



# Human Rights Go Local: What Works

## Academy & Conference on Human Rights at the Local and Regional Levels

### *Accountability in Action: Human Rights Action Plans of Local Governments"*

5 – 8 February 2024

(Version: January 2024)

## Tentative Agenda

**Please note that all times listed are Central European Time (GMT+1, Paris/Geneva/Vienna)**

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### Monday, 5 February 2024: Stocktaking

The first day addresses the following questions: To what extent have human rights action plans proven helpful for local governments to promote human rights? What are the possibilities and what are the limitations of human rights action plans when it comes to promoting accountability of local governments? What is the importance of multi-level governance in this context and what has been the experience of local authorities around the world in aligning local action plans with national and international human rights action plans?

**11:30-12:00 Introduction, opening by the Academy's Steering Group**

**12:00-1:00pm Plenary Session A**

Impulse speeches by:

Markus Möstl | International Centre for the Promotion of Human Rights at the Local and Regional levels under the auspices of UNESCO | HRGL Publication series, Volume 5

Angela Melo | Director Research, Ethics and Inclusion, UNESCO, the ICCAR 10 Point Programme

James Flolu | Afadzato South District, Ghana

Channeh Maram Joof, Toralv Moe, Rowena Teodocio | City of Oslo, Norway

1:00-1:30 Break



**1:30-3:30**                    **Anchoring human rights in action plans**  
2 parallel working groups on Encouragements 1-7 of the Outcome Document

In parallel

**1:30-3:30**                    **Mentoring session** for the next generation with Claudia Scheufler | UN Habitat

In parallel

**1:30-3:30**                    **Webinar in the framework of the EU project [ACTION](#)**

**3:30-4:00**                    **Closing and thoughts on the day**  
Morten Kjaerum | Former Director of the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law

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## **Tuesday, 6 February 2024: Lessons from the field**

Day 2 addresses the following questions: How can human rights action plans actually make a difference at the local level? What are the key factors and tools (e.g., participatory planning, budget anchoring, monitoring, multi-level governance, certification, etc.) that help local governments to promote accountability through action plans? What lessons have been learned so far and can be shared? How can existing practices best be transferred to other local contexts?

**11:45-12:00am**            **Technical check**

**12:00-1:00pm**            **Plenary Session B**

Impulse speeches by:

Gyonggu Shin | City of Gwangju, Human Rights Action Plan in the Human Rights City of Gwangju, Republic of Korea

Wolfgang Palle | Ombudsman for Persons with Disabilities, City of Graz, The Action Plan on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Inclusion Strategy in Graz, Austria

Nexhat Beqiri | Uusimaa Centre for Economic Development, Transport, and the Environment, Finland, Regional action plans to combat racism and promote good relations between population groups

Nino Gvasalia | Head of Service for Sustainable Development and Implementation of innovative Approaches, Ponti Municipality, Georgia

Windi Arini | Raoul Wallenberg Institute for Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, Jakarta, Indonesia

**1:00-1:30**                    **Break**



- 1:30-3:30**                    **Participatory processes**  
2 parallel working groups on Encouragements 7-9 of the Outcome Document
- In parallel
- 1:30-3:30**                    **Mentoring session** for the next generation with Ayfer Yazkan Kubal | City of Kadiköy
- 3:30-4:00**                    **Closing and thoughts on the day**  
Amanda Flety | Coordinator UCLG Global Charter-Agenda, the UCLG Global Charter Agenda

### **Wednesday, 7 February 2024: Needs and potentials**

What is needed to embed effective human rights action plans in local government systems worldwide? What steps need to be taken next so that action plans can be better used to promote accountability of local governments?

All participants will be given the opportunity to share their future visions and recommendations for the promotion of accountability through action plans. The day is dedicated to synthesizing the findings from the previous days of discussion and to collaboratively finalizing an Outcome Document aimed at local governments. The Outcome Document encourages local authorities all over the world to develop and implement binding action plans and thus meet their accountability for human rights implementation.

- 9:00-11:00am**                **Networking and cooperation building session I**  
The day offers the virtual participants the opportunity to exchange contact details, build working relationships and strengthen collaborations. The tool “gathertown” is used for the networking event.
- 11:45-12:00**                **Technical check**
- 12:00-1:00pm**                **Plenary Session C**  
Impulse speeches by:  
Pradeep Wagle | Chief of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Section, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights  
Robert Lewis-Lettington | Senior Advisor, Land, Housing and Human Rights, UN-Habitat  
Esther Pardo Herrero, City of Barcelona, Spain | The ECCAR City Reporting Tool  
Markus Schabler and Martina Fallenböck | City of Graz, Austria, Certification Child and Family Friendly Community Graz



1:00-1:30	Break
1:30-3:30	<p><b>Monitoring</b></p> <p>2 parallel working groups on Encouragements 10-14 of the Outcome Document</p>
3:30-4:00	<p><b>Closing session</b></p> <p>Gudrun Mosler-Toernstroem I Municipal Councillor of Puch bei Hallein, AT, Member of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe (Austria, SOC/G/PD) “the Congress Human Rights Strategy”</p>
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4:00-6:00	<p><b>Networking and cooperation building session II</b></p> <p>The day offers the virtual participants the opportunity to exchange contact details, build working relationships and strengthen collaborations. The tool “gathertown” is used for the networking event.</p>

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**Thursday, 8 February 2024: High Level Conference to present and discuss the Outcome Document**

A Conference will take place with high level representatives to discuss the outcomes of the Academy and to make concrete proposals on how to develop and realize binding action plans. The Outcome Document will be presented as a step-by-step guideline for the accountability of local governments to implement human rights at the local level.

