



Rotterdam Declaration

We, mayors and representatives of cities and regions from 24 European countries, meeting in Rotterdam, Netherlands, at the initiative of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, the European Forum for Urban Security and the city of Rotterdam,

Building on the experiences that we have had with the Alliance of European cities against violent extremism, launched on 18 November 2015 in Aarhus, Denmark,

Conscious that the threat of extremist tendencies is continuing to rise, affecting more and more societies at different levels,

Determined to uphold our values, namely respect for human rights and dignity in the face of these threats,

- Underline the key role of local authorities as custodians of human rights, democracy and the rule of law at the local level,
- Emphasise the importance of pursuing multi-agency strategies, by developing a plan of action bringing together all local stakeholders involved in preventing radicalisation, allocating resources and coordinating action with different levels of government;
- Commit to pooling our resources to train both local government staff and other actors, working at the forefront to prevent radicalisation, on how to develop and implement an inter-convictional approach to local policy making and to ensure respect for cultural diversity and human rights;
- Inform the public, sending a message of cohesion to our societies;
- Resolve to continue this cooperation and agree to develop our action in regard to all the above-mentioned areas;
- Emphasise the need for prevention as well as repression and agree to pursue and reconvene our alliance in Barcelona in 2017.

9 November 2016