Migrations:
a new era of co-operation
between local governments

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Authors

Mariel Araya
Xavier Godàs

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1. Presentation

Migrations constitute one of the main global social realities that condition contemporary world political agendas. Specifically, it is cities that people migrate to and from. At a local level the worldwide urban process is defined, problems associated to social inequalities are emphasized, and, as a consequence of cultural diversity, public discussion on identity is accentuated.

Therefore, the challenge for local governments is very potent in an age of globalization and faced with the fact of migration: they must satisfy new social demands and needs as well as building collective identities that comprise joint co-existence projects from a multi-cultural reality. To this effect, Public Decentralized Cooperation (PDC) allows a deeper understanding of the situation and helps define appropriate activities. In fact, international migrations as subject and content of PDC constitute at present an opportunity for strengthening the institutions of local governments. In this way, they find their task of constant improvement of local policies on migration and management of cultural diversity made easier.

Based on these ideas, this work of research has two objectives:

(a) Firstly, to make PDC more prominent as a key component of migration matters for the transfer of knowledge of the migratory processes, the exchange of experiences and the accomplishment of joint projects between connected cities. As a result, this would have the effect of enriching

the range of local policies on migratory movements and on welcoming, settling and integration.

(b) Secondly, the aim is to demonstrate how the reality of migrations has a positive impact on PDC, as in the following examples: social and economic relationships between migrants and their families and home towns, situations of inequality linked to the downgrading of the rights of citizenship, the expression of cultural diversity and the blossoming of associations, and the feminization of migrations.

1.1. Methodology of the work

The work presented below constitutes a significant approximation to the aim of the study. Special emphasis has been placed on those experiences of PDC that can be used as practical examples for the actions of local governments. The analysis of experiences of local cooperation is based on a prior selection of those international exchange networks between cities in Latin America and Europe that include the element of migration in their active projects. To this effect, joint URB-AL projects as well as the participation in other city networks which include the subject in hand, constitute the basis for the analysis of migrations as a constituent part of PDC.

Such an analytical selection is justified by the fact that the subject of migrations is cross-sectional and, as a component part of PDC, comprises a large number of practices and models. For this reason, city networks can give a better account of the potential of cooperation as they have gained a wider range of experiences from their exchanges, and can guarantee the reciprocity and levelness of PDC (Malé 2007). These networks promote cooperation between cities and also focus on common objectives by taking actions with comparable results.

We must point out that the PDC carried out in bilateral relations between local governments of Latin America and Europe has not been significant on the subject of migrations. Therefore, the final chapter includes comments on the advisability of promoting bilateral cooperation between cities in order to take into account the specific interests of the cities that provide and those that receive migrants, and especially the relationship of cooperation between them.

The territorial frameworks that give rise to these projects of cooperation are, mainly, Southern Europe, Mercosur/Southern Cone and Andean America. Southern Europe is the European region that has had a significant increase in immigration from outside the community, mainly from Latin America, and where most of the PDC projects with Latin America are taking place. The Mercosur/Southern Cone region has been receiving inter-regional migrations, has networks such as *Mercociudades* (which generate South-South cooperation) and is an area of emigration. Andean America has a long history of inter-regional and international migrations, and has city networks such as the *Red Andina de Ciudades* (an organization that is in the process of becoming established and where specific work on migrations is planned). It is also a region producing mainly female migrations to Europe.

In view of the above, the relevant information for the study has been gathered from the following city networks that involve cooperation between cities in Europe and Latin America, and which have included activities and projects comprising an element of migrations:

(a) **URB-AL Networks**. Within these, the URB-AL joint projects ensure the commencement of what is understood as PDC. All activities generated by these projects follow a joint process of design and implementation between the members that carry them out, and are noted for fostering

a reciprocal exchange of experiences related to specific key features that are of mutual benefit to member cities. Looking at the Programme as a whole, since 1995 it has had more than 1,537 local participants, which demonstrates its importance. For the purposes of the analysis, we are particularly interested in URB-AL joint projects A and B since these specify the exchange of experiences developed in thematic networks. Joint projects with a specific content or links to migrations have been identified in six networks of the URB-AL group.

(b) **Ibero American Center for Strategic Development (CIDEU).**
Nine European and 56 Latin American cities are a part of this network. The importance of migrations as a subject for exchange and creation of projects is made evident by the Declaration of Bogotá (2006), which generated the means for confronting this challenge. In particular, strategic paths and projects with a migratory content are defined. On the other hand, CIDEU has been gathering a considerable number of successful experiences (good practices) on the subject and has prepared an Immigration Protocol at a local level.

(c) **Educating Cities.** This network began as a movement in 1990 during its I Congress held in Barcelona, where a group of 60 cities established the common objective of working jointly on projects and activities for the improve-ment of the quality of life of their inhabitants. The process was formalized in 1994 at the III Congress in Bologna, with the founding of the International Association of Educating

Cities. Current membership of the Network comprises 319 cities, 40 from Latin America and 279 from Europe. One of the strategic lines of action of this association is focused on migration and the management of cultural diversity, although it has also generated an important documentary base of good practices on this subject.

(d) **United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG).** The Committee for Decentralized Cooperation of this worldwide local government organization has acquired a specific political work schedule that considers strategically the topics of migrations and co-development. Likewise, it has experiences such as UCLG GOLD (compilation of good practices and cooperation projects between cities).

Presentation of projects associated to the networks

Project	City networks projects are assigned to	Year Project was carried out	Nº of cities/ governments
Tourist itineraries and heritage of Italian immigration	Network 2 Programme URB-AL	2001/2003	7
Municipal activities on equality of gender and training of women and immigrants	Network 5 Programme URB-AL	2001	4
Impact of participatory budgets in multi-ethnic and multi-cultural cities	Network 9 Programme URB-AL	2006	5
Integration of immigrants as a way of fighting poverty	Network 10 Programme URB-AL	2006	6

Project	City networks projects are assigned to	Year Project was carried out	Nº of cities/ governments
Women immigrants. Equality, participation and leadership at a local level	Network 12 Programme URB-AL	2005	6
Migration from different perspectives affecting the safety of citizens	Network 14 Programme URB-AL	2005/2006	6
Málaga, solidarity city	Network CIDEU	2002/2006	1 (EU)
SOS Paisa	Network CIDEU	2006	1 (LA)
Integr'acciones	Network educating cities	2004	4 (EU)
Infopankki	Network educating cities	2001	5 (EU)
GRAFOS	Network educating cities	2001	4 (EU)
Regionet Integra	Network educating cities	2003	4 (EU)
Working Group on Migration and Co-development	Network UCLG	2007	Cities to be assigned

The information acquired by these networks has allowed a detailed analysis of the content of the projects selected. This has been guided by the following criteria:

- Content of PDC. Key features and associated projects. Substantiation of interest shown by member cities.

- System of knowledge. Establishment of clear action criteria according to the results of regular analyses of the reality of immigration in all its diversity. Exchange of this knowledge between the cities involved in the cooperation.

- Training. Of professionals as well as of staff of social organizations related to the handling and support of immigrants.

- Multi-level coordination. Capability of local governments as well as their cooperation projects to include other government bodies and other private or associated players in their activities.

- Participation. Of the municipal technical sphere and associated bodies in the development and execution of PDC projects.

- Possibilities for duplication. Experience that can be adapted to other contexts. Transparency, information and dissemination necessary for its use elsewhere.

A critical analysis of the content of the projects together with a study of the research and most relevant international reports would provide the basis for the preparation of a text about the prospective potential of PDC on the subject of cooperation on migration matters that could be the object of intervention in the near future.

1.2. Expository structure

In the second chapter the features of contemporary migrations are related to the framework of the process of economic globalization, as this constitutes its structural reality. In addition, a broad view of the actual migratory movements between Latin America and Europe is outlined. In accordance with this, cities are seen as areas that produce and receive migrants, and their governments are represented as proactive participants in the formulation of responses to the challenge of the increase in social diversification and complexity. Finally, the development of PDC in the context of migrations is set out and examined from the point of view of the strengthening of local government institutions.

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According to the information gathered from the city networks examined and from studying their cooperation projects, the third chapter carries out a critical and comparative analysis of these experiences. Finally, the fourth chapter examines critically the challenges that PDC poses local governments on the subject of migrations, and a study is made of its prospects for future evolution. The conclusions outline a set of information resources available on the internet in order to simplify the work for future research and staff, both technical and political, linked to local governments and to the cooperation projects.

2. International migrations

2.1. The structural framework of contemporary migrations: globalization

The widespread use of the term "globalization" has been increasing over the last 15 years approximately. It originated by referring to the way in which the capitalist economy was spreading throughout the planet once the Berlin wall had come down and the Soviet Union had disappeared. It also referred to the increase in the capacity for action and the power of market[1] forces and of trans-national companies, with reference both to the State and to the capacity for trade-union and political action of the working classes.

With the passage of time, the term "globalization" has been the object of much political and academic discussion, beyond its reference to the economy. From this perspective, globalization becomes a deep process of social change which has several empirical features such as:

- The technological revolution as a vector of the operational changes of capitalism and therefore as a new form of social relationships and action, with the internet universe to the fore (Castells 2003a).[2]

- The formation of specifically global processes and institutions, such as the financial markets.

- The development of global social processes with a local voice, such as the migratory processes.

- The formation of supranational entities such as the European Union[3], and the proliferation of subnational entities where local governments and metropolitan areas are prominent strategic spaces in the globalization process. (Clark 2007; Pascual 2007).

- The formation of an emerging trans-national civil society that expresses itself at the juncture of world forums (Davos, World Social Forum) and which sometimes acts in unison, as it did at the time of the worldwide movement against the second military intervention in Iraq.

The above examples show that globalization has a great typological and functional diversity: the global capital market is not the same as the international system for human rights or the migratory processes (Sassen 2007). This implies that contemporary social conflict is closely related to the inter-play of oppositions and diverging interests of a large part of the social and institutional processes that converge in the dynamics of globalization.

The following is a superficial definition of the fundamental structure of globalization. It is important for this work because it outlines the typological differences of current migrations compared with those in the past, as you can see below.

The economy of globalization is a newly-coined capitalist economy (Castells 2003a); it is described as informational due, mainly, to the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) for obtaining and analyzing information and learning. Its main features are the following:

- Globalization of the main economic activities. A global economy is defined according to its capacity to operate as a unit in real time and at a world scale. This implies relativizing physical distances,

thus allowing corporate strategies to evaluate the differential costs of the activity throughout the planet.

- The structures of production and of the labour market are diversified. Historically speaking, it represents the industrial slump and re-structuring, the growth in absolute and relative terms of the service sector, the expansion of ICTs in all production sectors, the growth of professional and highly qualified occupations at the same rate as temporary and unskilled jobs.

- ICTs provide the possibility for a more flexible organization of the new form of development. They allow long distance communications by means of networks, as well as the management (storage and processing) of the information. In short, ICTs allow the simultaneous concentration and decentralization of the taking of decisions, which results in the fact that unification of corporate leadership is fully compatible with the decentralization of certain lines of business, production and services.

- In the area of labour, the organizational flexibility results in the coordinated individualization of the work, that is to say, the process by which labour input in production is defined in a specific way for each worker and for each of his/her contributions. The informational type of corporate organization requires a network of workers on flexi-time and a broad range of labour relations. The consequences resulting from this would be the increase in the company's power over the labour factor, labour deregulation, and, in short, the deterioration of working conditions and of the traditional channels of social protection for all unskilled jobs. Therefore, the basic core inequality of informational capitalism is the internal fragmentation of labour between informational producers (symbolic analysts) and replaceable generic workers (routine work with little or no symbolic content).

Networks express a new social structure (Castells 2003a). For the purposes of this study, a network is a group of nodes interconnected by continuous interactions and sharing the same communication codes. Networks are open structures with a constant capacity for expansion, very different from the vertical hierarchical organizations typical of the industrial era and from the great social conglomerates of the past.

- ICTs allow the formation of networks as a method of organizing human activity that entail fast, agile, low cost and worldwide dissemination of interactive communications. As well as providing the infrastructure or the possibilities for informational capitalism, they constitute the basis for new social and political interaction.[4]

- Nevertheless, the potential of ICTs as an area of interaction depends on the prior existence of social networks. In other words, a large variety of links can be forged as long as there are significant areas of activity for social relationships (by association, cultural, political, economic, affective). An example of this is found in the trans-border relationships between immigrant communities and their anchoring points in their countries of origin.

Identity is a source of courage for communities facing global and instrumental networks of economic flows (Castells 2003b). The separation of the market logic of global networks from the economy relating to the greater part of human experience within local contexts reinforces the identity or cultural attachments as a source of the sense and the need to belong.

- Therefore, it implies that at a cultural level two processes co-exist: on the one hand, an increasing basic identification of people with specific features of a historical, traditional and/or territorial nature, and on the other, a process of cultural globalization arising from the symbolic impact of the media and the interaction of cultural

and economic élites. Both ways, the cultural aspect appears as a structuring core of globalization.

- Social relationships in contexts that maintain or acquire a pre-eminent identity (cultural, ethnic, national, religious, among others) constitute, functionally speaking, areas for social reconstruction opposite the uncertainty of the flows, and they interpret global issues through the shared experiences of real social relationships. They are not necessarily forces reacting to globalization, but represent a voluntary form of insertion in its dynamics.

- There are multiple contemporary identities with very variable territorial connections, if any. This leads to a situation of radical questioning of the classical criteria of cultural homogeneity of the nation state and of public policies of assimilation.

2.2. Current international migrations

At present migrations are considered one of the determining factors of the worldwide political agenda. They are no longer something strictly "domestic", but have become a global social event with many repercussions on the social structure of contemporary societies.

The importance of current international migrations goes beyond the figures, although, according to the data, recent years have witnessed a clear acceleration of migratory flows: from 176 million migrants in 2000 to 191 million in 2005, around 3% of the world's population. Nevertheless, we must point out that in relative terms current international migrations are smaller than those at the start of the XX century.[5] To this we must add that migratory flows are characterized by their diversity, heterogeneity and increasing feminization (UNFPA 2006; CGIM 2005).

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The International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Global Commission for International Migrations (GCIM-ONU) approach the fact of migrations from a multi-dimensional point of view. They state the topics that must be considered in order to fully understand this reality, some of which are: labour migrations, family reunion, the relationship between migration and security, the fight against irregular migratory flows, the link between migration and trade, the rights of migrants, migration and health, integration and development. These analytical dimensions individually do not explain the reality of migrations, but in time they converge and combine, with the predominance of one or several factors at any one time. Nevertheless, from now on and for analytical purposes, the economic, political, cultural, urban and city settlement situations that determine migratory flows will be quantified.

(a) The economic dimension

As seen above, the world economy of globalization must be considered, where the free movement of capital is not related to the free movement of labour.

The main point here is that the inequalities generated by the structural conditions of the global economy create a permanent surplus in the supply of labour prepared to cover temporary and low paid jobs. On the other hand, there is a significant number of highly qualified workers (symbolic analysts) employed by large corporations. This would imply that the increasing demand for labour for economic development and competitiveness is largely satisfied by the supply of workforces from economies that are less developed or developing. In other words, a fundamental part of the migratory movements fits in with the flexibility requirements of the global economy. Thus, although we cannot talk about a uni-

fied labour market of global work, the data does demonstrate their inter-dependence, both for the routine or replaceable as well as for the highly qualified sources.

From the point of view of the destination countries, migrations are highly valued due to their contribution in terms of work and re-balancing of social security systems (the shortage of an active population as opposed to the increase in the passive population).[6] At the same time, the countries of origin present economic factors that foster emigration. In Latin America, with its high levels of unemployment and poverty[7], migrations can represent, initially, a safety valve for internal labour markets. However, in the long term, there are negative effects such as the loss of a young population, a lowering of the qualifications of the labour force, and the so-called "brain drain".[8] On the loss of qualified human capital there is a debate about whether it could be called "brain circulation" if the migration plans of these people are temporary (including one or several returns). Hypothetically speaking, this could result in an exchange and technical transfer between places of origin and destination. Nevertheless, this hypothesis has not been subjected to verification yet (CEPAL 2006b).

Another of the economic aspects of increasing interest is the remittances of émigrés back to their places of origin. These obviously constitute an important financial contribution for the countries of origin since they add significantly to the increase in GDP and to a levelling out of the balance of payments, as well as providing a direct benefit to the families who receive them. A fact that illustrates this phenomenon is that in 2005 remittances constituted the second source of income for countries producing migrants, just behind direct foreign investment. According to estimates by the World Bank, some 126 million dollars reached developing countries, a figure twice as large as the Official Aid for Development and representing 76% of direct foreign investment (World Bank 2005). In addition, an important aspect of this subject is its

impact on the system of gender relations. In short, the remittances are new symbols of family roles, when it is the women who are managing or sending them (Instraw 2005). This indicates a very deep trend towards social change of a cultural nature which still needs to be studied carefully.

There is, on the other hand, an interesting debate on the role of states and local governments in the management of the remittances. For example, during the 2nd Seminar of the URB-AL NETWORK 14 (June 2007), the conditions necessary for remittances to be functional were analysed. Some of the main ones are the existence of forms of social organization such as rural companies or popular financial structures; the carrying out of projects jointly with the countries of origin that can generate autonomous economic activity and an inclusive[9] kind of social care. On this same line of thought there has been much criticism of the use of remittances in the so-called projects of co-development, in the sense that they must be focused on integrated projects that avoid the undesired consequence of promoting social exclusion even further.[10]

(b) The political dimension

Until the start of the nineties, the inclusion of migration on government agendas was restricted to a few countries, in particular those receiving migrants. They looked at topics related to the establishment of quotas of foreign workers, the assimilation of immigrants and procedures for asylum. In countries producing migrants such as those of Latin America, the analyses have been centred on inter-regional migrations.

The current situation is that countries receiving migrants have multiplied and diversified, while migratory flows are heterogeneous and of diverse origins. This has meant that states have a growing need to generate areas for coordination, exchange of knowledge and joint action. This has been named "Agenda for the

governance of migration". It points out that migrations must be orderly, secure and protective of personal rights.[11]

The inclusion of migrations in the international political agenda has taken place by international demand, such as that promoted by the IOM. The "International Dialogue on Migrations" since 2001 or the "Berne Initiative" are examples of the emergence of four regional consultation initiatives which resulted in the preparation of a general political framework: the "International Agenda for the Management of Migrations". This is based on three general principles: 1) the management of migrations requires approaches that include all the levels involved: national, regional and worldwide; 2) migration is a subject that always concerns the sovereignty of states; 3) the dialogue and cooperation between states enriches the unilateral, bilateral and regional perspectives in force. The United Nations, for its part, took on the independent body the World Commission on International Migrations with the mandate to place migrations on the world agenda, to analyze the existing gaps in current policies on the subject, and to examine the relationships between migrations and other problems.

On this matter we can mention the following forums in the European region: the Budapest Process (50 states); the Conference on Refuge, Return, Displaced Persons and subjects related to the Community of Independent States (CIS Conference, 12 states); the Inter-governmental Consultations on Asylum, Refuge, and Migration Policies (16 states). From the Latin American side, 1996 saw the start of the Regional Conference on Migrations called the Puebla Process (11 states), and in 2000 the South American Conference on Migrations (12 states) was established.

The analysis of said conferences allows us to state that the European nations receiving migrants are increasingly concerned about security, from a policing point of view. From this perspective, the main aim is to strengthen border controls by coordinating

and cooperating with other members of the European Union (EU). Regulations that relate immigration to an increasing insecurity are also being defined. This implies that the migratory flows are conceived as being within the competence of Home Offices. Such a display of regulations has the effect of driving a significant number of migrants underground, as well as promoting a stereotypical image of immigration which provides the basis for xenophobic and racist speeches.[12] They also omit the recommendations of various international forums that promote concepts such as that of "human security", which means protecting those people exposed to threats to their own lives (or other similar risks or situations) and create care systems that will supply them with the basic elements of survival, dignity and means of existence.[13]

Another of the recurring themes in international debates constitutes the discussions and regulations derived from the concept of citizenship within the framework of globalization. In the receiving countries the distinctions between those who are citizens and those who are not, and between migrants who have been accepted as such and those who are underground, generate very different situations regarding protection and the exercise of fundamental rights. At a higher level of abstraction, these situations provoke a critical debate on the relationships between citizenship and territory and between citizenship and national identity. On the one hand, in terms of social integration, there is evidence to demonstrate that the belief that immigrants, or at least their children, would fully integrate with the receiving territories has been seriously put in doubt by events such as the ones that took place recently in the so-called "banlieues" of suburban Paris, to give a recent example. In matters of identity, studies of the concept and practices of "trans-nationalism" bring into question the traditional role played by Nation-states, generating discussions on the integration of migrants and the rights of ethnic or national minorities to maintain and develop their cultural mores. Daily trans-national practices of migrants (links that they maintain with their countries of origin

connecting them to their destination country) are contrary to the assimilation model for the reception of immigrants.[14]

Lastly, the regional conferences in Latin American countries have focused on the concern for the human rights of migrants and the interests derived from regional integration (we mustn't forget that Latin America both produces and receives migrants, therefore these conferences deal with this double problem). An example of this is the Regional Conference on Migration – Mexico and the Caribbean –(Puebla Process) or the Final Declaration of the South American Conference on Migrations– South America. As an example, at the meeting which took place in Quito (2002) within the framework of the South American Conference, a Plan of Action was established on three central ideas: 1) freedom of movement and residence; 2) links with nationals abroad; 3) migration and development. Following these premises, a sphere of cooperation for the implementation of sub-regional agreements in the Andean Community and MERCOSUR has been created which has generated areas of free circulation for workers.[15]

(c) The socio-cultural dimension

Current technological advances provide clear advantages when compared with migrations of the end of the XIX century and a large part of the XX century, as regards the ease and numerous possibilities for travel and communication. To this we can add the social networks of immigrants which characterize current migratory trends.

As we have seen, the behaviour and evolution of immigrant networks are a constituent part of current theories on the concept of trans-nationalism. The varied practices of immigrant communities produce at least two effects: on the one hand, they provide a partial explanation for certain migratory flows (as, for example, those of certain rural communities towards a particular region or

city); on the other, they shed light on the existence of the so-called trans-national identities - through family, political and economic relationships between the places of origin and destination, a series of lifestyles that transcend geographical and political borders of the countries involved in the process are developed.

Therefore, the main idea is that the frameworks for analyzing migrations can no longer be based on an approach that separates the place of origin from that of arrival, a fundamental perspective of assimilation policies. On the contrary, they must assume that they are faced with multicultural societies, a fact which leads us to consider that migrations produce culturally-based social changes both at the places of origin and destination. These transformations are generated by flows of information, remittances, proliferation of new symbols, lifestyles and patterns of behaviour, organizational and association abilities specific to immigrants, changes in family structures and in traditional gender roles, among others.

The relationships woven by immigrant communities go even further than the state borders of their countries of origin, with new identities coming to the fore beyond the strictly national ones. This occurs, for example, with the Pan-Maya community from the migrations going from the Caribbean towards the United States, or with the Bubi community in Europe, and particularly in Spain. Furthermore, one person can generate identities with various territories and cultural backgrounds simultaneously. And, as for families, the so-called trans-national homes (linked by relatives who live in different regions) are also an increasingly common feature amongst migrants.

One of the critical observations that have emerged on the apparent optimism of the concept of trans-nationalism is that these community identities are actually an obstacle for social integration –therefore confirming the existence of homogeneous identities of reference that immigrants do not join and that they should integrate

with– while others stress that these practices actually demonstrate the difficulties immigrants have in order to be able to partake of civic, political and social rights, which would mean that we are faced with strategies for survival and social participation opposite a situation of permanent risk of exclusion and discrimination (Castles and Miller 2004; Pedone 2006).

In any case, the importance of the concept in question seems to be at the core of many of the initiatives taken by the countries of origin of migrations that, through so-called linking programmes, express the need to maintain links with their emigrants (Vono de Vilhena 2006). These initiatives can be partial (as, for example, those referring to remittances), they can have a limited reaction from the migrant population (as in the case of Colombia that has prepared a strategic plan granting the vote to migrants, thus giving them their own representative in Parliament), or they can have a more integral course of action (such as the Linking Programme in Uruguay, which has created the so-called "Department 20", with procedures for participation and connection with emigrants through consultation councils, the implementation of information programmes for donations, taking care of formalities for foreign investment, among other examples).[16]

(d) The local territorial dimension

Migrations have been an explanatory factor of the world urbanization processes. It is estimated today that half of the world's human population, 3,300 million people, live in urban areas. In 2030 it is calculated that this figure could reach 61%. In addition, the projection is that 95% of world urban population growth up to 2027 will be absorbed by cities in the countries of origin of migrants and by other cities migrants will head for (Clark 2007). In this sense, the Report on the Condition of World Population (2007) states that toward 2030 the cities in the countries of origin of migrants will host 80% of the world urban population.

To summarize, the demographic trend shows an urbanizing process that is evident in the development of cities and their dependence on each other. Effectively, cities as well as metropolitan regions constitute the areas of globalization. That is where the global economic processes (of production, capital markets, investments and trade)[17] are formed and are connected by communication networks, and by logistical, transport and information systems that allow local and global areas to be formulated (Pascual 2007).

On the other hand, the population growth of small and medium-sized cities (52% of the world's population lives in cities with less than 500,000 inhabitants) is contrasted with the scarce growth of the large metropolis. This can involve both positive as well as negative aspects. In smaller cities it is easier to carry out activities, they are more flexible as to the area available for expansion, and they are more inclined to the management of proximity. But reality is still very different: many of these cities, particularly those with fewer than 100,000 inhabitants, show marked deficiencies in terms of housing, transport, running water, rubbish disposal and other services, as well as having less human, financial and technical resources at their disposal.

In any case, the features of such urban growth at a world level show that although cities include higher levels of poverty, they also contain greater possibilities of human development as globalization promotes their potential for production. In this way they become focal points for immigrant labour both for unskilled and skilled jobs.

From an economic point of view, the benefits provided by international migrants in the cities where they settle are obvious: it is the case of "replacement migrations" where there is low or

negative population growth and an older population as in many European countries (where they contribute to guaranteeing the income for pensions), of jobs in the sectors involved in the globally inter-connected labour market, of economic dynamism and the increase in consumption that migrants contribute to.

But the positive version of the realities of migration is not an obstacle to recognizing the negative elements of social dynamism as we have pointed out above. In particular, the persistence of an important section of international migrations in the informal or temporary labour sectors places them in a position at the margins of local organized labour sectors (Sassen 2003; Pellegrino 2006); access to the rights of citizenship, clearly weakened by current regulations, undermines the most basic political rights of foreign residents of the city. All of this explains the spatial segregations that take place in certain immigrant communities in urban areas.

International migrations have historically been linked to the competencies and sovereignty of States, based on the regulation of nationality, border controls and external and internal security. But the key role of the local world (the urban, the city) in migratory processes contrasts with the insistence of States to continue concentrating exclusive competencies on the subject.

In fact, within the framework of globalization, the migratory factor questions the role of the States regarding the capability of their competencies and the effectiveness of their policies. There are several points of friction, such as the new characteristics of migratory flows with their increasing typological (fundamentally that of feminization) and identity diversity that becomes clear in the territory and in its frameworks for cohabitation; the relationships between the various immigrant communities beyond borders be-

tween States and their respective nationalities; the variations in lo-
cal social structures that generate changes in needs, social demands
and socio-cultural environments; the prevalence of trans-national
markets and companies as determining factors of the migratory
process (something that States cannot fully account for). Also, for
reasons of proximity, local governments have an important role in
promoting the main elements of rights of citizenship of the inhabit-
ants of their territories, encouraging both their participation in the
area of citizenship and providing material and social conditions to
avoid social fragmentation. On all these matters the States have a
relative weakness or ineffectiveness (Sassen 2003 and 2007; Serra
2006; Castells 2003c; Pellegrino 2006; Zapata 2001).

On the other hand, current trends show how the habitual
negative attitudes of local governments towards a proactive policy
regarding migrations have been changing. There is now a plethora
of declarations and elaborations of strategies to deal with the sub-
ject, beyond those defined and imposed by the actual competen-
cies. In this sense, the documents and declarations that appear in
succession both in Europe as in Latin America are relevant: they
coincide in the statement that the involvement of local governments
in order to face the challenges of international migrations is vital
on all points.[18] This implies that the migratory fact leads local gov-
ernments to define networks of cooperation amongst themselves.
In this way they partly overcome the restrictions they may have
regarding their direct competencies on the subject.

