



*Under the Honourable Patronage of  
Mr François Hollande  
President of the French Republic*

# 5<sup>TH</sup> WORLD FORUM ON HUMAN RIGHTS

**Sustainable Development / Human Rights:  
a common struggle?**

**NANTES—FRANCE / 22-25 MAY 2013  
LA CITE—NANTES EVENTS CENTER**



*From universal principles to local action*

# INVITATION

# 5<sup>TH</sup> WORLD FORUM ON HUMAN RIGHTS

**FROM UNIVERSAL PRINCIPLES TO LOCAL ACTION**

Dear Sir, dear Madam,

Nearly one year after the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development *Rio+20*, the 5<sup>th</sup> World Forum on Human Rights will address the issue of sustainability in relation to Human Rights. This theme is fully in line with the work undertaken during the previous editions. Thus, during the 2010 World Forum on Human Rights organized under the heading: *In a world of crisis: what about Human Rights?*, 3,000 participants from all over the world were together able to think, discuss and propose solutions on what Human Rights could bring to the contemporary challenges in a society and world shaped by information and communication technologies as well as trade globalization.

Paradoxically, in the current globalization context, it seems that multilateral diplomacy has reached its limits, in its response to humanitarian emergencies or in its longer-term solutions to the global issues related to sustainable development and the balance of our biosphere. States and international organizations, responsible for creating new types of “global governance” combining legitimacy, expertise and efficiency to serve everyone, are facing difficulties in finding suitable solutions and reaching agreement. In response to this situation, it is essential that all the segments of the international community get together in order to build a common future.

However, responsibility does not rest solely with states but with “every individual and organs of society”. This is the reason why local governments can play an essential part in the promotion of Human Rights and sustainable human development. Their role is today recognized by all multilateral bodies: “*We acknowledge [...] the efforts and advancement at national and sub-national levels and the essential role of local governments in sustainable development*” (Rio+20 Final Declaration – chapter II.C.42). The 5<sup>th</sup> World Forum on Human Rights will highlight the essential part played by local governments. As always, the question of a necessary strengthened partnership between the civil society and local governments will be at the core of the discussions.

It is with this dual approach – mobilisation of the international community to lead in-depth thinking about the reform of the multi-lateral system worthy of the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century and about the concrete commitment of the local stakeholders for the fulfillment of rights on the ground –, that the 5<sup>th</sup> World Forum on Human Rights will be held in Nantes from Wednesday 22 to Saturday 25 May 2013.

Whereas the City of Nantes, within its metropolitan area, has been awarded European Green Capital 2013, we would like to invite you to participate and contribute. All the topics to be discussed during the Forum are listed in this document. Do not hesitate to send us your suggestions in terms of speakers, communication and achievements... because the Nantes Forum is, first and foremost, a meeting for all the stakeholders to take action and achieve the concrete implementation of Human Rights for sustainable human development.

This is your Forum. We hope to see you there.

Emmanuel DECAUX  
*President of the International Permanent Secretariat  
“Human Rights and Local Governments”*

Patrick RIMBERT  
*Mayor of Nantes  
Vice-President of Nantes Métropole*

Since 2004, the World Forum on Human Rights held in Nantes (France) has been the setting for a large international meeting and in-depth public discussions – free and open – on the crucial issues relating to the current and future situation of Human Rights. The objective is to identify approaches for action at local and global level. The 5<sup>th</sup> edition, to be held in Nantes from Wednesday 22 to Saturday 25 May 2013, has the ambition to go further in this approach in order to propose concrete solutions to the challenges of a sustainable development respectful of Human Rights. At this moment, Nantes will be *European Green Capital 2013* and this will happen one year after the UN Conference on Sustainable Development Rio+20. The Nantes Forum will put all actors on an equal footing to discuss the global issues at stake and identify the good practices on the ground with the aim of collectively developing the public policies necessary to fulfill Human Rights, in particular through local policies.

## REINFORCED INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY AND COLLECTIVE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW PUBLIC POLICIES

Since its creation, the World Forum on Human Rights has offered an original approach by combining theoretical and practical contributions which, too often, tend to exclude and ignore each other. Yet, to quote Jean Jaurès: “*Think like a man of action and act like a man of thought*”. It is by bridging the gap between action and thought that the most adequate and effective responses to the challenges of the protection and defense of Human Rights can be found.

