Implementing Cultural Rights in the City: What Does this Involve?

This session is part of the UCLG Executive Bureau that will take place during the Culture Summit of Buenos Aires. The “Right to the City” is a collective right for all inhabitants, of all cities, of all territories, present and future, permanent and temporary, to “use, occupy, and create just, inclusive, and sustainable cities; where defining them as essential communal values leads to a decent quality of life”. The “Right to the City” is an opportunity to renew the established social norms on a local level, to guarantee that every citizen enjoys equal right to free self-expression, access to heritage, values and identities so as to participate actively in local cultural life. It is an opportunity to guarantee cultural rights. Regardless of the case, this is complex terrain, which often raises doubts about its application in specific contexts. Thus, based upon the experiences of the cities and experts working within this framework, this session will open a very direct and informative dialogue oriented to all cities and local governments of UCLG.
Generational Dialogue and Creativity: Strategies for the Youth

This session is part of the UCLG Executive Bureau that will take place during the UCLG Culture Summit and will include initiatives related to youth, the intergenerational dialogue, the education for non-violence, the inclusion and the culture of peace. Designing cities for the future requires the integration of all citizens, including adolescents and youth, in the cultural development agenda. The protection of heritage, the understanding of diversity, and the fostering creativity are key elements in the promotion of peace from within communities. Intergenerational dialogue will make our cities resilient to conflict. For years, building cultural policies sensitive to the needs and interests of youth, which actively involve them and, which in turn, provide mechanisms of intergenerational collaboration and coordination with youth policies has proven to be a significant challenge.
Experimenting with Creativity in Public Spaces

This session is part of the UCLG Executive Bureau that will take place during the UCLG Culture Summit and will gather initiatives on how we inhabit public spaces with culture and creativity. What are the debates and tensions around cultural issues in public spaces? What solutions have been worked on in cities around the world? Public spaces are the basis of the transition towards obtaining sustainability in cities, and regionally. The design and use of these public spaces must explicitly include cultural factors and should allow for creativity and coexistence in order to achieve safer, more resilient, and sustainable cities. Any and all cultural activities should count on the broad participation of the citizens, of all ages, across the entirety of the territory.

Creative exercises must include the participation of the citizens, and actors within the territory. Public spaces also exemplify the inherent tensions of urban life, including those that derive from privatization and management of the complexities that affect its cultural dimension. The Culture 21 Actions toolkit, approved by UCLG in 2015, dedicates a chapter to this issue, which has served to promote reflection on practices surrounding the relationship between culture and public spaces.