There is, therefore, a clear inter-dependence between glo-
balization, the migratory process, urbanization and multi-cultural-
ism, which results in an increase in the complexity and diversity
of the needs, demands and social problems of city residents. Local
governments manage this complexity from their proximity and

taking into account the social networks in their territory in order to establish joint actions for the benefit of all. This implies that nowadays it is not sufficient for local governments to concentrate on administering regulations and competencies related to some resources. The existence of major competencies as well as of further resources for managing social complexity at a local level is a desirable condition, although insufficient to approach contemporary human development. To use an example of this situation, the management of cultural diversity implies approaching the intangible with social policies, something that cannot be ensured simply by a larger budget, but by the capacity to generate a social action for the city that involves the social web in the process of solving this kind of civic challenges. Therefore, the fundamental role of local governments is to enable strategies for their own city and its participants, beyond their own competencies. This demands a very deep cultural change which involves overcoming the concept of government simply as a provider and manager of services (Pascual 2007).

2.3. Migrations between Europe and Latin America: a historical outline

The markets and the economy, demography and the migratory policies of states have accompanied, conditioned and promoted/restricted migrations between Europe and Latin America from the last third of the XIX century until today. The following is a brief summary of the fundamental features of European and Latin American migratory movements. In this way we intend to place the migratory relationships between the two regions in a historical context.

2

The last third of the XIX century and the first of the XX century was a period known for the promotion of free trade, the free movement of capital and the supremacy of the gold standard throughout the world. In Europe it was accompanied by the demographical transition which produced an increase in the population to levels unknown until that time, an explanatory factor of the far-reaching European migrations of that period.

It is estimated that around 60 million Europeans emigrated during this period. Latin America received 22% of these migrants. Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay were the countries that received the largest numbers of immigrants. Their origins were mainly Southern European, mainly Italians and Spaniards. On the European continent, this large movement of people was called the "age of massive migration".

At this time the Latin American states were forging their processes of independence. Therefore, proactive measures were taken in order to incorporate immigrants inspired by the policies of "to govern America is to populate her" (this referred to European migrants, as there were certain restrictive regulations against some groups for ethnic and national reasons).[19] For this purpose, recruitment offices were established in Europe in order to attract these migratory flows towards Latin America, and thus favour Latin American economic growth.

Similarly, the policies implemented by the Latin American receiving countries influenced the destinations and characteristics of these migrations. In this sense it is particularly relevant to mention the demand of specialized workers for industry and the

promotion of migrations towards rural areas in order to replace the internal Latin American migration towards the cities (an objective which was not achieved totally through international migrations, but also through inter-regional ones).

Year	Argentina Percentage of migration		Brazil Percentage of migration		Uruguay Percentage of migration	
1870	Italians	12,2%	Italians	10,3%	Italians	13,0 %
	Spaniards	15 %	Spaniards	11,2%	Spaniards	23,8 %
	French	5,5%	Portuguese	20,5%	French	11,7 %
1914	Italians	11,9 %	Italians	11,2%	Italians	34,3 %
	Spaniards	20%	Spaniards	12,7%	Spaniards	30,3 %
	French	1,25%	Portuguese	30,3%	French	4,6 %

Source: Own work using data from CEPAL.

The migratory pattern between Latin America and Europe changes profoundly after the II World War.

In Western Europe the economic recovery and the new international economic context as well as the need for labour in the industrial sector generated policies of recruitment of immigrant workers (Germany, France, Switzerland, Belgium or the Nether-lands) mainly from former colonies or through policies such as that of the "guest worker" (in Germany).

In the meantime, on the economic front Latin America was changing from a mainly agro-exporting model to a temporary and incomplete model of industrial production, a process that was ac-companied by a large increase in population. We only need to point

out that between 1955 and 1965 the average population growth in Latin America reached an all time high of 165 million people in 1950, and rose to 441 million in 1990 (Pellegrino 2003). Nevertheless, even though GDP in the region doubled in this period, it still remained well below that of most industrialized nations, and for this reason the inequalities in income distribution were reinforced.

Therefore, in the Latin American context, demographic growth and the lack or insufficiency of economic development produced a process of internal migrations and of rapid urban growth in the region (higher concentrations of population in the cities) without precedent, as well as the beginning of migrations abroad. Subsequently, the dictatorships of the 70s and 80s plus the serious economic situation caused by foreign debt and the re-structuring plans of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) of the 80s, emphasized greatly the importance of movements to other countries.[20] Since that time Europe has been the second destination for international migrations from Latin America after the United States.

From the 80s onwards the boom in the service sector and in the information economy in Europe (once the crisis of the capitalist restructuring of the 70s had been overcome) became the structural framework for a renewed economic surge. In this environment there is an abundance of jobs in personal services (personal, domestic, sanitary and restoration), most of which were temporary or peripheral and which complemented the main economic activities of high added value.

From 1990 immigration in Europe was resumed, mainly as a result of the shortage of labour during the period of growth as well as the evident European demographic downturn, a source of the imbalance between the active and passive population.[21] Countries that in the past had had no immigration or indeed had been producers of emigration became receiving countries of migratory

movements. Thus, Greece has become a destination for migrations from the Balkans and the Near East, Italy for Albania and Northern Africa, and Spain and Portugal for South America and Africa. This increase in migratory flows took place in spite of the existence of very restrictive policies on this subject.
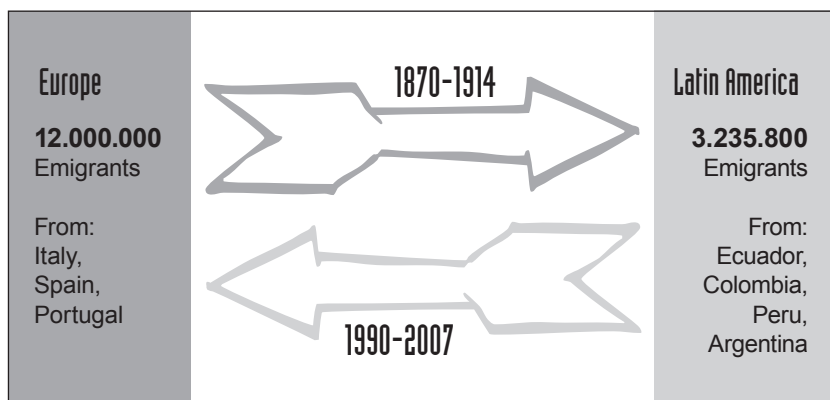
Latin American population in Europe

Main receiving countries	Main nacionalities	Total Latin American population
Spain	Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Argentina	1.700.000
Italy	Peru, Bolivia, Colombia	200.000
France	Colombia, Peru, Ecuador	100.000
Portugal	Brazil	83.000
Belgium	Ecuador, Colombia, Brazil, Peru	30.000

Source: Own work using data from EUROSTAT and Anuario La Vanguardia (2007)

Even though the data on Latin American emigration towards Europe has some drawbacks (the statistics do not include countries of birth and many people have taken the nationalities of their mothers or fathers, not registering as Latin Americans), it is obvious that a significant part of the immigration process from the 90s to date originates in Latin America. The Latin migratory flow towards Europe comes, basically, from South America and Andean America. In short, there are currently 3 and a half million people originally from Latin America living in Europe, the main receiving country being Spain with the largest percentage.[22]

In view of the above, it can be said that from a historical perspective there are similar parameters in the migratory flows that link Europe and Latin America. They largely depend on changes in economic situations and labour markets, together with demographic balances and the implementation of recruiting or restrictive migratory policies. In any case, today they constitute the population base that will be able to contribute to the relationships between both regions. The chart shows the flows and these relationships between populations.

Europe	1870-1914	Latin America
12.000.000 Emigrants		**3.235.800** Emigrants
From: Italy, Spain, Portugal	1990-2007	From: Ecuador, Colombia, Peru, Argentina

2.3.2. Internal migrations within Latin America

It is necessary to dedicate a small section to this matter, since the perception that today Latin America is fundamentally a source of migration towards Europe and the United States is not totally accurate. Latin American states are an important area for receiving migrants, something that we need to consider due to its importance when looking at the Latin American experience within the PDC framework on migrations and when preparing transferable local policies on immigration.

In fact, the region has maintained, since national independence, frequent population movements rooted in the predominance of strong shared links, history and common identities (Pellegrino 2003). These flows have been continually conditioned by political upheavals (dictatorships and political violence), the historic economic instability of the region and by the demand for labour for investment projects. In this way, those people born in the region represent 60% of total immigrants from Latin American countries, most of them being women.

Within the Southern Cone, Argentina is the main centre for receiving migratory flows from surrounding countries. This goes back to 1914 when a census registered more than 200,000 people from Paraguay, Chile, Bolivia, Brazil and Uruguay. These migrations persist today, as well as a migratory flow from Peru. The main reason for this migratory destination is the low birth rate in Argentina plus the demand for labour in certain sectors where most of the jobs performed by immigrants are in the areas of agriculture, industry, construction, trade and services.

The Andean Region has a migratory flow from Colombia to Venezuela which diversified towards urban and rural areas. The main feature of this process is that populations share very closely their identities and customs. In the 70s Venezuela had a demand for labour as a result, mainly, of the boom in the oil industry. Later on, the differences in remuneration, the social networks that had been formed by the immigrants, more social stability, the demand for a workforce for the production of coffee, as well as the continued forced movements suffered by the Colombian population, continue to maintain the migratory flow towards Venezuela (in 2000 a figure of 700,000 Colombian immigrants was achieved).

2

Today there are increasing situations where definitive migrations coexist with temporary ones. This is the case of Paraguay, where there was a large influx of immigrants for the construction of the hydroelectric infrastructure (as well as Paraguayans returning for this reason), simultaneously with an outflow of 360,000 emigrants. Or the case of Chile, which currently receives a significant flow of women from Peru and Ecuador for domestic service and the health sector, but which also has an emigrant population of 270,000 (CEPAL 2006b).

These migratory movements confirm two relevant facts. Firstly, a clear trend toward feminization.[23] This makes it absolutely necessary that research on migrations is done from a gender perspective since the image of a man who migrates in order to provide for his family –showing the woman as a mere partner– is no longer valid nor does it represent reality. Secondly, the data analyzed within the regional Latin American context shows: how the labour markets of the issuing and receiving countries complement each other, an increase in the demand for labour in the service sector and the effects of family reunion. This facilitates the establishment of bilateral agreements between States and between sub-regions on the free circulation of workers.

The most important concept to keep in mind from what has been said regarding inter-regional migrations in Latin America is its permanence in time and the fact that it has become an essential component of regional integration and economic development. This explains, largely, the current efforts in the search for inter-state criteria that will facilitate migration and the residence of Latin American citizens, within the framework of the creation of a regional common market.

Country	Population Total	Immigrants		Emigrants	
		Total	% Population	Total	% Population
Argentina	36.784.000	1.531.000	4.2	507.000	1.4
Brazil	174.719.000	683.000	0.4	730.000	0.4
Chile	15.398.000	195.000	1.3	453.000	2.9
Colombia	42.321.000	66.000	0.2	1.441.000	3.4
Ecuador	12.299.000	104.000	0.8	585.000	4.8
Mexico	98.881.000	519.000	0.5	9.277.000	9.4
Peru	25.939.000	23.000	0.1	634.000	2.4
Venezuela	24.311.000	1.014.000	4.2	207.000	0.9
Total Latin America	511.681.000	5.148.000	1.0	19.549.000	3.8
Total Caribbean	11.782.000	853.000	7.2	1.832.000	15.5
TOTAL REGION	**523.463.000**	**6.001.000**	**1.1**	**21.381.000**	**4.1**

Source: Own work using data from the Demographic Observatory -CEPAL. (Census 2000)

2.4. Public decentralized cooperation in a migratory context

We have seen that it is at a local level, i.e. the city, where immigrants settle and begin their process of putting down roots, all of which comprises a range of political, economic, social and cultural considerations and consequences.

This necessarily leads us to consider that local governments have no choice but to face up to the migratory processes, something which is often neglected due to their lack of legal-political competencies on the subject.

The option is to recognize the challenge in this area in all its complexity and in the sense of leading the social change. Going beyond competencies of distribution, local governments, as the representatives closest to the citizens, are well placed to prepare policies on realities that have a global origin, since they are responsible for the quality of life of the inhabitants of their areas. They are, therefore, central figures in the preparation of policies that make the management of the diversification process of social life in the cities more efficient and effective. For this reason, it is the norm for local governments to have some kind of political-administrative unit on immigration policies, with general plans or a well-ordered programme dealing with the social process of immigration, and that establishes channels for participation and daily interaction with civil society and the associations linked to immigrants.

In view of this, migrations have been subject to becoming a part of the content pertaining to decentralized cooperation relationships. This is precisely what the Conference of Guatemala of the Observatory on Decentralized Cooperation (2007) invites us to do: to address, discuss and define the content of the relationships between local governments.

We must first point out that the declaration of Guatemala conceives PDC mainly as an autonomous method of institutional strengthening for local authorities that comprise the cooperative relationship and that are committed with human development and social cohesion in the area, both in its tangible (the development of joint projects that generate specific actions) as well as in its intangible dimension (the level transfer of information, knowledge and links).

In terms of institutional strengthening, the exchanges are concerned with: 1) improving technical and municipal management competencies; 2) fostering an active population committed to development; 3) improving the availability of resources and the status of local government in the national, regional and international framework.

PDC is ruled by the following relationship criteria between the participants:

1. Reciprocity. Reciprocity of the relationship is not equivalent to parity nor is it possible when cooperation is limited to the transfer of resources in one direction. Reciprocity must be based on a definition of common interests for cooperation and in the development of complementary exchanges.

2. Adaptability to the context. There is a place for PDC between local governments that can be very different in terms of social, cultural, economic, political and geographical structures. Nevertheless, these differences must not undermine the equality of the relationship between local governments, nor the resolution of joint problems.

3. Consensus among participants. It is particularly important to commit various social agents to the action by establishing agreements between the public, association and private sectors, under the leadership of local governments

4. Practical consequences. PDC must be capable of achieving tangible results for human and social development. In the first place, it must analyze its own capabilities, detect needs, and start a dialogue with chosen counterparts in order to define jointly priorities and work plans. Actions of excellence on matters of human development constitute the foundation for an improved exchange amongst members.

2

On the other hand, there is proof of the great interest shown in migrations by European and Latin American governments. This is clearly visible as it constitutes one of the main subjects on the agendas of their respective international political relations, and is a frequent subject for discussion by agencies and world forums. The relevant point of this interest is the gradual recognition of the vital importance of local governments in the management of the migratory process.

Therefore, at the Vienna summit in 2006, the proposal for a resolution addressed to the European Parliament on the subject of an authentic relationship of association between the European Union and Latin America stated the need to reinforce the role of local governments, to develop policies to achieve the Millennium Objectives 2015, and, particularly, it recommended that beyond economic and commercial interests, there should be a fostering of relations of democratic entrenchment, decentralization and collaboration in the social sphere. In particular, it highlighted that one of the matters to be dealt with is the need for creating innovative migratory policies, since the subject of current migrations is at the centre of the configuration of the relationships between the EU and its partners in Latin America (sections 87 to 91 of the Report).

The topics mentioned in the resolution are included specifically within the 12 objectives agreed, and coincide with the subjects discussed at the High Level Dialogue on International Migrations and Development (2006) which declared an urgent need to concentrate on the social repercussions of international migrations and to favour the strengthening of the role of local and regional governments in this matter (Work group 4: "Cooperation and multidimension" and Intermediate Workshop: "Free circulation of people in the processes of regional integration").

Europe is experiencing the challenge of considering the diversity and heterogeneity of immigrants as regards their insertion

in city dynamics. At a higher level of abstraction, the challenge is that of social inclusion. In this respect there are various works in progress such as the Manual on Integration for those responsible for the preparation of policies and for professionals from the Justice, Freedom and Security Directorate of the EU, which includes practices and lessons taken from the 25 member states on subjects such as the fostering of integration of immigrants, housing in urban areas, economic inclusion or the governance of integration. In this way, the intention is to create a coherent European framework for the integration of immigrants.

Particularly for Latin America, the United Nations (UN) report (2006) on "The benefits and challenges of migrations for Latin America and the World" emphasizes the benefits in terms of economic and social development as a result of migrations, both for the countries providing as for those receiving the migrants. Nevertheless, the report also points out that while Latin America is the region that benefits the most from the remittances sent back by their citizens abroad, it is also the region that provides the largest number of highly qualified emigrants, resulting in a potential loss in competitiveness for their own economies.

International migrations have a prominent position in the agenda of political relations between the EU and Latin America; they are, in short, a permanent subject for study, discussion and political action. And in this context the local area is presented as the sphere for effective management of the reality of migrations in spite of its subjection to the general regulatory capacity of nations.

2.5. Migrations as part of local agendas in Latin America and Europe

Declarations made within the setting of city networks, local government forums or federations of municipalities represent regulatory frameworks that have a decisive influence on the inclu-

sion of migrations in local political agendas. These declarations and instruments are of threefold importance for this matter. On the one hand, they empower and legitimize local governments in their proactive role in international migrations, beyond the limits of their own competences; on the other, they establish common bases for the preparation of local policies on international migrations which should be easily accessible and capable of being duplicated. Finally, they place international migrations in the structural context of globalization and indicate the need for local public policies to respond to this adequately. The following are several examples of this:

Declaration of Bogota: "Local response that cannot be postponed to the challenge of migration", Ibero-American Centre for Strategic Development (CIDEU), 12 May 2006

The Declaration interprets migrations as a challenge as well as an opportunity for both the cities that receive them and those that produce them. We must point out the need to foster local capabilities in an innovative sense according to the features of contemporary migrations. In this sense, the Declaration summarizes the approach to migrations by local governments along the following strategic lines: a) to promote a strategic agreement at city level, involving all social players; b) to sign agreements with the States that favour the active participation of local governments in the preparation of the policies and management of strategies, by providing resources; c) to use and promote the use of new technologies so that the management of learning takes place through networks that favour interactions; d) to generate opportunities for development and training of local governments; e) to reach a consensus on protocols for action and to disseminate them; f) to foster strategies of cooperation for regional and metropolitan development; g) to establish strategies of communication related to information that is distributed to the immigrant population of cities.

We must highlight that CIDEU had already obtained a Protocol on Immigration in 2005, which was approved and on which consensus had been reached between member cities within the framework of its XIII Congress (Santiago de los Caballeros, Dominican Republic). From the basis of a general declaration on the importance and the effects of migratory flows, there are nine stipulations to be incorporated and put in practice by local governments: a) the need for multi-level coordination for undertaking the social challenges raised by migrations; b) to focus on migration policies from an integrated perspective; c) to generate models and good practices as reference points; d) to encourage cooperation methods that develop global plans for the integration of immigrants in cities; e) to organize and compile the information for the preparation of local plans for integration in inter-cultural societies; f) that the plans for cooperation and development keep in mind those producing immigration; g) to guarantee the social rights and needs of the immigrant population in the receiving cities; h) to establish mechanisms to evaluate the results of these policies; i) to involve international agencies and States in the financing of local programmes.

Declaration of Seville on the role of local and regional governments as regards migration, meeting of the Board of the Council of Municipalities and Regions of Europe, 23 October 2006

The Council is a consultation body attached to the European Commission that fosters the implementation of the European Charter on Local Autonomy.

The Declaration of Seville puts forward eight stipulations, among which it is worth pointing out: a) the statement of the role of local governments regarding the management of migrations, and very importantly, regarding their essential participation in the preparation of migration policies; b) the requirement of competen-

cies for an effective management and the provision of sufficient resources to implement the new services required by the new citizens; c) the recognition of immigrants' right to vote in municipal elections as a fundamental element of integration; d) the request to the Council of Municipalities for the organization of cooperation and exchange activities on municipal experiences in this matter.

Declaration of the I Ibero-American Forum of Local Governments, Montevideo, 27 October 2006: "Migrations: from the global to the local"

The Declaration establishes seven main objectives based on the strategic dimension of local governments as regards migrations. The most significant ones are: a) the need to formulate specific policies and action plans from an integrated perspective of the city; b) the implementation of innovative actions that will allow an improvement in the management of resources contributed by emigrants to their places of origin and to foster co-development activities; c) the need to provide information and training on migratory processes; d) the development of active political policies for the integration of migrants into destination societies that ensure the protection of their rights as citizens; e) the support for the creation and consolidation of networks and projects of public decentralized cooperation within regional and national plans.

Perspectives 2007-2010 of the Committee for Public Decentralized Cooperation in United Cities and Local Government (UCLG), Jeju, 2007

Within the framework of possibilities of work until 2010, the members of the Committee have prepared the strategic lines of action, of which we highlight the following: "To participate in the formation of a platform of local authorities within the framework of the new EU programme of thematic cooperation *Non-national authors and local authorities in cooperation for development*". The Committee also has a specific working group on "Migration and co-development", with the purpose of fostering the cooperation between cities and local governments on the subject of migrations.

The text of the declarations presented share a common thread, more detailed in some than in others; the cooperation between the cities and regions migrants come from and those where they take up residence presents an opportunity for development that local governments must take advantage of, both in its economic dimension (by contributing to growth) as well as culturally (by the broadening and diversification of global visions and the deepening of inter-cultural relationships).

All of this entails inviting municipalities to get to know both the social diversity and the origins of their present citizens more adequately, as well as preparing and organizing their own strategic policies on migration matters. Therefore, the declarations share the statement of the political need to strengthen the institutions of local governments, both from the point of view of strategic planning as of the increase of its capacity for management of the development of projects and services inherent in the new social complexity.

Similarly, the texts outline the essential compliance with human rights and deal with the priority of defending vulnerable groups, such as migrant women and children. But an important point due to its significance, is that the declarations conceive the social integration of immigrants conditioned by the exercise of the rights of citizenship (in the Declaration of Seville, for example, there is a demand for the right to vote in municipal elections). Furthermore, the declarations address particular proposals for emigrants, with the purpose of fostering their participation in the development of their places of origin through co-development activities and as a form of maintaining trans-border links.

Taking these declarations as a general regulatory framework for the development of PDC in this matter, we outline below how cooperation between Latin American and European cities has taken place.

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Notes

1 The data clearly demonstrates this tendency. For example, world trade rose from 579,000 million dollars in 1980 to 6,272 billion in 2004; the mean daily figure for transactions invoiced on foreign stock exchanges was of 200,000 million dollars in 1986, whereas today it amounts to 2 billion.

2 Between 2000 and 2006, total use of the Internet grew by 201%.

3 Some of the main regional organizations such as TLCAN or NAFTA, the EU, ASEAN and MER-COSUR, have arisen mainly to promote economic integration of the states involved. We must insist on the importance of this fact. For example, in 2003, the EU15 represented a mere 6% of the world's population but generated more than a fifth of imports and exports making it the largest market in the world. We must also highlight that Western hegemony is still present on the economic front. Actually, the system formed by the European Union, Canada and the United States represents the largest concentration of the processes of economic globalization: in the first decade of 2,000, this region concentrates two thirds of the capitalization of world stock exchanges, 60% of foreign investment, 76% of investments abroad, and, on mergers and acquisitions, 60% of worldwide sales as well as 80% of purchases. Nevertheless, another feature of the globalizing process is the data on incipient "Western counter-hegemonies". For example, more than 40% of all goods exported by developing countries (including basic raw materials and manufactured products) are destined for other developing countries. Trade from and towards the South is increasing at an annual rate of approximately 11%, almost double the rate for total world trade (Clark 2007).

4 Please note that for social activism the Internet is a very important medium for organizing activities. For example, on February 4th 2008 there was a worldwide demonstration by Colombian citizens against the kidnappings of the FARC which was triggered by the initiative of a single person. The Internet and blogsphere are means of generating extremely visible and influential collective activities, something that in the past was monopolized by formal institutions (the state, the party, trade unions, the media, groups of all kinds).

5 Gil Araújo (2006) provides the following example: "Between 1864 and 1924 the British Isles shipped out 17 million people, a sum equivalent to 41% of its population in 1900 (…). During the last 20 years of the XX century, the number of migrants received by the USA was equivalent to 3% of its population, whereas between 1870 and 1920 the percentage reached was 10%."

6 Examples: For the Spanish state as a whole, the number of foreign workers covered by Social Security up until 31st December 2005 was of 1.7 million, that is 9.3% of the total number of members. Two thirds of the people who entered the Social Security system in 2005 were immigrants who enrolled, basically, after acquiring residence and work permits within the framework of the latest formalization process fostered by the national government. For Catalunya as a whole, a recent study by the financial institution "Caixa de Catalunya", entitled *Situation and perspectives of the Catalonian economy* (2006), certifies the economic impact of immigration on the country. In short, the immigrant population in Catalunya is responsible for a 50% growth in GDP in 2005. The growth in population has produced a rise in internal demand, from consumer goods to housing, thus increasing the number of jobs required to satisfy this demand.

7 A consequence, largely, of applying the Structural Adjustment Plans, the policies on payment of external debt and the inequality of income distribution.

8 The increasing concern about recruitment practices of large corporations, companies and industry must be considered. (Report GCIM, 2005).

9 A strong example of this is the position maintained by immigrant organizations at the Ibero-American Meeting on Migrations and Development (Madrid, July 2007). At this meeting proposals for implementing projects such as the so-called "3x1" were outlined. This programme has been carried out in Mexico since 1993 (García Zamora, 2005). The State Institute for Migrations in the Mexican town of Zacatecas is in charge of coordinating, channeling and implementing the different inter-institutional programmes. Amongst other things, economic investment is stimulated by the creation of packages of shares, companies and projects; and the contributions of migrant clubs and associations for community social care projects are also managed.

10 Meeting on Migrations, Cooperation and Development, Madrid 27 and 28 February 2006.

11 As stated by the IOM: "(...) a global perspective of migrations must be developed, requiring an integrated and cooperative approach towards the management of international migrations, with the object of generating efficiency and promoting the beneficial aspects for the countries of origin, transit and destination".

12 Topics considered at the World Conference against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance (Durban, 2001). See also, GCIM (2005).

13 For example, the Berne Initiative proposes "a reinforcement of national laws, security systems and procedures without hindering normal migrations nor discriminating against immigrants".

14 The term "trans-national" is defined as "(...) the process by which *trans-migrants*, through their daily activities, build and maintain social, economic and political relationships that link their societies of origin with the areas where they have settled, thus creating fields of social interaction that transcend national borders." (CEPAL, 2006 b).

15 This is particularly important since the promotion of multilateral cooperation is fundamental within the framework of Latin American regional integration (this cooperation leads to the establishment of networks of officials for technical transfer or for the creation of an integrated system of statistical information on Migration in Central America and Mexico -SIEMCA/SIEMMES) and in South America through the IMILA-CELADE (CEPAL) Programme.

16 See <www.conexionuruguay.gub.uy>

17 Cities have a fundamental role to play in the world economy. Urban economic activities represent up to 55% of GDP in low income countries, 73% in those with medium incomes, and 85% in those with high incomes.

18 "Declaration on the role of local and regional governments with reference to migration" (Seville, October 2006). Declaration of Bogotá: "The non-postponable local reply to the challenge of migrations" (May 2006). Declaration of Montevideo: "Migrations: from the global to the local" (November 2006).

19 As an illustration: "To populate is to civilize when you populate with civilized people, that is to say, with inhabitants of civilized Europe. That is why I have stated in the Constitution that the government must encourage European immigration. But to populate is not to civilize, but to brutalize, when you populate with Chinese and Indians from Asia and with Negroes from Africa. To populate is to plague, corrupt, degenerate, and poison a country, when you populate it with the dregs of the retrograde and least cultured parts of Europe instead of attracting the cream of the working population of Europe. Because there is Europe and there is Europe, it's best not to forget this; and one can remain within the liberal text of the Constitution which fosters European immigration without ruining a South American country by populating it only with European immigrants". Juan Bautista Alberdi (1852), *Bases and departure points for national reorganization*, Chap. XV, page 90.

20 The number of Latin American and Caribbean migrants has greatly increased in the last few years, to just over 21 million in 2000 and to almost 26 million in 2005. These figures which do not include temporary mobility, are equivalent to the population of a demographically medium-sized country of the region and represent 13% of international migrants in the world. This as well as other data can be

found at the Latin American and Caribbean Centre for Demography (CELADE) – Population Division of CEPAL, Research Project on International Migration in Latin America (IMILA).

21 The immigrant population in Europe went from 49,381,119 people in 1990 to 64,115,850 in 2005, 55% of whom were women (almost 10% of the total population of the continent). Report UNFPA and EUROSTAT.

22 A 1991 census showed that there were 210,000 Latin Americans in Spain, in 2001 this increased to 840,000 and in 2006 to 1.7 million, of which 1.3 million did not have Spanish nationality (Immigration Observatory, 2006). The figures contrast with those of other countries. For example, in 2003 in Italy there were 200,000 legally registered Latin Americans, mostly from the Andean region (Peru, Bolivia, Colombia); in 2005 in Portugal there were around 83,000 registered Brazilians of varying status (workers, students, people with visas); in France there are more than 100,000 resident Latin Americans, mainly from Colombia, Peru and Ecuador.

23 Examples: in the case of Colombians in Venezuela and Ecuador the distribution, broken down by sex, is respectively, 91.4 and 89.2 men per 100 women; for Paraguayans and Chileans in Argentina, it is, respectively, 73.3 and 91.9 men per 100 women. The most significant example concerns Peruvian migration to Chile, where there are 66.5 Peruvian men per 100 women of the same nationality (CEPAL, 2006 b).

