



CONFERENCE OF INGOs
OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONFERENCE DES OING DU
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Terms of reference of a Committee – proposal form

INGOs wishing to propose the creation of a committee to the Conference of INGOs are invited to transmit the following information, together with the requested documents, no later than 21 March to NGO-Unit@coe.int

1. Proposed Title

Environmental and sanitary crisis: governance and solidarity challenges

2. Background and links with the priorities of the Conference of INGOs and the Council of Europe (please indicate also the specific documents / legal / institutional instruments you wish to refer to) (500 words max)

The proposal to create this committee is founded on the values and principles of the Council of Europe and on the commitments of the [Stockholm Conference](#), first international conference on the environment, whose 50th anniversary will be celebrated in June 2022 by a member State of the Organisation.

The proposal is in line with the Council of Europe's priorities, notably those expressed in :

1. The [Athens Declaration by the Committee of Ministers in November 2020](#), (Art. 12 and 13) which :
 - calls « *to be better prepared for future public health crises and other emergencies, including natural and technological disasters* ».
 - underlines the necessity for « *more effective multilateral co-operation and multi-level governance* », bearing in mind that « *life and well-being on our planet is contingent on humanity's collective capacity to guarantee both human rights and a healthy environment to future generations* ».
 - recognises that « *the role of the Council of Europe in this respect has become more important than ever* ».
2. **the texts of the Parliamentary Assembly and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities** demanding the right to a healthy environment to be included in the [Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms](#) and in the [European Charter of Local Self-Government](#), in accordance with the [declaration promoted by the Conference of INGOs](#) and co-signed by each of the two Assemblies' Presidents jointly with the President of the Conference of INGOs.

Concerning the Conference of INGO's priorities, the project initiators call on the Standing Committee to include the research and implementation of inclusive and collaborative responses to the **multifactorial crisis that is affecting Europe** in the **objectives of the three-year plan currently in progress**.

As its President, Anna Rurka, recalled during [her speech](#) before Member States on the 27th February 2020, **the Conference of INGOs** has been committed for over a decade in addressing the challenges threatening the future of the planet. Today, it must support and stimulate the Council of Europe's action [on health risk](#) and [on the environmental crisis](#) because only a strong political will, backed jointly by governmental and non-governmental actors, will bring about change and allow opportunities to develop.

Specific legal and institutional instruments mobilised

- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the European Convention on Human Rights,
- The Stockholm Declaration, the Paris Agreement and the United Nations 2030 Agenda,
- The Aarhus Convention,
- The **Manual on Environment and Human Rights** of 2003 revised in 2020 by the Steering Committee of Human Rights
- The European Social Charter and the Oviedo Convention,
- The Bern and the Florence conventions,
- The Guiding Principles for Sustainable Spatial Development of the CEMAT
- The Charter of Self-Government, the Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers on civil participation in decision-making process ([CM/Rec\(2018\)4](#)) and the [Code of Good Practice for Civil Participation](#) of the Conference of INGOs
- The Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy
- The Venice Declaration for the "inclusive cities for sustainable families"
- **The resolutions and recommendations adopted since 2009 by the Conference of INGOs and its bodies on environmental health¹, participation in times of political crisis² biodiversity³, territorial cohesion⁴, sustainable development⁵, climate change and human rights⁶, environmental migrations⁷, solidarity and health⁸, SARS-COV2 sanitary crisis⁹**

¹ **Environment and health** : *Better prevention of environment related health hazards* ([CONFTER 2009 DEC1 en \(unblog.fr\)](#))

² **Democracy and human rights** : [Letter to the Turkish authorities by the chair of the Human Rights Committee and the chair of the Democracy, social cohesion and Global Challenges committee](#) (letter addressed to the prime minister, to the president and to the minister of Foreign Affairs)

³ **Biodiversity, climate change, right to a healthy environment**: declaration "[Acting together for biodiversity, the preservation of natural spaces and the fight against climate change](#)" signed jointly by the presidents concerned of the Parliamentary Assembly, the Congress of Local Authorities and regions and the Conference of INGOs in April 2010. (<http://conference-des-ong.weebly.com/>)

