



## THE CHARTER FOR EQUALITY OF WOMEN AND MEN IN LOCAL LIFE

The charter is available in: [čeština](#), [Deutsch](#), [eesti keel](#), [ελληνικά](#), [English](#), [español](#), [euskara](#), [français](#), [Íslenska](#), [italiano](#), [latviešu valoda](#), [Magyar](#), [Nederlands](#), [Norsk](#), [português](#), [polski](#), [română](#), [slovenčina](#), [suomi](#), [svenska](#)

### List of signatories of CEMR's Charter

*On 12 May 2006, CEMR launched its European charter for equality of women and men in local life, at its general assembly in Innsbruck. The charter aims at inciting local and regional governments in Europe to commit themselves to concrete measures for gender equality at all levels of local life. Below are its principles, followed by the signatory form.*

### **PRINCIPLES OF THE CHARTER**

The Signatories of the Charter for equality of women and men in local life recognise the following as fundamental principles of our actions:

#### **1. Equality of women and men constitutes a fundamental right**

This right must be implemented by local and regional governments in all areas of their responsibilities, including their obligation to eliminate all forms of discrimination, whether these be direct or indirect.

#### **2. To ensure the equality of women and men, multiple discrimination and disadvantage must be addressed**

Multiple discrimination and disadvantage based, in addition to gender, on race, colour, ethnic and social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age, sexual orientation or socio-economic status must be taken into account in addressing equality between women and men.

#### **3. The balanced participation of women and men in decision making is a pre-requisite of a democratic society**

The right to equality of women and men requires that local and regional authorities take all the appropriate measures and adopt all appropriate strategies to promote a balanced representation and participation of women and men in all spheres of decision-making.

**4. The elimination of gender stereotypes is fundamental to achieving equality of women and men**

Local and regional authorities must promote the elimination of the stereotypes and obstacles upon which the inequalities in status and condition of women are based, and which give rise to the unequal evaluation of the roles of women and men in political, economic, social and cultural terms.

**5. Integrating the gender perspective into all activities of local and regional government is necessary to advance equality of women and men**

The gender perspective must be taken into account in the drafting of policies, methods and instruments which affect the daily life of the local population – for example, through the use of “gender mainstreaming” and “gender budgeting” techniques. To this end, women's experiences in local life, including their living and working conditions, must be analysed and taken into account.

**6. Properly resourced action plans and programmes are necessary tools to advance equality of women and men**

Local and regional governments must draw up equality action plans and programmes, with the financial and human means and resources necessary for their implementation.

**Link to the signatory form**

[Deutsch-English-español-eurskara-français-italiano-Norsk-slovenčina](#)