3. Migrations in public decentralized cooperation of city networks of Latin America and Europe

3.1. Networks of cooperating cities: presentation and analysis of the subject projects

The networks foster the interaction between various cities that have jointly set out the same objectives and interests. Basically, they have been created as a linking area for all the endeavours of local entities to deal with the challenges of managing local realities within the framework of globalization. The use of networks as a way of putting PDC into effect has become an efficient tool for sub-national cities and entities, since they guarantee that the cooperation is level and reciprocal, it strengthens institutions and is of mutual benefit (Malé 2007). Effectively, we must highlight its results in strengthening the capability for management of international relations, the improvement and modernization of administrations and processes of local public management, the strengthening and refining of decision-making processes based on citizen participation, and a greater capacity for political planning.

As regards the subject in hand, networks constitute a suitable platform for confronting serious social challenges of a cross-sectional and global nature. As seen in the previous chapter, migrations constitute a reality that affects various dimensions of social dynamics; a reality that is latent particularly in the areas of departure and arrival of individuals and families of migrants: the cities and towns of origin and destination. In this way, the interest in international migrations is reflected in different forms in city networks, from each joint political declaration or the organization of work committees in the heart of the city networks, to the practical fulfilment of cooperation projects between cities.

On the other hand, there are different network typologies that demonstrate the diversity of interests and objectives of the cooperating cities as, for example, thematic, territorial and strategically oriented networks.

This study will outline the thematic networks such as those generated by the URB-AL Programme (where cities are organized around concrete subjects and problems of local urban development); the Ibero-American Centre for Strategic Development (CIDEU) network, with its key theme being strategic urban planning as a link between cities; and the International Association of Educating Cities (IAEC), where cities cooperate on the subject of education.

These networks have different territorial ranges. While the URB-AL thematic networks are rooted in the territories of Latin America and Europe, the territorial range of CIDEU is the Ibero-American area, and IAEC is fully international.

Likewise, the case of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) is set out. This is a worldwide organization with the aim of defending municipal interests in all international and national instances. It is the largest network of local governments and is a model for strategic guidance.

These differences between the networks researched result in a diversity of actions referred to migrations. Therefore, for the URB-AL networks we will concentrate on those joint projects between cities in Latin America and Europe with a specific content on migrations, and that involve PDC between both regions.

Within the CIDEU network, practices with a migration content have three forms of action within the framework of cooperation between member cities (cities of Latin America and part of Europe, i.e. Spain and Portugal). These actions have been classified

as: the preparation of strategic frameworks and joint declarations (which have the effect of getting member cities to confront the subject of migrations and providing them with strategic tools), the compilation of good practices that can be duplicated with regard to projects carried out by member cities of the network, and the choice of strategic topics through the dissemination and election of strategic projects defined by the city networks.

Similarly, in the IAEC, PDC is contained within the network and the migration content is approached by three forms of action that go from a general framework (addressing migrations at Congresses), the gathering of good practices on migrations, and the choice of strategic projects that can be duplicated.

The framework of the UCLG is entirely different. While it is a strategic network, the priority on the subject of migrations is precisely to place it on the agenda and to acquire a specific area where the matter is dealt with.

The networks, projects and actions identified in this study are outlined below. They are characterized by joint Latin American and European participation in the framework of city networks, where migrations and their diverse effects have been detected as a specific content of PDC.

3.1.1. The URB-AL Networks

These are thematic networks with a territorial range comprising Latin America and Europe.

The URB-AL programme, fostered by the European Commission, has been one of the most productive in promoting PDC between Europe and Latin America. Likewise, this programme was provided with network methodology as an instrument for the implementation of cooperation. It is, therefore, a fundamental benchmark for this study.

Fourteen thematic networks were included in the programme, of which 13 have been operational; there have been 1,537 instances of participations by cities and sub-national governments from Europe and Latin America, and 186 joint projects have been accomplished during the 10 years of the programme (1st and 2nd Phases).

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URB-AL Network 2: "Conservation of historical urban contexts"

From 1997 to 2001 the province of Vicenza (Italy) coordinated URB-AL Network 2 "The conservation of historical urban contexts". Around 200 members took part and 14 joint projects were accomplished. According to the presentation of the network, the emphasis of these projects was placed on the following two lines of work:

1. "The defence of planning projects focused on the inhabitants of historical urban contexts. For this reason, the main premise of the projects to be approved must consist of the transformation of the social agents of these contexts into active participants with their own cultural perspective, in each phase of the project and in the appropriate forms of social organization.

2. We must consider the historical urban contexts both as vestiges of unrepeatable value that it is necessary to conserve, and as part of an urban structure that changes and grows in time. Therefore, it is essential to leave aside any temptation or trend that leads us to reason with the logic of isolated monuments, even when these monuments are grouped in certain heritage areas."

One of the main objectives of the network is the assessment of the historical centres of cities as historical heritage for humanity and where a better quality of urban life can be achieved. This was accomplished in the development of joint projects between member cities centred on the assessment of the identity of urban centres, saving the historical legacy as in the case of the joint Project set out below.

This was a type A[24] Project. It took place from 2001 to 2003 and was coordinated by the city of Caxias do Sul (Brazil), with member cities Bento Gonçalves y Flores da Cunha (Brazil), and the Italian provinces of Treviso, Perugia, Trento and Venice.

The project is based on the existence of a significant Italian migration to the Brazilian member cities that had contributed to the human and economic development of the region. Some of the main aspects of the project are, on the one hand, the assessment of these contributions and their link to a current proposal for economic development of the rural Brazilian regions of Rio Grande do Sul; on the other hand, the fact that it generates corporate activity based on the added value given to the social and economic results, as well as to those arising from the building of infrastructure undertaken by past migrations. This demonstrates the project's capacity for innovation. The idea is accomplished by generating exchanges of knowledge and by the creation of tools for socio-economic development through the design of rural tourist itineraries. But its political institutional impact is no less important: in 2005, the Municipal Directive Plan of Caxias do Sul typifies the Sites of Interest for Tourism (SIT) and the sectors of special heritage, historical and landscape interest, based on valuable input from local authorities, municipal management, professional bodies and civil organizations.[25]

The interest in the project shown by European member cities is defined by the relations maintained with Italian migrants and their descendants, on the one hand, as well as the benefits of exchanges and the results of the actual project, on the other. The lessons learned have provided a basis for the presentation of projects with European member cities within the framework of the Interreg programme.[26]

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From the conclusions of phase A of the project, another joint URB-AL project type B[27] was generated: **"VICTUR" (Assessment of Tourism Integrated into the Cultural Identity of Territories)**. The priorities of the project are training on cultural assets and the promotion of knowledge of the heritage, culture and identity of the local areas, as a basis for the development of integrated forms of sustainable and quality tourism, that is, of a cultural nature. The partnerships between European and Latin American entities contemplate elements of training, acquisition and application of knowledge in the management of historical heritage. As a result, a number of instruments are generated (such as an observatory, a virtual museum on immigration, among other outcomes) on rural tourism that values cultural identity. The project has widened its area of influence, adding other Latin American member cities such as Casablanca (Chile) and Montevideo (Uruguay), and European ones such as Vilafranca del Penedés (Spain). It is important to point out that these activities have continued beyond the completion of financing by URB-AL, and that they have websites for their own promotion.[28]

URB-AL Network 5: "Urban social policies"

From 1998 to 2001 the city of Montevideo (Uruguay) coordinated this thematic network. A total of 127 Latin American and European member cities took part in the network. Their objectives are the fight against poverty and exclusion and the respect for the dignity of all people. The work undertaken by the network was based mainly on three key areas: the promotion of social participation, the sustainability of the model for development of cities, and the actions taken in the cultural sphere such as policies of social integration, through 19 joint projects. Objectives were achieved by means of three large areas of work:

1. "The promotion of the exchange of experiences and knowledge between local governments in Latin America and the European Union as regards social urban policies.

2. More in-depth knowledge of concepts and theory on the subject that will contribute to an improvement in the design and implementation of social policies by local governments.

3. The preparation and completion of joint projects amongst members."

There are two main cross-sectional topics within the framework of social policies implemented by local governments: gender and migrations. This is where the joint projects generated by URB-AL Network 5 are placed.

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Joint project URB-AL Network 5: "Municipal activities leading to gender equality and training of women and immigrants"

This was a type A project. It took place from 2001 to 2002 and was coordinated by the city of Odense (Denmark) and member cities were Escazú (Costa Rica), Acosta (Costa Rica), Mancommunity TajoSalor (Spain). The National Institute for Women of Costa Rica took part as an external member.

The project was based on the detection of the need for cities to promote the exchange of experiences and the transfer of learning on municipal practices favouring equality and equity, as well as the creation of structures for the mobilization and training of women and immigrants in order to improve the performance of the local economy and the strengthening of decision-taking at a municipal level.

The cities of Costa Rica have been receiving an increasing number of regional and rural female immigration. These cities have been motivated to take part in the project as a result of the features of the incoming migrations as well as the increase in situations of social exclusion of the female population within these migratory processes. For their part, European member cities limit their

interest in the exchange of experiences to the promotion of social participation of women in general, including immigrants (although as a subgroup, without particular definition).

In relation to this, we must point out that although the experiences recorded in the work respond to the statement "women and immigrants" of the project itself, and the reality for member municipalities is a significant presence of female immigrants, the course of action has developed towards the economic and political empowerment of women in general, which we understand is also of benefit to immigrants. This entails an interpretation of integration into city dynamics with a strong economic component, that is to say: if economic empowerment is present it leads to social integration and to the neutralization of gender and origin discrimination. Nevertheless, we can state that the project responds to the current feminization of migrations, placing the emphasis on the joint interests and services that all women require.

Let us now have a broad look at all the activities performed by member cities:

Odense. This is a benchmark for member cities in matters of decentralization and local development policies. As a result of its social policy which is well structured at a strategic level, with assured competencies, of an integral nature and financially self-sufficient, Odense has been overcoming the structural barrier which has historically limited the involvement of women in the public sphere. The administration is clearly committed to generating fostering services, care for dependent or disabled elderly people, all activities that have been linked historically to female responsibilities. In addition, from a community-based perspective, local government ensures the participation of social organizations in the development of various initiatives related to immigrant women, such as shadowing at work or counseling for mothers.

Mancommunity TajoSalor. The Mancommunity constitutes a response to the need for association of various municipalities that bring together their resources and management endeavours towards common objectives as regards services, which wouldn't be possible in other ways due to budgetary deficiencies. The Mancommunity assumes responsibility for child care centres from the perspective of generating conditions that enable women to go out to work. The Mancommunity at TajoSalor does not deal specifically with the realities of female immigrants, but refers to the model within the network of the role of INAMU in Costa Rica as an entity for planning and promoting public policies for equality (which it does through the Municipal Offices for Women-OFIM).

Training on company management for the economic empowerment of the business women in Acosta. The objective is to reinforce women's business skills, thus providing them with practical tools in order to secure their initiatives of production. The project develops a methodology with a gender perspective that considers the varying realities of women, both regarding their personal and non-transferable conditions and interests, as well as the situations of the family environment, or those related to time-management and the ability for spatial mobility which particularly affects immigrant women. This entails the design of a training activity of a flexible nature and a continuous adaptation to the diverse situations.

Design and implementation of an employment programme for women in the municipality of Escazú. The programme provides information, training and mediation for women looking for employment in order to strengthen their skills during the process of entering the labour market, particularly for immigrant women who work in the informal domestic sectors. To be specific, the project generates a labour exchange which complements the proposal for a municipal child care centre, which demonstrates the diversity of possible activities being considered in the efforts to help women join the workforce.

At a general level as well as in the realization of its activities, the project shows quite clearly how a structural core of intervention, i.e. women, is defined in a strategic perspective comprising municipal actions as a whole. The conclusions of the member cities on the political impact of the project can be summarized as follows: a) development of citizen participation for women and strengthening of their organizations as spokespersons before local governments, as a fundamental basis for the formulation of public policies for equality and equity; b) to consider the local sphere as the most accessible to women and to their governments as potential agents for reducing and compensating for inequalities; c) the need to agree strategies of municipal cooperation (mancommunity format), in order to coordinate and share services, as in the cases of the child care centres of the Municipal Offices for Women; d) to strengthen within municipal budgets, those institutions specifically dedicated to the promotion of women, as well as the programmes, projects and services, of a cross-sectional nature and including a gender perspective, that will provide them with autonomy; e) to promote mediation in the search for employment, training and access to credit for business women so that the process of entering the labour market results in economic empowerment.

Lastly, we must point out that this ability for an integral vision of the gender variable in local politics also has the capacity for accomplishment in operational terms: in short, long-lasting mechanisms for management. A final example of this is that phase A of the work maintains its continuity by carrying out a **type B URB-AL project**, "Centre for Business Women", which has become a regional training centre where research, shadowing and personal promotion takes place. This project is in force and the actions are continued after the URB-AL financing has been completed. (It has its own website29 and a large amount of documents on the actions and services provided).

The project was not implemented. Nevertheless, the following is a brief outline of same.

Rome (Italy) was the coordinating city, and member cities were Asunción (Paraguay), Buenos Aires (Argentina), Cuenca, Quito, Loja (Ecuador), La Paz (Bolivia), Pedro Aguirre Cerdá (Chile), Barcelona (Spain), Stockholm (Sweden), Senate of Berlin (Germany). The University of Cuenca and Italo-American Institute were external members. The project was presented at the second call for joint projects in the year 2000 and was approved in February 2001.

The project was motivated by the findings that current increasing migratory flows have an impact on cities, specifically as regards local social policies. Generally speaking, its central issue is to facilitate the integration processes of Latin American immigrants in the European Union, considering the diversity of socio-cultural profiles and the explanatory conditions of the migrations.
The project proposed the production of potent (read exhaustive) and agreed systems for the analysis and observation of migratory flows. The cognitive task was to prepare the typologies of migrants related to the requirements of local economic development and employment, and, on this basis, to lay the foundations of the planning and further follow up of local policies on immigration.

Therefore, in spite of the fact that it was not implemented, the project has involved a significant effort to provide a political context for the subject of migrations for local governments producing and receiving them. Specifically, its aim is to achieve agreement between the members of the Thematic Network as regards the shaping of common policies on migratory flows, by means of agreements, settlements and pacts. These policies are basically

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defined to intervene in the labour market in order to guarantee social and economic integration of immigrants. From Europe, the aim is to lessen the risks of social exclusion suffered mainly by peripheral or unskilled labour, of which immigrants form a large part.

The foundations of these policies are rooted in the findings that the contributions of migrants are a factor of economic development both in the producing countries (remittances) and receiving countries (economic growth). Although the project suffers from rooting the policies excessively in the economic aspect, it also points out the integrating role in immigration of local policies, developed for the most part from a perspective of social inclusion, that is, from a diversity of dimensions of city dynamics: economic, cultural, of social and political participation.

On the other hand, it offers the possibility for duplication outside the Network of the EU and Latin America, to provide a greater influence of the URB-AL objectives beyond the member cities. This has an even greater implementation on the American side, whereas it is assured that in Latin America this possibility for duplication could relate to all intra-American migratory flows.

URB-AL Network 9: "Local Financing and participatory Budget"

The city of Porto Alegre (Brazil) was the coordinator of URB-AL Network 9 for three years, from 2003 to 2006. The network has 410 members and 11 joint projects were accomplished.

The general objective is to provide a permanent area of exchange and broadening of experiences between Latin American and European local governments for the socialization, organization and implementation of better experiences in the spheres of local financing and participatory democracy. Specific aims outlined are:

1. "The search for information and dissemination of good practices in the management of local public policies, both European and Latin American,

as regards local financing and participatory democracy, putting together an updated outline of these initiatives.

2. Getting to know and organize the differences and similarities of the various experiences in the management of public policies within the sphere of local financing and of the practices in participatory democracy such as the participatory budget.

3. The identification of common problems and priorities of the members of the network as regards the financing of local projects, and ways of introducing and increasing the practices of popular participation in the decisions of public bodies.

4. To support the creation of mechanisms and instruments for action for members in order to obtain local financing and the development of practices in participatory democracy.

5. To establish a permanent Network of Local Governments and Civil Society for Participatory Democracy."

Joint project URB-AL Network 9: "Impact of participatory budgets on multi-ethnic and multi-cultural societies"

This is a type A project, approved in 2005, initiated in 2006 and currently pending final report. Coordinating city is Cotacachi (Ecuador), and member cities are Azogues (Ecuador), Samaniego (Colombia), Anderlecht (Belgium) and the municipality of Pont-de-Claix (France). The International Centre for Urban Management is an external member. The work hasn't been completed and there is no web page available.

The main motivation for cities in the preparation, presentation and development of the project is based on the need to implement tools for participation and the fight against ethnically-based social exclusion. More specifically, the project is of interest to this study due to its proposal to draw up participatory procedures for the design and implementation of local public policies in spheres that are normally ethnically heterogeneous. In this sense, the project proposes the organization of good practices as well as the creation of concrete proposals to be implemented by member cities.

As the project has not been finalized, the information available concentrates on the study of the case of Cotacachi **"Processes and mechanisms of inclusion of indigenous women: methodological construction and implementation"**. This case study is relevant to the aims of the project, therefore it is important to mention it, highlighting that it has received the First Distinction for Best Practices from the International Observatory for Participatory Democracy (OIDP).

Since 2000, Cotacachi has been implementing a participatory budget process that provides the population with the ability to take decisions on the total resources for investment of the annual municipal budget. Since 2003, the participatory budget has been enriched with a methodology which is appropriate for promoting the participation of women, particularly those of indigenous origin and those resident in rural areas. In short, the methodology incorporates symbolic elements of women's tasks and establishes spaces for female autonomy so that their participation is not undermined by male interventions. The objective, therefore, is to overcome the situations of exclusion for economic, ethnic-cultural and gender reasons. Indigenous women suffer from these three risks of social exclusion.

The participation of women in political activities has the effect of strengthening them as social spokespersons while they adjust public policies to proposals of a social nature, mainly in the areas of health and education. From a cultural perspective, the active social presence of indigenous women puts male hegemony in public participation at issue and interferes with white/mixed-race predominance in politics.

Therefore, we can state that the profound reason for the intervention at Cotacachi is to generate a large-scale process of social change based on the social empowerment of a specific group: indigenous women. Effectively, female participation has

increased 38% over the last four years, starting from 11% in 2002. Additionally, the methodological proposal that includes them in the participatory process is also a technical innovation, in the sense that it makes political and social participation in Cotacachi more comprehensible, effective and inclusive.

The development of this municipal policy has had the full support of local authorities, the indigenous organizations and organizations of indigenous women in Cotacachi. Basically, in this respect, we must point out the functions of the Assembly of the Regional Unit, main body of citizen participation in local management made up by representatives of all the public, private and community-based organizations of the region, which is responsible for activating the core of regional development, both in its social (education, health) as well as economic (tourism, farming, environment, crafts and industry) dimensions.

In summary, the nucleus of the project is based on the building of a politically active citizenship from an inter-cultural perspective, something that is still pending in most local democracies. For this reason it is defined by the contributions of the actual players in local government, civil society and community-based structures. In addition, the project depends on a sustainable political proposal of the relationship between political-institutional, social and community-based players: the creation of a permanent network of local governments and civil society in favour of participatory democracy.

URB-AL Network 10: "The fight against urban poverty"

The city of Sao Paulo (Brazil) was the coordinator of Network 10 from 2002 to 2005. The network has 378 participating members and 20 joint projects were accomplished.
The general framework of the work of this network has been the contribution to the formulation of new practices for the preparation and implementation of local public policies to fight poverty. Great emphasis

was placed on a level exchange, the tools for a quantitative and qualitative identification of urban poverty, as well as the multi-dimensional incorporation of social players, under the leadership of local and sub-national governments who implemented projects, activities and tools for decentralized cooperation in this matter.

The two main lines of action are:

1. "To improve the quality of local policies for the fight against poverty in the cities of Latin America and Europe, during a 3-year period.

2. The establishment of this network of member cities from both regions will allow the definition and development of strong and direct links between local authorities, as well as the implementation of long-term activities through the dissemination, exchange, acquisition and transfer of knowledge and experiences of good practice and the promotion of joint initiatives."

The network will continue in force beyond the expiry of financing by the European Union, to be led by the city of Sao Paulo.30

Joint project URB-AL Network 10: "Integration of immigrants within the city as a way of fighting poverty"

This type A project was approved by notification in 2004, took place in 2006 and ended in 2007. The coordinating city was Granada (Spain) and member cities were Sao Paulo (Brazil), San Salvador (Salvador), Junín (Argentina), Quito (Ecuador), Nanterre (France). The external member was the Andalusian Municipal Fund for International Solidarity (FAMSI).

The project conceives current international migrations within the framework of the central political role played by cities as spaces of structure and management of the migratory process. Migrations are considered from a multi-dimensional point of view, with emphasis on their contributions to social and economic development, and their positive impact on the evolution of identities and the cultural enrichment of the territories. On the other hand, it is

of particular interest to the work to have a clear conception of the spatial duality of the migratory project, which is defined from the moment of "departure" (emigration) to that of "arrival" (immigration), and that entails the establishment of relationships between the locations producing and receiving immigrants that can become twinned. Following this line of argument, the main objective of the project is to generate inclusive cities where local governments foster, in an equitable and participatory manner, an active citizenship linked to the local public space and with no exclusions for economic, cultural or ethnic reasons, and which favours the double attachment (origin and later settlement) of migrants.

Therefore, the project is aimed at local policies and management through the transfer of knowledge inserted in the cooperation network. It mentions the fact that the municipal competency level, subject to the legislative capacity of the State and its exclusive competencies, provides a large enough margin to enable actions favourable to the social inclusion of the migrant population to be driven by town halls.

Effectively, it is at local government level where social challenges are finally completed, generally of a greater significance than their own competencies would allow them to respond to. The following is an example of the idea expressed in the project, which states that within a context of socio-economic development opportunities are generated, as well as inequalities that must be dealt with in order to avoid spaces of social fragmentation and exclusion. Amongst immigrant collectives the potential sources of inequality that arise in the territory, i.e. the city, are: legal insecurity (and the legal-bureaucratic obstacles for formalizing their situation); ignorance of the political-administrative system, as well as, in general, of the new socio-cultural context; economic insecurity and the problems of finding housing; the difficulties for entering the workforce in illegal situations, and the risks of exploitation at work; a certain degree of social rejection towards the newly

arrived; the difficulties of social insertion due to communication problems; the problems of local government entities to deal with the situation.

All of these lead member cities of the project to act in unison at local and international levels, and in this way strengthen their own operational capabilities in the area of policies and management of migrations.

At a local level the project's aim is to facilitate the social integration of immigrants by taking action at government level on the training of professionals and municipal officials, by undertaking a profound revision of methodologies of intervention as regards the detection of new social needs, coordinating public and private entities, and training immigrants in the areas of greatest interest for their social integration. At an international level, there is the reciprocal education between the various players involved in the action through the exchange of information, the transfer of experiences and the undertaking of a joint analysis of the reality of migration as a basis for the design of activities. The existing links between governments participating in the network are aimed at reaching agreement –adapted to the different contexts– for setting in motion the public policies for the social inclusion of migrants.

The whole of the cognitive work of phase A of the project (phase of diagnosis, international seminars and discussion meetings with collectives of immigrants) takes the form of a guide of experiences and good practices on migrations at a local level. It is interesting as it establishes criteria that follow the logic of social inclusion even though they are addressed to the collectives of immigrants. These are: that they should favour co-habitation (not simply tolerance or co-existence) and social cohesion; that they transmit citizens' values shared across cultures; that they ensure the multi-dimensional nature of the action and the evaluation of its social impact; that there should be a strong commitment from

local governments; that they activate social participation and ensure the cross-sectional standard at the design, implementation and evaluation stages of the actions in hand; that they provide the possibility of transferring experiences to other contexts; that they are sustainable and feasible from a political and financial point of view; that they show a capacity for innovation opposite new social challenges. (The project has a website[31] for the exchange and dissemination of experiences and materials).

URB-AL Network 12: "The promotion of women in instances of local decision-making"

The Barcelona Provincial Council (Spain) coordinated URB-AL Network 12 from 2003 to 2006. The network has 200 participating members and 18 joint projects were accomplished. The objectives of the Network are the exchange of experiences and the implementation of joint projects for the cross-sectional establishment of policies for equal opportunities and fostering of active citizenship for women. Various publications, an internal communication system for the network, a multi-media resource centre, a catalogue of good practices, a training programme for mayoresses and female councillors, as well as seminars and annual training activities, have been produced. The network has worked in four areas in order to achieve its aims:

1. Gender-equal democracy in the city. The plan is to organize activities that contribute to the fostering of active citizenship for women, their gender-equal representation, and, in short, the promotion of equal opportunities in all spheres of local life.

2. Women in city planning. This develops projects that involve women in urban and environmental planning, the promotion of new housing plans and models, the planning of transport, human security and co-existence; the prevention, management and solving of conflicts and the building of peace.

3. The preparation of a new social contract for the distribution of responsibilities between the men and women in the city. These projects have the objective of promoting a balanced distribution of employment between men and women, family responsibilities and political power in the city.

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Joint project URB-AL Network 12: "The woman immigrant and/or from ethnic minorities. Equality, participation and leadership in the local sphere"

This type A project was approved by notification in 2004 and took place from 2005 to 2007. The coordinating entity was Consell Comarcal de l'Alt Empordà (Spain) and member cities were Sabandia (Peru), Sicasica (Bolivia), Escazú (Costa Rica), the District of Pueyrredón (Argentina) and the Province of Savona (Italy). The external member was The European New Towns Platform (ENTP- Belgium).

Motivation for the project was based on the need to improve the knowledge of migration realities of women in view of the current increase in the feminization of migrations. Accordingly, the inequalities that these migratory processes highlight are verified; such inequalities are of an economic, gender and ethnic nature. In order to deal with them, the project generates a series of products and services aimed at the improvement of the situation of immigrant women. The framework for applying these actions is shaped by local policies of inclusion.

The project has combined in a balanced manner the tasks of learning and discussion of the situation, with actions aimed at providing services. Specifically, assessments of the situation have taken place and form the basis for the approach of these actions and a model for identifying good practices (29 have been identified),

as well as a methodological guide for public management with a perspective on gender and origin. International seminars and a forum for the participation of immigrant women have also taken place.

Additionally, four pilot actions have been established in the municipalities of Savona (Italy), Escazú (Costa Rica), Sicasica (Bolivia) and Batán-Mar del Plata (Argentina).

Psychological aid for immigrant women victims of domestic violence (Savona). The activity is undertaken by the *Associazione Telefono Donna*, a charity for vulnerable women who are at risk of male chauvinist violence. The increase in the number of foreign women residents in Savona, the multiplication of foreign family units, the tensions derived from the actual migratory project and the increase in mixed marriages, all constitute new realities that modify daily social dynamics. One of the most visible aspects is the increase in maltreatment of women. In order to deal with this situation, the project "Immigrant Woman", through the action "Women who help women", builds a network of voluntary work and inter-cultural mediation aimed at locating cases of vulnerability or maltreatment amongst foreign women, by using techniques such as dialogue amongst women and inter-cultural mediation.

Welcoming women (Escazú). This is a welcoming activity for immigrant women organized by local women and other resident former immigrant women. On the one hand, this activity is aimed at creating a space for dialogue to overcome the social stigma of immigration in general and immigrant women in particular; on the other hand, it deals with the active defence of rights and with the promotion of women's capacity for organization and citizen participation. For the population as a whole, the project attempts to raise the awareness of the inhabitants of Escazú of the situation of immigrants.

Microcredits for indigenous Aymará women (Sicasica). This action has a dual purpose: the economic inclusion of Aymará migrant women and, consequently, the increase in their social visibility. The project analyzes the migratory process from rural communities towards intermediate and central cities of Bolivia, as far as emigration towards Brazil, Argentina and Spain. It takes into account the feminization of migratory flows and provides evidence of the significant link between immigrant women and insecure employment in the domestic and retail areas. Therefore, economic inclusion is defined as the creation of employment for formal productive actions and retail business, as a basis for overcoming the specific social inequalities suffered by immigrant women or those from ethnic minorities.

Office for institutional relationships in the City of Batán (Batán-Mar del Plata). This action is aimed at the economic inclusion of immigrant women as a basic lever of social integration. In this respect, the "Bank of Goodwill" programme (working with funds from the Ministry of Social Development of the Nation) offers credits to micro-business women, mainly of Bolivian origin.

As seen in the pilot actions, on the Latin American side the project is centred mainly on treating the gender variable in relation to the structural factors of inequality in the labour market and the socially invisible nature of immigrant women, which results in social stigma and the inability to exercise rights; on the European side, interest is focused on locating hidden cases of vulnerability that profoundly affect immigrant women in daily contexts.