These responses should be implemented without delay and materialize in public policies at all levels, starting locally as close as possible to the citizens’ concerns, while being introduced in the multilateral system which guarantees true international solidarity. To do so, the 5<sup>th</sup> World Forum on Human Rights proposes to work jointly with all the stakeholders engaged in the promotion, protection and fulfillment of Human Rights with the following dual objective: reinforcing solidarity which is vital among stakeholders and inventing the public policies indispensable for the fulfillment of Human Rights in the territories.

### 1. ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION AND REINFORCE SOLIDARITY AMONG ALL THE STAKEHOLDERS IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

This solidarity is indispensable to create – locally and internationally – active and effective networks with the relevant actors who too often operate separately: **local, regional and national governments throughout the world, representatives of national and world organisations, NGOs, trade unions and associations leaders and activists, federations, experts, researchers and economic actors...**

The mobilization of all these private and public actors is necessary to seek the condition of the “well being together”. This is possible through innovative initiatives, new partnerships and new social solidarities. It is particularly essential to identify the “good practices” being developed here and there, within institutions or on an informal basis. To face up to the global challenges, the international community must be linked by a shared responsibility that will encourage every individual to act. The Nantes Forum reaffirms the principles of solidarity and responsibility and will notably focus on local action on the ground which bears witness of the effectiveness of rights on a daily basis.

### 2. INVENT THE PUBLIC POLICIES NECESSARY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE TERRITORIES

The Nantes Forum sets out **to be useful and contribute to the advancement of Human Rights**. The aim is to encourage the participants to work together **and identify the good practices, exchange experiences and possibly come out with solutions that can be put into practice in the territories**.

Open to discussion and exchange of views, the World Forum on Human Rights is a unique meeting place for local politicians and all the actors in the field of Human Rights and sustainable development. The Forum should facilitate concrete solidarity and offer a collective response to the crisis, in line with the *Global Charter-Agenda of Human Rights in the City* (see below).

# LOCAL POLITICAL ACTION: TOWARDS GREATER EFFECTIVENESS OF HUMAN RIGHTS

From the beginning, the Nantes Forum has placed **the question of effectiveness and enforcement of Human Rights at the heart of the discussions**. The implementation of Human Rights is naturally pursued by the States which are the prime “dispensers” of rights and are responsible for their protection and enforcement. However, it also requires the participation and commitment of “*all individuals and organs of society*”, from international organisations to the NGOs on the ground.

Cities and local governments are part of these “organs of society” which notably in the field of economic, social and cultural policies, can make a difference by developing rights such as housing, health, access to employment, education, leisure and culture as well as local democracy. The realization of these rights may be progressive which facilitates their implementation on the ground.

The Rio+20 Conference has confirmed that in sustainable development, local governments are key stakeholders in international discussions, with operational approaches that States often do not have. When addressing the need to provide an urgent response to the deteriorated environmental and social situation, local governance is clearly regarded as the most appropriate to come out with practical solutions to serve the global community.

## THE GLOBAL CHARTER AGENDA OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE CITY

For several years, local authorities – organised in transnational networks – have got together to tackle the current challenges as 50% of the world population currently lives in urban areas. One of these networks is UCLG (*United Cities and Local Governments*)<sup>1</sup>. Involved in the organization of the Nantes Forum since 2006, UCLG has, at a very early stage, looked into the relation between Human Rights and local political action. **The Global Charter Agenda of Human Rights in the city** was drawn up within UCLG.

The draft project of the *Charter Agenda* was written by a group of international experts before being submitted to public debate. The *Global Charter Agenda for Human Rights in the City* is designed as a reference framework and instrument for local governments to help them protect, respect and enforce Human Rights in their territories. It provides directions for inclusive public policies around the principles of full citizenship, sustainability and participatory democracy. The instrument makes it possible for all people in the regions concerned to defend their rights. The final text was officially adopted at the UCLG World Council in Florence on 11 December 2011.

As the name implies, the Charter Agenda is both:

- a Charter **with a commitment to leading principles**, in line with the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. It contains twelve chapters (see box)
- an Agenda **with a programme of action** to which signatory cities throughout the world commit themselves within their capabilities.

The signatory cities are invited to set up their own local action programme with deadlines and a number of indicators for the assessment of the level of success achieved in the implementation of the rights. Today, the challenge is to ensure that as many local governments as possible approve and adopt the Charter Agenda. The 2013 World Forum on Human Rights will provide a platform for the promotion of the procedure. Once the Forum is over, the development of a **worldwide network of local governments for Human Rights** will require a strict follow-up and a strong political commitment.

