



3rd International Mayors Summit on Living Together, December 7-8, Izmir (online)

Preliminary programme (Dec. 6)

Cities are at the forefront of social cohesion and inclusion. The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted inequalities and the fault lines of society (i.e.: racism and various forms of discrimination, polarization and intolerance, etc.). Beyond the social tensions and inequalities exacerbated by this pandemic, cities demonstrated great leadership and creativity to provide services to the population, as well as to e, cooperation and resilience.

Building on the First Living Together Summit in Montréal (2015) and the Düsseldorf Declaration (2019), this Summit will explore the current challenges and opportunities in terms of social cohesion in cities in a context of global recovery from COVID-19.

To continue this discussion, the Izmir Metropolitan Municipality is inviting distinguished mayors, deputy mayors and thought leaders from around the world for the Third Mayors Summit on Living Together, to be held online on 7th and 8th of December, and physically on 10th December 2021 in the city of Izmir.

Our ambition is to co-create an inspiring vision of the cohesive city of tomorrow which responds to its citizens' needs. The Mayors Summit will provide unique opportunities for mayors to showcase their initiatives and meaningful conversations about strategies and solutions to current and future challenges. The event will feature online thematic workshops in a state-of-the-art-environment. The event will conclude with an on-site High-Level Panel, in Izmir, to explore the links between living together, local democracy and human rights in the city.

Date: **December 7, 2021**

Time:

Izmir: 16h-17h30 TRT (UTC+3)

Paris: 14h-15h30 CET (UTC+1)

Montréal: 8h-9h30 EST (UTC-5)

Mayors Dialogue on the state of social cohesion in cities

This session will welcome mayors from around the world to discuss the current challenges and practices related to social cohesion in cities. The session will particularly focus on the issues that emerged in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, innovative urban practices, as well as the necessary conditions to ensure a sustainable and inclusive recovery.

Questions:

- What are the main challenges affecting social cohesion in the current context?
- How can cities and local governments address these challenges at the local level? Which local policies and practices are promising?
- How can cities mobilize key local stakeholders in order foster peaceful coexistence, inclusion and respect for human rights.

Welcome and opening:

- Mr. **Tunç Soyer**, Mayor of Izmir Metropolitan Municipality
- Ms. **Valérie Plante**, Mayor of Montréal

Keynote speeches:

- H. E. Mr. **Miguel Angel Moratinos**, High Representative for the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC)
- Ms. **Angela Melo**, Director of Policy and Programs, Social and Human Sciences Sector of UNESCO
- Video message by **Dr. Stephan Keller**, Mayor of Düsseldorf

Mayors Dialogue *with the Mayors from the Observatory*

Modératrice : Mme. **Ayten Alkan**, Associate Professor, Coordinator, Izmir City Right Council

Special message about the International Day on Living together in Peace:

Cheikh Khaled Bentounes, President of AISA International, initiator of the International Day on Living together in Peace (IDLTP)

Video trailer of « All of Us » documentary

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Interactive City Dialogue - Living Together: lessons learnt and perspectives for cities in the future

Over the last five years, a series of related initiatives on Living Together - the International Observatory of Mayors on Living Together, the Standing Committee and the Mayors' Summit - have worked to promote the values and the exchange of practices related to social cohesion and inclusion in a context of globalization.

This session will welcome city representatives - either mayors, elected or administrative officials - as well as other international partners in order to reflect more broadly about the achievements, challenges and future perspectives related to the notion and the movement of "living together" in cities.

Questions:

- Over the last years, what are the main global challenges related to this notion?
- What are the main achievements of this movement and its related initiatives?
- What are the lessons learned at the international and local level?
- What are the trends and future perspectives related to social cohesion in view of the next challenges (e.g.: post-COVID recovery, climate change, new technologies, etc.).