From another perspective, the work undertaken shows the conceptual coherence of the project and its capacity to develop actions from a cross-sectional point of view. It combines five key areas for action: training and education, penetration of the labour market, health promotion and care, participation in and strengthening of social networks and specific care for women in vulnerable

situations. This is also included in local political frameworks that connect policies on immigration, gender, citizen participation and social inclusion, a fact that provides a broader capacity for social impact of the current work.

Finally, we must point out that the project has a website for communication and exchange, it produces informative newsletters and compiles relevant documents on the conceptual framework of international female migrations. At present much value is attached to its continuity through Network 12 "Woman and the City", as well as by means of the proposals for other projects presented by the coordinating city. Some examples are, the project included in the INTERREG Programme where European members would take part on the subject of female migrations, or the proposals for development cooperation by local governments (through municipal funds of the councils belonging to the Consell Comarcal de l'Alt Empordà and of the Fondo Catalán de Cooperación al Desarrollo), where the Latin American cities participating in the joint project can be counterparts. These proposals are currently being studied.

URB-AL Network 14: "Citizen security in the city"

The city of Valparaíso (Chile) coordinated URB-AL Network 14 from 2002 to 2005, with an extension granted until 2006. The network has 200 participating members and 12 joint projects were accomplished. The general objective is the promotion of relationships between member cities for the identification, organization and dissemination of local policies on citizen security for the improvement of technical skills, management and implementation of the policies of local governments on the subject. Under this umbrella, various seminars, presentations by experts, publications and the organization of local good practices, have taken place. The main aims of the Network have been:

1. "To build bridges of relationships and exchanges between Latin America and Europe that will allow the strengthening of skills in public management and, through them, to improve the quality of life of the inhabitants of each community.

Joint project URB-AL Network 14: "Migration seen from different realities that affect citizen security"

This type A project was approved by notification in October 2004, started in 2005 and ended in 2006. It was coordinated by the city of Riobamba (Ecuador), and member cities were Quito (Ecuador), Calama (Chile), Junín (Argentina), Vila Real de Santo Antonio (Portugal) and the Region of Tuscany (Italy). It has had a website for exchange, dissemination and accomplishment of virtual training.

The main motivation for the project shows the need to assess the impact of migrations in the sphere of citizen security within cities. In general terms, it considers the fact that in areas with a large presence of immigrants, there are conflicts or dilemmas such as the need to develop state-wide policies, labour matters and the "exploitation of illegal immigrants" or xenophobia, among others, that have an effect on security.

The main objective is to prepare an assessment on citizen security by defining the principal causes of the insecurity generated by the effects of migrations on member cities. We must point

out that the assessment considers the relevant effects on citizen security matters both for those cities receiving and those producing migrations. This entails a broad view of cities as receiving and producing the migratory movements, and facilitates inter-municipal cooperation on a single subject which can be adapted to the different local contexts.

Therefore, the activities were focused on undertaking studies, seminars on exchange and reflections on migrations, their causes and effects on cities; organization of the information, preparation of a joint publication in Network 14, and initiation of a pilot model of the System for Citizen Security based on the preventive nature of the policies on this matter, on the cross-sectional character of the activities, and the capacity of monitoring security matters through the use of observatories.

The model comprises two proposals for relevant joint action: (1) one of a purely political nature, i.e. the design of strategic plans for local citizen security through the cross-sectional contest of civil society and the different spheres involved in public administration; (2) another of an operational and management character, i.e. the establishment of a "Home for the Migrant" for each city (a place that can provide legal, labour-based, economic, academic, and cultural information both to émigrés as well as to immigrants).

Nevertheless, since its conception the project is deficient due to the fact that it is aimed at the management of the effects of social problems, and not at the identification of the causes and interventions to prevent them. As a correcting element, we can state that during the course of the work, member cities have been capable of changing their perception of the objective of the intervention. Effectively, for the most part, the results of the studies do not connect citizen insecurity to migratory movements. When this connection appears it is as a consequence of particular situations, and not exclusively the result of migratory projects, such as the

fragmentation of the family or the dynamics of juvenile gangs as a community-based source of relationships, where several causes co-exist. In view of the above, the work of the project moves from the establishment of a single cause hypothesis, in the sense that migrations generate citizen insecurity one way or another, to viewing security problems from a broader social perspective, to the point that some of the tasks carried out are not directly linked to the objectives of the project. This is the case of seminars on remittances from immigrants and their management in order to promote local and national economic development.

3.1.2. The Ibero-American Centre for Strategic Development (CIDEU)

CIDEU is a city network with a territorial range covering the Ibero-American area, which includes cities of Latin America, Spain and Portugal.

The Ibero-American Centre for Strategic Development (CIDEU) is an association of more than eighty members, of which seventy-eight are cities linked by Urban Strategic Planning (PEU). It was established in Barcelona in 1993 in order to share as a network the benefits derived from following PEU processes. Amongst these benefits we must highlight: the continuity in time of strategic guidelines and projects, a wider participation of social and economic agents, the opportunity to share and manage common learning, and the improvement of the competitive position typical of systems organized as networks.

In order to achieve the strategic objectives set out by the network, activities such as dissertations, personalized tutorials, educational programmes, PEU certification and catalogues of good practices are carried out. Networks such as CIDEU highlight the importance of the sustainability of areas for the management of permanent networks that will ensure the endurance of projects and their results.

The projects analyzed by this network do not, strictly speaking, constitute PDC between local governments in Latin

America and Europe, but are projects of a strategic nature and transferable good practices that foster PDC in this matter. In this respect we highlight the following actions:

A) Political declarations and instruments with regulatory effects

The network includes two instruments that provide the cities with a general framework of actions at a local level on migrations that have been previously analyzed: the **Protocol on Immigration**, XII Congress CIDEU (15 April 2005); the **Declaration of Bogotá (Colombia) "The local response that cannot be postponed to the challenge of migration"**, XIV Congress CIDEU (9-12 May 2006).

B) Organization of good practices

The organization and dissemination of good practices is an important part of the cooperative work carried out by CIDEU, in order to foster the circulation and exchange of knowledge between activities accomplished in the cities. Good practices are selected based on the following criteria: a) that they are innovative and successful initiatives; b) that they represent tangible benefits to the quality of life of the citizens; c) that they foster cooperation at many levels (i.e., the private sector, the public sector, civil society); that they are financially, culturally and environmentally sustainable.

The activities considered are excellent examples of actions that cities can consult and promote in their environments; they can be duplicated and subject to PDC. It is important to consider the available and accessible information as a fundamental element on which to base local policies and interventions on migrations at a local level.

The **Good Practices** included in the network have been classified according to the strategic guidelines related to Urban

Strategic Planning (PEU). Migrations do not figure as a separate item, but are included under the guideline for "Integration, social and immigration cohesion". Within this guideline, there are 23 good practices mentioned, of which we highlight three that refer specifically to international migrations. They are briefly summarized as follows:

1. Voluntary work in the socio-cultural stimulation of adults and immigrants in Leganés (Spain)

The project has been carried out by Leganés Town Council since 2001. Amongst their members are the Community of Madrid and the Ministry of Science and Technology, as well as various entities that form part of the Divisional Council for Citizen Participation of the local government. Likewise, several players have also become involved such as immigrant associations, the Red Cross, the Trade Unions Federation of Workers' Committees (CCOO) and the General Union of Workers (UGT). The aim is to provide an information service to the immigrant population linked by a single help desk to all the other city services. It has had a satisfactory impact: the service stimulates the involvement and participation of various social players, it helps to coordinate local government services and guarantees the efficiency of resources by a combination of efforts.

2. I Comprehensive Plan for Immigration in Andalusia (Spain)

Prepared by the Local Administration of Andalusia in 2001, its members include the Inter-departmental Commission on Migratory Policies, the town halls of the Autonomous Community and the Andalusian Forum for Immigration. The Plan met the objective of becoming a conceptual outline document and of beginning the process of coordination and empowerment of inter-institutional areas, with the participation of various social players. The aim of the Plan is to be comprehensive in its approach, integrating in its

content and decentralized in its management. It was awarded the certificate of good practice in Dubai in 2004.

3. Planning for participation in neighbourhoods receiving displaced persons (Colombia)

The project was carried out in Barranquilla and Carta-gena de Indias (Colombia) by means of a project of international cooperation of the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation (AECI) based in Colombia. This action has come about in response to the identification of decay in the neighbourhoods, a lack of public investment and the lack of involvement of local citizens in all of this. The project is defined as a means of overcoming this situation and its actions are based on: a) the strengthening of institutions for the implementation of methodologies for participatory planning; b) the strengthening of community-based organizations as participants in urban and development processes; c) promoting the accomplishment of public works to generate synergies that reinforce the sense of belonging for the inhabitants of the neighbourhoods; d) initiating a scheme for the joint administration of public equipment and spaces by local government and the population. The project was presented at the Latin American and Caribbean contest for the transfer of good practices (Fundación Habitat-Colombia) called in 2005.

C) Selected strategic projects

Within the CIDEU framework, the criteria for considering a project as strategic are the following: a) that it supports a definite strategy and, as a result, the required change; b) that it involves various players from different states and with different partial interests; c) that it generates a deep and noticeable urban impact that demands continuity and endurance through time.

In this respect, the following projects on migrations have been identified:

1. Project "Málaga, solidarity city" (Spain)

This project has been considered a Star Project by CIDEU. It is part of the development of the II Strategic Plan of the city of Málaga in response to the growth in immigration, as well as in the social and cultural diversity that this implies.

More precisely, the project sets objectives and actions to foster the social participation of immigrants, to facilitate access to their rights, and to promote social equity. With the aim of meeting the social needs of the population, various actions took place on participation, neighbourhood solidarity and continuous and bilingual education. Likewise, the project concentrated on the objectives of promoting the social integration of immigrants and empowering tolerance as a value in Málaga society, thus laying the foundations of an "inclusive city".

Its most outstanding idea is to consider cultural diversity as an economic/labour-based and socio-cultural springboard for development at all levels. In other words, the project does not only envisage integration from the point of view of the immigrants, but as the result of a social dialogue between immigrants and locals.

2. Project "SOS Paisa" from Medellín (Colombia)

This project was accomplished by the city of Medellín through its Agency for International Cooperation. It was implemented in 2006 following the discovery that an increasing number of Antioquia citizens were living abroad.

The starting point of the project is the transfer of remittances by the emigrant population (in Colombia remittances constitute almost 4% of GDP). It is based on the perception that it is possible that the families receiving these remittances spend them on short-lived goods rather than investing them in activities such

as building enterprises or education. This was the main motivation for the creation of the Network of Antioquians Abroad. The Network is a place for meeting migrants, and for establishing with them different initiatives for social development in Medellín. The work itself is based on the creation of a meeting place on the web where information is exchanged, forums and chats between emigrants from the region are generated, and international gatherings are organized.

SOS Paisa is a project that exemplifies the proliferation of forms of participation in the social development of places of origin by the emigrant population, in conjunction with local authorities. The availability of technological connections is fundamental in order to enable social relationships, thus making space and time relative. The structuring of relationships through electronic networks forms a new basis for future cooperation.

3.1.3. The International Association of Educating Cities (AICE)

The AICE Network is a thematic network with an international territorial range. This city network comprises local governments from Latin America and Europe.

The Network of Educating Cities began as a movement in 1990 during the I Congress which took place in Barcelona, where a group of 60 cities set out the common objective of working jointly on projects and activities to improve the quality of life of their inhabitants. In 1994, at the III Congress in Bologna, the movement was formalized by founding the International Association of Educating Cities. The Network currently has 319 member cities of which 40 are Latin American and 279 European. The Network has statutes based on the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the World Declaration on Education for All, the Convention of the World Summit for Children and the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity.

The main objectives of the Network are to promote compliance with the principles of the statutes, to encourage collaboration and specific actions between cities, to take part in and cooperate actively in projects and exchanges of experiences with groups and institutions with common interests, as well as to expand the discourse of Educating Cities and to foster direct formalizations; to influence the decision-making process of governments and international institutions on matters of interest to the Educating Cities, and to foster the dialogue and cooperation with various national and international bodies.

The Network is organized in three thematic areas (the school-work transition; ICT in Educating Cities; Early Infancy) and is implemented by territorial networks with delegations in Spain, Italy, France, Portugal, Latin America (Rosario and Belo Horizonte) and a Central-European delegation in Budapest. Its activities include a document bank, a centre for the gathering of experiences, as well as the definition of current subjects, one of the most outstanding of which is "Actions against racism and xenophobia" which refers to the subject matter. We must point out that the Network's database contains 95 experiences of member cities related to the subject of migrations, inter-cultural relations and co-existence.

The actions analyzed by this network, strictly speaking, do not constitute PDC between local governments in Latin America and Europe, but are projects of a strategic nature and good practices that can be transferable and that foster PDC in this matter. As for the aim of the study, the following practices where migrations have been the object of cooperation between member cities of the network have been found.

A) International Congresses

The organization of International Congresses of the AICE is the exclusive responsibility of the member cities. The congresses take place every two years and are the venue for disseminating, comparing and exchanging experiences and good practices, as well as for establishing relationships of collaboration between cities.

They also provide an opportunity to strengthen the discourse of Educating Cities.

On the one hand, the **III Congress took place in Bologna in 1994: "Multi-cultural relations. Recognizing ourselves for a new geography of identities"**, where foundation and reflection documents were produced, the experiences and practices of member cities were presented, thus furthering the debate on the function of cities faced with the challenge of the co-existence of different cultures.

On the other hand, the **X Congress will take place in Sao Paulo in 2008: "Building citizenship in multi-cultural cities"**. The theme of the programme is based on the current situation of globalization and the increase in migratory flows that are having an impact on cities. There is an exchange of ideas and experiences on ways to progress towards inter-cultural cities from the point of view of co-existence, respect for differences and the strengthening of democratic relationships.

B) Good practices: Projects from "Actions against racism and xenophobia"

The general objective of the organization of good practices is to foster the dissemination of those innovative experiences that can be points of reference for cities. The following are four actions on migration matters:

1. Project Integr'acciones. Local governments in Italy

Accomplished with the cooperation of four Italian local governments (Settimo Torinese, Volpiano, Leiní and San Benigno),

this project consists of sharing and coordinating care and wel-coming services for immigrants by municipalities. Some of the main objectives of the project are: to provide information about the services of Settimo amongst immigrant adults and minors; to disseminate social integration schedules and provide accurate and adequate information; to offer a service of inter-cultural mediation at the offices for foreigners, at the Permanent Territorial Centre and at the Centre for Professional Training; to promote the successful education of students; to devote more attention to inter-cultural relations in schools; to foster the participation of adolescents and young immigrants in city life; to promote social integration of women immigrants and the exchange between cultures.

2. Project Infopankki (Information Bank). Municipalities in Fin-land

The project came about as a result of a previous one dedi-cated to the education of adults at an open learning centre where information was provided by and for immigrants on aspects of daily life. The project has currently become a service that provides easily accessible information generated by the authorities and which takes place simultaneously in several municipalities (Helsinki, Turku, Tampere, Rovaniemi and Kuopio) with the active participation of immigrants (the project is governed by councils formed by immi-grants and local authorities). The experience consists of a website where the information provided is based on questions asked by immigrants, and is aimed at providing information on services that they are unaware of. The information is divided in segments on different subjects and is edited in twelve languages.

3. Project "Grafos". Municipalities in Spain, Italy and entities of the Czech Republic

The project consists of the creation of language learning materials for immigrants who are not familiar with Indo-European writing. For this purpose there is a collaborative system between educational centres from various municipalities in Spain (Reus, Tarragona and Huelva), in Italy and the Czech Republic. The project was supported by the multi-level participation managed by the Reus Town Council, the Consell Comarcal del Tarragonés, the Municipal Centre for Adults (Huelva) and Linguapiu (Italy), as well as "E'via obscanske sdruzeni" and SIS Internet Club of the Czech Republic.

"Grafos" has allowed for more in-depth knowledge of the various psychological and sociological features of adults developing their literacy, as well as the motivations and varying rythms of their learning. Its general objective is to facilitate the inclusion of immigrants by learning the language and through the appreciation of their own cognitive skills. From a technical point of view, the exchange of experiences, information and teaching techniques has allowed the development of appropriate materials to foster the access of immigrant adults to the literacy process.

4. Project "Regionet Integra". Municipalities of the metropolitan area of Valencia, and members in Tampere, Verona, Sardinia, Crete and Sweden

Four municipalities of the metropolitan area of the city of Valencia (Quart de Poblet, Vinalesa, Paterna and Mislata, as well as the Universitat de Valencia) are taking part in the project. These municipalities share the experience of the gradual increase in for-

eign immigrant populations in their territories. This is particularly noticeable in the schools of the area, and is becoming a new challenge for school communities. As well as the Area of Education of the Quart Town Hall which is promoting the project, the members are: OPEKO (Tampere, Finland); COSP (Verona, Italy); STUDIO E PROGETTO (Sardinia, Italy); KEA (Crete, Greece); REGION SKANE (Kristianstad, Sweden).

The general objective of the project is to identify educational deficiencies common to various countries of the European Union, especially in parents of immigrant pupils, as well as to create the content according to these needs. These common learning contents for the various countries are defined in terms of the educational needs of the parents of immigrant pupils. In order to achieve this, they are based on a description of the immigration situation in centres of learning, the regions and the educational system, while the participatory structure of parent associations is used and fostered. With this data, the learning needs of families are identified and analyzed, as well as those of the immigrant pupils.

As we have seen, the AICE has three functions. On the one hand, it provides spaces for academic reflection and general political frameworks that inform the activities of the members of the network; on the other hand, it generates exchanges and cooperation between cities or entities linked to the territory which are characterized by the large amount of concrete actions and the generation of tangible products that demand a need for management. Finally, on the subject of migrations, the experiences of the network show the importance of offering education and information services as initial steps towards the integration of immigrants in city dynamics. The latter is seen from an inter-cultural point of view: the services offered are not normally instrumental (that is, whether the service in question does or does not provide the expected result

and contributes the necessary means to achieve it), but they include the point of view of the users in the design of the service and they attempt to arrive at a situation of mutual understanding between people from different places.

3.1.4. United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)

UCLG is the largest and most important association world-wide representing local governments.

> Founded in 2004, United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) is the largest network of cities because it resulted from the fusion of previous municipalities networks: the International Union of Local Authorities (IULA), the World Federation of United Cities (FMCU) and Metropolis (which maintains its own status).
>
> Its function consists mainly in advocating local self-government on the world stage through cooperation between local governments and promoting their values, objectives and interests in the international community. In this context, it implements actions in support of capacity building, representation, local development and institutional strengthening of local governments; it specially promotes decentralised cooperation, international cooperation, twinning and partnerships between local governments; it organises congresses, events and seminars on issues related to issues of municipal and regional interest. UCLG works on the basis of thematic commissions in coordination with working groups. The organisation cooperates actively with the United Nations and its agencies as well as with other international organisations.

Regarding the object of study, although many UCLG partner cities have participated in migration projects in other networks, a working definition on international migrations as one of its main linbves of action has not been established. In any case, when defining the strategic lines for 2007-2010 presented in Jeju (South Korea),

reference is made to the creation of a **specific work working group called "Migration and Co-development"** reporting directly to the **Committee on Decentralised Cooperation**.

Committee on Decentralised Cooperation

The Committee aims to develop a World Charter on Decentralised Cooperation (the draft was presented in Jeju in 2007), to generate actions aimed at reinforcing cooperation between local governments from different regions of the world and to actively participate in achieving full recognition for the role of local governments in public development aid. The Decentralised Cooperation Charter is conceived as an essential tool for States, international organisations and other entities to acknowledge the importance of Decentralised Cooperation in development aid and, specifically, for achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

The Committee prepared a questionnaire on PDC with the purpose of compiling the various actions that have been carried out in this context by the UCLG member cities, which is still the implementation stage. At the same time, the Committee has met to debate the conceptual agreements on PDC and has defined its strategic lines of action for the 2007-2010 period.

Working Group on "Migration and Co-Development"

As to the recently created Working Group on "Migration and Co-development", no documentation or lines of work plans have been generated to date, although the Group embodies one of the main strategic lines of action within the Committee on Decentralised Cooperation.

For the purpose of the study, the value of UCLG lies in its capacity to act as an interlocutor and to place political pressure on other international organisations and States in representation

of local agents. Relevant here are the political positions of the organisation regarding the set of thematic lines discussed by the Committees and Working Groups which, among others, include international migrations. It is expected that the Decentralised Co-operation Charter will have the function of generating that common position among local governments with respect to other political players of the national and international scene, in addition to adjusting the local actions according to the provisions set out in the Charter. The good practice bank, in turn, is the major source for the conceptual and political coordination with the Charter, a fact that guarantees its connection to the PDC's ongoing reality.

3.2. Comparative Table of Projects

The purpose of the table below is to show the basic features of all the analysed projects, from the themes that were approached through to the most outstanding impacts resulting from cooperation, as well as their capacity to generate specific knowledge or to serve as replicable experiences. The projects also show the differences in PDC carried out in the framework of the networks as well as their typology (whereas the URB-AL networks show PDC between the LA-EU cities, other projects are examples of good practices but, strictly speaking, are not PDC, nor are they carried out between LA-UE cities), as gathered in the project's strengths and weaknesses analysis. This information is useful with a view to the following chapter, in order to adopt a critical approach for working on the challenges that local governments have to face in the light of the cooperation experiences in the field of migrations, and as to how PDC itself may evolve in the future.

Comparative features of the Projects

PROJECT	Content on migrations	Multi-level involvement	Further development of the project	Continuity of work in City Networks	Creation of knowledge and training
Tourist itineraries and heritage of Italian immigration	Cultural and economic contributions of migrations. Cultural identity.	Tourist Associations. Italian Immigrant Associations. Government of Rio Grande do Sul. Central State.	Yes: Through the B. VICTUR Project and municipal projects. Through regional or self-financing	The coordinating partner continues the project and participates in other Urb-Al and non Urb-Al networks. The European partners participate in other networks (Urb-Al and non Urb-Al)	Yes: Web. Regional training centre. Publications
Municipal activities on equality of gender and training of women and immigrants	Migrations and gender. Management and creation of municipal services. Employment.	State (National Institute for Women). Women Associations.	Yes: Through the B Project Centre for Business Women. Through state, regional or self-financing	One of the participating cities (Escazú) implemented the B project and participates in other city networks on gender themes.	Yes: Web. Regional and occupational training centre. Publications.
EU-Latin America Migratory Flows	International migrations between the EU and Latin America.	Expected. Project not achieved.	No achieved.	Yes: The cities participate in other Urb-Al and non Urb-Al networks.	Expected and not achieved: Observatory and international training centre
Impact of participatory budgets in multi-ethnic and multi-cultural cities	Inter-cultural and multi-ethnic relations. Citizen participation.	CIGU (International Centre for Urban Management). Groups and communities.	Not followed. Project underway.	Partner cities don't participate in other networks. The coordinating city participates in international cooperation projects as receiving city.	Not followed. Case study exists.
Integration of immigrants as a way of fighting poverty	Contemporary international migrations. Social exclusion. Participation and integration.	FAMSI (Andalusian Municipal Fund for International Solidarity). Immigrant associations.	Not followed. Project recently completed.	Yes: In Network 10 "The fight against urban poverty" coordinated by Sao Paulo. Also, partner cities participate in other city networks, projects and bilateral relations.	Yes: Web. Diagnosis. Publications.

Collaboration on municipal policy-making	Collaboration in municipal management	Replicability and transfer	Strengths	Weaknesses
Yes: Local economic development policies.	Yes: Local urban regulations on heritage protection.	Yes: Two European partners participate in Interreg (European Regional Programme: VIN TOUR) where lessons learned on the project are applied.	Innovation. Make positive the contributions of migrations. Local economic development in rural areas. Creation of training and job centres.	Institutional strengthening of local governments has been uneven among partner cities.
Yes: Local gender policies. Employment policies.	Yes: Local equal opportunities regulations. Specific municipal services. Material on actions on how to promote and raise the awareness of women. Local participating bodies for women.	Not strictly followed. Lessons were applied in Costa Rica and in Network 12 Urb-al.	Promotion of the participation of women in local public life. Creation of municipal services.	Institutional strengthening of local governments has been uneven among partner cities. Content on migrations is no longer as important as gender content.
Yes: Within the conceptual approach to the project.	No. Project not achieved.	Project not achieved.	Comprehensive approach.	Project not achieved.
Awaiting to achieve activities and pending final report.	Awaiting to achieve activities and pending final report. Proposal to set up a local network for participatory democracy.	Not followed beyond participating cities.	Provision for citizen participation. Proposal for diversity management.	Low commitment level of partner cities. Over-dependence on external partner.
Yes: Compilation of local public policies on migrations.	Yes: Good practices guide. Proposal of Observatory and a Training Course on Immigration for local governments. Promotion of immigrant participation (ex: Cibernario Project-Sao Paulo).	Not followed beyond participating cities. Project recently completed and awaiting final report.	Proposal for the social participation and integration of immigrants. Proposal for relations between migrations and cooperation for development. Actions that promote the visibility of social and economic contributions of migrations. Contributions for actions aimed at social inclusion and fighting immigrant discrimination in the cities.	Proposal of the project from a mainly European perspective and immigrant-receiving cities. Low commitment level of partner cities.

PROJECT	Content on migrations	Multi-level involvement	Further development of the project	Continuity of work in City Networks	Creation of knowledge and training
Women immigrants. Equality, participation and leadership at a local level	Contemporary international migrations. Gender. Social participation and integration.	Platform of European cities (ETPP). National Institute for Women (Costa Rica). Women Associations. Immigrant associations. University Research Centre.	Relations continue partially through other projects promoted by the coordinating city (Interreg and projects of cooperation for development).	Yes: In Network 12 Woman and the City, coordinated by the Barcelona Provincial Council.	Yes: Web. Diagnosis. Pilot Projects. Publications.
Migration from different perspectives affecting the safety of citizens	Contemporary international migrations. Citizen safety.	Police (under different public administrations). Social entities. CIGU (International Centre for Urban Management) Students.	No.	Yes: In Network 14, Citizen Security in the City, coordinated by Valparaíso.	Yes: Web. Publications.
Málaga, solidarity city	Contemporary international migrations. Inter-cultural relations, integration and participation.	Associations, entities and social groups in the development of the II Strategic Urban Plan of the city.	Actions contemplated in the Project continue in different degrees in the implementation of the Strategic Urban Plan until 2010.	The city participates in different networks, in projects and maintains bilateral relations with a Latin American city.	Yes: Publication.
SOS Paisa	Contemporary international migrations. Trans-nationalism. Citizen participation.	Association and groups of Colombian immigrants from different municipalities of Antioquia. Other municipalities are expected to join to execution of the projects as a result of remittances by immigrants.	The Project is ongoing at present on a webpage.	The city participates in 6 networks and 6 EU-Latin America projects, apart from maintaining bilateral relations with two EU cities.	Yes: Web.

Collaboration on municipal policy-making	Collaboration in municipal management	Replicability and transfer	Strengths	Weaknesses
Yes: Proposal for diversity management. Equal opportunity policies. Social inclusion policies. Citizen participation policies.	Yes: Method guide. Good practices guide. Participative forum designs.	Transfers beyond participating cities are Not followed. Project recently completed. New actions have been devised in other projects (cooperation, Interreg) from the lessons learnt.	Tools devised for diversity and gender management. Promotion for the participation of immigrant women. Comprehensive and integrating approach to migration issues. Good communication management between partner cities. Chances to continue.	Uneven action being taken among partner cities. Continuity depends on funding to a significant extent. Uneven degree of horizontal cooperation among partner cities.
Not followed.	Not followed.	Transfers beyond participating cities are not observed.	Initial proposal on the impact of migrations on countries of origin and destination. Proposals on new issues related to migrations (remittances and development).	Weak political commitment in some partner cities as a result of changes in political representation. Unworkable tools of a virtual relationship. Unequal development in ICTs at local level.
Yes: Strategic Urban Planning.	Yes: Provision of municipal services and inter-municipal coordination for its management.	Not strictly followed. The Project has been selected for its good replicable practices and as a strategic project to transfer.	Includes diversity management and migrations as strategic guidelines of the city.	The Project is not done through PDC, though the relevant information is available for exchange on the network.
Yes: Related to the political participation of émigrés who live outside the region.	Yes: Provision of management over remittance contributions by immigrants creating local services. Provision of management for resulting local development projects.	Not strictly followed. The Project has been selected for its good replicable practices and as a strategic project to transfer.	Takes into account a highly topical subject in relation to migrations. Provides for the participation and liaison with emigrants.	The Project is not done through PDC, though the relevant information is available for exchange on the network. The participation expectations held by Colombian immigrant communities have not been met.

