

The Charter of the European Days of Local Solidarity

European cities and regions are ready to show the world that global changes come from local actions and they want to take their citizens on board!

Preamble

In 2016, a group of European cities and regions and their national associations decided to jointly launch a 2-week yearly campaign to promote their commitment to global solidarity and sustainable development, as well as their support to the European values of democracy, diversity and solidarity: the European Days of Local Solidarity (EDLS) were born!

Towns, cities and regions in Europe play a key role as promoters of a sustainable local development both at home and abroad. In fact, the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set by the United Nations' Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development directly concern the policy fields of local and regional governments.

Cities and regions must inform and mobilise their citizens in favour of a more active and responsible citizenship, understanding that global development starts by each of our daily actions. European local governments are ready to show the world that global changes come from local actions and they want to take their citizens on board!

3 goals

- To inform and mobilize our citizens and all local partners on global development issues, especially on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals set by the United Nation's Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development.
- To promote our engagement in support of global sustainable development for all both at the local and international scale as actors of international cooperation and raise the profile of decentralised cooperation.
- To strengthen our links with other cities and regions in Europe to learn, share and join efforts for a more powerful local action. Knowledge sharing and exchange of experiences is key to a better and stronger local action in support of global solidarity.

Our vision

We, the European local governments participating at the EDLS, believe in a stronger and local Europe engaged in global solidarity!

- We advocate for a more democratic, inclusive and stronger Europe that is closer to its citizens and firmly committed to global solidarity.
- We strongly support solidarity between local governments in the world as an opportunity for exchange driven by co-responsibility, mutual respect, reciprocity and, as opposed to charity, shared ownership between partners.
- We believe that an informed and mobilised citizenship is key to achieve sustainable development for all.

Our values & principles

- The European values of democracy, freedom, solidarity, human rights and equal opportunities.
- The principle of partnership between public authorities, academia, private sector, civil society organizations, cultural communities, etc.
- The principle of local self-governance from a democratic, fair and effective approach.
- The principle of diversity and inclusiveness, giving voice to all existing perspectives and views on development and solidarity from all towns, cities and regions in Europe.
- A positive and optimistic discourse on global solidarity, avoiding miserable and pitiful images and focusing on successful and constructive long-lasting solutions.

Join us!

Big, small, medium, rural, urban, old and new ones, **the EDLS are equally open to cities and regions willing to engage in global solidarity** and to exchange with their counterparts in Europe.

The EDLS also call all European citizens and local actors such as Civil Society Organisations, Universities or private sector representatives, among others, that are committed to eliminate poverty and promote sustainable development to engage together with their city or region council to join efforts!

1. Read and adhere to the Charter by contacting the PLATFORMA Secretariat at platforma@ccre-cemr.org
2. Organize your EDLS activity between the 10-24 November 2017!
3. Use the hashtag **#localsolidaritydays** before and during your