Contribution to the 2010 CLIMATE COP16 in Cancun on Climate and Nagoya Conference on Biodiversity : [Urgent appeal on climate and biodiversity](#), Conference of INGOs contribution to the 2010 Cancun summit [Declaration ,Climate change and biodiversity](#)

Climate change and human rights : http://democracy-cingos.weebly.com/uploads/4/0/6/9/4069973/convention_on_climate_change_en.pdf

⁴ [CONF / TER \(2010\) DEC1](#): Declaration on "The challenges of the future: sustainable territorial development of the European continent in a changing world" adopted by the Conference of INGOs on the occasion of the Xth meeting of ministers in charge of regional planning (CEMAT) in Moscow on July 8 and 9, 2010

⁵ UN Summit, RIO + 20: [Position paper on "Climate change and human rights"](#) and Declaration of the Conference of INGOs "The [future we want](#)",

European Landscape Convention: European Landscape Convention, new challenges and new opportunities (Florence, 2010)

⁶ [CONF/PLE\(2018\)REC3](#): Recommendation 'climate change and human rights' for the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP24) held in Katowice, Poland, from 3 to 14 December 2018

⁷ Recommendation on Climate change, migrations and Human rights ([link to website](#))

⁸ Health care and socio-medical conditions and respect of human rights of older persons in Europe : [CONF/PLE\(2016\)REC2](#) [link to committee website](#)

3. Committee's purpose(s)

The cause and rapid worldwide spread of SARS-Cov2 have increased States' awareness on the fragile complexity of the ecosystems that shape the world¹⁰¹⁰, both its human settlements and all life forms. There is a need, more than ever, for a holistic approach and the urgency for a full research on ecology, both environmental and human.

In this framework, the committee's objective is to assist in identifying the components for an efficient and human « recovery » (*Building back better*) but also in building a better future for the next generations (*Buiding forward better*), based on a real practice of democracy, at all levels of governance, through an ethical, collaborative and participative approach in the following areas :

- Environment and health,
- Solidarity and resilience in the face of risks
- Good governance of metropolises and their interland to preserve and promote stability, peace and fraternity

4. Its specific objective(s)

In order to promote a genuine ecological and peaceful transition, built on new ways of relating to nature, new ways of production and exchanges, of social life and on an inclusive support for persons in need, the Committee must :

1. Help to raise awareness on environment-related health hazards, in the course of :
 - a. the United Nations Environment Conference to be held in Stockholm (May 2022) and the Earth Summit to be held in Rio for the third time (June 2022)
 - b. the implementation of the Paris Agreement and Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations 2030 Agenda (SDG Summit 2023 in New York)
2. Identify ethical practices and sustainable development policies based on democratic governance at all levels, beginning with the grassroots level
3. Propose common actions in areas particularly affected by the pandemic such as social cohesion, living conditions, food security, economic activity and resource management
4. Encourage the signing and ratification of relevant conventions of the Council of Europe and accession to appropriate partial agreements thereof.

5. Planned activities, working methods and timetable

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

- A compendium of good practices
- Webinars and study visits (real and/or virtual) on themes discussed by the committee, or even by the Conference itself.
- Proposals for resolutions and declarations for the Conference of INGOs, including draft legal texts of the Council of Europe.

⁹ [CONF/PLE\(2020\)REC3](#): Recommendation on the COVID-19 pandemic: call for ethical and human rights' compliant management adopted on 16 December 2020

¹⁰ There are now an estimated 1.7 million unidentified viruses of the type known to infect humans that still exist in mammals and waterfowl (source: IPBES). • 60% of infectious diseases in humans are of animal origin and 75% of emerging diseases are zoonoses (source: UNEP, 2016). • Trafficking in protected species is now considered the 4th largest traffic in the world after counterfeiting, drugs and human beings

WORKING METHOD

- Collect main political documents adopted on a European and global scale
- Conduct hearings and consultations (physical and/or remote) of INGOs and experts acting in areas such as human rights, democracy, ecology, spatial planning, health and social sector, solidarity and peace.
- Keep abreast the work of other Council of Europe bodies
- Follow the work and decisions of the European Union, the WHO and the UNEP
- promote Conference of INGOs joint operations with other bodies of the Council of Europe

