1. Participation, Representation, Fair Conduct of Elections
2. Responsiveness
3. Efficiency and Effectiveness
4. Openness and Transparency
5. Rule of Law
6. Ethical Conduct
7. Competence and Capacity
8. Innovation and Openness to Change
9. Sustainability and Long-term Orientation
10. Sound Financial Management
11. Human Rights, Cultural Diversity and Social Cohesion
12. Accountability

The 12 Principles of Good Governance encapsulate fundamental values defining a common vision of European democratic governance.

Enshrined in the Strategy for Innovation and Good Governance at local level, the 12 Principles assist public authorities in improving governance and enhancing service delivery to citizens.

Toolkits, training materials and benchmarks, developed by the Centre of Expertise, are available to governments at local, regional and central level alike.

Local authorities that apply the 12 Principles may be awarded the European Label of Governance’ Excellence (ELoGE).

www.coe.int/good-governance/