


Towards the Lampedusa Charter: community-driven approaches to human mobility and diversity

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For the most part, whether it happens across borders or not, migration and displacement converge towards cities. Indeed, human mobility and urbanization are inextricably linked culturally, socially and politically. Regardless of the reasons why we decide to move, on accord of quotidian living and interactions with fellow inhabitants, we become de facto citizens – as its etymological meaning reveals, “inhabitants of the city”. Ultimately, cities are the place where the sense of belonging and sharing a mutual identity – so characteristic in the notion of citizenship – is acquired individually but also collectively.

As the closest level of government to the people, local governments have been tackling the multi-dimensional nature and effects of human mobility with narrow mandates and often scarce resources. The effects of climate change, protracted violence, growing inequalities and lack of pathways for regular migration have direct impacts on local migration governance. Regardless of the challenges and gaps in legal frameworks, migrants, displaced communities and refugees are first and foremost neighbours. In this regard, **local governments have long been recalling that, beyond delivering basic service and protecting the most vulnerable, they have a critical role to play in the shift from border-centered approaches to a people-centered vision of citizenship that relies on a sense of community** and turns around the notions of dignity, human rights, peace, collective memory and diversity, regardless of status.

Following Lampedusa’s proposal to co-create a UCLG Global Charter that fosters a shift in the narrative led by local governments, **this consultation session is a first stepping stone to make sure that this call includes the views of the key stakeholders and partners** working to ensure that human mobility works for all, in connection with Global Compacts for Migration and Refugees, as well as the 2030 Agenda. Through a rights-based approach that sees migration as a natural phenomenon, a lever for peace and for the construction



of an inclusive collective memory rooted in dignity, this conversation will set the ground to consolidate an inclusive process leading to a fair narrative on human mobility.

The outcomes of the session are set to feed into the political deliberations by UCLG members and governing bodies to include human mobility and diversity into the People Axis of the Pact for the Future that UCLG has been mandated to develop to ensure that the renewal of the social contract is made with all of our communities in mind.

Agenda

Welcome and introductory remarks

Emilia Saiz, Secretary General, UCLG

Totò Martello, Mayor of Lampedusa and Linosa

Jonathan Prentice, Head of the UN Migration Network Secretariat

Armand Béouindé, Mayor of Ouagadougou, Co-President of the Policy Council on Right to the City and Inclusive territories

Panel discussion: Lampedusa, a global charter for dignified human mobility

1. Dignity and peace: human rights protection at all stages of migration

Stephane Jaquemet, Director of Policy, International Catholic Commission (ICMC), Civil Society Action Committee

Stephanie Loose, Human Settlements Officer, UN-Habitat

Dr. Nastaran Nazhdaghi, Head of Urban Regeneration Office, Shiraz


Interactive consultation

2. Equity and access: inclusive basic service provision

Ana Feder, Regional Portfolio Manager, International Center for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)

Ibrahim Ervin, Mayors' Advisor, Mersin, Global Taskforce on Migration (GTFM)

Rodrigo Ceballos, Director of Accompaniment and Support to Migrants, Cordoba (Argentina)





3. Recognition and participation: tackling administrative barriers

Cécile Riallant, Head of Unit, International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Alexander Mundt, Senior Policy Advisor, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

Wajdi Aydi, Deputy Mayor, Sfax

4. Community and diversity: shifting the narrative

Colleen Thouez, Director of Welcoming and Integrated Societies, Open Society International Migration Initiative

Maggie Powers, Head of Policy and Advocacy, Mayors Migration Council (MMC)

Fabiana Goyeneche, Director of International Relations, Montevideo

