The 1990s was a milestone in terms of recognition of the role of local governments as pillars of states' democratic quality. Some years later, it would gain ground the acknowledgement of cities as key human rights actors in their role of providers of public services and agents responsible for education, health and housing policies.

This international debate would be translated into the claim for «the right to the city», according to which the city is a collective space which belongs to all its residents and which must offer the necessary conditions for a decent life from a social, political, cultural, economic and environmental point of view.

As a result of this process, various local human rights charters were adopted from 2000 onwards: the European Charter for the Safeguarding of Human Rights in the City (Saint-Denis, 2000), signed by more than 350 European cities; the World Charter on the Right to the City, drafted by social movements gathered in the World Social Forum in Porto Alegre (2001); the Charter of Rights and Responsibilities of Montreal (2006); the Mexico City Charter for the Right to the City (2010); the Gwangju Human Rights Charter (South Korea, 2012). The «right to a solidarity-based metropolis» would emerge afterwards as a result of the work undertaken by the Forum of Peripheral Local Authorities (FALP).

In order to contribute to the international promotion of the right to the city, UCLG adopted in 2011 the Global Charter-Agenda for Human Rights in the City at the initiative of its Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights.

The panel “The right to the city: fighting against urban inequalities” will address this topic. Particularly, it will address the issue of how can local government design policies to implement the right to the city.

Considering the parallel session will be framed under the Congress thematic round table on “Promoting Diversity”, the debate will deal with the different dimensions of the right to the city.
which are linked to the broad concept of diversity: political, social, spatial, cultural, economic and environmental diversity.

These reflections will finally fuel the overall discussions taking place during the Congress because the right to the city and the fight against urban inequalities is a key element to “imagine society and build democracy”.

Key questions that will be raised during the parallel session

1. Tools to implement, monitor and evaluate the right to the city at local level (social policies and action plans, provision of equitable public services, municipal human rights charters, indicators and human rights diagnosis).
2. The challenge of realizing the right to the city in a metropolitan context.
3. The role of the right to the city in the post-2015 debate and Habitat III.

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Hashtag: Rabat2013
Speakers

- Frédéric Vallier
- Giovanni Allegretti
- Halima Tijani
- Maite Fandos I Payà
- Nádia Campeão
- Nelson Saule Jr
- Patrick Jarry
- Thabo Manyoni

Sessions: The right to the city: fighting against urban inequalities

Frédéric Vallier

Secretary General of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR) since 1 February 2010

He has over twenty years of experience working with local and regional authorities, including within the city and Metropolitan Authority of Nantes (France) where, from 2004 to 2010, he held the position of Deputy-head of the Mayor’s office, advisor for international and European affairs, and Head of the European Service. As an expert in European affairs at the local and regional levels, he has notably campaigned for the recognition of the role of local and regional government in the global agreement on climate change.

From 2003 to 2008, he was successively in charge of cross-border cooperation in a Department of Lorraine, Adviser in the field of “development and international relations”, after which he was appointed Deputy-head of the cabinet of the mayor of Nantes, Jean-Marc Ayrault.
From 1988 to 1993, he provided training to local and regional elected representatives and worked as a French parliamentary attaché. In 1995, he was elected Deputy-Mayor of Fresnes, a municipality in the south of Paris. During his mandate, from 1995 to 2001, he was in charge of Citizenship and spoke-person for the municipality; he notably established and chaired the Twinning Committee.

Frederic Vallier is fluent in French and English, speaks Italian and has a basic knowledge of German. He holds an Executive Master’s Degree in public management from Science Po Paris. In 2012, he was elected member of the board of the European Movement International.

The Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR) is the oldest and broadest association of local and regional authorities in Europe. Its members are 60 national associations of local and regional authorities in 40 countries.

Giovanni Allegretti
Architect, planner and senior researcher at the Center of Social Studies, an excellency structure linked to the Coimbra

From 2001 to 2006, he has been assistant professor in Town Management at the University of Florence, where he got his Ph.D in Town and Territorial Planning. He studied in Brazil, Denmark and Japan with scholarships of the Ministry of Foreign affairs. Since 1997 his main research topics have been Participatory Budgets and techniques for citizens’ participation to urban planning, topics on which he published several articles, essays and books. He has been scientific director of two EU projects in the field of participation. He is co-director of the Ph.D. course “Democracy in the XXI century” and coordinator of the PEOPLES’ Observatory on Participation, Innovation and Local Powers. He worked for the World Bank as a resource person in training (in South Africa and Senegal) and as an evaluator (Congo RDC), and he is consultant of the Swedish Associations of Municipality and Regions (2007-2012) to support the first experiments of participatory budget in that country. He has been consultant of the world association of Cities (UCLG) for the Inclusive Cities Observatory, and – at present – for a research on Citizens-based Monitoring of Public Policies.

Halima Tijani
Mayor of Raoued, Tunisia

Halima TIJANI, née le 02 février 1965 à Tunis est avocate à la cour de cassation et femme politique tunisienne.

Elle est présidente de la municipalité de Raoued à la ville de l’Ariana depuis le 15 Avril 2011.

Titulaire d’une maîtrise en droit de la faculté des sciences juridiques de Tunis, et après une première
expérience comme stagiaire avocat au sein d’un cabinet de renommée nationale et internationale, Maître Halima TIJANI s’est inscrite au tableau de l’ordre national des Avocats Tunisiens depuis le 14 Juillet 1993.

Le 07 Octobre 1996, elle fonde son propre cabinet d’avocat au gouvernorat de l’Ariana et se lance dans les affaires de questions pénales, criminelles et civiles afin de se spécialiser dans les affaires affiliées aux secteurs immobilier et foncier.

Son parcours professionnel a été couronné par sa nomination comme avocate à la cour de cassation le 10 février 2005.