## THE TWELVE CHAPTERS OF THE GLOBAL CHARTER AGENDA

“A city is defined as a local government of any size: regions, urban agglomerations, metropolises, municipalities and other local authorities freely governed”. Extract from the General Provisions of the Charter Agenda. This includes rural municipalities as well as peripheral towns and cities. The word “city” refers mainly to the community and participatory democracy.

1. **Right to the city.**
2. **Right to participatory democracy.**
3. **Right to civil peace and safety in the city.**
4. **Right to equality between men and women.**
5. **Rights of children.**
6. **Right to accessible public services.**
7. **Freedom of conscience and religion, opinion and information.**
8. **Right to peaceful meeting, association and to form a trade union.**
9. **Cultural rights.**
10. **Right to housing and domicile.**
11. **Right to clean water and food.**
12. **Right to sustainable urban development.**

For more information: <http://www.spidh.org/en/la-charte-agenda/index.html>

1. **United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)** was created in 2004 and is currently chaired by the Mayor of Istanbul Mr. Kadir Topbas. Over 1,000 cities across 95 countries are direct members of UCLG. 112 Local Government Associations (LGA) are members of UCLG, representing almost every existing LGA in the world. Europe boasts the largest number of LGAs, which represent around 80 per 100 of the total European population.

# WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

**The Nantes Forum is an event which is free of charge and open to the public. The aim is to bring together – on an equal footing – all the actors in the field of Human Rights:**

- 】 **Public organisations** at local, regional, national and international level, government and parliament representatives, representatives of cities and intergovernmental bodies, national Human Rights commissions and institutions for the safeguarding of Human Rights.
- 】 **Representatives of the civil society**, non-governmental organisations, associations, federations, foundations, human rights defenders and the media.
- 】 **Institutions and specialists in Human Rights**, lawyers and experts working for national, regional and international organisations, researchers on Human Rights and academics.
- 】 **Economic actors**, business representatives, notably multinational companies and development agencies.

The above categories are invited to be actively involved in the preparation of the programme and the organisation of the Forum via:

- 】 **contributions and speakers on the suggested themes,**
- 】 **exhibitions,**
- 】 **any other form of involvement/presentation...**

The proposals will be validated by the Organizing Committee and the Scientific Committee.

# HOW TO PARTICIPATE?

Open to everyone, the Forum provides a space for open dialogue on issues related to the protection and implementation of Human Rights. All the discussions have simultaneous interpretation in the three official languages of the Forum: French, English and Spanish.

The 2013 Forum will be organized around:

- 】 **Plenary sessions (round tables) managed by the organizing entity and potential partners.** The plenary sessions present the global issues referring to the main themes (see chapter on “Thematic Focus”). More specific themes are discussed in workshops (see below). All plenary sessions feature a time for dialogue with the participants who wish to provide input to the discussion, under the supervision of a moderator.
- 】 **Thematic workshops** (in connection with the theme of the plenary session):  
The themes of workshops are proposed by the organizing entity (see below). Any organization can take part in the design phase of the workshops by offering a new approach to a specific subject, submitting an analysis or suggesting speakers. For each main theme, five to six workshops can be held simultaneously.
- 】 **Agora:**  
Open spaces for information and presentation similar to “side-events” will be proposed to organisations so that they can share their expertise and present their actions on topics which would not necessarily be connected to the main theme of the Forum. For example, current issues can be addressed at Agora. Should an organisation be interested in the concept, it is invited to contact the general secretariat of the Forum. The proposals will be submitted to the Scientific Committee for study and approval (see below). The open spaces will be staged at La Cité Nantes Events Center on Thursday 23 and Friday 24 May, from 18.30 to 20.00.
- 】 **Other modes of participation: cultural events, exhibitions...**  
Other modes of participation can be initiated by participants and the Organizing Committee. For example, cultural events can be staged with a view to showing cultural diversity and developing a better knowledge of each other. Also, participants are encouraged to organise an exhibition. The exhibition proposals will be submitted to the Scientific Committee for study and approval (see below).

# SELECTION CRITERIA FOR “SIDE EVENTS”, CULTURAL EVENTS, CONFERENCES, EXHIBITIONS...

Whatever the type of the events proposed by the participating organisations (excl. plenary sessions and workshops), the projects will be selected after validation by the Scientific Committee.