PROJECT	Content on migrations	Multi-level involvement	Further development of the project	Continuity of work in City Networks	Creation of knowledge and training
Integr'acciones	International migrations. Management of municipal services. Diversity management.	Schools. Professional training centre. Inter-municipal services centre. Local health care administration. Women immigrant associations. Charity. Network of libraries.	The Project is ongoing at present.	The coordinating city participates in 1 city network.	Not outstanding.
Infopankki	International migrations. Inter-cultural relations. Management of municipal information. Diversity management.	International cultural centre. State (Ministry of Labour and Ministry of Education). Network of public services on Internet.	The Project is ongoing at present.	The coordinating city participates in 5 city networks.	Yes: Web. Publications.
GRAFOS	Contemporary international migrations. Adult education. Diversity management.	Education centres. Civic centres. Adult learning support groups.	The Project did not plan to continue after its completion.	The coordinating city maintains 2 bilateral relations with Latin American cities and participates in 2 city networks.	Yes: Material and CD.

Collaboration on municipal policy-making	Collaboration in municipal management	Replicability and transfer	Strengths	Weaknesses
Yes: Coordination policies and attention to diversity.	Yes: Diversity management material and promote immigrant participation. Coordination of services among nearby municipalities.	Yes: The coordination model for municipal services was implemented in different cities in the region.	Takes into account features that improve diversity management and municipal services.	Refers to a decentralized cooperation project not achieved between cities of the EU and LA, but provides relevant experiences to be exchanged between European and Latin American cities.
Yes: Municipal communication policies and attention to diversity. Citizen participation policies. Policies that promote the use of services.	Yes: For management of municipal communications and the coordination of communications of municipal, regional and state services.	The project was implemented in various cities in Finland.	Participation of immigrants on the project. Proposal of communication tools to promote access to service and relations with the city.	Refers to a decentralized cooperation project not achieved between cities of the EU and LA, but provides relevant experiences to be exchanged between European and Latin American cities.
Yes: With policies focused on diversity and education.	Sí: Materiales educativos para el aprendizaje de lenguas para adultos.	Yes: Study material for adults to learn languages. Not strictly followed. The Project has been selected for its good replicable practices and as a strategic project to transfer.	Proposal for suitable education tools that focus on diversity. Innovator and pioneer.	Refers to a decentralized cooperation project not achieved between cities of the EU and LA, but provides relevant experiences to be exchanged between European and Latin American cities.

PROYECTO	Content on migrations	Multi-level involvement	Further development of the project	Continuity of work in City Networks	Creation of knowledge and training
Regionet Integra	Contemporary international migrations. Adult education. Diversity management.	Education centres. Adult learning groups. University. Student parent associations (AMPA).	The Project did not plan to continue beyond the activities in each city.	The coordinating city participates in one city network.	Yes: Comparative analysis at European level on education policies.
Working Group on Migration and Co-development	International migrations. Cooperation for development. Co-development.	At the stages of drawing up a work plan.	The project has just started and plans to continue into the future according to a strategic plan UCLG 2007-2010.	Project at initial stage and waiting to be incorporated in cities.	No.

Collaboration on municipal policy-making	Collaboration in municipal management	Replicability and transfer	Strengths	Weaknesses
Yes: With citizen participation policies.	Not strictly followed.	Not strictly followed. The Project has been selected for its good replicable practices and as a strategic project to transfer.	Citizen participation in the design of education material and tools for all to access education anywhere.	Refers to a decentralized cooperation project not achieved between cities of the EU and LA, but provides relevant experiences to be exchanged between European and Latin American cities. The proposal was based on the hypothesis of educational deficiencies of the migrant population with total disregard to its own diverse and heterogeneous nature.
Not followed other than the inclusion of migrations-related decentralized cooperation on city agendas.	No.	No.		Proposal promoting policy of migrations-related PDC. Specific work plan not yet drawn up.

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Notes

24 URB-AL Project Type A: smaller in size and duration, its basic objectives are the exchange of knowledge and experiences, as well as the production of material for dissemination.

25 See Law Nº 276 of 2 May 2007, which states these routes and sites of interest.

26 INTERREG Programme: Community initiative of the European Fund for Regional Development for the cooperation between European regions.

27 URB-AL Project Type B: larger in economic terms and duration, it must be the continuation of a type A roject and allows for investment in infrastructure and equipment.

28 <www.caxias.rs.gov.br/urbal>

29 <www.centromujeresemprendedoras.org>

30 <http://www2.prefeitura.sp.gov.br/urbal/espanhol/rede10/0001>

31 <www.urbalinmigracion.org>

32 <http://www.diba.es/urbal12>

33 <www.urbalvalparaiso.cl/p4_urbalred14/site/edic/base/port/portada.html>

4. Challenges and opportunities for local governments

In the light of the evaluation of the projects mentioned above, the aim of this chapter is to describe, in a critical manner, the challenges of PDC for the policy and self-management of local governments. To this effect, and as a first step, we will provide a typological approximation of migration-related PDC, which allows us to identify the key elements of the analysed cooperation projects and which serve as the theoretical basis for subsequent reflection.

We believe that the <u>challenges put forward by PDC to local governments can be summarised in the following statements</u>: **a) social inclusion** as a common political paradigm or a general regulatory framework for the set of assignments; **b)** the need for social integration with the city dynamics from the perspective of intercultural relations and **diversity management**; **c) social and political participation** as a basis to guarantee rights and as a tool for inclusion itself; **d) coordinated contribution** (immigrant groups, civil society, political powers and private investment) to **development actions** so as to enhance the potential for social impact; **e) feminisation** of the migration processes as a key element that characterises current migrations, as an agent of change in basic social relationships and as a crucial reality that local governments and PDC should be in a position to respond to.

4.1. Typological features of migration-related public decentralised cooperation

We will now refer to the basic typological criteria obtained from the networks and projects assessment made in the previous

chapter. These are organised as follows: **a)** thematic, political or territorial orientation of the cooperation; **b)** global or specific nature of the assignments; **c)** definition of the objectives and interests of the participating partners based on their contextualised location; **d)** main recurring themes in the set of analysed PDC. In this way we expect to visualise the main features of the contents of migration-related issues in the field of PDC.

a) Network orientation

To begin with, three major types of networks can be identified, depending on whether their specific orientation is:[34] a) **thematic**, in the sense that the relation between cities takes place on the basis of sharing common issues that are the object of the organised intervention (as in the case of migrations, for example); b) **territorial**, when the cooperation expressly links cities in specific territories or regions (in our case, although these are not territorial networks in the strict sense of the word, we have focused our attention on those networks that link Latin American cities with cities in Europe); c) **strategic**, when the role of the network is to assume a standpoint on various issues of interest to local and regional governments, as a previous step to promoting or placing political pressure on other government bodies or international agencies. This is obviously not an exhaustive classification in the sense that some of the features are shared by the different networks, but it has the purpose of outlining their original characteristics.

b) General or specific nature of the interventions

Interventions of a general nature (those which define the framework for actions) or of a specific nature (those which outline intervention themes or are action-oriented in the strict sense of the word) are not mutually exclusive: specific interventions can lead to general interventions and vice versa. In fact, varying degrees of

this shift have taken place in the analysed projects with enriching results. Those of a general nature provide a more holistic view of the object of cooperation (combining political and management elements in the process), while those of a specific nature put the cooperation relation into operation through specific technical actions which have the advantage of enduring through time (such as the creation of new services).

Thus, the UCLG, CIDEU and AICE networks cater for an important political and strategic function, for conceptual clarification and for setting up the agenda for possible future interventions in the field of cooperation.

From these three, the UCLG deserves a special mention. The organisation represents over 1000 cities across 95 countries in the world. As we have seen, its function has been exclusively defined in political terms: UCLG places pressure on the States and international agencies and advocates for the interests of local governments on various issues related to the political centrality of cities and regions in globalisation conditions, to the commitment with decentralisation and to guaranteeing the self-government of local entities, or on issues concerning distribution of competences.

CIDEU and AICE, in turn, provide the guidelines for exchanging experiences on actions between cities. Finally, the URB-AL network is characterised by its practical approach: it sets the guidelines for the effective implementation of action projects, whereby experience, accuracy, technical quality and innovation play a major role in cooperation.

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GENERAL Nature	**- Fora or declaration and regulatory documents**	- CIDEU: Immigration protocol and Bogota Declaration. - CGLU: Working group on Migration and Co-development.
	- Definition of strategic lines on migrations	- CIDEU: Integration, social cohesion and immigration. - AICE: Actions against racism and xenophobia. Theme-oriented congresses on migrations. - CGLU: Strategic lines for 2007-2010.
	- Exchange of good practices and technical knowledge transfer	- URB-AL: Lessons learnt and URB-AL good practices. - CIDEU: Compilation of good practices and successful and innovative experiences. - AICE: International Documents Bank of Educating Cities.
SPECIFIC Nature	**- PDC implementation through migration projects**	- URB-AL: Tourist routes and heritage of Italian immigration. Municipal actions for gender equality and training of women and immigrants. Impact of participatory budgets on multi-ethnic and pluri-cultural cities. Integration of immigrants in the cities as a form of fighting against poverty. Immigrant women. Equality, participation and leadership at local level. Migration viewed from different contexts and its effects on citizen safety.

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c) Participants' interests

The following classification is focused on the ultimate interests or objectives expressed by cities when designing, preparing and executing the cooperation projects. The relevant issues here are the differences regarding the objectives, depending on whether the cities receive or produce migrants. This provides an indication as to how the diversity in interests can best be fitted into the same relationship. PDC projects on migration issues should therefore ensure an adequate participatory process for all partner cities during the design and implementation stages and on the expected outcomes of the relationship. Otherwise, the results ascribable to cooperation might be excessively concentrated on some cities at the expense of others, or might even appear to be imprecise if each part of the relationship were to follow its own process without coordinating actions with the group of partners. It should also be stated that the cooperation relationships between cities may be adjusted on the basis of the expressed interests, and joined to the action of migrant-receiving cities, migrant-producing cities, or, ideally between both producing and receiving cities.

Type of city	Territorial framework of the participating cities	Main objectives
Immigrant-receiving cities	**European Union** **- Spain:** Mancomunidad Tajo-Salor, Consell Comarcal de l'Alt Empordà, Granada, Malaga, Quart de Poblet, Paterna, Mislata, Vinalesa, Reus, Huelva, Tarragona. **- Italy:** Province of Savona, Tuscany Region. **- France:** Pont-de-Claix, Nanterre. **- Portugal:** Vila Real de Santo Antonio.	- Social integration and participation. - Migration management (welcoming and settling). - Management of cultural diversity. - Drafting strategic plans.

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	- Belgium: Anderletch. **- Denmark:** Odense. **- Finland:** Helsinki, Turku and Tampere. **Latin America** **- Brazil:** Caxias do Sul, Bento Gonçalves, Flores da Cunha, Sao Paulo. **- Argentina:** Junín, Pueyrredón. **- Chile:** Calama. **- Costa Rica:** Escazú, Acosta, Azogues.	
Immigrant-producing cities	**Europe** **- Italy[35]:** Province of Perugia, Province of Treviso, Province of Trento, Province of Venice **Latin America** **- Ecuador:** Quito, Riobamba, Cotacachi. **- Colombia:** Medellin, Samaniego. **- Peru:** Sabandia. **- Bolivia:** Sicasica. **- El Salvador:** San Salvador.	- Programmes focused on ties. - Remittance management programmes. - Development co-operation.

d) Recurrence in cooperation

Some of the intervention issues have been repeatedly included in all the studied projects, such as the **promotion of immigrant participation as a formula for social integration,** the **demand**

placed on local governments for approaching migrations from a holistic perspective, or the growing **importance of female migration and the various effects this has on local migration policies**. This gives us an indication of which thematic proposals on PDC-related issues should be considered as a starting point for designing future general or specific cooperation, considering that those issues which stand out most are indicating objective needs for action.

According to the classification generated in the framework of the International Organization for Migration (OIM) and the recommendations of the Global Commission on International Migrations (GCIM), these recurring themes can be classified as follows:

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Scope of the actions	Political dimension	Economic dimension	Social and cultural dimension
- Comprehensive	- Social inclusion and integration. - Strategic plans for cities. - Citizen participation.	- Development cooperation.	- Intercultural cities. - Diversity management.
- Specific	- Gender. - Immigrant rights. - Safety and migrations.	- Economic activity or promotion: tourism, employment. - Remittance management.	- Service adaptation: Education, health (migration management). - Ties.

4.2. Social inclusion as a local political paradigm

We saw earlier (chapter two) that the role cities play in the framework of globalisation is particularly important in the field of economy, the policy regarding information society and the development of civil society. Basically, the city's prominence as a political player does away with the classical north/south dichotomy: the relevant city's centrality lies in its competitive capacity and its connections with other cities and not so much in its rating in the framework of "developed" or "developing" states. This implies reconstructing spatiality in the global sphere of information capitalism (Sassen 2007; Senett 2006), and that local governments should acquire a specific centrality in the new context, which leads them to govern while creatively seeking how to step beyond their own competences.

On the other hand, we have analysed how international migrations constitute a structural element of global processes. That is why they have a prominent position on the agenda on political relations between the European Union and Latin America. And the local sphere is presented as the space for effective management of the migratory reality, in spite of being subordinate to the regulatory capacity of the states. Therefore, the major challenge for local governments lies in how to design and plan the actions in their cities from a strategic standpoint and with a global long-term approach – which should be flexible and have the permanent capacity to adjust to change and the new social demands, and be capable of innovating and enhancing the technical and management capacities in order to develop projects and services inherent to the new social complexity.

Although migrations are not the cause of this political and strategic re-composition of local governments (it is evident that multiple contemporary social changes are taking place; they affect

the demographic structure and show family diversity, underline the centrality of technology, entail diversification of the economic structure and the labour market, just to mention a few examples), we nevertheless have to acknowledge that migratory flows are one of the basic factors that account for social diversification in cities. Specifically, migrants are a creative opportunity for government action: they contribute new components to the population, now characterised by an internal differentiation, which – we should bear in mind – breaks the delusion of culturally homogeneous and socially integrated cities.

If we analyse the cooperation objectives expressed by the involved cities, we find converging interests on the issue of social cohesion, integration, participation or development. We also see that in some cases migration issues clearly progress toward work aimed at promoting proposals and responses for the entire resident population, as in the case of regional economic development through the cultural valuation of tourist routes. Other examples show how interventions focused on a specific population segment, such as women, can also generate conditions for the inclusion of immigrant women, inasmuch as the entire intervention has the aim of improving the social position and social valuation of women in general. In the work that was carried out, and to a greater or lesser extent, sight is not lost of the fact that when approaching technical or government action, the social dynamics of populations have to be conceived as a whole (even when it is internally different, diverse and, most of the time, unequal). We can therefore say that **migrations significantly contribute to rethinking cities as a whole, from the scenario of social complexity, and PDC is a means through which this reflection can be deepened and has a greater chance of becoming operational**.

All the studied projects, in fact, highlight an essential feature: namely that **local governments have to proactively face the overall challenge of social complexity** (a fact that by

far exceeds any pressing recipe for short-term results). Managing this new social complexity –and the migration component is an essential part thereof– is hence, politically and strategically speaking, embedded in the framework of the political paradigm of social inclusion. This generates **two types of needs** –both conceptual and operational– **which are crucial for political, technical and management action:**

(1) The demand for local social policies characterised by their comprehensive nature (derived from a holistic view of the social problems that have to be faced), **by their transversality in the coordination of responses** (thus breaking the watertight compartments between the various agents working with people, whether they belong or not to the public administration), **and by the criterion of territorial proximity** as a key performance standard in order to flexibly adjust the responses to pending problems, which is quite typical, by definition, of local public administrations. It is equally important to work from the point of view of prevention, through joint actions that are equally beneficial to all. Finally, **participation** of the beneficiaries, the various social and professional agents, should prevail in the social policy, in order to provide citizen involvement to the requirements of a duly cohesive society.

(2) Understanding that contemporary social inequalities are multi-dimensional. For over three decades the exclusion dynamics that have been appearing in the cities have brought about fractures in the social and communitarian integration ties, which cannot be directly ascribed to the variable of insufficient income. We are referring to a myriad of emerging inequality mechanisms that cannot be conceptually incorporated into the traditional concept of poverty. The concept of social inclusion allows us to approach situations of inequality that go beyond the economic dimension.[36] A dependent elderly person, for example, might not have income problems and yet, at the same time, might be living alone and be socially and affectively isolated in a home without an elevator; a

disabled person living in an inaccessible context may be seriously affected in his/her capacity to live in freedom; an immigrant may suffer from legal, political or racial harassment in spite of not having economic problems. In all these cases, there is an evident risk of exclusion, regardless of the relative independence of their respective economic capacity.

Social exclusion is therefore a diverse, dynamic and process-related reality. In fact, exclusion situations can vary depending on the education, demographic features, social prejudice, business practices, public policies, among other things. A large variety of factors account for this –sex, age, ethnic origin, disability, type of home, social class– and reflect the greater diversification of the contemporary social structure. It is also expressed in different ways such as school failure, precarious employment conditions, weak affective ties, substandard housing and increased disease incidence, just to give a few examples, which are situations that tend to accumulate in the biographies of the individuals who suffer from them.

The challenge for local governments specifically **lies in generating a government action with the aim of attaining inclusive societies**. This implies accepting from the outset the unquestioned acknowledgement that the development of individuals involves their full participation in four major areas of social dynamics: (1), the economic and income area, which implies the link to occupation and to the set of tasks that generate economic development, and being subject to the redistribution carried out by the political powers; (2) the political and citizenship area, which implies the capacity for political participation and the effective access to social rights; (3) the field of relationships and ties, closely linked to the affective world, as well as the reciprocity relationships inherent to families and the community-type social networks; (4) the sphere of culture and continuous education as essential elements for the personal adaptation to the structural conditions that are typical of the information society.

This leads us to the conclusion that an individual might be excluded in one sphere and not in another or, in an extreme situation, might suffer from exclusion in all the areas. If we take the example of immigrants, they may be economically included in the economic dynamics in the sense that they have a stable job and occupation, yet they may suffer from xenophobia or be unable to participate in election processes because, from the point of view of everyday social relations and politics, these immigrants are excluded individuals. Or even worse, they may be living in an irregular situation and be sporadically employed and poorly paid, while suffering all kinds of discrimination as a result of their origin and sex, a fact that places that individual or group of individuals in a clear situation of social exclusion.

Attaining an inclusive society is, therefore, the lowest common denominator of a general nature of all the studied projects. Whether through specific actions on employment issues, by establishing social participation mechanisms in the city government, or through working in favour of the social recognition of women's contribution to productivity and the generation of active citizenship, or even explicitly, social cohesion objectives are proposed with the contribution of migrations. In all cases, the strategic framework policy of PDC that has been highlighted to the local governments is the social inclusion of all citizens in a context of diversity.

4.3. Social integration and cultural diversity management

Migratory processes significantly increase ethnocultural diversity in the cities. We have seen that migrations produce culturally-based social changes, both at the place of origin and of destination, because immigrants maintain ties of various kinds with their places of origin: family and affective, cultural and identity, political, and economic contributions to their families and even to local and regional development (as they are contributing labour

and economic and cultural development at the country of destination). The migratory movement produces identity resignifications that go beyond the territories to which their identity was originally attached. **Migration-related PDC caters for the function of recognising cultural diversity in the cities as an object of public attention and a management challenge at local level.**

Contemporary technological development outlines the differences between present-day migration and migration in the past. The ease of travel and global communications strengthen the social networks of immigrants, regardless of their physical location on the territory (of origin, transit or destination). In fact, information and communication technologies (particularly the Internet and mobile telephony) contribute to maintaining fluent social relations between individuals who emigrate and those who stay behind, even when not all the individuals who form part of that relationship are present. Transborder relations between people who share the same origin and cultural roots, as a means, and the identity factor which is inherent to the communities *vis-à-vis* the global networks of economic flow (identities of historical, traditional-cultural and /or territorial nature), as a source of meaning, are the basis of the most prominent cultural differences that are present in the cities.

Therefore, the scenario in the cities is evolving towards a growing multi-culturality. Multu-culturality describes the coexistence of various cultural groups in the same territory. But **the challenge for local governments, as expressed in the analysed PDC, lies in the promotion of intercultural relations between culturally different communities.**

The premise of inter-culturality implies significant practical consequences of a general nature. In the first place, cultural or identity problems should not be circumscribed to social causes, even when the interrelation is evident. The expression of cultural practices is rooted in the shared subjectivity of individuals and

implies an interpretation of social relationships and the systematisation of their customs. Secondly, the views of the world and cultural practices may be the object of reflection and revision by the same individuals that sustain them. The dialogue between individuals that express cultural differences enhances the capacity for critical reflection on their own cultural viewpoints. This dialogue is the infrastructure which serves as the basis for the relationship agreements that legitimise the democratic relationship framework and the set of human rights that sustain it (Godàs and Sanahuja 2007).

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As to the specific aspects, **intercultural policies characteristically combine the acknowledgment of the differences and the framework of coexistence rooted in transcultural civic values**. An example thereof is that human rights and the right to the city (to enjoy its opportunities at the site of human development) for the entire group of its residents may lay down the basic relationship agreement between the various cultural perspectives. If migrations, as we have seen throughout this account, share new objective social needs and are at the same time a factor for the economic development in the cities, cultural diversity aims at expanding the horizon of the views of the world and a key element for the development of human culture in a framework of global interconnections.[37] **Migration-related PDC highlights this issue, which is very important in the sense that it values the migration event beyond its instrumental capacity for generating economic growth.**

The PDC projects show that, from the perspective of the current immigrant-receiving cities (mainly the European cities)**, intercultural issues are defined through the design of integration polities for immigrants in all the spheres of civic activity**. The word integration is often linked to multi-cultural assimilation (France) or aggregation (United Kingdom), but neither of these two options have satisfactorily solved the problem of social inclusion in the city, so that integration cannot be debated with authority in the sense that we are doing here. Multi-cultural evidence and social

transborder relations render the assimilation model (according to which the nation-state guarantees a prominent and homogeneous identity which all residents have to adjust to) unviable, and even morally unacceptable.[38] Not even from the political standpoint is this a plausible option in the multicultural scenario, that is to say, as social reality with culturally powerful communities that are hardly cohesive with one another (the simple coexistence between cultures is now a synonym of segregation and a risk of social exclusion), as in the example of the British case.

Integration is a two-way process. On one side, immigrants arriving in a city have to accommodate to the new receiving society; on the other, the receiving society incorporates this process into its everyday dynamics, insofar as it assumes the changes that take place within it as a result of the incorporation of new residents. Integration policies, namely those that highlight aspects such as coexistence and cultural diversity management, the language and cultural knowledge, the dynamic participation of citizens, or aspects related to political citizenship, start from assuming the perspective of social inclusion that was mentioned earlier. **In the field of public policy, this is consolidated in three preferred spheres of action:**

Firstly, from the **communitarian perspective**, all citizen initiatives, or those of the local administration itself, which have the goal of favouring the relation between people of different nationalities and cultures are highly important. Communitarian actions, organisation of festivities, exhibitions of entities and fairs sponsored by associations, seminars on the relation between cultures, among other activities, constitute the basis of social proximity relationships. People from different origins and cultural orientations relate at these meetings and are capable of empathising with one another. Personal acquaintance and friendship relationships among neighbours weave the daily framework of the necessary trust to break away from prejudice and stereotypes.[39]

Secondly, a further very relevant field of action is **urbanistic policy**, which was not dealt with in the studied projects. An integrating, inclusive and diversity-respectful urbanistic policy should avoid creating segmented population concentrations, whether for ethnocultural or social reasons. There are actions that should be highlighted, such as comprehensive neighbourhood rehabilitation, the implementation of resolute policies to provide quality public spaces in the less-favoured neighbourhoods, the promotion of the diverse uses and functions of soil, the construction of public facilities (sports, cultural, socialisation) in the neighbourhoods as dynamising factors of the urban fabric, the promotion of combined housing typologies (thus including people from different origins and socioeconomic levels), the promotion of urban integration through the elimination of architectural barriers that might isolate certain neighbourhoods, the consideration of the gender variable in the urban configuration on the basis of criteria set by women's movements and, specifically by urban women (among others: safety issues in the urban context, physical accessibility and increased public transport, proximity to services and the facilitation of non-motorised mobility). The idea is that in a scenario of growing social diversity and complexity, the coexistence and interaction of individuals should be the object of public policies: social blending is a condition that affords an opportunity for coexistence.

Thirdly, in the **specific sphere of social policy**, it is important to conceive the social attention to immigrants in the framework of the structure of the existing services, without creating segmenting parallel structures. This evidently implies that existing services be reformulated in order to guarantee the response to the greater social complexity and to redesign their availability on the basis of the new needs and demands. This can and should be combined with the availability of specific services linked to incoming (or outgoing) processes and as support tools to general services. Services such as the *"La Casa del Migrante"*[40] ("The Migrants' Home") or similar ones are necessary, because they specifically cater for the

demands for information, temporary social assistance (coverage of basic needs, access to services and benefits), legal counselling and required paperwork for specific documentation (work and residence permits, family regrouping), basic information and orientation on resources for occupational insertion, or for training, health, social, cultural or language issues. A further example are inter-cultural mediation services (implemented in European cities) as a bridging instrument between immigrants, administration professionals and the local population, as well as between communities of different cultures. The aim of the mediation services is to favour a constructive change in the relationship between individuals and communities with a view to a full coexistence in the cities.

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4.4. Social and political participation

Citizen participation is an essential feature in the theoretical and practical development of PDC, given the fact that it is part of its raison d'être, namely democratic consolidation in order to achieve the overall objectives of institutional strengthening, social cohesion, regional integration and international projection of the cities and sub-national governments.

Citizen participation at local level –and without disregarding them– goes beyond the government-citizens relationships based on the foundations of representative democracy. In fact, the latter's procedures are insufficient for achieving the full incorporation of citizens into the decision-making process, or to recover the value of the concept of community and promote the citizens' critical capacity (social capital). That is why local governments have recently begun to generate mechanisms for participatory democracy in the cities. Democratic participation can thus be better adjusted to the dynamics and social changes in complex societies, while coordinating institutional policies with popular policies.[41]

The promotion of community dynamics, the strengthening of social networks and the involvement of new players in the actions are all relationship criteria that imply **understanding participation not as a mere consultation but as a strategic co-responsibility for the decisions and actions that have to be taken; the objective is that various social players should become involved in the design, drafting and implementation of local policies**. During the process, pluralism, conflict and diversity are assumed as elements inherent to social dynamics. The citizen consensus that enables democratic political action is quite often the result of previous disagreements as to how to put forward one or various social challenges, but once it has taken place, it redounds to the strengthening of the governments' legitimacy.

The multiple participation channels and spaces of the civil society organisations, together with the local governments' capacity for building bridges between these players, are key elements for testing new spaces for participation. The diversity of the public space of political action should be taken into account and should be understood from the perspective of diversity in terms of the pace and the places that define everyday life, a diversity that the migration processes have contributed to generate in a very significant manner. Participation, hence, is carried out in various ways: informally through specific actions, structured as participation or consultative bodies, linked to the dialogue with organisations of all kinds, in the communitarian action of neighbourhoods… Whichever the case, these participation spaces constitute the local sphere for new scenarios for political action and consensus building. **And the crucial feature for local governments, namely that citizen participation, with the effective and true implication of the civil society renders social policies even more effective and lasting.**

With this set of considerations as a starting point, we note that all the studied projects have included the specific objective **of**

promoting of the participation of immigrants and their groups (whether organised or not). The projects cater for spaces for counselling, participation and meeting with immigrant groups, from the diagnosis stage through to the executive actions.

Similarly, immigrant communities have been the direct beneficiaries of many of the actions contained in some of the analysed projects, as in the case of the pilot projects organised in Escazú, Savona, Batán-Mar del Plata-Pueyrredon- Junín, Sicasica, Sao Paulo. Information on projects and local services has been provided where the participation of immigrant communities has the double purpose of extending the scope of citizen participation and becoming an opportunity for the social integration of immigrants, as can be seen in the case of Grenada. Regarding projects that were considered good practices (CIDEU and AICE networks) it is evident that the participation of immigrant groups is important as a means to guarantee the success of the implemented actions (SOS Paisa, Infopankki).

It can be roughly stated that the submitted projects have taken into account the various priority objectives of the local governments that carry out migration-related PDC. A distinction should be made between host cities and cities of origin.

It has been noted that cities of origin (both in the EU and in Latin America) share priorities such as the generation of services to cater for the new social demands, the need to manage cultural diversity, and the fight against discrimination and social exclusion. Along these lines, **the participation of immigrant communities is considered a tool for social integration and inclusion**, so that participatory structures become a means for including these groups in the working projects and processes. Concepts such as active citizenship, promotion of associations between migrants, access to rights and equal opportunities are priorities for both the governments and the immigrant communities.

