

THE CONGRESS OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES

Resolution 495 (2023)¹ European Urban Charter III (2023): urban living in the era of transformations

1. . The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe (“the Congress”) refers to:

a. the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (ETS No. 5) and the case law of the European Court of Human Rights;

b. the European Charter of Local Self-Government (ETS No. 122) and its Additional Protocol on the right to participate in the affairs of a local authority (CETS No. 207);

c. the Rule of Law Checklist (CDL-AD(2016)007) adopted by the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission);

d. the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

2. The Congress:

a. builds on the first edition of the European Urban Charter and the European Declaration of Urban Rights (1992) and on the revised [European Urban Charter II – Manifesto for a new urbanity \(2008\)](#);

b. acknowledges that the last fifteen years have seen considerable transformations in our societies;

c. stresses the crucial role played by local authorities in shaping contemporary urban living and the need to further implement and ensure the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms for better and more sustainable urban governance and living together;

d. welcomes the contribution made by the Conference of International Non-Governmental Organisations of the Council of Europe to the development of the European Urban Charter III.

3. The Congress resolves to endorse the European Urban Charter III as part of its global effort to improve local governance responses to crises, to improve the quality of democratic governance for the benefit of local residents, to reduce socio-economic inequalities, to strengthen sustainable development and to promote the use of digital and artificial intelligence tools for the benefit of local communities.

4. The Congress calls on:

a. local authorities in Council of Europe member States to implement the principles set out in the European Urban Charter III through their policies and actions;

b. national and international associations of local and regional authorities, as well as other relevant stakeholders at local and regional levels, to take into account the principles set out in the European Urban Charter III in their activities;

c. its statutory bodies, and in particular its committees, to take into account the present Resolution in the framework of their respective activities.

1. Debated and adopted by the Congress during the 45th Session on 24 October 2023 (see document [CG\(2023\)45-20](#), explanatory memorandum), rapporteur: Anne COLGAN, Ireland (L, ILDG).