



International Coalition
of Inclusive and
Sustainable Cities – ICCAR



World Forum on Urban Violence and Education for Coexistence and Peace

Madrid - 19-21 April 2017

Towards an urban culture of non-discrimination and non-violence: The ICCAR experience

20 April, 17:00 - 18:00, Room 2 - Nave.

Cities have become microcosms of the global village, hubs of diversity and opportunities bringing different groups together. They are also a transformative force for growth and social change, able to positively impact national and global developments and to serve as a space for democratic innovation. Half of humanity is now living in urban areas, and this figure is expected to increase to more than 70% by 2050. Local authorities are essential actors for diversity management, and for the implementation of inclusive urban policies upholding the dignity and rights of all people.

However, these opportunities are severely undermined by social, political, economic and environmental challenges resulting in the exclusion of populations and gaps in access to quality public services. A consequence of such context is the processes of ‘decitizenization’ in the urban space, as some city dwellers become mere ‘residents’ with no rights. This process threatens cities’ moral and social fiber, as well as their economic and political stability, creating a fertile ground for extremist discourses. According to ILO, there are around 71 million unemployed youth worldwide and 156 million young workers living in poverty, and this results in the marginalization and disfranchisement of young people. Social exclusion can lead to different forms of violence which oppress and threaten progress, urban coexistence and community life. Today, mortality due to armed violence in non-conflict settings considerably outweighs war-related deaths. Gang violence, racial persecution, gender-based violence or hate crimes targeting LGBT people and other minorities create societies of fear.

An ICCAR panel will bring together Mayors and stakeholders from different regions in order to provide insights and share good practices and experiences in promoting a culture of inclusion and non-discrimination.

Moderator: Golda El-Khoury, ICCAR Secretary and Chief of the Inclusion and Rights Section of UNESCO

Speakers:

- Mayor Daniel Martinez, City of Montevideo, lead city of the Coalition of Latin American and Caribbean Cities against Racism, Discrimination and Xenophobia.
- Mr. Driss Temsamani., Vice-Mayor of Tangiers, member of the Arab Coalition of Cities against Racism, Discrimination, Xenophobia and Intolerance.
- Ms. Pam McConnell, Deputy Mayor of Toronto, representing the Canadian Coalition of Municipalities against Racism and Discrimination.
- Benedetto Zacchioli, President of the European Coalition of Cities against Racism (ECCAR).
- Don Lupo, Director of the Office of Citizens Assistance of the City of Birmingham Representative of the US Coalition of Cities against Racism and Discrimination.



International Coalition of Inclusive and Sustainable Cities – ICCAR

The International Coalition of Inclusive and Sustainable Cities – ICCAR, formerly known as the International Coalition of Cities against Racism, was launched by UNESCO in 2004. Through ICCAR, UNESCO promotes international cooperation between cities to strengthen advocacy for global solidarity and collaboration, and promote inclusive urban development free from all forms of discrimination, by sharing good practices, knowledge and expertise, and by advancing joint action through the development of participatory city-level policies and initiatives. The Coalition aims to strengthen a global network of cities interested in exchanging their policies tackling discrimination, xenophobia and exclusion. ICCAR is composed of seven regional and national Coalitions, with each Coalition responding to the specific priorities and challenges set out in its Ten-Point Plan of Action. This plan addressed field of competence of local authorities, such as housing, education, employment or culture.

- ▶▶ **Africa:** The Coalition of African Cities against Racism and Discrimination
- ▶▶ **Arab States Region:** The Coalition of Arab Cities against Racism, Discrimination, Xenophobia and Intolerance
- ▶▶ **Asia and the Pacific:** The Coalition of Cities against Discrimination in Asia and the Pacific (APCaRD)
- ▶▶ **Europe:** The European Coalition of Cities against Racism (ECCAR)
- ▶▶ **Latin America and the Caribbean:** The Coalition of Latin American and Caribbean Cities against Racism, Discrimination and Xenophobia
- ▶▶ **Canada:** The Canadian Coalition of Municipalities against Racism and Discrimination (CCMARD)
- ▶▶ **United States of America:** The U.S. Coalition of Cities against Racism and Discrimination

The Bologna Declaration

On 18 April 2016, the ICCAR Global Steering Committee was launched in Bologna, Italy, with the participation of the lead cities of the seven regional and national Coalitions. Reaffirming their commitment to promote global solidarity and collaborative action to make cities free from discrimination in all its forms, members of the Global Steering Committee adopted the Bologna Declaration, which highlights the centrality of inclusion and diversity in urban spaces to achieving sustainable urban development, outlining their strategy and roadmap for the next few years.

“As we reaffirm our commitment to making cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable through the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the New Urban Agenda, we wish to advocate for the centrality of inclusion and diversity in promoting sustainable urban development, and highlight the following key messages:

- ▶▶ Sustainable urban development cannot be achieved without addressing challenges posed by a culture of racism and discrimination.
- ▶▶ Translating human rights into concrete actions and mechanisms fostering gender equality is a key factor for development, democracy and inclusion.
- ▶▶ As incubators for cultural, social, economic and political innovations, cities are well-placed to empower their populations to foster inclusion, resilience and diversity.
- ▶▶ Promoting the full integration of migrants helps reap the fruits of migration in economic, social and cultural life.
- ▶▶ Acknowledging the potential contribution of migration in economic, social and cultural life promotes peaceful, just and inclusive societies.
- ▶▶ Learning about rights, and how put them to practice, is the basis for social cohesion and peace in multicultural societies, promoting the full and meaningful participation of populations.
- ▶▶ Through identifying good practices as related to the promotion of inclusion in the design, implementation and evaluation of city level policies and services, municipal authorities will be better equipped to develop effective action to tackle exclusion and discrimination.”