Organisers are required to send their proposals to the general secretariat of the Forum. They should specify their status, give a detailed description of the suggested content (one printed page minimum) and, if need be, indicate the number and position of the speakers invited to take part.

Once approved, the project becomes the organiser’s sole responsibility, including the recovery of expenses associated with the preparation of the event.

The events should not contain:

- › any violent message or a message considered as a violation of other people’s rights;
- › any message encouraging hatred, hostility and violence, whether national, ethnical, racial, sexual, religious, cultural or linguistic;
- › any message encouraging or justifying any violation of the public order, terrorism or any other act of violence.

Organisers are requested to facilitate exchanges and discussions with the audience.

The practical conditions for the staging of *side-events*, conferences, exhibitions and other cultural events are detailed in the registration and participation form attached to this document.

## ORGANISATION

Two committees have been set up to prepare the Forum:

**1. The Scientific Committee** – It drafts recommendations with regard to the overall concept of the Forum, the programme and the topics to be discussed in plenary sessions. The committee also gives recommendations on the selection criteria applicable to participants, keynote speakers, round table and workshop proposals. It consists of thirty members from all categories of participants.

**2. The Organizing Committee** – In addition to the board of directors and the permanent team of the International Secretariat (SPIDH), the committee consists of members of the various partner organisations. It decides on the practical organisation of the Forum based on the recommendations issued by the Scientific Committee. It also determines the practical conditions relating to participation, cultural side-events, communication and relationship with the media.

## INTERNATIONAL PERMANENT SECRETARIAT HUMAN RIGHTS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Since 2008, the World Forum on Human Rights is organised by the **International Permanent Secretariat Human Rights and Local Governments (SPIDH Nantes – Pays de la Loire)** in partnership with **La Cité – Nantes Events Center**.

SPIDH Nantes – Pays de la Loire is a French association (under the French 1901 act). The association – like the Forum – is the result of the ongoing commitment of a “coalition” of local authorities such as Nantes Métropole (Nantes urban community), the Pays de la Loire regional council, the Loire Atlantique county council and the city of Nantes. The Forum has the additional support of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the International Organisation of la Francophonie (French speaking countries).

Similarly to the Forum, the executive board of SPIDH Nantes – Pays de la Loire represents a variety of stakeholders involved in the field of Human Rights (politicians, associations, academics, lawyers...). It is chaired by Professor Emmanuel Decaux, Professor of Public Law at the University Panthéon-Assas Paris II, member and former vice-president of the National Consultative Commission on Human Rights, Chairman of the United Nations Committee on Enforced Disappearances.

In addition to the organisation of the Nantes Forum, the broader mission of the Permanent Secretariat is mostly to gather and facilitate the action of a network of stakeholders involved in the protection and the implementation of Human Rights, especially at a local level. In this context, in November 2007, the Permanent Secretariat started coordinating the work on the concept and drafting of the *Global Charter Agenda on Human Rights in the City*, within the world network UCLG (United Cities and Local Governments). The final document was adopted by the UCLG representative bodies on 11 December 2011.

# ONLINE WORKSHOPS

In order to facilitate the preparation of the round tables, a multi-lingual collaborative website (French, English and Spanish) has been developed. See: <http://www.spidh.org>

Overview of the main sections:

- › Presentation of the International Secretariat and its partners
- › Themes and information relating to the next World Forum on Human Rights
- › On-line registration to the 2013 Forum
- › Documentary database and archives on the previous events: 2004, 2006, 2008 and 2010
- › Discussion forum
- › Subscription to a newsletter, etc...

Most importantly, the [www.spidh.org](http://www.spidh.org) website has its own intranet, a collaborative web platform to facilitate joint work via on-line workshops open to anyone in any part of the world.

**This free service** is available via access rights (personal codes). After validation by the web administrator, the collaborative platform offers the following:

- › on-line registration to workshops
- › creation of a workshop
- › creation of a personal space and possibility, at a later stage, to change the choice of workshops.

## SHARING INFORMATION

An on-line workshop is a virtual workspace bringing together members (contributors) around one common interest (for example, a workshop theme of the Forum). The on-line workshops are open to anyone, even if they don't take part in the World Forum on Human Rights. In this way, they can prepare the exchanges or continue to liaise before, during and after each Forum. These members and/or user groups need to identify themselves on the homepage using a registration form/login.