In short, the key role of immigrant communities lies in the demand for rights and in the changes that these demands imply regarding the generation of services, because these had been originally designed for societies that were considered as relatively homogeneous. In addition to this, **the significant presence of migrant people leads local governments to an in-depth debate on how to govern and manage culturally diverse and socially complex cities from the perspective of social inclusion.**

Indeed, the changes that have taken place in host cities as a way to adjust to the new realities are clearly visible: new services such as intercultural mediation in social, health and educational services, or interculturality training plans for the municipal teams, the generation of political spaces that reflect ethnocultural diversity, for example municipal participation instances such as the consultative councils of immigrants' associations, political bodies like the new citizenship consultative bodies *Concejalías* (Councillorships)[42] or the municipal integration plans for immigrants. In addition to this, the participation of immigrants' associations has also determined the choice and format of the international cooperation implemented by the municipalities. An example of this is the ***MIDEL Programme (Migrations and Local Development)*** of the *Fondo Catalán de Cooperación al Desarrollo* (Catalonian Fund for Development Cooperation). This programme generates a space for exchange, cooperation and coordination with immigrants from Senegal and their communities of origin as a way to contribute to their development.

It is thus clear that immigrant communities are involved in cooperation issues and are the drivers of change in the host societies as well as in the societies of origin, either through the permanent organisation capacity or through the participation in specific projects or actions.

Regarding international migration cities and regions of origin, proposals have been generated that coincide with those which we have previously seen, and that are the result of reflections on the multi-dimensional quality of international migrations and, most of all, following the final report (GCIM 2005) of the Global Commission on International Migration established by the UN, and the 2006 report on the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development. The core of migrant participation revolves around migration and development issues, particularly regarding the possibilities of planning remittances and the projects on "brain circulation" that have resulted in programmes which promote ties with immigrant communities.

There is a point that needs to be clarified in the field of participation. In the analysed PDC, an issue requiring further study is the fact that while the relevance of the implication and participation of the immigrants' communities has been expressed in the studied projects, **the immigrants' right to an effective political participation, by recognising their right to vote in municipal elections, goes unnoticed**. Although this is not an issue that falls within the competence of the municipalities, it can be considered an point for local discussion and position-taking with respect to the States.

In host countries, the distinction between individuals who enjoy full rights as citizens and those who do not, and between immigrants who have been admitted as such and those who are in irregular situations, will logically generate clear situations of inequality regarding the protection and exercise of their fundamental rights. At a higher level of abstraction, these situations give rise to a critical debate on the relationships between citizens, territory, citizenship and national identity. Therefore, the main challenge of immigrants' participation as citizens has to do with the fact that they are not holders of political rights. This affects the democratic principles because it takes away their right to participate in the

political decisions on government issues involving foreigners who decide to remain in the host country. We are therefore speaking of fully extending democratic rights to the new residents, regardless of the criterion of nationality. It is evident that granting formal political rights is competence of the State. However, this need not prevent municipalities from placing pressure on the States in this direction through the instruments of the international political association of local and regional governments.[43]

4.5. Coordinated Development Contribution

In the reviewed PDC, development-related issues were observed that require a specific approach, given the interest they have for local governments, and mainly for those that have cities of origin, given the impact (or potential impact) of migrations on the development of the localities of origin. It should also be highlighted that the governments of European host cities are also interested in these issues, particularly in the context of development cooperation proposals. There is, thus, **a consensus between the cities of origin and host cities in the sense that the contribution to development may become a common axis for intervention that incorporates the vision of migrations as a result of their impact, both on the localities of origin and the host localities**.[44]

The issues of **economic remittances, qualified migration** ("brain drain") and **co-development** will be discussed below.

a) Remittances

In quantitative terms, remittances are a major contribution to GDP and to the balance of payments of the host locations. It should suffice to say that it has become the second source of income in some of the host locations and that in Latin America, for example, they reached 40 billion dollars in 2004.

Beyond the quantitative aspect in economic terms, the interest of remittances lies in their contribution to development. In this sense, successful experiences have been carried out, such as those that are being implemented in Mexico that contribute to local development through multilateral participation (State, regional governments, local governments and immigrant communities).

However, similar experiences to that of Mexico have been questioned in the sense that they should not be considered a strategic element for development and for fighting against poverty and inequality because, in principle, they are neither a way to save money nor a source of productive investment. In fact, from this point of view, the negative potential of remittances is expressed in the sense that they may become a factor that prolongs dependence situations. In any case, as verified in most of the studies on this issue, remittances are basically a salary fund contributed from abroad to sustain the families.

Nevertheless, the relevant fact is that criticism points out that **remittances cannot be conceived as a substitute for the competences and the public mandate of local governments** (and of public administration as a whole), **and of their responsibility in designing and executing a socially-oriented public policy**. If this is taken into account, we cannot disregard the opportunities generated by remittances as a whole for fostering development and social cohesion. For a start and in this sense, **local political powers have two challenges** to face:

Firstly, local governments have to **be aware of the scope of remittances as a potential factor for the economic development of their cities**. They should recognise the support that remittances imply for the families who receive them. From the public sphere, no arbitrary intervention should be made on the freedom of family and kin to contribute to the income of their families – a contribution that immediately generates consumption capacity. In order

to specifically incorporate part of the economic contributions of remittances into development plans which share both saving and investment capacity, it is essential for **local governments to become facilitating agents in the coordination between citizens, civil society agents and the public administration itself**. To this effect, it is crucial to set up spaces for citizen participation in the strategic development design, and to define priorities in the decisions that are to be made regarding remittances. An example of functional social participation could be that of **Cotacachi**, because it ensures the true involvement of all citizens in the development-oriented municipal public policy. In this framework it is not counter-intuitive to generate spaces for relating and training in order to facilitate the shift of part of the remittances to savings and, mainly, to investments in the local economic activity. For this to take place, local governments should also be able to construct or cooperate in setting up economic reception structures adjusted to the issue of remittances. As stated in the ***URB-AL Network 14 Seminar***, it is important to guarantee, for example, the presence of farmers' enterprises of popular products that incorporate women into the economic activity, as well as popular savings cooperatives. Some of the more indirect examples of facilitating reception and, therefore, of a greater social confidence to invest in savings and production, could be the financial project ***"My family, my country, my return"***, where actions are implemented for providing coverage to the needs of immigrants –from the cost of the trip to sending the savings–, or the agreements to prevent the cost of sending remittances from becoming an obstacle or a reduction to the sums received by the families.[45]

Secondly, **remittances are not only characterised by their economic dimension**. Together with the remittances, there is a flow of information, communication and exchange of new symbolic features that have an impact on the family structures and bring about deep cultural changes. Remittances sent by migrant women and the economic management involved, actually imply greater

women empowerment and have a decisive influence on the redefinition of gender roles linked to the traditional concept of family, a fact that often goes hand in hand with conflict or disagreements. In any case, this vector of social change in everyday social relationships, enhanced under certain circumstances by the migratory component, becomes an opportunity for the local authorities to bestow due consideration to gender-related issues. Needless to say that all the international agencies working on development issues are aware of the crucial role that women play in the processes of change towards socially and economically sustainable societies. This could also be object of political policies which, as a result of situations such as those described above, can reinforce the visibility of women's contribution to the various spheres of social life (affective, cultural, economic and political) and that this may entail, for men, a commitment with the daily and immaterial family and upbringing responsibilities. (The last section of this chapter approaches this issue again).

b) Qualified Migration

Multinational corporations and research centres in cities are a substantial component of the key power centres in the framework of globalisation. These organisations capture highly qualified individuals, many of whom were trained in their countries of origin with lesser competitive capacities in the framework of the global economy. The growing global economic interdependence is the basis of the human capital "import" practices to companies and research centres, as well as for retaining the most outstanding students and researchers from the major universities and knowledge centres across the world.

On the other hand, the differences in salaries (higher remunerations) and in working conditions (permanent access to technological innovation), or even the influence of the professional

and academic models and working values, favoured by the means of communication, are factors that encourage highly qualified professionals to leave in search of more promising and fulfilling labour scenarios. This situation is expected to gain in intensity in the future, as it is part of the movement of individuals inherent to the high value-added aspect of globalised economy. Needless to say that these individuals (like the companies and knowledge centres at the host countries) are concentrated in globalised urban enclaves, those which, according to Sassen (2007) are global cities.

The losses in terms of human capital in the migrants' countries of origin affect at least four areas: the development of science and technology, the quality of the health care services, the creation and innovation in the business and entrepreneurial area and the quality and design of public policies. When the value of territories and their globalisation potential is measured on the basis of their competitive capacity in the global economy, these losses can become fatal. **This implies that the challenge for those cities and regions that lose professionals lies in fostering cooperation or assistance of networks of professionals with their place of origin, on key issues such as basic and applied knowledge transfer, technical transfer or expert advice.**

c) Co-Development

A consensus is currently observed in Europe **linking migration and development**, whereby co-development is positioned as a cooperation tool that incorporates immigrants' communities and, therefore, the interests of the migrants' countries of origin for formulating cooperation initiatives towards their countries. Immigrants' communities are therefore the link that guarantees this cooperation formula.[46] Local governments are considered priority partners in the actions, but as cooperation does not take place directly between municipalities, it is not PDC.

Both the conceptualisation and execution of co-development projects involve a controversial debate that deals in depth with the reflection on migration, its causes and consequences, as well as on the role of immigrant communities regarding the cities of origin and the host cities. That is why co-development has been the object of criticism, which has ranged from the instrumentalisation of immigrant communities (given, among other things, the usual lack of political and social rights of many immigrants) to the reports on the use of co-development projects with aims such as the promotion of the "voluntary return" of immigrants (Gómez Johnson 2007), in the light of the plain statements included in some of the projects.[47]

Notwithstanding this, co-development experiences are being implemented in their entire diversity. Immigrant communities have become first-line players in the co-development projects, much in spite of the fact that the immigrants' associations themselves are reflecting on the large diversity and heterogeneity of communities and individuals, and that it is not advisable to unify them based solely on the fact that they share the same place of origin (Sipi and Araya 2005).

As an example, we can quote the project *"Migraciones y desarrollo: codesarrollo"*, (Migrations and Development: Co-Development), contained in the priority action lines of the *Fondo Catalán de Cooperación al Desarrollo* (Catalonian Fund for Development Cooperation), where it is defined as "an alternate development cooperation model in the context of decentralised cooperation, whereby organised immigrants become development actors in their societies of origin and dynamic actors in the construction of citizenship in the host societies." It also states that it advocates for favouring ties between co-development, associationism and municipalism as key strategic action lines. Two objectives are thus brought together: on one hand, cooperation with the migrants'

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countries of origin (understanding that the lack of development is one of the causes of migrations) and, on the other, the incorporation of immigrants into the exercise of local citizenship (and therefore achieve their social integration) through their participation in the project design, management and execution.

Various actors are involved in co-development actions. To start, we could stress the differences, depending on the origin of the project initiatives: a) an international development cooperation Agency or NGO; b) a local or sub-national government (in the host country or country of origin); c) a specific immigrant community.

Most of the co-development projects have been an initiative or have been implemented by international cooperation agencies and NGOs which, in the planning, projection and execution framework of the cooperation projects, have incorporated immigrant associations and local governments. An example of co-development is the project currently being developed between the *Community of Murcia and the Cañar Region (Ecuador)*, promoted by the AECI. One of the benefits has been the strengthening of the immigrant associations from Cañar, regarding precisely their greater citizen participation at the host location (an issue that should be taken into account given its low involvement prior to the project development) whereas on the side of the location of origin, the positive outcomes of the action are yet to be determined.

Numerous projects have also been proposed on the initiative of local and sub-national governments in the host countries. An example that was already mentioned is the *MIDEL Programme* which was implemented by the Catalonian Development Cooperation Fund, as well as various projects in the framework of the Confederation of Cooperation and Solidarity Funds which operates at the level of the Spanish State.

The initiatives of local or sub-national governments of the countries of origin and the roles of immigrant associations are less numerous, but respond to the reflections on the impact of migration at the places of origin. An example of this is the project *"SOS Paisa"*, promoted by the municipality of Medellin and the government of Antioquia. In general terms, Colombia has put forward a series of initiatives to maintain the ties with the immigrant populations (from projects as the one described earlier to the implementation of political representation spaces at parliament for people residing abroad). Many municipalities in the country have actively participated in PDC through numerous networks.[48]

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Finally, there are also **experiences of unilateral initiatives of immigrant communities**. In the framework of the large diversity of existing organised immigrant communities, it is not unusual to find a natural concern for maintaining ties and relationships with the societies of origin (most of them are communities working in the framework of cultural activities and the dissemination of their cultures of origin), and in general implies organisation activities for sending support and cooperation.

The organisation modality of these communities is through the participation in the host city, in associations such as *"Los botijas"* in Rubí, and the *"Unión Cultural Latinoameri-cana"* (Latin-American Cultural Union) in Terrassa. The actions of both associations began in the field of defending immigrants' rights. In addition to this, they now participate in bodies such as the municipal cooperation and solidarity councils, where they have presented projects that fall under the scope of the so-called 0.7% fund. The entity *"Los botijas"* (Rubi) implemented projects which involved the local authorities of the host country (Municipality of Montevideo). The cooperation mainly consists in donations to schools, libraries and for occupational training. The *"Unión Cultural Latinoamericana"* from Terrassa, implemented projects in Latin America, and also counted on the participation of local

authorities in the region, with similar contents to the contributions of *"Los botijas"*. Projects of various kinds have been derived from examples similar to those described above, such as the organisations *"Abriendo caminos"* and the *"Proyecto local"*, with the participation of people of immigrant origin who have specialised in international cooperation with Latin America.

The bottom line is that **these initiatives of the immigrant communities on cooperation issues can intensify the relationships between local governments of the societies of origin and the host societies** (as was the case at the times of Italian migration to Brazil or Galician migration to Uruguay and Argentina), but basically the effect is to strengthen the immigrants' communities own action capacity in the host cities.

So, specifically, **how can PDC approach this set of somewhat overlapping issues (economic remittances, qualified migration and co-development)?** The reply could be through **link programmes**, duly set in the framework of social policies and programmes, the competence of local governments and other public administrations.

In Latin America, the issue of the links began to arise in 1990, but it was only recently, in 2005, that action proposals began to be implemented. Thus, during the Sixth South American Conference on Migration (2006), and regarding the restructuring of the Plan of Action on International Migration in South America, the need was expressed for "facilitating the link with migrants so as to enable the transfer of skills and investment opportunities in order to contribute to developing its communities, maintaining the culture of origin and organising the communities of origin in the host countries."

The incipient programmes for promoting ties implemented by some governments[49] are intended to serve as a platform of le-

gitimate intervention because it takes into account all the players that are linked in the relationship; they provide the ideal setting for the dialogue between the various stakeholders interested in the development of their places of origin – a dialogue that has the virtue of being translated into coordinated action. Regarding the issue at hand and regarding remittances, the programmes to promote ties cater for the concurring interests, and so public authorities do not arbitrarily interfere in personal decisions; they favour the shift of the so-called "brain drain" to the undoubtedly better option of "brain circulation" which, through relationship agreements and actions to foster development, guarantee the connection between the skilled workers abroad and their places of origin. On the other hand, they can facilitate the progress of co-development actions towards a relationship framework, where local governments play a leading role, so that these actions can be placed in the framework of strategic plans (local, regional) and be conferred democratic guarantees.

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We should insist however, that programmes to promote links can cater for a favourable development function only if they are part of strategic proposals for action to be contributed by public authorities. In this context **the contribution of PDC can be decisive, namely for providing organisation guidelines for these links, bearing in mind the multiple dimensions of the development objectives and from a regional perspective (and not merely with a local or localist approach), strengthening civil society and strongly linked to the public responsibility of territorial and democratic political powers.**

4.6. Feminisation of migrations

The percentage of migrant women has steadily increased since 1960. At present it is situated at 58% worldwide. Yet beyond the quantitative fact (which is quite revealing), a qualitative

approximation to the migratory reality from the point of view of migrant women is essential, given the persistent lack of visibility women are subject to as a central component of migrations. In fact, studies on international migrations and the drafting of migratory policies still suffer from the lack of a gender analysis because the lessons learnt from women's movements have not been incorporated. As a result, the particular features of women migration are not understood.

The causes of women migration result from both the world economic restructuring (that favour migratory projects of single women) and of the consolidation of the transborder social and family networks (mainly women immigrants as a result of family regrouping). From a macro-structural perspective, certain conditions promote women migration both at the places of origin and in the host countries.

The causes that determine female migration at the places of origin are the result of the Structural Adjustment Plans implemented since the eighties in Latin America. In general terms, these led to the closure of small and medium-sized enterprises and, consequently, generated a significant number of unemployed men and at the same time forced the States to cut down social expenses. This induced a significant subsistence crisis for the family. Women have historically and traditionally held the ultimate responsibility for family care and attention, and as such many of them reacted and developed subsistence strategies and entered the informal economy setting. Not few had had to resort to this without their partner's consent, as men took distance from family matters once they had lost their jobs.

Yet even informal economy has a limited growth – the market is not elastic and there is a moment when further components can no longer be absorbed.[50] It is then that, for women, the option

of migrating on their own becomes a further strategy to guarantee survival, both for them and for their families.

Host countries, on the other hand, have a demand for a labour profile which is covered by many immigrant women. It is a known fact that these women basically take on jobs in services that are supplementary to strategic economic sectors (we are referring to employment in the hotel and catering business, as shop assistants or for cleaning, for example) and in services related to the direct care of people (support in child upbringing or care of dependent elderly people and in the health care sector).

The large number of immigrant women occupying jobs related to providing care to people, both in the formal and informal economy, is an indication of the profound reproductive crisis being suffered by system – a role traditionally ascribed to women.[51] In Europe, the full incorporation of native women to the labour market goes hand in hand with the general tension of having to strike a balance between the time allocated to labour responsibilities and the responsibilities inherent to upbringing and family chores. In southern Europe, additionally, the reproductive crisis becomes even clearer, insofar as there are evident inadequacies in the public system regarding the lack of resources and social care, and upbringing and socialisation support. It is in this context that women of immigrant origin are paid to cover or supplement the reproductive and household chores that local European women and men are transferring to them. One can therefore say that in many European households, care services have been outsourced to immigrant women, generally under precarious, informal and poorly paid conditions.

These **immigrant female workers end up becoming a private solution to a public problem: the crisis of the reproductive system proves that gender inequalities and the persistence of patriarchal structures continue to be a factor that affects**

social organisation. It is generally women who entrust other women –whether relatives or hired– with the reproductive tasks and care that the former are not in a position to provide. This also applies to immigrant women, who at their place of origin are used to entrusting the direct care of their own children to other women in the family.

Si far what has been stated implies that there **is a general need for migration-related PDC, that is to say, that it should continue promoting the visibility of the condition of women and their major contribution to social development**. As to migrations, this becomes even more evident in jobs involving people care carried out by many migrant women, and has an impact on both their countries of origin and the host countries. Some of them are in charge of sustaining their families at their places of origin (through remittances or communication networks), and are responsible at the same time, and remunerated, for household and family care chores at the host destination. Or, closing the circle, they may be in charge of sustaining their own families at the host country (as a result of training and/or the family re-grouping processes). Consistent with this, such women should not be considered mere passive objects of public policies or service recipients, but should rather be conceived as true communitarian agents who play a key role in guaranteeing social cohesion at the places where they are present, and even at the places of origin with which they keep ties.

In this context, **the challenges for local governments of the cities of origin of migrant women involve structural changes and changes in the family roles** (re-negotiation of the power relationship), **as well as in women's participation in local development**.

Women migration is, in fact, an issue in the debate on the unequal relationship between men and women. Women maintain their role in supporting family livelihoods in spite of emigrating on

their own. It is mainly through remittances that women determine the use that is to be made of the money. The expenses covered include daily sustenance, housing, studies or traditions such as the dowry. These women also have a greater tendency to settle in the host country, and through this achieve, or hope to achieve the family re-grouping process. In addition to maintaining their current or long-distance family responsibilities, migrant women also contribute to circulating values that question gender inequality at the place of origin. Beyond individual beliefs, there are strong reasons that account for this, and these migrant women are, in practice, a central resource for communitarian subsistence and a key element of social development.

Therefore, one of the first responsibilities of the local governments is to make these contributions visible by assigning them their proper value.[52] At the same time they have the responsibility of generating comprehensive programmes aimed at providing care to women (as in the case of the pilot projects carried out in Costa Rica). Operatively speaking, this is implemented through economic empowerment programmes, through the participation in city's associations and communities, the formulation of the local social policy priorities, as well as through the creation of child care, socialisation and dependence services.

On the other hand, the **challenges for local governments in the host cities of migrant women, expressed through cooperation projects, may be summarised as the access to employment and self-employment, in specifically recognising and promoting the social participation of women, and in the fight against the risk of sexist vulnerability and violence.**

Migrant women bring with them personal projects and projects of upward social mobility in the field of education and occupational training that have to be catered for. The access and promotion of female employment is a basic requirement for so-

cial integration and the fight against sex discrimination. That is why local governments have to take into account the diversity of situations of migrant women when designing social inclusion policies with the core objective of accessing employment and the recognition (through the official validation) of the qualifications and experience that women have and that are therefore resources for female autonomy.[53] Examples of such actions are the experience carried out in URB-AL Network 5 in Escazú (Costa Rica), which created the Centre to Promote Entrepreneurial Women *(Centro Potenciador para Mujeres Emprendedoras)*, and the employment promotion actions of Network 12, registered in the project "Immigrant women. Equality, participation and leadership at local level" *"Mujer inmigrada. Igualdad, participación y liderazgo en el ámbito local"* which through the coordination of immigrant women's participation gained better knowledge of the population at which these actions were addressed and, therefore, was able to adjust them according to the participants' declarations.

A further and particularly relevant issue of the PDC projects that has related migration and women is the varied reality of women's social participation (Araya 2006). It is therefore **essential to promote actions towards strengthening the relationships and partnerships between women.** This is a very important point, as has been clearly demonstrated by women movements, where the chances for effective female participation are higher when there are exclusively female participation structures, because it is in these scenarios where women have full freedom of speech and action. On the one hand, therefore, **the objective of the authorities is to approach female participation from the basis of everyday relationships** which are the foundation of coexistence (and where there are more women than men), as a key element for acknowledging their contribution in the field of social integration. On the other, it is essential **to incorporate migrant women associations into the general scope of the city's associations**, as a way of including them into local public life and as a source of useful information

and participation for the ongoing improvement of local policies on migrations.

Finally, a further aspect to bear in mind is the **migrant women at risk of sexist violence in the host societies**, either as a result of the tension caused by the migratory project or of redefining the gender roles or, in short, because sexist violence is still a risk that hovers over all women. When these situations come to surface they are object of political intervention, but specific formulae are needed, particularly with respect to migrant women (especially for those who have recently migrated or who are in the process of settling down) in order to approach their particular situation which, for that event should have services that include intercultural mediation. It should be highlighted, however, that this vulnerability usually has a systemic impersonal root in the immigration laws and regulations. In fact, the policies and regulations on migrations are not neutral in principle; they often introduce inequality of opportunities because they determine rights. The Spanish case is a clear example, whereby women who arrive for family regrouping purposes often have to wait five years before obtaining a work permit. Needless to say that these regulations have the effect of hindering female autonomy and, in extreme situations, of placing them in conditions of higher risk of sexist violence.[54]

4.7. Ten final considerations

1. **Migrations are a global multidimensional process with local impact.** For local and regional governments they are a first-order political and management challenge that has to be faced, but they lack the appropriate competence framework. **PDC in this field has had the crucial effect of reinforcing the strategic competences of local governments** in order to face this significant challenge from the point of view of political planning, the innovation capacity of the actions, the continuous improvement in the management

of diversity and social complexities, and the enhancement of the territories –most of all of the cities– as proactive agents in the international networks.

2. **Through PDC, the central role of local governments in migration-related knowledge transfer and transmission finds a space for multiplying and strengthening** the exchange and contrasting of experiences and relevant information. This has served as a basis for viewing the migratory event in a positive context regarding its contribution to the economic and social development, both of the places of origin and in the host countries, and as a basis to argue in favour of the need to consider territories from an intercultural perspective.

3. The **continuous generation of knowledge on issues which PDC can contribute to, is a key aspect for designing policies**, intervention projects and resources for providing care, the coordination of the management processes of municipal social care services, the incorporation of information and communication technologies as an essential relationship component for people in the place of origin and in the host country, as well as for the development of further cooperation projects.

4. **There is a significant qualitative social impact of the results ascribable to cooperation, although these are not easily quantied**. The examples provided by the PDC analysed in this study, mainly those involving women, are very illustrative in this sense: intervention for overcoming stereotyped and stigmatised images, revaluation of their own culture and personal self-esteem, empowerment of the communities that used to have a greater risk of vulnerability.

5. **Migration-related PDC has enabled the positioning of local governments as politically active agents in view of elements inherent to the globalisation process**. This is translated as local

institutional strengthening of the participating States. **PDC** as such **has also gained strength as a functional instrument for local governments when approaching issues of an international nature and global dimension**. In brief, the issue of migrations has contributed to gathering the overall objectives of the cooperation proposals under the same theme: social cohesion, human development, citizen participation, international projection and regional integration.

6. **PDC provides the ideal environment for the relationship between cities that share the experience of the migratory event, from the point of view of the specific aspects of the places of origin, transit or destination**. In this context, PDC can evolve following various relationship formats: bilateral or multilateral, between cities of origin, between host cities, or between cities of origin and host cities. However, **one of the challenges for migration-related PDC is the promotion of cooperation networks between cities of origin and host cities**.

7. A further issue that should be dealt with in depth is the **metropolitan dimension**, which involves all major cities. The metropolitan areas are an urban, economic and political continuum and have the need to implement policies and services between the local entities. **Migration-related PDC faces the challenge of coordinating supra-local actions in the metropolitan area in order to achieve greater efficiency and effectiveness for formulating and implementing policies.**

8. **Migrations present PDC as a specific and qualified development cooperation tool that tackles the relationships between cities and regions in a horizontal and reciprocal manner, which can be adjusted to the context, generates coordination between players and has practical outcomes.** The common denominator of all this is the premise of a vision of shared interests between the cities and regions of North and South. In fact, from the perspec-

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tive of development cooperation, PDC provides a synergic set of processes that expand the social impact capacity resulting from the action network: democratic consolidation, institutional strengthening and comprehensive intervention in the fields of inclusion, economic development, participation, integration, generation of intercultural cities and regional development and integration.

9. As to participation, PDC has emphasised the problem of democratic legitimacy in cases when **immigration laws generate permanent situations of exclusion of political rights**. The towns, i.e. the places where immigrant people live, may contain a significant population segment (consisting of thousands of people in many cases) that do not hold the right to vote or have not regularised their situation regarding residence and the right to work. In consonance with its role of placing pressure on the State Administrations, **PDC can and should incorporate this issue into the agenda as a key element of social inclusion**.

10. Finally, **the action on the ground, inherent to local governments, has facilitated the incorporation of the gender variable into migration cooperation**. This fits into the reality of the migratory process given that female presence is clearly essential. This therefore implies that the social demands and needs expressed by women migrants should be taken into account by the government action, starting with the policies through to the allocation of resources, and including the management criteria and technical definition of projects and services. **In this respect, the challenge for PDC first and foremost involves providing visibility to the condition of women.**

Notes

34 The classification was included in the EU-Latin America Decentralised Cooperation Yearbook (Cardarello; Rodríguez, 2006).

35 Although Italy is an immigrant-receiving country today, the listed provinces participating in the project are those whose migrants had historically migrated to Brazil.

36 A definition of social exclusion is: the process whereby certain individuals or groups are systematically prevented from accessing positions which otherwise would enable them to experience an autonomous subsistence within the social levels determined by institutions and values in a given context (Castells 2003c). A more exhaustive vision of the concept can be found in: IGOP (2003) and Subirats (2004).

37 This, for example was successfully debated in the framework of the IV Forum of Local Authorities for Social Inclusion of Porto Alegre, held in Barcelona on May 7-8, 2008, in the framework of the first Universal Forum of Cultures. The meeting produced the "Agenda 21 de la Cultura" (Cultural Agenda 21) that explicitly states (point 3) that "Local governments acknowledge that cultural rights are an inseparable part of human rights and consider the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), the International Pact Regarding Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966) and the Universal Declaration of UNESCO on cultural diversity (2001) their fundamental reference. Cultural freedom of individuals and communities are ratified in this sense as an essential condition of democracy. No individuals may invoke cultural diversity to threaten human rights guaranteed by international law or to restrict their scope." And also (point 7): (…) The dialogue between identity and diversity, individual and community, is revealed as a necessary tool to guarantee both worldwide cultural citizenship, such as the survival of language diversity and the development of cultures." Finally (point 10): "The consolidation of cultures, as well as the set of policies that have been implemented to acknowledge them and for the purpose of their viability, constitutes a crucial factor for the sustainable development of cities and territories in the human, economic, political and social aspects (…)." UCLG's Committee on Social Inclusion and Participatory Democracy (CISDP) has a specific working group, World Citizenship: Immigration and Human Rights, which is drafting a "Letter for Human Rights Agenda in the City" that takes into account their cultural dimension. In this same context, refer also to the document *Barcelona, ciutat de drets humans. Carta de salvaguarda europea de drets humans a la ciutat* (2001).