TIMETABLE

1) From the creation of the committee to December 2021

- a) Implementation of the necessary software tools and establishment of the expert teams
- b) Implementation of a thematic timetable and agenda of related hearings
- c) Identification of fields and levels of action
- d) Elaboration of an awareness strategy on the themes addressed and definition of the target groups
- e) Thematic classification of key good practices
- f) Organisation of at least one webinar and one study visit
- g) Preparation of the Conference of INGOs' contribution to the Stockholm Conference
Simultaneously, proposal and elaboration of the Conference's contribution to:
 - i. the Council of Europe World Forum for Democracy
 - ii. the COP 15 on biodiversity (17th May 2021 – Kunming China)
 - iii. the COP 26 on climate change (November 2020 to November 2021)

2) From January 2022 to December 2022

- a) Finalisation of the Conference of INGOs' contribution to the Stockholm Conference of May 2022
- b) Organisation of hearings, webinars and study visits
- c) Elaboration and submission to the Conference of INGOs of draft legal texts to be proposed to the competent bodies of the Council of Europe
- d) The Conference of INGOs' contribution to the next United Nations Environment Assembly meeting (February 2022) and to the COP 27 on climate change (8th-20th November 2021)

3) From January 2023 to April 2023

- a) Participation in national and regional events (for example, environmental conference in France)
- b) Contribution to the WHO's "UN Decade of Healthy Ageing"

- c) Preparation of the Conference of INGOs' contribution to the [SDG Summit](#) (September 2023 in New York)
- d) Submission of deliverables

6. Expected outputs and their indicators

- Production of expertise and awareness actions in target areas
National and regional policy changes
- Reviews and decisions taken by the CM and other bodies of the CoE
- Press releases and publications observed
- Mention of Committee action via NGOs and local, national and European communication tools
- Consultation, exchange and use of good practices in the areas discussed
- The Conference's contributions submitted to other bodies of the Council of Europe as well as during European and global events involving related issues
- Initiatives taken by NGOs towards encouraging States and competent regions to sign and ratify pertinent conventions of the Council of Europe and to accede to appropriate partial agreements.

7. Noms, coordonnées, expertise et expériences des chef.fe.s des délégation des OING qui soutiennent la création du comité (au moins 5)

1. Association Européenne des Enseignants (AEDE) , Jean-Claude GONON jeanclaude.gonon@gmail.com;

Secretary General of the European Association of Teachers,

Experience in the field: Until 2020, administrator of the Institut Eco-Conseil of Strasbourg, an organization that carries out actions promoting citizens' awareness of the issues of environmental preservation, support for communities and businesses in socio-ecological transition approaches.-

Co-piloting of the European "GEDECITE" project (COMENIUS 87396-CP-1-2000-1-FR-COMENIUS-C31) Education not only to the environment but to environmental citizenship through waste management, with the objective to train student-citizens who are active, creative, managerial and responsible for their immediate, regional and European environment.

Co-presidency of the juries of Specialized Master[®] eco-advisor issued by the Conférence des Grandes Écoles and INSA Strasbourg

Expertise : training in sustainable development, assistance with the socio-ecological approach, education and awareness of environmental citizenship, ecosystem analysis

2. ELISAN - Elena CURTOPASSI elena.curtopassi@regione.veneto.it

Member of the Steering Committee of the ELISAN network, responsible for social policies and European affairs for the Veneto Region office in Brussels. Member of the coordination team of ENSA (European network for social authorities)

Experience: Work with actors from the research world (public and private sector) of Veneto on

the themes of the circular economy, the protection of biodiversity and the environment.

Co-promotor and coordinator of the "Inclusive cities for sustainable families" project carried out jointly with the Regional Council of the Veneto Region, IFFD (International Federation for Families Development) and the UNINOVE University of Sao Paolo in Brazil. (contribution to the implementation of objective 11 Sustainable development of the 2030 agenda (Habitat, New technologies, Education, Health, Safety, Air quality, Transport, Accessibility, Tourism and vulnerable families).

Promotion of the experiences developed by the Veneto Region for the objectives of sustainable development (Veneto Sostenibile).

Expertise: European policies, sustainable development, inclusive governance and areas of social action

3. International Federation for Housing and Planning (IFHP) Anne-Marie CHAVANON :

amchavanon@gmail.com tél : +33 6 60 76 86 14

Member of the IFHP's Executive Committee. Delegate to the Council of Europe, to UNESCO and the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP). Vice-President of the French Confederation for Housing, Town Planning, Regional Planning and Environment, French section of IFHP.

Experience in the field: representative to the Minister of Finance and then to the Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Territorial administration in charge of environment, housing, regional planning and transport; technical and political advisor to the chairman of the Senate Social Affairs Committee, counsellor to the chairman of the Local authorities Finance Committee. Technical advisor to the Vice-president of the Ile de France region in charge of finance and transport. Responsible for training national, regional and local elected officials.

Project manager and Director for institutional and European Affairs in the Institute of Planning and Urbanism of Paris-Ile de France, member, as such, of the METREX network (Metropolitan exchange), member of the Scientific Council of IRSTEA (Institute for scientific and technical research in the field of environment and agriculture (water department);

Within the Conference of INGOs, successively Chair of the Sustainable Territorial Development Committee then of the Democracy, Social Cohesion and Global challenges Committee, co-coordinator of the transversal working group "Social and territorial cohesion",

Expertise: democracy and governance, social inclusion, habitat, sustainable development and landscape.

4. Office International Du Coin De Terre Et Des Jardins Familiaux, Malou WEIRICH

office-international@jardins-familiaux.org

Barrister at the Luxembourg Court and Secretary General of the Office international du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux,

Experience in the field: actively involved in all actions, interventions and publications of the NGO in the protection of nature and the environment, sustainable development, responsible and ecological gardening, creation of greater environmental equity, in particular through the creation of allotment gardens in the less green urban districts, as well as in the improvement of food security through the personal production of healthy vegetables;

Delegate to the Council of Europe since 1990. Vice-president of the Rural World and Environment grouping.

Expertise: right to a healthy environment, nature in the city and urban gardening, urban social cohesion and food security

5. PAX CHRISTI, Alfonso ZARDI alfonso.zardi@neuf.fr

Representative of Pax Christi International to the Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe.

Experience: former Head of the Governance and Democratic Institutions Department at the Council of Europe (2000-2017). Lawyer specialized in European and international law (University of Trieste, Robert Schuman University of Strasbourg, College of Europe), visiting lecturer at the Institut des Hautes Études Européennes (2008-2014) and at ITIRI (2014-2018) of the University of Strasbourg, president of the Scientific Council of the Institute of International Sociology (ISIG) of Gorizia (Italy).

At the Council of Europe, Pax Christi International defends a conception of international relations based on law and solidarity, with respect for the environment and people.

Expertise: expert in territorial governance issues, decentralisation, transfrontier cooperation, citizen participation.

6. Union Internationale des Architectes (UIA) Albert DUBLER
albert.dubler@gmail.com

Honorary President of the International Union of Architects (NGO with over 1.5 million members), UIA delegate to the Council of Europe

DPLG architect, graduate in sociology, license specializing in urban psycho-sociology Elected to the regional council of the Order of Architects,

Founding member, secretary general and then Vice-president of Alsace Qualité Environnement

Founding member of the network "Virtual University of the Upper Rhine: Building and planning with a view to sustainable development.

Elected to the National Council of the Order of Architects, (2000-2010). Participation in the "Sustainable Development" working group of the ACE (Council of Architects of Europe) from 2000 to 2005

Participation in UIA events in Copenhagen (COP 15) Cancun (COP 16). Participation in COP 17 (Durban), Participation in the "High Level Summit" of the UN on Gross National Happiness, at the invitation of the Prime Minister of Bhutan, then in RIO + 20.

Contribution to the transboundary dissemination of environmental topics (translation of works from German, English and Spanish into French). Participation in the UNESCO Forum at XIAN on Sustainable Development and Culture.

Expertise: architecture, town planning, sustainable development, urban psycho-sociology, climate

8. Noms, coordonnées, expertise et expériences des délégué.e.s qui y participeront au comité (au moins 7)

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Experience in the field: representative to the Minister of Finance and then to the Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Territorial administration in charge of environment, housing, regional planning and transport; technical and political advisor to the chairman of the Senate Social

Affairs Committee, counsellor to the chairman of the Local authorities Finance Committee. Technical advisor to the Vice-president of the Ile de France region in charge of finance and transport. Responsible for training national, regional and local elected officials.

