

Draft Agenda

Format

Online Zoom platform connected to a live studio
Interpretation: EN-FR-DE-ES-IT

Session's description

History is more than the path left by past generations. It influences the present and helps to shape the future, depending on how we listen to it.

On 28 January 2021, CEMR is turning 70 and we can say that we have come a long way. Over the years, CEMR has positioned itself as a driver of change contributing actively and constructively to the transformation of local government's position in Europe.

Together, we will look back on our major achievements over the years and see how they still resonate today. In our early years we strengthened municipal autonomy with the 1953 Charter of Local Liberties and fostered local cooperation with the exponential growth of town twinning. European organisations increasingly recognised and supported local and regional governments with new funds and bodies. Over the years and in particular since 1989, CEMR has accompanied the processes of democratisation and decentralisation in southern, central and eastern Europe.

We have also considerably broadened our scope of activities over the years. CEMR put gender equality on the political agenda as early as the 1980s. We have gone global with the creation of UCLG in 2004 and the pioneering of decentralised cooperation, notably with the creation of PLATFORMA. The last fifteen years saw CEMR going green with our engagement in the Covenant of Mayors for energy and climate, the Reference Framework for Sustainable Cities, and our strong support for the 2030 Agenda's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We can be proud of our joint efforts and persistent fight for local democracy and self-government, now reflected in many European and international policies.

However, much more remains to be done for our shared future. Climate change, global justice, the fight against discriminations, digital transitions and the COVID-19 pandemic will define the current decade. We are called upon to collectively rethink our way of living, our economic model and our relation to the environment. These changes will concern all areas of our lives and therefore require forward-looking, courageous leadership and shared responsibility at all levels of governance.

28 January is the day! Join us on this historic date to celebrate our history, to commemorate our achievements and to embark with us on a trip into the future. Let's visualise together what the next decades could bring, let's look at the future as a world of possibilities for local and regional governments. Opportunities are rising on the horizon so let's not just simply watch our future unfold—let's foresee the utopia of a better life for all in our communities, our nations, our continent and the whole world.

14.30 – 14.40	Frédéric Vallier & Tamsin Rose, masters of ceremonies, welcome guests and participants
14.40 – 15.10	<p>The Talk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stefano Bonaccini, CEMR President, President of Emilia-Romagna (IT) • Annemarie Jorritsma, CEMR Former President, Member of the Senate (NL) • Léonore Moncond’huy, Mayor of Poitiers (FR) <p>Video message from Apostolos Tzitzikistas, President of the Committee of the Regions, governor of Central Macedonia (GR)</p>
15.10 – 15.40	<p>Shaping the future: This decade starts with a pandemic and a very critical state of affairs on climate change. These call for a major shift of priorities on the political agenda: a shift in shaping the future of Europe, our society and the world.</p> <p>Guests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anne Hidalgo, Mayor of Paris (FR) • Fernando Medina, Mayor of Lisbon (PT) • Katarzyna Smętek, President of Polish Youth Climate Council • Virginijus Sinkevičius, Commissioner for Environment, Oceans and Fisheries (LT) <p>Video messages from Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Executive Director of UN Habitat; and Mohamed Boudra, UGLG President, Mayor of Al Hoceima (MA)</p>
15.40 - 15.50	Energiser: Live performance by Nephtys (urban artist)
15.50 – 16.20	<p>“DiverCity”: Diversity is reality – inclusion is the next level! Europe’s diverse population and territories offer opportunities and present challenges for our societies: what role for the City in achieving inclusiveness, equality and resilience?</p> <p>Guests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bart Somers, Flemish Minister for Home affairs, Administrative affairs, Civic integration and Equal opportunities, Lord Mayor of Mechelen (BE) • Aleksandra Dulkiewicz, Mayor of Gdańsk (PL) • Noella Coursaris Musunka, Founder/CEO of Malaika, International Model
16.20 – 16.50	<p>Imagine Europe in 2051: You cannot predict the future but you can imagine how it should be. A futurist mind-set is needed to overcome trends emerging all over the world and to support decision-makers in transitioning to a new model of city-making.</p> <p>Inspirations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karl-Filip Coenegrachts, Founder and Director at citiesofpeople.com • Martine Delannoy, Future Strategist at citiesofpeople.com <p>Reactions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • James Jamieson, Chairman of the Local Government Association, LGA (UK) • Eduard Rivas Mateo, Cemr Spokesperson – Civic Engagement and Citizens’ Participation, Mayor of Esparreguera (ES) • Eva Maydell, Member of the European Parliament, President of the European Movement – International (BG) • Konstantinos Zervas, Mayor of Thessaloniki (GR)
16.50 – 17.00	Final words from Gunn Marit Helgesen , CEMR Co-President; President of the Regional Chamber of the Congress – Council of Europe (NO)

The session will be punctuated by video messages.