United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

ZENTRUM ZUR FÖRDERUNG DER MENSCHENRECHTE IN GEMEINDEN UND REGIONEN
CENTRE FOR THE PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AT THE LOCAL AND REGIONAL LEVELS
Under the auspices of UNESCO

Human Rights Go Local: What Works

Academy & Conference on Human Rights at the Local and Regional Levels

Accountability in Action: Human Rights Action Plans of Local Governments"

5 – 8 February 2024

(Version: October 2023)

Tentative Agenda

Please note that all times listed are Central European Time (GMT+1, Paris/Geneva/Vienna)

Monday, 5 February 2024: Stocktaking

The first day addresses the following questions: To what extent have human rights action plans proven helpful for local governments to promote human rights? What are the possibilities and what are the limitations of human rights action plans when it comes to promoting accountability of local governments? What is the importance of multi-level governance in this context and what has been the experience of local authorities around the world in aligning local action plans with national and international human rights action plans?

11:30-12:00 **Introduction, opening by the Academy's Steering Group**

12:00-13:00 **Plenary Session A**
Impulse speeches by:

International Centre for the Promotion of Human Rights at the Local and Regional levels under the auspices of UNESCO I HRGL Publication series, Volume 5

Joyce Monteiro I UNESCO, The 10 Point Plan of Action (including references to the EU project "ACTION") (tbc)

Akram Khraiset, Coordinator of Arab Coalition of Cities against Racism, Discrimination, Xenophobia and Intolerance, City of Amman, Jordan (tbc)

Channeh Maram Joof, Toralv Moe, Rowena Teodocio I City of Oslo, Norway (tbc)

Eirini Dourou I Congress Spokesperson for Gender Equality and former Governor of Attica, Greece (tbc)

13:00-13:30 Break

13:30-15:30	**4 parallel working groups in breakout rooms**
In parallel	
13:30-15:30	**Mentoring session** for the next generation with a member of an international organisation
In parallel	
13:30-15:30	**Working group in the framework of the EU project ACTION**
15:30-16:00	**Closing and thoughts on the day**

Tuesday, 6 February 2024: Lessons from the field

Day 2 addresses the following questions: How can human rights action plans actually make a difference at the local level? What are the key factors and tools (e.g., participatory planning, budget anchoring, monitoring, multi-level governance, certification, etc.) that help local governments to promote accountability through action plans? What lessons have been learned so far and can be shared? How can existing practices best be transferred to other local contexts?

11:45-12:00	**Introduction and organisational matters**
12:00-13:00	**Plenary Session B** Impulse speeches by: Katrien Staelens I City of Ghent, Belgium (tbc) Gyonggu Shin I City of Gwangju, Human Rights Action Plan in the Human Rights City of Gwangju, Republic of Korea Wolfgang Palle I Ombudsman for Persons with Disabilities, City of Graz, The Action Plan on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Inclusion Strategy in Graz, Austria Nexhat Beqiri I City of Helsinki, Finland, Action Plan Helsinki of Human Rights (2020-2021) (tbc) Amanda Flety I Coordinator UCLG Global Charter-Agenda, the UCLG Global Charter Agenda (tbc)
13:00-13:30	Break

13:30-15:30	**2-4 parallel working groups in breakout rooms**
In parallel	
13:30-15:30	**Mentoring session** for the next generation with a member of a local authority
15:30-16:00	**Closing and thoughts on the day**

Wednesday, 7 February 2024: Needs and potentials

What is needed to embed effective human rights action plans in local government systems worldwide? What steps need to be taken next so that action plans can be better used to promote accountability of local governments?

All participants will be given the opportunity to share their future visions and recommendations for the promotion of accountability through action plans. The day is dedicated to synthesizing the findings from the previous days of discussion and to collaboratively finalizing an Outcome Document aimed at local governments. The Outcome Document encourages local authorities all over the world to develop and implement binding action plans and thus meet their accountability for human rights implementation.

11:45-12:00	**Introduction and organisational matters**
12:00-13:00	**Plenary Session C** Impulse speeches by: N.N. I Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (tbc) N.N. I UN-Habitat (tbc) Ana Isabel Rodriguez Basanta, City of Barcelona, Spain I The ECCAR City Reporting Tool (tbc) Certification Child and Family Friendly Community Graz, Ingrid Krammer I City of Graz, Austria (tbc) Zarrouk Najat I ALGA / UCLG Africa (tbc) N.N. I Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe N.N. I Raoul Wallenberg Institute for Humanitarian Law and Human Rights (tbc)
13:00-13:30	Break

13:30-15:30 **2-4 parallel working groups in breakout rooms** (0,5h: explanation of the task; 1h working; 0.5h: presentation of findings in plenary)

One of these working groups is only for members of **the next generation.** The participants will develop critical questions and recommendations, which they will address to the high-level experts through a nominated representative at the Conference on February 8th.

15:30-16:00 **Closing and thoughts on the day**

Thursday, 8 February 2024: High Level Conference to present and discuss the Outcome Document

A Conference will take place with high level representatives to discuss the outcomes of the Academy and to make concrete proposals on how to develop and realize binding action plans. The Outcome Document will be presented as a step-by-step guideline for the accountability of local governments to implement human rights at the local level.

Networking and cooperation-building

The day offers the virtual participants the opportunity to exchange contact details, build working relationships and strengthen collaborations. The tool “gathertown” is used for the networking event.

12:00-16:00 **Networking Day**