Each workshop is managed by a moderator (someone who volunteers to do so who is, for example, in charge of an organisation willing to conduct a round table at the next Forum). The moderator is responsible for administering the workshop, regulating discussions and contributions if necessary, making sure they are relevant and prohibiting any remarks that show disrespect for human dignity and rights. He/she acts as the correspondent of the site administrator who validates the potential on-line contributions.

The contributors who take part in a workshop are offered practical and easy communication tools to keep updated and share information (documentary database, discussion forum, sending of messages, agenda sharing...). They can:

- › submit a document only available for the workshop members
- › propose a topic thread on a specific theme in a forum dedicated to workshop members
- › consult the agenda shared by the workshop members
- › send emails to the workshop members

To facilitate access to information, an email alert is sent out to all workshop members with each contribution.

**Should you be interested, please contact the site administrator:**

Amanda Rio de Pedro, SPIDH, tél. +33 (0)2 51 83 70 07. Email: [a.riodepedro@spidh.org](mailto:a.riodepedro@spidh.org)

# TOWARDS SOCIAL ADVANCEMENT, FAIR DEVELOPMENT, A PROTECTED ENVIRONMENT AND REINFORCED DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

The 5<sup>th</sup> edition of World Forum on Human Rights will represent one of the highlights of *Nantes, European Green Capital 2013*. In this particular context and one year after the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development – Rio+20, the forthcoming edition will focus on the challenges of sustainable development respectful of Human Rights, with the participation of all the following stakeholders gathered on an equal footing: local, regional and national public organisations worldwide, NGOs and relevant associations, national and international organisations, the academic community and the business sector... In this way, the Nantes Forum intends to contribute to the definition of the Sustainable Development Goals to be launched by the United Nations by 2015.

The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development – Rio+20 held in June 2012 – did not deliver the results urgently expected in face of the environmental, social and economic deterioration. Considering the vicious circle created by the crisis and the downsides of globalization, Rio+20 represented an excellent opportunity to bring together two different yet interdependent worlds: environmental protection and international solidarity. Beyond the environmental issues in the strictest sense of the world, it was hoped that the outcome would place Human Rights at the core of the reflection and action, at a global level.

This was not the case, even though the importance of economic and social rights (right to food, health, education, safe drinking water and sanitation...) was reaffirmed in the final Declaration. These rights were already embedded in the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) adopted by the United Nations in 2000... However, the Rio+20 final Declaration provides for the definition of a new generation of *Sustainable Development Goals (ODD)* based on and in replacement of the MDGs due to expire at the end of 2015.

Navi Pillay, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, has appealed to the international community to regard the Rio+20 final Declaration “as the first step towards a more ambitious and responsible agenda for our planet and for the people [...]”. As we move now to develop Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)<sup>2</sup> and to establish a new institutional framework, as called in the Rio+20 final outcome, we must ensure that the SDG framework is a human rights framework. Only a human rights approach can be truly a people-centered approach.”

## HUMAN RIGHTS: NOT AN ADJUSTMENT VARIABLE!

Human Rights cannot be regarded as an adjustment variable in the implementation of sustainable development, be they economic, social and cultural rights (right to healthy and adequate food, right to safe drinking water and sanitation, right to adequate housing, right to decent work, health, social security and development...) or civil and political rights (freedom of information and association, including free trade unions, right to education and political participation...) which go hand in hand with human security and sustainable development. The objective is to promote all Human Rights for all human beings.

While the dominant economic model – destabilized by the financial crisis – is put in question by an increasing number of individuals and organizations, some do not hesitate to contest the very concept of sustainability. This concept is regarded as a cover for the vested interests of those who argue in favour of a neo-liberal economy, uninterested in the effectiveness of rights, especially social rights. However, there is a widely shared view that sustainable development is a necessary condition for the protection of the biosphere. It is defined as a balance-seeking approach between the three inter-related dimensions of human society – environmental, economic and social. Unless we strike the right balance, we take the risk of seeing an overall regression of humankind on a bled dry planet.

It is urgent to take action. But this should not stop us questioning the substance of sustainable development in relation to human rights international law. Could the human rights legislation be dissolved in the “modern” concept of sustainability? Beyond the differences between the economic approach with a focus on the needs and the legal approach based on individual and collective rights, aren't there any convergent solutions to the need for men's liberation?

