



UCLG CONGRESS
WORLD SUMMIT OF LOCAL
AND REGIONAL LEADERS



MANIFESTO

The Future of Migration

#CitiesAreListening

UCLG Manifestos

MANIFESTO ON THE FUTURE OF MIGRATION

OUR COMMITMENTS TO SUPPORT ALL PEOPLE TO FULFILL THEIR ASPIRATIONS EVERYWHERE

Migration is a natural phenomenon

Migration is a natural phenomenon that has shaped our world throughout history and acts as a key factor behind the urban expansion we have witnessed over the past decades. Cities, where human mobility has converged for centuries, have been shaped culturally, socially and politically by migration.

The benefits of intercultural exchanges and socio-economic progress are only possible through inclusion and social cohesion and lack of these can create tensions. Local and regional governments have a critical role to play in the construction of inclusive and pluralistic societies, not only through catalyzing dialogue but also through guaranteeing access to basic services and fostering policies that will make newcomers welcome.

The deployment of the Right to the City for all plays a critical role in leaving no one and no place behind and is the sole antidote to the rise in discriminatory and xenophobic discourse.

Local Governments are global actors

Despite the limited regulatory frameworks and mandates, local governments have rose to be key actors in the governance of migration influencing global trends. Committed to the effective implementation of a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach, local authorities call on national and international authorities to engage in an open and in-depth dialogue on possible ways of working together to achieve the global development and migration agendas.

The role of first responders and the need for a whole of government approach

As first responders to the effects of population flows, be it internal or external, and as the level of government that welcomes newcomers as neighbours, local and regional governments cannot, and are not, mere implementing partners. They are ready to contribute with their experiences and values to strengthening pluralistic and effective partnerships to broaden forms of political and social participation for all, regardless of their origin and condition.

In close partnership with national governments, local communities, and the international institutions they are committed to, are contributing to a paradigm change and implementing the concept of citizenship to that of neighbors beyond borders.

We confirm our commitment to the 2018 Marrakech Declaration of Mayors where we stated our willingness of local governments to work for "inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities" with a commitment to "leave no one behind".

Concrete mechanisms and new alliances key

We further call for the development of strong alliances with actors from civil society, the private sector or any other field who share the desire to contribute to protecting people who move in search of a better future.

UCLG Commitments

We mandate our World Organization of Local and Regional Governments to ensure these commitments are embedded in our global positions on the development agenda, from the 2030 Agenda to the climate action which will spur increased population flows during the coming decades.

We commit to working with sister organizations and other networks to move these messages forward and as a member of the Mayors' Mechanism, UCLG calls for concrete steps forward in the acknowledgement of the role of local and regional governments in global forums on migration governance, and in particular at the Global Forum on Migration and Development to be held in Quito from 19 to 22 November.

We acknowledge the unique opportunity of the Mayors' Mechanism and its integration into the Global Forum on Migration and Development ahead of the Global Forum for the Review of International Migration, which will evaluate for the first time the implementation of the Global Compact in 2022.

In Durban, the launch of the Call to Action by the GFMD Mayors' Mechanism marks the beginning of a collective effort to give visibility to local actions with a global impact.

We recognize the potential UCLG strategy on migration policies for building a fairer and inclusive world through local democracy.

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