullen  
Fatimetou Mint Abdel Malick  
Gilbert Fossou Houngrbo  
Ibone Bengoetxea  
Jürgen Roters  
Mohamad Maliki Bin Osman  
Pat Horn  
Ratna Omidvar  

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Parallel sessions

Culture in sustainable development
Promoting local economic development
The right to the city: fighting against urban inequalities

Expert

Yves Cabannes
France

Yves Cabannes
Professor and Chair of Development Planning at Bartlett Development Planning Unit (DPU), University College London
Yves Cabannes is Professor and Chair of Development Planning at Bartlett Development Planning Unit (DPU), University College London (www.bartlett.ucl.ac.uk/dpu). From 2004 to 2006 he was lecturer in Urban Planning at Harvard University Graduate School of Design, and an economist, planner and urban specialist. From 1997 until December 2003, he was the regional Coordinator of the UN Habitat/UNDP Urban Management Program for Latin America and the Caribbean. He has particular experience and interest in urban agriculture & Food sovereignty, local currencies, participatory planning, municipal public policies, low cost housing, participatory budgeting, community-based micro credit systems and appropriate technologies for local development. He is an advocate on development and rights issues and was the convener for the UN Advisory Group on Forced Evictions (2004 -2010) and the senior advisor to the Municipality of Porto Alegre, Brazil, for the international network on participatory budgeting.

He is currently member of the board of the International RUAF Foundation - Resource Centres for Urban Agriculture and Food Security-, The World Fund for City Development (Metropolis), HuiZhi (Participation Centre, Chengdu China) and the Participatory Budgeting Project (USA).

Speakers

- Adilson Pires
- Aysen Nikolaev
- Catherine Cullen
- Fatimetou Mint Abdel Malick
- Gilbert Fossoun Houngbo
- Ibone Bengoetxea
- Jürgen Roters
- Mohamad Maliki Bin Osman
- Pat Horn
- Ratna Omidvar

(web)
Adilson Pires
Deputy Mayor of Rio de Janeiro and Municipal Secretary of Social Development

Adilson Pires is Deputy Mayor of the city of Rio de Janeiro and Municipal Secretary of Social Development. He served six terms as a councilor in the Municipality of Rio de Janeiro, in his last term he was the leader of the government. While in this role, Mr. Pires managed to approve all projects sent by the Executive to the City Council. Among them, the Porto Maravilha project which will revitalize an area of 5 million square meters in Rio’s port region and the new Master Plan of the city. In all, 129 of his projects were approved while he was councilor.

In 2002, he became the State Secretary for Social Action and Citizenship, and also took part, as a representative of the Federal Government, in the organization of the 2007 Pan American Games held in Rio de Janeiro. He was responsible for making proposals to ensure social legacy of the event - improvements in transportation systems, security, among others.

Aysen Nikolaev
Yakutsk City Mayor / Président de CGLU-Eurasie

Aysen Nikolaev was born on January 22, 1972 in Leningrad. He grew in Verkhnevilyuysk, in a family of teachers. At the age of 16 he graduated with a gold medal from Verkhnevilyuysk physical and mathematical school and went to Moscow to enter Faculty of Physics at Moscow State University named M. Lomonosov.

Before completing his studies at Moscow State University he applied to Academy of national economy, and in 1994 gained two diplomas at once: Moscow State University and Academy of national economy. The young specialist with two diplomas found a job at the Moscow representative agency of the “Sakhaalmazprovinvest” finance corporation. In a year he became the vice-president of the corporation in Yakutsk.

At the age of 25 he was the youngest deputy in the history of the Republican parliament (Il Tumen). He worked as the Secretary of the Committee on North affairs, then as the Chairman of the Budget Committee of Il Tumen.

In 2002 Nikolaev was again elected as the deputy of Il Tumen.

In 2004 he became the Minister of Finance of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia). Here Nikolaev managed to achieve the adoption of the complex decision on compensation of the dropping-out income of Yakutia from rent payments of JSC ALROSA which formed the main revenues of the republican budget.

In 2007 he was appointed as the head of the Administration of the President and Government. He began work on creation of the electronic government.
In May, 2011 he was appointed as the First deputy chairman of the government. He supervised issues concerning development of agriculture, tourism and business, nature preservation, science and innovations.

On March 4, 2012 Aysen Nikolaev was elected as the Head of the Yakutsk Urban Okrug.

Catherine Cullen

President of the UCLG Committee on culture and Vice Mayor of Lille

Born March 5th 1950 in Paris
Deputy Mayor in charge of Culture since 2001, City of Lille, France

For the last 30 years, Catherine Cullen, who is of French and British nationality, has created, managed or supervised cultural projects and events, based on her experience of different cultures and artistic activities. After several years in publishing (Cambridge University Press, le Seuil, Albin Michel), in the late 80s she became editor in chief of LIBER, the first European cultural supplement issued by Le Monde, El Pais, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, The Times Literary Supplement and l’Indice, under the direction of Pierre Bourdieu. She was also advisor to the French Presidency for the implementation of the Académie Universelle des Cultures.

A free lance writer and translator, she has also contributed to many national and international meetings on various aspects of culture.

She is Deputy Mayor in charge of culture for the city of Lille since 2001, and since 2008 councillor delegate Culture for Lille Metropole Communauté Urbaine. She is presently President of the Culture Committee of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), the first world organization of local governments. The Committee is dedicated to working on the Agenda 21 for Culture.