The last articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which are put in broader context, are often overlooked. Art. 28 states that “everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration can be fully realized”. This is tantamount to demanding a true social democracy and world governance that would guarantee a fair and equitable “order”. Furthermore, art. 29 of the 1948 Declaration states that “everyone has duties to the community in which alone the free and full development of his personality is possible”. Individual development is closely associated with international solidarity and humankind has to be considered in its natural environment. Peace, justice and development are inseparable from the place of humans in their biosphere and from the balance of the planet.

2. In August 2012, Ban Ki-Moon, the United Nations General Secretary, launched the **Sustainable Development Solutions Network**, with the purpose to mobilise research centres, universities and technical institutions to find workable solutions to the world's most pressing environmental, social and economic problems.



Amartya Sen once defined development in these words<sup>3</sup>: “For the most part, development can be seen as a process of expanding the real freedoms that people enjoy. As such, expanding is both an end in itself and the main tool for development, what I call respectively the “constitutive role” and the “instrumental role” of freedom in development”.

This process of expanding freedoms, in association with the necessary legal regulations (national and international) comes under the responsibility of states. States which, at least in democratic countries, remain the guardians or dispensers of Human Rights. In all cases, they are the first “rights receivables”. But the global challenges impose a new model of world governance that moves away from the law of the jungle and fierce competition with their implications in terms of social dumping, insecurity and relocation. As regards climate change, utter selfishness or the “every man for himself” attitude is simply suicidal.

Multinational companies also have a part to play to keep to the terms of the *Global Compact* in which human rights, workers’ rights, environmental protection and the anti-corruption fight are closely connected. Coming back to a real economy, in opposition to the speculative bubble, requires a new type of corporate social and environmental responsibility. This applies to companies for which immediate profit is not the only goal, in a world of flags of convenience and tax heavens.

## RECOGNITION OF KEY ACTORS: CITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Lastly, it will be necessary to take more and more account of the local governments which, closest to the populations and the territories, are particularly concerned by the concrete issues of environmental protection and sustainable development just as human rights. Organised into international networks (UCLG, Eurocités, ICLEI...), they have, over the past few years, become increasingly important partners for world organisations. In addition, the close relationships often developed between local authorities and NGOs on the ground result in heightened efficiency in the actions undertaken, particularly in the field of decentralized cooperation.

In fact, one of the results of Rio+20 is the recognition – explicitly formulated in the outcome document – of the role of local governments. Some might view it as recognition by default: given the renouncement by the states and in view of the economic and political stalemate that blocks the emergence of world governance in favour of sustainable development and the protection of the biospheres, one turns to local authorities as a last resort.

This might well be the case... However, it is on the ground that the transition towards sustainable development is and will be done. The politicians in charge of cities, regions and provinces are often responsible for public policies aimed at a balanced development of the regions (housing, mobility, local economic development, education and training, health and culture...). Whenever possible within the national political framework, local governments guarantee the public interest. They ensure social and environmental democracy as well as solidarity between territories and generations.

A number of local authorities, on their own or within networks, are already engaged in that process on a daily basis. Networks such as UCLG (*United Cities and Local Governments*) – with whom the Nantes Forum has worked since 2006 – will be invited to play a large part in the discussions during the 2013 Forum. The aim is to collectively “produce” public policies that can be implemented at the local level.

In the run-up to the *Sustainable Development Goals* by 2015, the World Forum on Human Rights will represent a key milestone where all the representatives and actors of the *major groups* present at Rio+20 are invited:

- » Trade and industry
- » Children and youth
- » NGO
- » Local authorities
- » Workers and federations
- » Indigenous people
- » Women
- » Science and technology community
- » Agriculture

3. Amartya Sen, *Development as Freedom*, 1999. *A new economic model. Development, justice and freedom*. Chapter VIII, p. 56.

# THEMATIC FOCUS

Together, all the actors will be invited to formulate responses relating to alternative policies likely to be put into practice at the local level towards **a fair development** that safeguards respect for fundamental rights and human dignity. The first step is to reaffirm **equality, fight against discrimination** and ensure that **public services and full citizenship are available to each and everyone** in the cities and inclusive territories. They will bring **collaborative democracy** to life, without which there can be no sustainable development.