Après la révolution de 2011 et le renversement du régime Ben Ali, elle a été éluée comme présidente de la municipalité de Raoued et lance, par ailleurs, l’association nationale des travaux municipaux.

España

Sessions: The right to the city: fighting against urban inequalities

Maite Fandos I Payà

Barcelone deputy mayor / President of UCLG Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights (CISDPDH)

Born in Barcelona on 14th April 1963, she is married and has one child.

She is currently Deputy Mayor for Quality of Life, Equality and Sport, and responsible for the following areas: Social Services, Equality, Sports, Family, Children, Leisure, Immigration, Women, Civil Rights, Elderly, and Youth.

She is also Councillor for the District of Gràcia, Barcelona.

Since 1987 she has worked in the political municipality of Barcelona. She was Municipal Councillor and Councillor of the CiU Municipal group since 2007.

Throughout her career, she has had various responsibilities in the Department of Wellbeing within the Generalitat de Catalunya (1990-2000) and has also, for a term (2000-2003) been Executive Director of the Catalan Women’s Institute.

Brazil

Sessions: The right to the city: fighting against urban inequalities

Nádia Campeão

Deputy Mayor of the City of São Paulo
Nádia was born in Rio Claro, São Paulo. She joined the Communist Party of Brazil (PCdoB) in 1978, where she acted in popular movements for Women’s Right since 1980. She had her first contact with political activism in the period of resistance to the military regime, while studying at University of São Paulo (ESALQ-USP), where she graduated as an Agronomist in 1979.

After a decade living in the state of Maranhão (northeast of Brazil) and acting with NGOs and as state president of PCdoB, she moved to São Paulo in 1990, where she has worked since then. She served as a parliamentary aide for the City and State Councils. She was the first woman to work as Municipal Secretary for Sports, from 2000 to 2004. As Secretary, she brought to São Paulo the South American Games and led the city’s candidacy to host the 2012 Olympic Games.

In 2006, she ran for Deputy Governor of São Paulo on the plate led by Aloisio Mercadante. In 2012, she was appointed President of the São Paulo Expo 2020 Bidding Committee, taking charge of the municipal level activities of São Paulo’s project to host the World Expo in 2020. She was also appointed Coordinator of SP COPA, a special committee created to oversee the city’s preparations for the World Cup of 2014.

Sessions: The right to the city: fighting against urban inequalities

Nelson Saule Jr

Lawyer specialized in urban law and human rights

General Coordinator of Polis, Institute of Studies, Training and Consulting on Social Policies dealing with, among other topics, the right to the city, urban development and urban reform. He has participated in the drafting of the Statute of the City and the World Charter of the Right to the City. He is advisor of the National Council of Cities, in which he contributes to the implementation of policies for urban development, housing and security of tenure in informal settlements. He holds a PhD in Law from the Catholic University of São Paulo, where he is professor of the PhD program on urban law and coordinator of the clinic's legal services. He is the President of the Brazilian Institute of Urban Law and author of several publications and studies on urban law and the right to the city.

France

Sessions: The right to the city: fighting against urban inequalities

Patrick Jarry

Mayor of Nanterre / President of the UCLG Committee on Peripheral Cities

He was elected Mayor of Nanterre on 14th October 2004 and re-elected in 2008. He was also General Councillor of the Hauts de Seine Region and President of the Greater Mont Valérien (Nanterre, Suresnes and Rueil Malmaison).

Engineer from the Ponts et Chaussées National Higher Education Establishment. Elected MP in 1989, he became President of the University neighbourhood and worked on citizen participation in the city.

As city contracts were created in 1994, the municipality gave Patrick Jarry responsibility over preparing an agreement with the State, followed by the General Council and the Region.
He was member of the Bureau of the Association of Francophone Mayors of Cities and Suburbs including Paris Metropolitan area.

This role reinforced his commitment to the essential role of peripheral cities in metropolitan construction.

He has been president on the UCLG Committee of Peripheral Cities since 2010 and coordinates the network of the Forum of Peripheral Local Authorities (FALP).

Sudafrica

Thabo Manyoni

Mayor of Mangaung, South Africa, President of South African Local Government Association (SALGA)

Cllr Thabo Manyoni, a political activist and local government practitioner, has worked extensively towards the empowerment of disadvantaged communities through education and training. He made an immense contribution to the post-apartheid South Africa’s first democratic general elections in 1994, responsible for voter education.

Born on 1 January 1960, he holds a Bachelor of Arts (BA) Degree; a Diploma in Business Management; a Certificate in Voter Education and successfully completed the University of South Africa’s Executive Development Program.

Currently he is serving as the first Executive Mayor of the Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality in the Free State Province, South Africa and also as the Chairperson of the South African Local Government Association (SALGA) since September 2011.

As an elected public representative, in addition to his current responsibilities, Cllr Manyoni held positions such as Chief Whip of the Mangaung Municipality and Member of the Free State Provincial Executive Council (MEC) responsible for Police, Roads and Transport in the Free State Provincial Government.

Between 1992 and 2006, Cllr Manyoni worked for some of the most influential institutions in our country, including holding positions such as Chief Executive Officer of the Free State Tourism Board, Chief Executive Officer or Municipal Manager of Local Municipality

Maluti a Phofung, Executive Director for Economic Development and Planning and was later appointed as City Manager of Mangaung Local Municipality.

In a party political capacity, he served as Deputy Chairperson of the African National Congress (ANC) (South Africa’s ruling party) Free State Provincial Executive Committee (PEC) from 2008 - 2012. He also served as Regional Chairperson of the ANC in Motheo Region since 2002.

Recently, Cllr Manyoni has been elected as President of the UCLG’s SADC Region in December 2012.
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