Project manager and Director for institutional and European Affairs in the Institute of Planning and Urbanism of Paris-Ile de France, member, as such, of the METREX network (Metropolitan exchange), member of the Scientific Council of IRSTEA (Institute for scientific and technical research in the field of environment and agriculture (water department));

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Contribution to the transboundary dissemination of environmental topics (translation of works from German, English and Spanish into French). Participation in the UNESCO Forum at XIAN on Sustainable Development and Culture.

Expertise: architecture, town planning, sustainable development, urban psycho-sociology, climate

7. ISOCARP, lamvi TOTSI itotsi@gmail.com

Member of the NGO ISOCARP (International Society of City and Regional Planners),

Architect, adviser for local governance and project manager at Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations (France). Training in political science and the Institute of Higher National Defense Studies

Expérience : more than twenty year experience in the sustainable development and valuation of brown fields, Design, realisation and operational implementation of urban projects on all scales on the territories. Revitalization of city centers and economic development.

Expertise: architecture, local governance, sustainable development, urban projects

8. PAX CHRISTI, Jean-Pierre RIBAUT jeanpierreribau@wanadoo.fr

Laureate in science from the University of Lausanne

Head Emeritus of the Environment Division of the Council of Europe

Secretary Emeritus of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats

Chairman Emeritus of the Pax Christi Environment Commission

Expertise: environmental law, sustainable development and biodiversity

OTHER MOBILISABLE EXPERTS

ELISAN

9. **Athanassios Goumas**, President Regio Europa - Promotion of European cooperation, Representative of Greek local and regional authorities, expert in regional development for renewable energies and for economic and social development.

10. **Anthony Polychronakis**, policy advisor city of Rotterdam **Giulia Ruol Ruzzini** Primary sector expert from the Veneto region, coordinator of the primary sector working group bringing together academia, regional and local authorities and the territory

11. **Ignacio Socias** Director of International Relations IFFD, initiator of the “Inclusive Cities for Sustainable Families” project (SDG 11)

IFHP (International Federation for Housing and Planning)

- 13 **Jens KRAMER MIKKELSEN**, President of IFHP, former mayor of Copenhagen (1989-2004), director of Urban development,
- 14 **François LEBLOND**, ENA, honorary regional prefect, president of the French branch of the International Federation for Housing and Planning, , President of the Hauts de Seine-Yvelines interdepartmental committee on sustainable development (C2D2)
- 15 **Alain LECOMTE**, ENA, section president of the General Council for the Environment and Sustainable Development of the Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy (France)
- 16 **Thierry LAFONT**, Graduate of the Ecole Polytechnique, engineer of Ponts et Chaussées, landscape architect

ISOCARP/ICOMOS

- 17 **Eric HUYBRECHTS** huybrechts@isocarp.org
Architect and planner, Director in charge of international actions at the Paris Region Institute, manager of numerous planning and environnement projects on all continents,

PAX CHRISTI

- 18 **Jean Pierre RAFFIN**
Doctor of natural sciences, Former European parliamentarian, honorary president of France Nature Environnement, president of the Environment committee of Pax Christi, Author of numerous research and reference publications

AEC

- 19 **Jean-Pierre ESTIVAL**
Economist, doctor of economics, expert in geopolitics, resource conflicts, territorial resilience, author of numerous books, the last of which received the Turgot Prize awarded by the French Ministry of Finance.

Other Associations and mobilisable experts who are not members of the Conference of INGOs

20 Nes&cités

Abdel BELMOKADEM founding president of Nes & cites, former deputy mayor of Vaux en Velin
Expertise : social inclusion, social and urban management

21 + METREX (metropolitan exchange)

Network of European metropolises and metropolitan regions
Experts from over 30 European cities

OING

Anne Marie CHAVANON (IFHP)

10. En pièce attachée, vous êtes prié.e de présenter l'expertise et les expériences de / de la candidat.e au poste de Président.e de ce comité, en relation avec le sujet traité par le comité, ainsi que l'expertise et l'expérience des chef.fe.s des délégations qui soutiennent la création de ce comité