38 The presence of ethnic minorities in the receiving cities clearly evidences that far from achieving an assimilation process of groups of foreigners in the receiving society, what has actually occurred is that a spatial, social, economic and cultural segregation has taken place and, in the majority of cases, this has led to situations of exclusion of a structural nature (e.g. the conflicts in the banlieues in France).

39 In this sense, an integration policy is also a resolute policy against prejudice. There is an evident need for this. For example, one of the indicators that reveal difficulties regarding migration in Europe are the population surveys and their perception of the immigrant communities. Twenty-five per cent of the citizens in the UE-15 do not view a society made up of diverse ethnic origins as something positive; 48% state that it is preferable if the entire population in a country have common customs and traditions. Similarly, the media have played a questionable role regarding the generation and configuration of a "migrant alterity" based on a stereotyped image of migrations. These opinions lead to more or less hostile attitudes towards intercultural coexistence. In short, they pose a problem to the management of cultural diversity within the cities.

40 Diseñado e implementado en el marco de Proyecto Red URB-AL 14.

41 Please refer to Conclusiones del *Primer Seminario Internacional de Políticas Locales Innovadoras para la Inclusión Social* (Barcelona, 27-28 de septiembre de 2007) ("Conclusions of the First International Seminar on Innovateive Local Policies for Social Inclusion").

42 There are various designations for the political-technical instances: Participation and Citizenship, New Citizenship, Immigration, Interculturality, Integration, etc.

43 An example of this is the Municipality of Barcelona, which publicly expressed its position in favour of immigrants' vote in the municipal elections. In this sense, in January 2000, a motion was submitted to the Plenary of the Municipality of Barcelona, which urged the General Courts and the State Government to offer all foreign residents in Barcelona the right to vote in the municipal elections, as per article 13 of the Spanish Constitution, through bilateral agreements

44 In this context, it should also be borne in mind that Latin America is a region that incorporates both dimensions of the migratory phenomenon; there are localities of origin and host localities.

45 In addition to the economic dimension of remittances, a further issue that public administration should be able to cater for is the fact that international financial entities and other enterprises consider remittances as a clear business opportunity. (It is a known fact that as from the year 2000, there has been a growing proliferation of financial businesses specialised in the subject). At present, and given the crisis in the mortgage and construction markets in Europe and the US, a business line is being executed which consists in the sale and construction of homes in the migrants' localities of origin. These businesses aim their promotion campaigns at the people who send remittances. As these economic operations are situated in the localities, the local governments will also be called upon to participate.

46 Refer to the Document dated October 25, 2007: "EU immigration and cooperation policy with countries of origin to foster development" (SOC/268).

47 Examples: *"Disminuir la emigración irregular de Guayaquil a Madrid y el desarraigo familiar, a través de formación con el apoyo de ecuatorianos residentes en Madrid y capacitación y entrega de microcréditos a jóvenes en Guayaquil"* (Foundation IUVE Cooperación); *"Proyecto de diversificación de la producción como alternativa al mejoramiento de ingresos para reducir la migración en el sector de la frontera Ecuador-Perú"* (CIDEAL).

48 See: EU-LA Decentralised Cooperation Observatory, Development and outlook of Decentralised Cooperation –A focus on Columbia Colombia– (2007).

49 In this sense, major efforts have been undertaken by Colombia, with various actions and proposals. An example of a comprehensive approach is to be found in Uruguay, but at State level (*"Departamento 20"*).

50 This is clear from the following statement: "Today, in cities like La Paz, Oruro or Cochabamba there is no more space for anyone, neither for a fruit juice stand, nor for bread sellers, fruit sellers or peddlers of illusions, not even a small box to shine shoes" (Galindo, 2005).

51 The feminist movement and feminist authors have called this situation the "crisis of care", a crisis that has a global outreach and a local impact, in addition to its effect on the daily life of individuals (Instraw, 2007).

52 This also involves not blaming migrant women for the fact that they leave their families in the care of other women. It is usual for the countries of origin to refer to "family disintegration" which, is to be understood as child neglect, acute behavioural crises in adolescent, and even juvenile violence or delinquency. These are false statements, among other reasons because prior to their migration, these women usually did not have a "typically" stable and united family: most single migrant women are from single-mother families which they sustain on their own.

53 The issue of professional qualifications and experience is important: many Latin American migrant women in Europe have intermediate studies and university degrees, but the jobs they have access to do not match their qualifications. This, for example, led a group of Peruvian women in Spain to set up an association named *"Asociación de Matronas Latinoamericanas"* (AMALA - Association of Latin American Midwives) that places political pressure because of the serious damage caused by the long bureaucratic formalities (more than 8 years) to process official validation of the degrees of midwives. On 14 March 2008, the Spanish Council of Ministers recognised and regulated these official validations with the Royal Decree, whereby, as a minimum, a degree in nursing is required.

54 Refer to the Amnesty International Report, section on Spain (2005), *"Inmigrantes indocumentadas. ¿Hasta cuándo sin protección frente a la violencia de género?", and "Mujeres invisibles, delitos impunes"* (2003).

Anexos

Index

1. European Charter of local self-government

Adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe in June 1985 and opened for signature by member states on 15th October 1985, first day of the 20th session of CLRAE[1].

Introduction

The member states of the Council of Europe, signatories of this Charter, considering that the objective of the Council of Europe is to achieve closer links between its members in order to safeguard and promote the ideals and principles that constitute their common heritage;

Considering that one of the means to achieve this end is the conclusion of agreements in the administrative sphere;

Considering that local institutions are one of the main foundations of a democratic regime;

Considering that the right of citizens to participate in the management of public affairs forms part of the democratic principles common to all member states of the Council of Europe;

Confident that at this local level this right can be exercised more directly;

Confident that the existence of local institutions invested with effective competences allows for an administration that is both effective and close to the citizens;

Conscious of the fact that the defence and strengthening of local self-government in various European countries represent an es-

sential contribution to building a Europe based on the principles of democracy and decentralization of power;

Asserting that this implies the existence of local institutions provided with democratically constituted decision-making bodies which benefit from widespread autonomy as regards competences, the ways in which these are exercised, and the necessary means to meet their objectives;

The following has been agreed:

First part

1. The contracting parties pledge to be bound by the following articles in the form and under the conditions set out by article 12 of this Charter.

2. *Legal and constitutional foundation of local self-government.* The principle of self-government must be recognized by internal legislation and, as far as possible, by the Constitution.

3. *Concept of local self-government.- 1.* Local self-government is understood as the right and effective ability of local institutions to order and manage a substantial part of public affairs, within the framework of the law, under their own responsibility and for the benefit of their inhabitants. *2.* This right is exercised by assemblies or councils whose members have been elected by free, secret, equal, direct and universal vote, and that can have at their disposal executive bodies that are responsible to themselves. This provision will not prejudice the recourse to neighbours' meetings, referendums or any other form of direct participation of the citizen, wherever it is allowed by law.

4. *Scope of local self-government.- 1.* The basic competences of local institutions are set out by the Constitution or by law. Never-

theless, this provision does not prevent the allocation of specific competences to local institutions, according to the law. *2*. Local institutions have total freedom, within the scope of the law, to use their initiative in all matters not excluded from their competence or allocated to another authority. *3*. The exercise of public competences must, in general, involve preferably the authorities closest to the citizens. The allocation of a competence to another authority must take into account the range or the nature of the task or the need for effectiveness or economy. *4*. The competences entrusted to local institutions must normally be absolute and complete. They must not be called into question or limited by another central or regional authority, unless within the scope of the law. *5*. In the case of delegation of powers by a central or regional authority, the local institutions must have the right, as far as possible, to adapt the exercising of these powers to local conditions. *6*. Local institutions must be consulted, as far as possible, in a timely and appropriate manner, during the planning and decision-making process on all matters that affect them directly.

5. *Protection of the territorial boundaries of local institutions.-* Local communities affected by any changes in local territorial boundaries must be consulted in advance, if necessary by referendum, when allowed by law.

6. *Adaptation of administrative structures and methods to the objectives of local institutions.- 1.* Without prejudice to the more general provisions of the law, local institutions must be able to self-define their own internal administrative structures in order to adapt them to their own specific needs and allow for effective management. *2*. The human resources statutes of local institutions must allow for selection based on quality, backed up by principles of merit and skills. Therefore, they must include adequate conditions for training, remuneration and career prospects.

7. *Conditions for exercising responsibilities at a local level. - 1.* The statute of local representatives must ensure the free exercise of

their duties. *2*. It must allow for appropriate financial compensation for expenses arising from the exercise of their duties, as well as, if necessary, financial compensation for lost benefits or remuneration for the work carried out and corresponding social security cover. *3*. Functions and activities that are incompatible with the duties of a local representative can only be established by law or by fundamental legal principles.

8. Administrative control of the actions of local institutions.- *1*. All administrative controls of local institutions can only be exercised according to the procedures and in the cases provided for by the Constitution or by law. *2*. The objective of all administrative controls of the actions of local institutions should normally be to ensure that they abide by the law and constitutional principles. Nevertheless, such control can be extended to encompass a control of opportunity, exercised by a higher authority, with regard to competences whose execution has been delegated to the local institutions. *3*. The administrative control of local institutions must be exercised in such a way that the proportion between the breadth of the intervention of the controlling authority and the importance of the interests it is intending to safeguard is maintained.

9. Financial resources of local institutions.- *1*. Local institutions have the right, within the framework of national economic policies, to have sufficient resources of their own to be used freely in the exercise of their competences. *2*. The financial resources of local institutions must be proportional to the competences provided for in the Constitution or the law. *3*. At least one part of the financial resources of local institutions must come from income from assets and local taxation, with regard to those who have the authority to fix the contribution or the rate within legal limits. *4*. The financial systems which support the resources of local institutions must be sufficiently diverse and progressive to allow them to follow, as far

as is possible and practicable, the development of the costs of the exercise of their competences. *5.* The protection of the financially weaker local institutions requires the adoption of financial compensation processes, or equivalent measures aimed at correcting the effects of an unequal distribution of the potential sources of finance, as well as the charges involved. Such processes or measures must not reduce the freedom of choice of local institutions within their own sphere of competence. *6.* Local institutions must be consulted, following the appropriate procedures, on the methods of allocation of redistribution of resources. *7.* If at all possible, the subsidies granted to local institutions must not be allocated to the financing of specific projects. The concession of subsidies must not prejudice the fundamental freedom of the policies of local institutions, within their own sphere of competence. *8.* According to the law, local institutions must have access to the national capital market in order to finance their investments.

10. Right of association of local institutions.- *1.* Local institutions have the right, when exercising their competences, to cooperate with and, within the sphere of the law, to form associations with other local institutions in order to carry out tasks of common interest. *2.* The right of local institutions to join associations in order to protect and foster their common interests and to join an international association of local institutions must be recognized by each state. *3.* Local institutions may cooperate with institutions from other states, under conditions to be established by law.

11. Legal protection of local self-government.- Local institutions must have at their disposal a procedure for jurisdictional recourse in order to ensure the free exercise of their competences and the respect for the principles of local self-government established by the constitution or by legislation.

Other provisions

12. *Commitments.- 1.* Each contracting party commits to be bound by at least twenty of the sub-sections of the first part of the Charter, of which at least ten must be chosen from the following list:

> Article 2.
> Article 3, paragraphs 1 y 2.
> Article 4, paragraphs 1, 2 and 4.
> Article 5.
> Article 7, paragraphs 1.
> Article 8, paragraph 2.
> Article 9, paragraphs 1, 2 and 3.
> Article 10, paragraph 1.
> Article 11.

2. Each contracting state will notify the Secretary General of the Council of Europe of the paragraphs chosen when depositing the instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval, as stipulated in paragraph 1 of this Article. *3*. Each contracting party may, at any time in the future, notify the Secretary General that it is bound by any other sub-section in this Charter that had not been previously accepted according to the stipulations of sub-section 1 of this Article. These future commitments will be considered an integral part of the ratification, acceptance and approval of the party presenting the notification, and will be effective from the first day of the month following the end of the quarter following the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary General.

13. *Institutions the Charter applies to.-* The principles of self-government contained in this Charter apply to all categories of local institutions present in the territory of the contracting party. Never-

theless, each contracting party may designate the categories of local and regional institutions to which it would like to limit the sphere of application of this Charter at the time it deposits the instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval of this Charter. It may also include other categories of local or regional institutions within the sphere of application of the Charter by future written communication to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe.

14. *Communicating information*.- Each contracting party shall communicate to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe all the appropriate information regarding the legal provisions and other measures taken in order to comply with the terms of this Charter.

Third part

15. *Signature, ratification and effective date*.- *1*. This Charter is open for signature by member states of the Council of Europe. It will be ratified, accepted or approved. The documents of ratification, acceptance or approval will be presented to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe. *2*. This Charter will be effective from the first day of the month following the date when four member states have expressed their consent to be bound by the Charter, according to the provisions of the previous paragraph. *3*. For any other member state that subsequently expressed its consent to be bound by the Charter, this will be effective from the first day of the month following the quarter after the date the instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval has been presented.

16. *Territory*. - *1*. All member states may designate the territory or territories where this Charter will be applied at the time of signature or of presentation of their instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval. *2*. At any time in the future, each state may extend the application of this Charter to any other territory designated in a declaration addressed to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe. For this territory, the Charter will be effective from the first

day of the month following the trimester after the date of receipt of the declaration by the Secretary General. *3*. Any declaration made based on the two previous paragraphs and regarding particular territories designated, may be withdrawn by notifying the Secretary General. This withdrawal will be effective from the first day of the month following the six-month period after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary General.

17. *Appeal. - 1*. No contracting party may appeal against this Charter before the end of a five-year period starting from the effective date of the Charter on any subject relating to it. The Secretary General of the Council of Europe shall be notified six months in advance. This appeal shall not affect the validity of the Charter with regard to the other contracting parties, as long as their number is never lower than four. *2*. According to the provisions of the last paragraph, each contracting party may appeal against any paragraph of the first part of the Charter that it has accepted, as long as the number and category of the sub-sections it is bound to remain in line with the provisions of article 12, sub-section 1. Each contracting party that, as a result of an appeal against a sub-section, does not conform to the provisions of article 12, sub-section 1, will be deemed to have appealed against the Charter itself.

18. *Notification.-* The Secretary General of the Council of Europe will notify the member states of the Council:

> a) Of any signature.
> b) Of the submittal of any instrument of ratification, ac ceptance and approval.
> c) Of any effective date of this Charter, according to its article 15.
> d) Of any notification received from the application of provisions of article 12, sub-sections 2 and 3.
> e) Of any notification received from the application of provisions of article 13.

f) Of any other action, notification or communication relative to this Charter.

In witness whereof the undersigned, duly authorized to this effect, sign this Charter.

Produced in Strasbourg, today October 15th, 1985, in French and English, both texts being identical, in a single copy, that will remain in the archives of the Council of Europe. The Secretary General of the Council of Europe shall transmit approved certified copies to each member state of the Council of Europe.

....

Notes

1 Ratified by Spain on January 20th, 1988 (Official Spanish Gazette No. 47 dated February 24th 1989) according to the following terms:

"*Whereas* on October 15th, 1985, the Plenipotentiary of Spain, duly appointed for the purpose, signed the European Charter of Local Self-Government in Strasbourg where it was produced on October 15th, 1985.

Having seen and examined the eighteen articles of said Charter. Our Parliament having granted its *authorization* as set out in article 94.1 of the Constitution.

I hereby approve and ratify all that is stipulated therein, and by virtue of this instrument I approve and ratify it, pledging that it will be complied with, observed and enforced in detail in all its sections, and to this end, for its greater validation and confirmation *I order* this Instrument of Ratification signed by me to be issued, duly sealed and authenticated by the undersigned Minister of Foreign Affairs, with the following declaration:

"The Kingdom of Spain declares that the European Charter of Local Self-Government will be applied across the whole territory of the State in relation to communities regarded as self-governing by Spanish legislation and provided for by articles 140 and 141 of the Constitution. Nevertheless, the Kingdom of Spain does not consider itself to be bound by section 2 of article 3 of the Charter insofar as the system of direct election stipulated therein must be enacted in all local communities included in the sphere where the Charter is applicable"

2. European charter for the safeguarding of human rights in the city

Addressed to the men and women of the City

Why is there a need for a European Charter of Human Rights in the City on the threshold of the 21st century? The Declaration of Human Rights (1948) is universal. Has it not been reinforced and completed by many other commitments that put special emphasis on the protection of specific rights?

The European Convention (1950) offers what we call a jurisdictional guarantee. However, there are many rights that are not yet "effective," and citizens find it difficult to understand the maze of administrative and legal red tape.

How do we better guarantee these rights? How can we act more effectively? How do we create the right conditions for the personal well-being of each person?

This is where the role of the City appears.

Because every place where the inhabitants of rural areas make their long journey to cities, and where cities accept a large number of citizens who are there on a temporary basis, as well as foreigners who arrive looking for freedom, jobs and new experiences, it is clear that the City is now where the future of mankind lies.

The City today is home to all kinds of assemblies and, therefore, a place full of possibilities. At the same time, it embraces every contradiction and danger. The urban space, with its anonymity, is, on the one hand, a source for all types of discrimination rooted in unemployment, poverty, and disdain for cultural differences, while,

simultaneously, it is a space where municipal and social practices are appearing that gradually build on the principle of solidarity.

City life today also demands that certain rights be more clearly defined. This is necessary because it is in the City where we live, seek work and move around. This also obliges us to acknowledge new rights, such as respect for the environment, the guarantee of healthy food, peace and the opportunity for social exchange and leisure, etc.

Finally, considering the crisis affecting elected democracies in nation-states today, and in view of the concern over European bureaucracy, the City emerges as a possible new political and social space.

Here, exciting possibilities for place-based democracy are emerging. All city dwellers will be able to participate in civic life and, thus, in citizenship. If all of the rights stated below are for everyone, then each citizen must secure those rights for all others in freedom and solidarity.

The commitment we undertake concerns the men and women of our time. It does not claim to be exhaustive, and the scope of its application depends on how much the citizens make it their own. It is merely an outline response to the expectations of those citizens, aspirations that arose in cities. This Charter contains a set of points that will enable all citizens to access their rights and the local government to facilitate their delivery and recognize and put an end to any violations of those rights.

This set of points is offered as an opportunity, among others, to overcome difficulties and settle logical issues that are sometimes contradictory and are an integral part of city life.

An intention: to integrate social relationships within the public arena in the long-term.

A principle: equality

An objective: to raise the political awareness of all inhabitants

The undersigned cities:

Recognize that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the European Convention for the Safeguarding of Human Rights and Essential Liberties, the European Social Charter and other international instruments of protection of human rights, apply to inhabitants of cities as well as to any other person;

Acknowledge that human rights are universal, indivisible and interdependent, and that all public bodies have a responsibility to guarantee them, but that such acknowledgement and the mechanisms for their application and protection are yet not adequate, particularly with regard to social, financial and cultural rights;

Are convinced that good administration of cities requires respect for and a guarantee of human rights for all inhabitants without exception, with the objective of promoting social cohesion and protection of the most vulnerable;

Are convinced that there is a need for a European Charter for the Safeguarding of Human Rights in the City, which expresses formally and clearly those rights and civil liberties to which all citizens are entitled and which the local authorities undertake to guarantee, observing the corresponding competences and powers they possess pursuant to the terms of their respective national legal framework;

Are inspired by the values of respecting the dignity of the human being, local democracy and the right to an existence that makes it

possible to improve the well-being and quality of life of all citizens; and, therefore,

Adopt the stance of the European Charter of Local Self Government, which strives to make the municipal government more accessible to the public as well as more effective.

Moreover, following the recommendations of the Barcelona Agreement, signed on October 17, 1998, by those cities participating in the European Conference of Cities for Human Rights, they aim to improve the collective public space for all citizens, with no exceptions whatsoever.

Therefore, they have mutually agreed to undertake the following commitments:

Part I

General provisions

Art. I - THE RIGHT TO THE CITY

1. The City is a collective space that belongs to all those who live in it, who have the right to find there the conditions for their political, social and ecological development, and at the same time, assume duties of solidarity.

2. The municipal authorities encourage, by all available means, respect for the dignity of all and the quality of life of the inhabitants.

Art. II - THE PRINCIPLE OF EQUAL RIGHTS AND NON-DISCRIMINATION

The rights contained in this Charter are recognized for all people who live in the signatory cities, irrespective of their nationality.

These rights are guaranteed by the municipal authorities, without discrimination in regard to color, age, gender or sexual inclination, language, religion, political opinion, national or social origin, or level of income.

Art. III - THE RIGHT TO CULTURAL, LINGUISTIC AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

1. The right of citizens to exercise and develop cultural freedom is hereby acknowledged.

2. All citizens have the right to exercise their linguistic and religious freedom. Municipal authorities, in collaboration with the other authorities, act in such a way that boys and girls who belong to minority linguistic groups can study their mother tongue.

3. Freedom of conscience and of individual and collective religion is guaranteed by the local authorities to all citizens. Within the limits of national legislation, local authorities do everything necessary to ensure such rights, trying to avoid the creation of ghettos.

4. As regards laicism, the cities encourage mutual tolerance between believers and non-believers, as well as among different religions.

5. Local authorities cultivate the history of their people and respect the memory of those who have died, ensuring respect and dignity for cemeteries.

Art. IV - PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE GROUPS AND CITIZENS

1. The most vulnerable groups and citizens have the right to enjoy specific protection measures.

2. Disabled individuals are the subject of specific municipal assistance. Their dwellings, work places and leisure premises must

be adapted to their needs. Public transport must be accesible to everyone.

3. The signatory cities adopt active policies in support of the most vulnerable populations, guaranteeing each one the right to citizenship.

4. Cities adopt all the necessary measures to enable the integration of all citizens, whatever the reason for their vulnerability, preventing the formation of discriminatory groups.

Art. V - DUTY OF SOLIDARITY

1. The local community is bound by a duty of mutual solidarity. Local authorities participate in this duty by promoting the development and quality of public services.

2. Municipal authorities promote the creation of solidarity networks and associations among citizens and supervise and control the correct performance of public duties.

Art. VI - INTERNATIONAL MUNICIPAL COOPERATION

1. Cities promote mutual awareness of different people and their cultures.

2. The signatory cities pledge to cooperate with local groups from developing countries in the areas of urban facilities, protection of the environment, health, education and culture, and to involve the maximum number of citizens in these efforts.

3. The cities particularly urge financial agents to participate in cooperative programs and to urge others join them with the purpose of developing a feeling of solidarity and equality among various groups, which transcends urban and national borders.

Art. VII - THE PRINCIPLE OF SUBORDINATION

1. The principle of subordination, which governs the distribution of competence among the State, Regions and Cities, must be upheld on a permanent basis to prevent the central State and other competent authorities from neglecting their own responsibilities in the cities.

2. The objective of this agreement is to ensure that public services depend on the administrative level closest to the people in order to make them more effective.

Part II

Civil and political rights of local citizens

Art.VIII - THE RIGHT TO POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

1. All citizens have the right to take part in local political life through free and democratic elections of local representatives.

2. The signatory cities encourage extending the right of active and passive voting to all non-native people of legal age in the municipal area after a two-year period of residence in the city.

3. Apart from elections held on a regular basis to renew the municipal government, democratic participation is encouraged. Thus, citizens and their organizations can have access to public debates, interpellate municipal authorities regarding challenges that affect the interests of the local community and express their opinions, whether directly through a "municipal referendum", or through public meetings and people's actions.

4. In order to safeguard the principle of openness, and in accordance with the laws of the different countries, cities organize

their governance systems and administrative structures in order to render effective the responsibility of their governors in regard to the citizens, as well as the responsibility of the local government before governmental bodies.

Art. IX - THE RIGHT OF ASSOCIATION, ASSEMBLY AND DEMONSTRATION

1. The rights of citizens with regard to association, assembly and demonstration are acknowledged and guaranteed.

2. Local authorities encourage associations as expressions of citizenship, respecting their autonomy.

3. The City offers public areas for the organization of open meetings and informal gatherings. It ensures free access to these areas, provided regulations are complied with.

Art. X - PROTECTION OF PRIVATE AND FAMILY LIFE

1. The City protects the right to a private and family life and acknowledges that respect for families, in whatever current forms, is an essential element of local democracy.

2. The municipal authorities protect the family unit from its inception, without interfering with its private matters, and provide families with the necessary facilities, especially with assistance in housing issues. Low-income families receive financial support, and structures and services are created to help children and the elderly.

3. The municipal authorities develop active policies to protect the physical integrity of family members and discourage ill treatment within families.

4. Always respecting freedom of choice with regard to educational, religious, cultural and political matters, the local authorities adopt all necessary measures to protect children and young people and encourage education on the basis of democracy, tolerance and the possibility of being able to participate fully in city life.

5. The local authorities create suitable conditions for children to be able to enjoy their childhood.

Art. XI - THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION

1. Citizens have the right to be informed regarding matters of social, economic, cultural and local administrative life. The only limits are respect for the privacy of individuals and protection of children and young people.

2. Municipal authorities offer the necessary means for information affecting the population to be readily available, clear and effective. For such purposes, the learning of, access to, and regular updating of information technology is encouraged.

Part III

Economic, social, cultural and enviromental rights in the city

Art. XII - GENERAL RIGHT TO PUBLIC SERVICES OF SOCIAL PROTECTION

1. The signatory cities consider social policies as a decisive part of their policies for the protection of Human Rights, which they pledge to guarantee within the limits of their authority.

2. Citizens are entitled to free access to general municipal services. For this reason, the signatory cities do not support the privatization

of personal support services and try to make quality basic services available at acceptable prices in all sectors of public services.

3. The signatory cities work to develop social policies specially aimed at those persons who need them the most as a way to prevent exclusion and seek human dignity and equal rights for everyone.

Art. XIII - THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION

1. Citizens are entitled to education. Municipal authorities provide access to primary education for children and young people of school age. They encourage adult education within a context of respect for democratic values.

2. The cities contribute to making all schools and educational and cultural centers available to everybody within a context of multi-culturalism and social cohesion.

3. Municipal authorities contribute to raising public awareness through education, especially in regard to the struggle against sexism, racism, xenophobia and discrimination, establishing principles of tolerance and hospitality.

Art. XIV - THE RIGHT TO WORK

1. Citizens are entitled to sufficient resources obtained through a decent job that guarantees their quality of life.

2. Municipal authorities contribute, within their possibilities, to provide employment for everyone. In order to make the right to work possible, the signatory cities support a balance between job supply and demand, and encourage the updating and retraining of the working population through continuous training programs. They develop measures with the unemployed in mind.

3. The signatory cities pledge not to sign any municipal agreements that do not include clauses rejecting illegal work, whether concern-

ing nationals or foreign workers, workers whose job situation does not comply with the provisions of the laws in force, and clauses forbidding child labor.

4. Together with the public and private sectors, municipal authorities develop mechanisms to guarantee equality for everyone at work in order to prevent discrimination based on nationality, sex, sexual orientation, age or disability in terms of salary, work conditions, right of participation, professional promotion, and protection against dismissal. They encourage equal access of women to work through the establishment of nursery schools and other measures and that of the handicapped through the installation of appropriate facilities and equipment.

5. Municipal authorities encourage the creation of protected jobs for those persons who need to be reintroduced into the professional world. More specifically, they support the creation of jobs related to new areas of employment and to activities that imply a social benefit: services to individuals, the environment, social prevention and education of adults.

Art. XV - THE RIGHT TO CULTURE

1. Citizens have a right to culture in the amplest sense of the word.

2. Local authorities, together with cultural associations and the private sector, promote the development of urban cultural life that respects diversity. Public spaces are made available for cultural and social activities to be used by all citizens without distinctions.

Art. XVI - THE RIGHT TO A HOME

1. All citizens are entitled to a decent, safe and healthy home.

2. Municipal authorities work to ensure the existence of a proper supply of homes and neighborhood infrastructure for all citizens,

without exceptions, based on their income. They include measures encompassing the homeless that will guarantee their safety and dignity, as well as structures for women who are victims of violence, especially domestic violence and ill-treatment, and for those who are attempting to escape from prostitution.

3. Municipal authorities guarantee the rights of nomads to stay in the City under conditions which are compatible with human dignity.

Art. XVII - THE RIGHT TO HEALTH

1. Municipal authorities support the equal access of all citizens to medical attention and prevention.

2. The signatory cities contribute in a general way through their actions in the economic, cultural, social and town planning sectors to promote health care for all their citizens through active participation.