## THEME 1

**What development and what economic model(s) for a more human and fairer world?**

- › Fight against poverty
- › Working conditions (including the “green economy”), decent work
- › Corporate social and environmental responsibility
- › Right to a healthy environment, right to health and social protection,
- › Access to land, “land grabbing”

## THEME 2

**What equality between human beings in times of crisis?**

- › Permanent fight against racism and xenophobia
- › Access to employment
- › Right to education and training
- › Access to justice
- › Women’s rights, gender equality
- › Migrants’ rights, freedom of movement
- › Rights of minorities, indigenous people...

## THEME 3

**What territories for tomorrow? Towards public policies based on Human Rights, full citizenship for all and reinforced democracy.**

- › Right to “centrality” and public services
- › Right to safe drinking water and sanitation
- › Right to housing
- › Right to democracy (from local to global)
- › Citizen participation for all including the “voiceless”, co-drafting of public policies

What is at stake here is the necessity for true social democracy and governance – at local and international level – that ensure a fair and equitable “order”.

What is also at stake here is the necessity for international solidarity, the counterpart to individual development which requires full compliance to Human Rights. The human community, the human race to which we all belong, must be considered in its natural environment. Peace, justice and development are inseparable from the place of humans in their biosphere and from the balance of the planet.

While the Conference on Sustainable development (Rio+20) partly failed to meet expectations, the World Forum on Human Rights will have the hindsight necessary to provide an assessment of the conference and propose new avenues for reflection and collective action.

# THREE DAYS WITH AN EMPHASIS ON ACTION!

The 5<sup>th</sup> World Forum on Human Rights will be held at La Cité – Nantes Events Center over 3 days from Wednesday 22 May (evening opening ceremony) to Saturday 25 May 2013.

It is open to everyone with no entry fees. Registration is necessary. Registration can be done by email or by mail (see registration form below). Registration is possible on the spot. However, it is advisable to register in advance in order to receive the documentation and last minute information prior to the event.

Each participant is invited to contribute to the discussions on the themes proposed by the Organizing Committee (see Contribution form).

## PRE-PROGRAMME :

### WEDNESDAY 22 MAY 2013

EVENING

**OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY: AUDITORIUM 2000 – LA CITÉ - NANTES EVENTS CENTER**

**In the presence of Mr Jean-Marc Ayrault, French Prime Minister (to be confirmed).**

### THURSDAY 23 MAY 2013

THEMES 1 & 2 TO BE ADDRESSED IN PARALLEL

THEME 1

**WHAT DEVELOPMENT AND WHAT ECONOMIC MODEL(S) FOR A MORE HUMAN AND FAIRER WORLD?**

THEME 2

**WHAT EQUALITY BETWEEN HUMAN BEINGS IN TIMES OF CRISIS?**

10:00 · 12:00:

**Plenary sessions on each of the two themes**

14:00 · 17:00:

**Workshops on specific issues arising from themes 1 & 2 addressed that day**

18:30 · 20:00:

**Agora (possibility for various organisations to present their actions and hold round tables and conferences on open topics)**

### FRIDAY 24 MAY 2013

DAY DEDICATED TO THEME 3:

**WHAT TERRITORIES FOR TOMORROW? TOWARDS PUBLIC POLICIES BASED ON HUMAN RIGHTS, FULL CITIZENSHIP FOR ALL AND REINFORCED DEMOCRACY.**

10:00 · 12:00:

**Plenary session on the theme of the day**

14:00 · 17:00:

**Workshops on specific topics ensuing from the two main themes**

18:30 · 20:00:

**Agora (possibility for various organisations to present their actions and hold round tables and conferences on open topics)**

### SATURDAY 25 MAY 2013

10:00 · 13:00:

**Official closing ceremony**

**Summary of the proceedings**

**Final declaration**

**ENTERTAINING AFTERNOON**

# PRACTICAL INFORMATION

## DATE AND VENUE

The 5<sup>th</sup> World Forum on Human Rights will be held at La Cité – Nantes Events Center from Wednesday 22 to Saturday 25 May 2013. 5, rue de Valmy. 44000 Nantes. France

**PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME** See page 11.

**REGISTRATION CONDITIONS** See the detachable sheet “Registration...”.

## ACCOMMODATION

For accommodation, you are invited to consult the Nantes central booking office. Tourism in French <http://reservation.nantes-tourisme.com/fr/hebergements> in English <http://booking.nantes-tourisme.com/en/accommodation> or call the booking office, open 24/7, from France: 0892 464 044 (0.34 €/min) – from abroad: +33 272 640 479.