Fatimetou Mint Abdel Malick

Mayor of Tevrah-Zeina and President of Network of Local Elected Women of Africa (NLEWA)

Fatimetou Mint Abdel Malick is Mayor of Tevrah-Zeina in the sprawling capital, Nouakchott, Mauritania and President of Network of Local Elected Women of Africa (NLEWA). She is the first woman to take office as a Mayor in her country. Her election as President of the Women’s Network of Mayors in Africa has confirmed her stature of a champion and a leader. Since she was elected, she has prioritized access to basic services, improved education, created public spaces such as playgrounds and municipal parks where free Wi-Fi is provided thus attracting many young people to gather there.
Gilbert Fossoun Houngbo

Deputy Director-General for Field Operations and Partnerships International Labour Organization (ILO)

Prior to his current functions, Mr Houngbo has been the Prime Minister of the Republic of Togo (2008 - 2012) In this capacity he led the government efforts in substantial improvement in all areas namely rule of law, civil liberties, social cohesion, economic reforms including IMF Highly Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) program, good governance, rural development, social betterment, shared growth etc.

Mr Houngbo has held the position of Assistant Secretary General, Assistant Administrator & Director UNDP Africa (United Nations Development Programme - Africa). He led UNDP’s social and economic development activities in 45 Sub-Sahara Africa countries.

Mr. Houngbo joined UNDP in 1996 as a financial expert and served as Comptroller and Director of Finance and Administration from 1998 to 2003.

Mr. Houngbo also has extensive private sector experience (1986 -1996) including, working for Price Waterhouse Canada, where he specialized in operational and financial rationalization, financial viability & turnaround services.

Mr Houngbo holds a DESS (Diplôme d’Etudes Supérieures Spécialisées) and a Bachelor of Arts in Accounting - University of Québec (Canada) - Trois-Rivières (1986), a Maîtrise de Gestion d’Entreprises from University of Lomé, Togo (1983). He is a Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA), member of the Ordre des Comptables Professionnels Agréés du Québec (Canada).

Ibone Bengoetxea

Deputy Mayor of Bilbao, City Councilor for Culture and Education and President of EUDEL - Basque Association of Municipalities

Ms. Ibone Bengoetxea has a Degree on Psychology. She has developed her professional life in the field of transport (Basque Rail train and Metro Bilbao) as well as in Social Services, especially in the field of family and childhood mistreatments.

Ms. Bengoetxea began her political career in local politics in 2003. She currently holds the following positions:

- Second Deputy Mayor of the City Bilbao
- City Councilor of Culture and Education
- Coordinator of Cultural Policies, Education and Leisure
- President of EUDEL (Basque Association of Municipalities)
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Previous positions:
- Deputy Mayor, City Councilor of Culture and Education and Main Speaks person titular (2007-2011)
- City Councilor of Traffic and Transport. President of District 5 (2003-2007)

Jürgen Roters
Mayor of Cologne

Jürgen Roters was directly elected as Mayor of Cologne in August 2009.

Roters served as Superintendent of the Cologne police from 1995 to 1999 and President of the regional government in Cologne from 1999 until 2005.

He started his professional career as commissioner with the regional government in Muenster (1978-1981) and head of the division with the ministry for culture in the Bundesland of North Rhine-Westphalia (1981/82). In 1982 he took over the chair of the Cologne Administrative College. In 1988 he changed to the home ministry of the Bundesland of North Rhine-Westphalia as head of the minister’s office.

Mr. Roters is member of the Social Democratic Party (SPD). He was born in 1949 and studied law.

Mohamad Maliki Bin Osman
Mayor of Singapore (Southeast District)

Dr Mohamad Maliki Osman was born in Singapore in 1965. Dr Maliki graduated with his Bachelor and Masters degrees from the National University of Singapore (NUS). He obtained his doctorate in Social Work from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1998 and became an Assistant Professor at the NUS Department of Social Work and Psychology that year. Dr Maliki was elected as one of the Members of Parliament for the East Coast Group Representation Constituency in the 2011 Singapore General Elections. He was re-appointed as the Senior Parliamentary Secretary for National Development, and was concurrently appointed as the Senior Parliamentary Secretary for Defence. Dr Maliki was also appointed the Mayor for the Southeast District of Singapore by the People’s Association.
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Sessions: Promoting Diversity

Pat Horn
International Co-ordinator of StreetNet International

Feminist trade unionist, International Co-ordinator of StreetNet International, an international federation formed to protect and promote the rights of street vendors, to promote the voice and bargaining power of street vendors throughout the world. Since international launch of StreetNet in November 2002, there are 49 affiliated organisations from 41 countries in Africa, Asia, the Americas and Europe, representing over 500 000 paid-up members.

Canada

Ratna Omidvar
President of Maytree, a private foundation that promotes equity and prosperity through its policy insights, grants and programs.

Under her leadership, the foundation has gained international recognition for its expertise in developing, testing, and implementing programs and policy solutions related to immigration, integration and diversity in the workplace, in the boardroom and in public office.

Ratna is the chair of the Board of Directors of the Toronto Region Immigrant Employment Council (TRIEC) and the co-chair of DiverseCity: The Greater Toronto Leadership Project, a joint project of Maytree of the Greater Toronto CivicAction Alliance. She also serves as a director of the Canadian Club of Toronto, the Environics Institute and Connect Legal.

In 2006, Ratna was appointed to the Order of Ontario. In 2010, Canada’s national newspaper, the Globe and Mail, profiled her as its Nation Builder of the Decade for Citizenship. In 2011, she was made a Member of the Order of Canada for her advocacy on behalf of immigrants and for her devotion to reducing inequality.