Presentation 5 years of Living Together:

Mr. **Lorenzo Kihlgren Grandi**, Director, City Diplomacy Lab, Columbia Global Centers | Paris

Introduction Panel:

- Mr. **Turgay Erdem**, Mayor of Nilüfer
- Ms. **Fatma Şahin**, Mayor of Gaziantep
- Mr. **Armand Roland Pierre Béouindé**, Mayor of Ouagadougou

Interactive City Dialogue *with cities and partners of the Observatory*

Moderator: Ms. **Véronique Lamontagne**, Director of International Relations, Ville de Montréal

Date: **December 8, 2021**

Time:

Izmir: 16h-17h30 TRT (UTC+3)

Paris: 14h-15h30 CET (UTC+1)

Montréal: 8h-9h30 EST (UTC-5)

Thematic workshop 1: Building resilience in cities

Cities have been at the forefront of the COVID-19 pandemic and its consequences. In this context, cities have taken proactive measures to address multiple challenges, striving to provide better access to health care, protect at-risk populations, improve emergency planning and management capabilities, and develop new protection and prevention strategies. Numerous cities have tackled those challenges in a forward-thinking manner and have put in place measures to strengthen resilience against future challenges and traumatic events, forging coping mechanisms and exemplary practices that would help deal with an uncertain future. This workshop is an opportunity to share some of the actions taken by cities and to further explore the importance of urban resilience.

Questions:

- What mechanisms of resilience have been built to create tougher and durably cohesive cities?
- To what extent has the pandemic worsened the situation of vulnerable groups and what has been learned in the process of addressing these?
- Priorities: Short-term or long-term resilience?

Moderator:

Ms. **Güldem Özatağan**, DPhil, Visiting Research Fellow at Newcastle University

Introduction:

- Mr. **Sameh Wahba**, Global Director, Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience and Land Global Practice, World Bank
- Ms. **Lina Liakou**, Global Director for City Engagement and Knowledge, Resilient Cities Network (RCN)

Panel - Cities Good practices:

- “Community and Climate Resilience Hubs” - Mr. **Sidney Ribaux**, Director of the Office of Ecological Transition and Resilience, City of Montréal
- “Centre of Civic Innovation” - Mr. **Stevie McGowan**, Creative Design Lead, Centre for Civic Innovation, City of Glasgow

Discussion:

- Mr. **Ozan Uştuk**, Vice-Chairman and Lecturer of General Culture Courses Department & Coordinator of Civic Involvement Projects of Izmir Institute of Technology

Date: **December 8, 2021**

Time:

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Paris: 15h45-17h CET (UTC+1)

Montréal: 9h45-11h EST (UTC-5)

Thematic workshop 2: Fostering diversity, equity and inclusion

Cities are at the heart of perpetual mutations, facing constant transformations in their human geography making them increasingly diverse. Creating sustainable conditions for peaceful coexistence in an urban environment requires that we tackle issues of exclusion, discrimination, inequality, racism, etc., and develop creative and inclusive policies that promise to foster equity and diversity. Developing anti-discrimination strategies, creating inclusive physical and non-physical environments and ensure universal access for all, guaranteeing equal treatment in labour market and housing, and creating policies that promote social and political participation in the city, are just some of the ways to build a welcoming setting for diversity.

Questions:

- How does the balance sheet of your city look like in matters of fighting discrimination and exclusion, and enhancing social and gender equality?
- What has been done and what can be done to increase inclusion in our cities?
- What are some of the exemplary practices of your city in terms of fostering diversity and inclusion?

Moderator:

Mme. **Lülüfer Körükmez** (Dr.), Researcher at Human Rights Foundation of Turkey (HRFT)

Introduction:

- Ms. **Sena Segbedzi**, Coordinator, Champion Mayors for Inclusive Growth Initiative (OECD)
- Ms. **Linda Tinio**, Coordinator, International Coalition of Inclusive and Sustainable Cities - ICCAR, UNESCO

Panel - Cities Good practices:

- "Welcome Points" - Ms. **Larissa Orlovic**, Department for migration and integration, City of Düsseldorf
- "City roadmap for the fight against racism and systemic discrimination" - Ms. **Bochra Manaï**, Commissioner at the Office of the fight against racism and systemic discrimination, City of Montréal
- "Social policies of the Izmir metropolitan municipality" - Mr. **Anil Kaçar**, Head of Social Projects Department, Izmir Metropolitan Municipality

Discussion:

- Mr. **Cenk Saraçoğlu**, Associate Professor, Faculty of Communication, Ankara University

Date: **December 8, 2021**

Time:

Izmir: 19h15-20h30 TRT (UTC+3)

Paris: 17h15-18h30 CET (UTC+1)

Montréal: 11h15-12h30 EST (UTC-5)

Thematic workshop 3: Promoting dialogue and solidarity

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted new obstacles to social cohesion (e.g.: intolerance, hateful narratives, social polarisation, etc.). While this has exacerbated some forms of divisive narratives, it has also emphasised the need for dialogue and solidarity. The promotion of a sense of belonging is catalyzed through dialogue, solidarity and respect of diversity. Cities have a responsibility to provide spaces and opportunities for exchange as well as to provide tools and conditions for developing an environment that contributes to a sense of belonging and community among residents.

Questions:

- How have cities handled this new wave of social tensions?
- What strategies have cities put in place to create a sense of belonging, promote dialogue and solidarity and create a livable environment?
- What good examples at the local level could serve to the others?

Moderator:

Ms. **Begüm Özden Fırat**, Professor in the Department of Sociology at the Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University

Introduction:

- Mr. **Eric Rosand**, interim Director of the Strong Cities Network (SCN)

Panel - Cities good practices:

- "Action Plan on Living Together" - Ms. **Iréna Florence Harris**, Advisor on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Québec City
- "Social Mediation projects" - City of Strasbourg
- "Ongoing Projects of the Urban Justice Department" - Ms. **Yelda Şimşir** Manager of Urban Justice and Equality Directorate, İzmir Metropolitan Municipality

Discussion:

- Mr. **Ulas Bayraktar**, Kültürhane, Mersin

3rd International Mayors Summit on Living Together, (on-site event), on the occasion of International Human Rights Day

Date: **December 10, 2021**

Music Recital : **AASSM** : Izmir:14h30-15h TRT (UTC+3)

Time:

Izmir: 15h-16h TRT (UTC+3)

Plenary session on Human Rights and Democracy

Human rights issues have been a core concern for cities during the pandemic and will remain so after the recovery. Being the closest level of government to the citizens, cities and local governments are key actors in addressing human rights issues. Their democratic nature is very often at stake when confronted with human rights issues. This plenary meeting is an opportunity for stakeholders from various sectors to discuss the challenges surrounding human rights and democracy in cities.

Ms. **Hacer Foggo**, Initiator of the Deep Poverty Network
Prof. Dr. **Nilgün Toker**, Professor of Philosophy, Member of the Establishment and Ethical Committees of Human Rights Foundation of Turkey
Mr. **Luca Bergamo**, Former Vice Mayor in Charge of Cultural Development, Rome City Council, and Initiator of the 2020 Rome Charter
Mr. **Özkan Yücel**, İzmir Bar Association, President
Mr. **Bülent Tezcan**, Member of the Parliament, the Republican People's Party, Councilman

Date: **December 10, 2021**

Time:

Izmir: 16h15-17h15 TRT (UTC+3)

Plenary: High Level Panel on Living Together and Human Rights -Closing Ceremony

A high-level meeting of mayors and other urban leaders from around the world who will thoroughly discuss the challenges and the future of living together and its organic relationship with human rights in cities. The interdependence of human rights and living together is a crucial issue for the future of liveable and harmonious cities in a post-COVID recovery context.

This high-level session will be the closing ceremony of the event.

Mr. **Vahap Seçer**, Mayor of Mersin (*video message*)
Mr. **Ahmet Aras**, Mayor of Bodrum
Mr. **Mehmet Harmancı**, Mayor of Nicosia Turkish Municipality, Northern Cyprus
Mr. **Tunç Soyer**, Mayor of İzmir