Invitation to join the global campaign
“10, 100, 1000 Human Rights Cities and Territories by 2030”

July 15th 2022

Dear representatives of local and regional governments,

The Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights (CSIDPDHR) of UCLG is an international platform that has been gathering for almost twenty years the experiences of local and regional governments committed to the promotion and protection of Human Rights.

On the occasion of the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the "Global Charter-Agenda for Human Rights in the City" of UCLG, the CSIDPHR is organizing the launch of a major Global Campaign "10, 100, 1000 Human Rights Cities and Territories by 2030". The aim of the campaign is to make visible and organize the global movement of cities and territories wishing to commit themselves to human rights; to develop cooperation and solidarity links between our territories; but also - and above all - to make this commitment visible within our community of cities and in the international community.

This campaign is also an opportunity for networking following the historic signing of the letter of cooperation between UCLG and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights of the United Nations (Barcelona World Council, November 2021) and in the context of the adoption of the latest Resolution 45/7 of the Human Rights Council on "the recognition of the role of local governments in the promotion and protection of human rights" (2019).

Through this campaign we want to address local governments around the world that promote inclusion and solidarity, that fight against all forms of inequality, discrimination and racism, defend the rights of migrants, combat against violence against women, hate speech, provide access to water, food, health, housing, a sustainable environment or culture, local governments; and that advocate for peace, security, democratic participation of citizens, education and awareness of rights. Thanks to the diversity and richness of their initiatives, these local and regional governments are drawing the outlines of an international movement of "Human Rights Cities and Territories". The objective of the campaign is to develop our movement and gather 1000 Human Rights Cities and Territories by 2030.

Many local governments around the world have already initiated processes to adopt and recognize Human Rights at the local level. We must now take a further step so that the initiatives of some can echo the initiatives of others, inspiring and reinvigorating these rights by building an approach from the perspective of local governments, based on our particular experiences and trajectories.

We hope to gather the first 100 local and regional governments participating in the campaign for the next UCLG Congress in Daejeon in 2022 (October 10-14) and would like to invite you to join this
initiative because your actions in favor of Human Rights can serve as an example to all of us, and your experience is indispensable to nourish a network of cities that aim to change the world.

We hope that this first community of 100 cities and territories will represent a pioneering group that, nourished by the diversity of their realities and histories, will take up the challenge of maintaining that cities are the privileged place where Human Rights find their most substantial and innovative translation! We hope they can also spearhead the realization of new values that could enhance a new generation of rights, such as digital rights or common goods approach.

At a time when we are facing the consequences of the global pandemic, a fragile international geopolitical balance, and the dynamics of exclusion, persistent inequalities and environmental threats within our territories, the commitment of each of us to social justice, climate action, peace and universal human rights matters more than ever. We hope that we can count on your participation in the "10, 100, 1000 Human Rights Cities and Territories for 2030" campaign and that we can draw on your experience to fuel our discussions and move forward towards the development of a global framework.

You will find attached the document detailing the objective of the campaign and its participation modalities. Please confirm your interest to join the Campaign by 15th of September to the Secretary of the UCLG-CSIPDHR, at cisdp1@uclg.org.

Hoping to be able to count on your commitment to Human Rights and your ability to share your experiences, we ask you to accept our sincere greetings.

Philippe Rio, Mayor of Grigny

Linda Voortman, Co-Mayor of Utrecht

On behalf of the Co-presidency and following members of the UCLG-CSIPDHR:
City of Barcelona; City of Gwangju; City of Mexico; City of Vienna

With the support of: