



European Charter for the Safeguarding of Human Rights in Cities

5th Conference

Lyon, 11-12 December 2006

<http://www.charteeuropeenne.eu>

Objectives and Programme

Having been invited to join the secretariat responsible for organising the European Charter for the Safeguarding of Human Rights in Cities, alongside Barcelona, Saint Denis and Nuremberg, **Lyon** was designated as host of the 5th meeting of the signatory cities during the 2004 closing session.

The Lyon organisers of this 5th Conference, with the scientific support of the **Lyon** Chair in Human Rights, have set **ensuring effectiveness, durability and visibility for the European Charter for the Safeguarding of Human Rights in Cities as their main objective.**

During the December conference, this will involve:

- Finding legal ways of guaranteeing the **effectiveness** of the rights proclaimed in the Charter, based especially on the possibilities defined recently and henceforth offered by the Council of Europe (see annexed note from Edith Jaillardon). Building on the aspirations of the "citizens in the cities" in the search for renewed means to a strong, participative democracy, the Charter could then take its place alongside other national and international legal instruments for the protection of human rights (with no doubt reformulation of some of its provisions as the price to be paid).
- Ensuring that the Charter **lasts**, by defining elements for an institutional structuring of commitments made by the cities. This structuring, which is likely to replace the informal approach preferred until now, could see the creation of a permanent secretariat, an Internet site, local monitoring committees, an evaluation committee and so on. It could also operate as an umbrella organisation, thereby creating synergies with existing networks and organisations (UCLG, for example).
- Finally, improving the Charter's **visibility**, by continuing with exchanges of experience initiated during previous meetings and broadcasting them to cities, be they Charter signatories or not.



Conference Programme:

Monday, 11 December

9-9.45 a.m. Reception of delegates/coffee area

10-11.30 a.m. Opening plenary session

Plenary Theme: Stock-taking (presentation of questionnaire results). Reminder of the issues of the European Charter for the Safeguarding of Human Rights in Cities and in particular the question of its legal value (based on work by Mrs Jaillardon for the Lyon Chair of Human Rights).

Midday: Lunch at City Hall

Afternoon, 2-6 p.m., in City Hall public rooms and Salle Ampère at the Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Workshops addressing the following themes:

1. **The protection of vulnerable people**, led by **Barcelona** - Catalan Institute of Human Rights
2. **Freedom and safety**, led by **Lyon** - College of Video Surveillance Ethics.
3. **The right and access to water**, led by **Saint Denis** (*Specify support body*)
4. **Access to law and mediation**, led by **Lyon** - Lyon Chair of Human Rights.
5. **The fight against racism**, led by **Nuremberg** (*Specify support body*)

Tuesday, 12 December

- 1 9-10.30 a.m. **Workshop summary**
- 2 11 a.m.-12.30 p.m. **Closing session:**
 - o future of the network of signatory cities to the European Charter for the Safeguarding of Human Rights in Cities
 - o focal working points to establish the legal value of the Charter and structure its monitoring.
- 3 **Commitment of Cities and final statement**

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