Art. XVIII - THE RIGHT TO THE ENVIRONMENT

1. Citizens have a right to a healthy environment that seeks compatibility between industrial development and environmental balance.

2. To this end, and on the basis of the principle of precaution, municipal authorities adopt policies to prevent pollution (including noise), save energy, manage, recycle, reuse and recover waste products and enlarge and protect green spaces in the cities.

3. Municipal authorities take all the necessary actions for citizens to appreciate the landscape that surrounds them without spoiling it in order to be consulted regarding any changes which might alter it.

4. Municipal authorities focus on teaching respect for nature, especially among children.

Art. XIX - THE RIGHT TO HARMONIOUS AND SUSTAINABLE CITY DEVELOPMENT

1. Citizens have the right to proper town planning development that guarantees a
harmonious relationship among residential areas, public services, amenities, green areas and structures to be used by different groups of people.

2. Municipal authorities, with citizen participation, deliver a system of town planning and urban management seeking a balance between urban development and the environment.

3. Within this context, they strive to preserve the natural, historic, architectural, cultural and artistic heritage of the cities and to promote the restoration and reuse of existing buildings in order to reduce the need for new construction and its impact on the territory.

Art. XX - THE RIGHT TO CIRCULATION AND TRANQUILITY IN THE CITY

1. Local authorities acknowledge the right of citizens to have a transport system in keeping with the desired tranquility of the city. To this end, they develop a public transportation of urban and inter-urban transport. They manage car traffic and ensure that it runs smoothly and in harmony with the environment.

2. The local government strictly controls noises and vibrations. It delimits the areas to be used by pedestrians on a permanent basis or during certain times of the day and encourages the use of environmentally friendly vehicles.

3. The signatory cities undertake to set aside the necessary resources to guarantee these rights, resorting to economic cooperation, where necessary, between public entities, private companies and the public in general.

Art.XXI - THE RIGHT TO LEISURE

1. Municipal authorities recognize the right of citizens to enjoy free time.

2. Municipal authorities guarantee the existence of quality leisure areas open to all children without any discrimination whatsoever.

3. Municipal authorities encourage active participation in sports and provide sports facilities to all citizens who wish to practice them.

4. Municipal authorities encourage sustainable tourism and establish a balance between urban tourism and the social and environmental well-being of citizens.

Art. XX II - THE RIGHTS OF CONSUMERS

Within the limits of their competence, the cities protect consumers. To this end, regarding foodstuffs, they guarantee or supervise the control of weights and measures, quality, composition of products and accuracy of information, as well as expiry dates of foodstuffs.

Part IV

Rights related to democratic local government

Art. XXIII - EFFICIENCY OF PUBLIC SERVICES

1. Local authorities ensure the efficiency of public services and that they meet the needs of users and prevent any situations implying abuse or discrimination.

2. Local authorities will have instruments to assess their local action and will consider the results of this evaluation.

Art. XXIV - THE PRINCIPLE OF OPENNESS

1. The signatory cities guarantee the openness of the administrative process. Citizens must be informed of their political and administrative rights and obligations through the publication of municipal regulations that must be clear and updated on a regular basis.

2. Citizens are entitled to a copy of the local authorities' administrative acts that refer to them, unless there are public interest obstacles or obstacles related to the privacy rights of third parties.

3. The obligation of clarity, publication, impartiality and non-discrimination in the actions of municipal powers is applicable to: The conclusion of municipal contracts that apply strict management of municipal expenditures; The election of officers, employees and municipal staff based on the principles of merit and capacity.

4. Municipal authorities guarantee openness and strict control of the use of public funds.

Part V

Mechanisms for the implementation of human rights in the city

Art. XXV - ADMINISTRATION OF LOCAL JUSTICE

1. The signatory cities develop policies to improve citizens' access to Law and Justice

2. The signatory cities support the extrajudicial resolution of civil, criminal, administrative and labor disputes through the

implementation of public mechanisms of settlement, mediation and arbitration.

3. Where necessary, the municipal justice system represented by independent justices of the peace – citizens of good repute elected by the citizens or by the local governments - have the power to settle conflicts between citizens and the local government.

Art. XXVI - POLICE IN THE CITY

The signatory cities support the development of a highly qualified community police force responsible for local security and fostering a sense of community. These police officers apply preventive measures against crime and act as an educational force in the raising of civic awareness.

Art. XXVII - PREVENTIVE MEASURES

1. The signatory cities set up preventive measures such as:

- Social or district mediators, especially in the most vulnerable areas;

- The local ombudsman as an independent and impartial institution.

2. In order to facilitate the exercise of rights included in this Charter and to submit to the people's control that the same be exercised, each signatory city creates a committee made up of citizens entrusted with assessing the application of this Charter.

Art. XXVIII - TAX AND BUDGETARY MECHANISMS

1. The signatory cities aim to set up their budgets in such a way that provisions for income and expenses will enable the rights set out in

this Charter to be implemented. For this purpose, they may establish a "participative budget" system. The citizens, organized in assemblies according to neighborhoods or sectors or even associations, will be able to state in this way their opinion on financing measures that are necessary for the implementation of those rights.

2. For purposes of respecting the equality of all citizens with regard to public charges, the signatory cities pledge not to allow areas or activities under their jurisdiction to avoid the corresponding laws regarding social, fiscal or environmental issues or any other issues and act in order to eliminate areas where the laws are not observed.

Final provisions

Legal value of the charter and mechanisms for its application

1. Once adopted, this Charter will remain open to be signed by all cities that support this undertaking.

2. The signatory cities will include within the local regulations these principles and standards and guarantee mechanisms set forth under this Charter, refering to them expressly in justification of their official activities.

3. The signatory cities acknowledge the irrefutable legality of the rights stated in the Charter and vow to reject or report any legal act, or, more specifically, any municipal contracts, which have consequences that would hinder the rights acknowledged, or which are contrary to the implementation of those rights, and to act in such a way that all other legal entities will also recognize the legal significance of these rights.

4. The signatory cities pledge to acknowledge this Charter by expressly mentioning the same in all their municipal ordinances and regulations as the first binding legal rule of the city.

5. The signatory cities aim to create a committee that, every two years, will assess the application of the rights acknowledged under this Charter and will publish such assessment.

6. The Meeting of the Cities for Human Rights Conference, created as a plenary meeting of the signatory cities, will decide to implement an appropriate follow-up mechanism to check on the reception and compliance with this Charter by the signatory cities.

Additional provitions

FIRST

The signatory cities strive to influence their States so that national laws enable the participation of non-native residents in local elections, as set forth under Article VIII.2 of this Charter.

SECOND

In order to allow jurisdictional control of the rights contained in this Charter, the signatory cities aim to request that their States and the European Union complete the constitutional declarations of Human Rights or the European Convention on Human Rights.

THIRD

The signatory cities will prepare and implement Agenda 21 Programs, applying the agreements adopted in the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held in Rio de Janeiro in the year 1992.

FOURTH

In the event of an armed conflict, the signatory cities will ensure the preservation of the local government and maintain the rights set out in this Charter.

FIFTH

The signature of the city representative present on May 18, 2000, in Saint-Denis is subject to its ratification by the Municipal Council, which may introduce any objections to the text that it may deem appropriate.

Drafted in the city of Saint-Denis, this May 18, 2000.

3. Immigration protocol

First:

The City members of the Ibero-American Centre for Strategic Urban Development (CIDEU), meeting in Santiago de los Caballeros (Dominican Republic) within the framework of their 13th Congress, hereby declare that:

Extreme poverty and survival are the main causes for uncontrolled immigration flows, and, thus, no wall, regardless of its height, shall prevent those who suffer or feel threatened from trying to escape from deprivation to live with dignity.

Immigrants are human beings, who, as citizens, are the ultimate target of our government action programmes, and therefore, their well-being needs to be the objective of instruments and tools needed to implement the policies required to provide a minimum support for a human approach to the issue.

Bearing in mind that the first and most time-sensitive problems arising from immigration take place in and are connected to the destination city, we hereby offer the goodwill of local governments to create a space for cooperation among governments, one that encourages a common space to solve these problems, strengthening human rights, the dignity of all people and social cohesion to the maximum extent.

Conscious of the fact that the relevance and scope of the issue and its influence on the peaceful and harmonic development of our cities, we, the local governments, pledge to participate in solidarity actions that favour mechanisms for development cooperation and the integration of immigration flows, and agree the following:

1º.-Society as a whole, through different government bodies and in coordination with Local and Regional Governments, needs to respond accordingly to the immigration phenomenon from a multi-disciplinary perspective, aiming at the most effective intervention actions to achieve access for all citizens to protection systems, employment, professional training, social services, housing, education, culture and health services.

2º.-Immigration flows need to be understood from a holistic perspective, stressing their economic and socio-cultural implications, and, for this purpose, we need to acknowledge the diversity and equality of citizens and make progress toward the creation of a new ethics of multi-culturalism. Unlike the general trend of regarding immigration issues as problems, we intend to discover the opportunities they imply, both for the countries of origin and destination, and which opportunities shall be organized and exploited by the corresponding governments for the benefit of the entire citizenry.

New Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), personal relationships and cultural promotion enable individualized access to other cultures and, therefore, result in the possibility of moving, living and working abroad, without necessarily fully adopting the characteristics of the receiving culture.

3º.-It is also necessary to regard immigration as a domestic phenomenon within countries and regions, placing an emphasis on the most vulnerable groups. Within this context, cities represent the human and urban aspects of migration, regardless of of whether it is from one continent to another, between bordering countries or within a same country, and thus, we need to create models and best practices based on previous experience and intervention between cities pursuant to the appropriate regulations in order to integrate all citizens around the world.

4º.-For this purpose, we need to foster formulas for cooperation between cities and to develop global plans for the integration of immigrants into the City, which are to be applied in the originating and receiving cities.

5º.-We encourage and promote, within the global framework of migration policies and resources, the design and implementation of municipal plans, comprising, systematizing and sharing the knowledge arising from activities undertaken with the purpose of integrating culturally diverse populations.

6º.-Cooperation for Development Programmes need to consider projects that include countries with large urban populations as counterparts.

7º.-We need to foster actions that respond to the needs of immigrant populations to provide information, assistance and counseling, to eradicate communication barriers, to promote labour and employment and access to housing, to encourage immigrants' association and social integration, cultural dynamism, and access to education and health services.

8º.-We shall define mechanisms for the assessment of results and, likewise, promote the exchange of experiences through the CIDEU platform to channel as efficiently as possible the response to issues arising from immigration in our cities.

9º.-International bodies, with the collaboration of territorial governments, shall seek the national government's due participation in the financing of programmes aimed at populations that might be part of future immigration flows, under the co-responsibility and concurrence principles.

Second:

Considering all of the above, we propose that the various CIDEU Municipal Governments study the present immigration Protocol and adopt the relevant agreements in connection thereto.

Santiago de los Caballeros, April 15th, 2005.

4. Bogotá Declaration

on the occasion of the XIV Annual Congress of CIDEU (Iberoamerican Center for Urban Strategic Development)

The local reply to the challenge of migration that cannot be postponed

Immigration represents a great challenge for modern cities as they are the meeting points for recent arrivals as well as for those who have already been integrated and have been making use of the territory, employment and services.

It is in cities that the identities of residents who are locally born, those who have adapted, or those immersed socio-culturally, are juxtaposed with those of new arrivals, which are different, thus requiring a process of mutual acceptance.

We must not forget that a city is the result of a convergence of migrants' decisions which, by coming together in certain territories, imbue them with an inclusive and multi-cultural nature.

A combination of causes, both structural and due to current junctures

In the past 200 years, we have experienced massive movements which have produced far-reaching consequences, such as the depopulation of rural areas, the promotion of slavery, or the concentration of a labour force needed to bring life to great industrial centres. Currently, we are going through particularly tense times for migration, whether due to structural factors such

as the *demographic impact*, *the failure of development strategies*, globalization and the introduction of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), the *destruction* of traditional systems of production, the unemployment situation and the increase in social inequality, or to non-structural causes that have great impact at present, such as the call of diasporas and family re-groupings, movements for socio-political reasons or due to internal conflicts, and the situations of those who seek refuge since they are unable to live without freedom, those mobilized by an informal economy, or those displaced by the interests of the State.

It is necessary to consider that migration will continue but with new features

Those who study the migratory phenomenon claim that in the next few years young people will continue to emigrate, the journeys will only be in one direction, emigrants will increasingly consist of women, basic education levels of emigrants will be intermediate or high, more refuge will be sought, and a significant proportion of emigrants will continue to be clandestine or illegal.

Migration is a means of social adjustment that will continue to exist as long as the various and complex causes that generate it still exist. In this respect, we would like to highlight two series of data. According to the United Nations, if an emigrant is a person who has spent more than a year away from his normal place of residence, in 1965 there were 75 million emigrants in the world. In 1990 the figure increased to 120 million, and in 2005 there were 200 million emigrants. We must add that these are official figures, and therefore, do not take into account a substantial part of the problem derived from adding the illegal or clandestine emigrants to these numbers.

We must also take into account that in 1800 there were 1,000 million inhabitants on Earth, and in 1900 there were 1,600

million. The human population reached 6,000 million in 2000, and in just the last 12 years the world population increased by 1,000 million inhabitants. This information has rung all the alarm bells, and the most optimistic analysts calculate that in 2025, as a consequence of the application of new demographic strategies, we will have contained growth to 8,000 million inhabitants, with a forecast to reach 9,000 million by 2050.

Urban repercussions of immigration

Immigration means threat and opportunity; it is also a source of prejudice and brings about a substantial increase in the demand for services.

Cities must ensure that human rights are respected for all their inhabitants, including immigrants, but they must also ensure that the latter are able to explore the conditions that facilitate a sense of belonging and social insertion.

Six strategic proposals

In order to respond successfully to the problems related to immigration, receiving cities should foster a **strategic agreement with citizens** including all the players involved - opinion-generating media, government and opposition, corporate and trade union forces, town planners, environmentalists and managers of social, educational and health services. This agreement must be based on the strengths and weaknesses associated with the migratory process and must make the most of the opportunities offered by migration while averting the threats. Each city will determine which are the threats and opportunities as well as the best way to deal with them strategically.

Cities are to **agree with States** on their participation in the preparation of policies, the management of related strategies,

and the allocation of resources and financial grants to deal with the problems derived from immigration.

The receiving cities must reach a **consensus** on very clear and known criteria for action that will not be called into question due to their strategic nature for specific political or social opportunities, and that will not allow the upsurge of totalitarianism and populism, which very easily find fertile ground in this area.

It is necessary to promote new **cooperation strategies** between cities in order to develop inclusion policies of mutual benefit, to plan projects for regional and metropolitan development, and to share best practices, by subscribing to multi-lateral agreements or other procedures.

It is also important to promote **communication strategies** related to information that is broadcast about the immigrant population, and to broaden the guidance and advice aimed at immigrants on subjects linked to their rights and duties, social integration, education, health, housing and employment.

Finally, we would like to highlight our firm conviction that migrants, whether legal or illegal, are people who have rights and whom we must treat as such, who take risks and abandon their homeland in search of new and better horizons for them and their families, thus enriching both financially and culturally the areas that take them in.

5. Declaration on the role of local and regional governments relating to migration

We, the mayors and those elected representatives of the local and regional authorities of Europe, meeting within the framework of the Presidency of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions in Seville, Spain, on the 23rd of October 2006,

Remembering that the reality of migration is, above all, an issue that affects human beings;

Asserting that, in all cases, the main principles of respect for human rights and human dignity, as well as the values of the European Union, must be applied;

Conscious of the fact that migratory flows toward Europe and, very often, within Europe, are increasing considerably;

We highlight the need for coordinated European policies in order to deal with the causes, processes and consequences of large-scale immigration, including those states affected to a greater degree by unplanned internal migration originating in other countries;

We recognize that these migratory flows are caused by different circumstances, which can be of an economic, humanitarian or political nature;

We know that Europe is facing substantial demographic changes with profound economic and social consequences, and that the role of internal migration as a positive response –not least for the effective fulfilment of the Lisbon Agenda– must be evaluated carefully in this respect;

Pointing out that immigration, whether legal or illegal, must be treated in all cases according to the basic principles of human rights and values of the European Union; and

Being conscious, likewise, that European policies on migration must avoid having negative effects on the social and economic systems of the developed countries;

We declare that:

1. The adoption of a European policy on immigration is an essential element to allow the development of effective local policies. Likewise, we assert that European policies on emigration, when set in motion, must be driven by the solid commitment to successful policies on co-development in the countries of origin and on emigrant flows, including cooperation at local and regional levels;

2. In response to the increase in the number of immigrants intending to settle in our cities and towns, local and regional governments in Europe have an important role to play, particularly by providing basic public services and policies that foster integration, cohesion and tolerance;

3. While the role of immigration is particularly important for large cities and regions in Europe, it is becoming increasingly prominent in our towns and local authorities;

4. The challenges of successfully managing immigration in its various forms require a high standard of coordination and collaboration between different levels of government –European, national, regional and local– and the different forms of public authorities;

5. Local Governments must have at their disposal the necessary competences that will allow them to perform their tasks effectively in regard to the successful integration of immigrants into their communities;

6. In particular, national systems of finance for Local Governments must guarantee that the costs of managing immigration, and particularly of providing the necessary public services, must be duly taken into account, including the need for adequate financial aid in the short term for urgent or newly arrived cases;

7. We know many examples of excellent practices by Local Governments of encouraging the integration of immigrants into the local lifestyle and economy and of the joint duty to learn from these experiences; in some countries, immigrants have been granted the right to vote in local elections;

8. Therefore, we request that the Council of European Municipalities and Regions organize activities jointly with the European Commission and the European Congress of Local and Regional Authorities to enable us to have in 2007 an exchange of experiences with respect to immigration in our communities, within the framework of the European Year for Equal Opportunities.

6. Final Declaration of the First Ibero-American Forum on Local Governments

Montevideo, Uruguay, 27th October 2006

The mayors and mayoresses and representatives of Ibero-American local governments meeting at the MERCOSUR headquarters in the city of Montevideo, within the framework of the First Ibero-American Forum on Local Governments, on the 26th and 27th of October 2006,

STATE

1. - That the main function of local governments, as part of the structure of the State and government body closest to the citizens, is the preparation and development of public policies that help to ensure the well-being of their populations, allow the formation of responsible citizens and guarantee the right of men and women to choose a place in the world where they can fulfill their expectations and life projects;

2. - That in the interests of good democratic governance it is necessary for local governments to take part effectively in the building of the Ibero-American agenda so that it responds to the needs and interests of the citizens, and to have a permanent and representative space for reflection, debate and consensus on commitments from local governments linked to the system of the Ibero-American Summits of Heads of State and Government and other bodies of the Ibero-American Conference;

3. - That the agendas of Ibero-American local governments strongly highlight the migration process and the need to provide fair and humane answers to the challenges that said process represents, considering the various impacts, whether on the territories of origin, transit or destination of the migrants;

4. - That the phenomenon of immigration is repeatedly approached from the perspective of police security, border controls and migratory flows to the detriment of an integrated approach consequent with the effective protection of human rights;

5. - That this integrated approach, which has been undertaken by local governments, necessarily requires consideration of the economic, social and cultural causes that generate poverty and inequality by their impact on the communities of origin and destination;

6. - That the need to establish adequate policies in order to prevent the arrival of immigrants from worsening the processes of discrimination, segregation and fragmentation in communities and their territories;

7. - That immigration represents a challenge and an unavoidable opportunity for Ibero-American local governments, which must be understood and evaluated inasmuch as it may represent a contribution to the development of their respective territories and an improvement in the quality of life of their citizens;

8. - That various mechanisms have contributed to this path, one of which is public decentralized cooperation that allows for the establishment of links, the transfer of experiences and the finding of shared solutions between local governments;

9. - That within this Ibero-American perspective various organizations, such as OICI and UCCI, have been producing important work that is complementary to the advances secured within the framework of other local government networks of a regional nature; and

10. - That there is serious concern within local governments about measures that are still being taken today that prevent the free movement of people, thus violating their fundamental rights,

RECOMMEND

1. - The establishment of a formal and permanent relationship between the Ibero-American Forum on Local Governments and the Ibero-American Summits of Heads of State and Government, as well as with the other bodies of the Ibero-American Conference, to enable local governments to participate actively in the formation of the Ibero-American agenda by creating links at the different levels of the Ibero-American space and, particularly, with the Ibero-American General Secretariat;

2. - The recognition by the Ibero-American Heads of State and Government, who will meet on the 3rd and 4th of next November in Montevideo during the XVI Summit, of the importance of the Ibero-American Forum on Local Governments, as well as the undertaking of the considerations and recommendations emerging from it;

3. - The expansion of the decentralisation processes of the State, together with the recognition of competences and the provision of resources, that will allow local governments to assume responsibilities for the challenges raised and, especially, in the sphere of immigration;

4. - The empowerment of the role of local governments as sponsors of local development in order to facilitate the comprehensive management of the problems of immigration;

5. - The tracking and analysis of the differentiated development of the territories in regard to internal and external migratory flows, and the consideration of these results when defining policies of urban development by local and national governments;

6. - The establishment of joint work mechanisms between the relevant national and local authorities on migration policies to prepare a joint working agenda that incorporates the vision of cities;

7. - To incorporate at the local government level access to jobs for young people at the earliest opportunity, and to promote new ways of participating in internal development through the exchange of successful experiences between Ibero-American locations;

8. - The fostering of education, training and communication for citizens with the aim of improving the conditions of the migratory process, providing migrants with the information needed for decision-making, as well as providing information for the best management of emigrants' contributions to their places of origin;

9. - The establishment of support mechanisms for the networks and projects of public decentralised cooperation aimed at the reduction of inequalities and dependencies; and

10. - The recognition and inclusion in regional bi-lateral and multi-lateral agreements of the experiences and best practices developed by local governments of the Ibero-American Community on the management of immigration,

COMMIT TO:

1. - Decisively undertake the commitments stated in this Declaration;

2. - Consolidate the Ibero-American Forum on Local Governments as a permanent space for debate that will enable the continued formation of a local Ibero-American agenda, approached from the most representative, inclusive and diverse perspective as possible;

3. - Ensure that the Ibero-American Forum on Local Governments is nurtured by the vision and experience of the large and diverse community of local governments in Ibero-America, and that it becomes a strategic alliance capable of transmitting the voice of

citizens from the territories to the national and international decision-making bodies;

4. - Celebrate a new gathering of the Ibero-American Forum on Local Governments every year on the days prior to the Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government and in the city that hosts this Summit, so that it may become a process of political agreement and concrete recommendations and commitments for the formation of a local Ibero-American agenda;

5. - Prepare and present every year to the relevant Ibero-American Summit a proposal with recommendations that reflect the needs and interests of local governments, so that these can be considered by the Heads of State and Government when they undertake their individual as well as joint commitments;

6. - Undertake the 10 points contained in the Latin American and Caribbean Coalition of Cities against Racism, Discrimination and Xenophobia; and

7. - Formulate policies and plans of action specifically for migration that establish the following objectives from an integrated perspective:

a) To participate in the definition of innovative methods that allow for better management of the tangible and intangible resources that migrants contribute to their places of origin.

b) To assess the causes of migration and its differential impact in the region, as well as to prepare proposals aimed at preventing forced migration and reducing the impact of migration on the fragmentation and segregation of communities and their territories.

c) To educate, train and inform citizens in order to improve conditions in which migratory processes take place, concentrating on the

aspects related to decision-making by migrants, the strengthening of ties to their places of origin and the best management of contributions by migrants.

d) To guarantee the enhancement of development processes in migrants' places of origin, fostering actions of co-development.

e) To favour the maintenance and strengthening of links between migrants and their places of origin.

f) To support the consolidation and formation of networks and projects of public decentralized cooperation and to promote the inclusion of these networks and projects in national and regional plans.

g) To develop active public policies for the integration of immigrants in their destinations, ensuring that their citizenship rights and obligations are enforced.

Consulted web resources

I] Local governments, federations of municipalities, municipal associations, city networks

1- Asociación América-Europa de Regiones y Ciudades (AERYC): <www.aeryc.org>
2- International Association of Educating Cities: Asociación Internacional de ciudades educadoras: <http://www.bcn.es/edcities>
3- Centro Iberoamericano de Desarrollo Estratégico Urbano: <http://www.cideu.org/site>
4- United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG): Ciudades y gobiernos locales unidos (CGLU): <www.cities-localgovernments.org>
5- The Committee of the Regions: <http://europa.eu/institutions/consultative/cor/index_en.htm> Comité de las Regiones Europeas: <http://europa.eu/institutions/consultative/cor/index_es.htm>
6- Council of European Municipalities and Regions: Consejo de Regiones y Municipios de Europa: <www.coe.int>
7- Diputación de Barcelona. <http://www.diba.es/diversitat/default.asp>
8- Federación Española de Municipios y Provincias (FEMP): <http://www.femp.es>
9- Federación Latinoamericana de Ciudades, Municipios y Asociaciones de Gobiernos locales (FLACMA): <http://www.flacma.org>
10- Foro Iberoamericano de Gobiernos Locales: <http://www.foroiberoamericanolocal.org>
11- Mercocities: <www.mercociudades.org>
12- Red Andina de ciudades: <http://www.comunidadandina.org/ciudades/consejo.htm>
13- URB-AL Network 9. Financiación local y presupuesto participativo: <http://www2.portoalegre.rs.gov.br/urbal9_esp>
14- Unión Iberoamericana de Municipalistas: <http://www.uimunicipalistas.org>
15- URB-AL 14. Citizens' safety in towns: URB-AL14. Seguridad ciudadana en la ciudad: <http://www.urbalvalparaiso.cl/p4_urbalred14/site/edic/base/port/portada.html>
16- URB-AL Network 10. Fight against urban poverty: URB-AL Red 10. Lucha contra la pobreza urbana: <http://ww2.prefeitura.sp.gov.br//urbal/home.html>

17- URB-AL Network 12. Women-City: URB-AL Red 12. Mujer y Ciudad: <http://www.diba.es/urbal12/castellano.htm>

II] Documentation centres, documents, reports, declarations, regulations:

1- World Bank (Reports, Studies, Statistics. Thematic reviews: migration and remittances): <http://www.worldbank.org> Banco Mundial (Informes, Estudios, Estadística. En reseñas temáticas: migración y remesas): <http://www.bancomundial.org>

2- URB-AL Programme Documention Centre: <http://www.centrourbal.com>

3- Center for International Relations and Development Studies. Centro de Investigación de Relaciones Internacionales y Desarrollo. Fundación CIDOB Resources on Migrations Section. <www.cidob.org>

4- Centro de Investigación y Cooperación para el Desarrollo: <http://www.cideal.org>

5- Colección Debats. Fundación Jaume Bofill (in Catalonian): <http://www.fbofill.cat>

6- Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean: <http://www.eclac.cl/default.asp>

7- Data on local government competences: <www.observ-ocd.org/Marcos.asp>

8- Own-initiative Opinion SOC/268. Immigration and Development. <http://www.uni-mannheim.de/edz/doku/wsa/2007/ces-2007-1461-en.pdf> <http://www.inmigracion.euroforum.es/docs/files/40img.pdf>

9- Development Studies (Universidad de Zacatecas). Research on Migration and Development; Local and Regional Development and sustainability: <http://www.estudiosdeldesarrollo.net>

10- Fondo Catalán de Cooperación al Desarrollo: (Catalonian Cooperation Development Fund) <http://www.fonscatala.org>

11- Report of the Global Commission on International Migration: <http://www.gcim.org/en/ www.gcim.org/es>

12- INSTRAW Report: <http://www.un-instraw.org/en/grd/general/remittances-and-development.html> <http://www.un-instraw.org/es/grd/general/genero-remesas-y-desarrollo.html>

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14- Manual sobre la Integración para responsables de la formulación de políticas y profesionales. Dirección de Justicia, Libertad y Seguridad UE: <http://ec.europa.eu/spain/pdf/integracion_inmigrantes_es.pdf>

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3- URB-AL (Red 14) Joint Project. "Diagnóstico de la incidencia de la Migración e Inmigración desde realidades diferentes con efectos en la seguridad ciudadana": <www.urbalriobamba.com>

4- URB-AL (Network 2) Joint Project. Proyecto VICTUR. (Caxias do Sul): <http://www.caxias.rs.gov.br/urbal>

5- URB-AL (Network 5) Joint Project. Centro de Mujeres Emprende-doras.(Costa Rica): <http://www.centromujeresemprendedoras.org>
6- Co-development projects: <http://www.codesarrollo-cideal.org>
7- Co-development projects: MIDEL programme: <http://www.fonscatala.org/midel/ct>
8- CIDEU Network projects: "Integración, cohesión social e inmigración": <http://www.cideu.org/site/content.php?id=1922>
9- Projects of Educating Cities Network: "Acciones contra el racismo y la xenofobia": <http://w10.bcn.es/APPS/edubidce/pubTemesAc.do?idtem=161&pubididi=2>

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