



CEMR Strategic Retreat

Fira Barcelona Gran Via, Spain | 5-7 November 2024

The CEMR Strategic Retreat is a biannual gathering where the CEMR community convenes to reflect, learn, and advance on the impact goals we have set for ourselves for 2030. Running alongside the Smart City Expo World Congress, this year's retreat will focus on a specific, long-term goal: **how to tackle extremism and create inclusive, democratic, and trustworthy societies free from inequality and discrimination?**

Participants will engage in discussions and workshops to share insights and best practices for promoting equality and inclusion. This event provides unique opportunity for local and regional elected officials, policy makers, experts, and practitioners to come together and foster a collective commitment to building societies where everyone can thrive without fear of bias or exclusion.

[Register here](#)

TUESDAY – 5 NOVEMBER

10:45 – 11:30 Orange Agora	Unlocking potential: The Talent HUB for cities and regions Launched in 2022 by CEMR in partnership with Eurocities, and UCLG, the Talent Hub is a unique and innovative initiative to attract, develop, and retain top talent in the field of local and regional governance. Join us for a 45-minute session to find out more!
16:45 – 17:45 Green Room	Local action for global impact: strategies to end gender-based violence Gender-based violence and inequality remain major challenges in communities across Europe and beyond. This session will examine on the current state of gender equality and violence prevention at the local level, identify gaps in existing efforts, and discuss what more local political leaders can do to push the agenda forward.
19:30 <i>(tbc)</i> Palacete Albéniz <i>(tbc)</i>	Cocktail reception organised by the Smart City Expo World Congress <i>(Open to principals and mayors only)</i>

WEDNESDAY – 6 NOVEMBER

<p>9:30 – 17:30</p> <p>Area CC1 Room 1.4</p>	<p>Building inclusive, democratic, and trustworthy societies: addressing extremism, inequality, and discrimination</p> <p>In an evolving social and political landscape, creating inclusive, democratic and just societies is more important than ever. This one-day event, aimed at CEMR members and partner organisations, will focus on identifying key challenges and reflecting on solutions needed to build trustworthy and resilient communities across Europe.</p> <p>It will provide an opportunity to discuss the future orientation of CEMR's work on gender, with a focus on the European Charter for Equality of Women and Men in Local Life as a tool to promote gender equality in our territories. There will also be a specific focus on the European migration agenda, with the goal of identifying challenges and collective responses for local and regional governments.</p> <p>By the end of the day, through a series of interactive workshops and thematic sessions, participants will have a clearer understanding of how to advance gender equality and navigate the complexities of migration policy. The discussions will feed into CEMR's future work, ensuring that it continues to respond to current challenges while upholding the principles of inclusivity and equality.</p>
<p>19:00 – 21:00 <i>(tbc)</i></p> <p>Barcelona City Hall</p>	<p>Cocktail Reception organised by CEMR</p> <p><i>(Open to all participants to the CEMR Strategic Retreat)</i></p>

THURSDAY – 7 NOVEMBER

<p>9:30 – 12:30</p> <p>Area CC1 Room 1.5</p>	<p>Advancing democracy, inclusion, and freedom: strategies for promoting core values globally</p> <p>In the context of a shifting geopolitical landscape, global events are impacting core values of democracy, inclusion and freedom. Building on the European action paper, this session will provide an opportunity for UCLG’s European members to discuss and reflect on actions and strategies to strengthen these values on the international stage.</p>
<p>13:05 – 13:25</p> <p>Green room</p>	<p>Leveraging collective intelligence for local solutions: a CEMR perspective</p> <p>Building on the key takeaways from the discussions held during the Strategic Retreat, join us for a discussion where the CEMR Secretary General will share his thoughts on the next steps for our organisation in the coming months!</p>

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