## TOURIST INFORMATION

Nantes.tourisme: [www.nantes-tourisme.com](http://www.nantes-tourisme.com)

## TRANSPORT AND ACCESS

» **By plane** Identification code: 18125AF (general conditions on the site [www.spidh.org](http://www.spidh.org)), valid for transportation between 17/05/13 and 30/05/13

Nantes Atlantique international airport is 15 minutes away by regular shuttle bus.

» **By train** Paris/Nantes, Nantes/Paris in 2 hours (23 trains every day).

TGV railway station (south exit), a 7 minutes walk.

» **By car** The Nantes motorway network allows motorists to reach:

To the East: A 11 motorway to Paris.

To the South: A 83 motorway to Bordeaux/Toulouse.

To the West: RN 165 dual carriageway to Brest.

To the North: RN 137 dual carriageway to Rennes.

» **Bus, tram and airport shuttle:** stop “Cité internationale des congrès”.

Busway: line 4, stop “Cité internationale des congrès” / Tram: line 1 stop “Duchesse-Anne”.

» **Taxi** Allo Taxi 02 40 69 22 22

## EDITORIAL DIRECTION

International permanent secretariat *Human Rights and Local Governments*

34, rue Fouré. 44000 Nantes. T +33 (0)2 51 83 70 10. F +33 (0)2 51 82 84 75. [secretariat@spidh.org](mailto:secretariat@spidh.org)

**Multi-lingual collaborative website (French, English and Spanish) [www.spidh.org](http://www.spidh.org)**

## OVERALL MANAGEMENT

La Cité, le centre de congrès de Nantes. 5, rue de Valmy. BP 24102. 44041 NANTES cedex 1. FRANCE

T +33 (0)2 51 88 20 00. [www.lacite-nantes.fr](http://www.lacite-nantes.fr)

## WITH THE SUPPORT OF:

- » Nantes Métropole [www.nantesmetropole.fr](http://www.nantesmetropole.fr)
- » Pays de la Loire Région [www.paysdelaloire.fr](http://www.paysdelaloire.fr)
- » Loire-Atlantique County [www.loire-atlantique.fr](http://www.loire-atlantique.fr)
- » City of Nantes [www.nantes.fr](http://www.nantes.fr)

## WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF:

- » French Ministry of Foreign Affairs [www.diplomatie.gouv.fr](http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr)
- » United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) [www.uclg.org](http://www.uclg.org)
- » Organisation of la Francophonie (OIF) [www.francophonie.org](http://www.francophonie.org)

**MANY THANKS TO ALL THE PARTNERS OF THE 5<sup>TH</sup> WORLD FORUM ON HUMAN RIGHTS:**





# THE 5<sup>TH</sup> WORLD FORUM ON HUMAN RIGHTS

**REGISTRATION AND CONTRIBUTIONS:  
DETACHABLE SHEETS TO BE RETURNED**





# SUGGESTED CONTRIBUTION THEMES:

## THEME 1

**What development and what economic model(s) for a more human and fairer world ?**

- Fight against poverty
- Working conditions (including the “green economy”), decent work
- Corporate social and environmental responsibility
- Right to a healthy environment, right to health and social protection,
- Access to land, “land grabbing”
- My proposal (please attach a written presentation – 1 or 2 page(s) max.)

## THEME 2

**What equality between human beings in times of crisis ?**

- Permanent fight against racism and xenophobia
- Access to employment
- Right to education and training
- Access to justice
- Women’s rights, gender equality
- Migrants’ rights, freedom of movement
- Rights of minorities, indigenous people...
- My proposal (please attach a written presentation – 1 or 2 page(s) max.)

## THEME 3

**What territories for tomorrow?**

**Towards public policies based on Human Rights, full citizenship for all and reinforced democracy**

- Right to “centrality” and public services
- Right to safe drinking water and sanitation
- Right to housing
- Right to democracy (from local to global)
- Citizen participation for all including the “voiceless”, co-drafting of public policies
- My proposal (please attach a written presentation – 1 or 2 page(s) max.)

**DEADLINE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS: 1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2013**

international permanent secretariat  
*human rights and local governments*  
nantes, pays de la loire. france



*by post:*  
**International Permanent Secretariat  
Human Rights and Local Governments  
34, rue Fouré  
44000 NANTES. FRANCE  
T +33(0)2 51 83 70 10**

*by email:*  
**secretariat@spidh.org**

*or by fax:*  
**+ 33(0)2 51 82 84 75**