



Local & Regional
Europe



The European Charter for Equality of women and men in local life and good practices from European municipalities

Gender Mainstreaming in Municipalities: sharing of the Nordic Experience, 4-5 October 2018

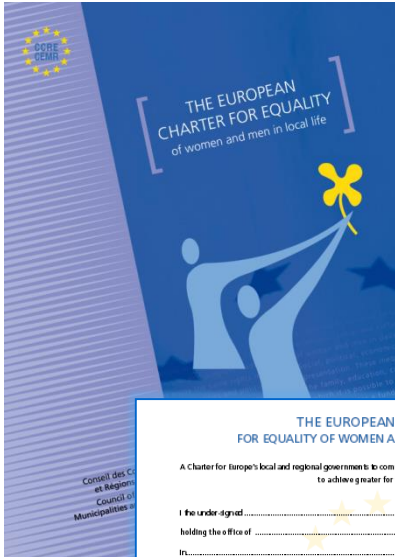
<http://www.charter-equality.eu/>

I. European Charter for Equality of Women and Men in Local Life: What is the Charter? Relevance for gender mainstreaming

II. Charter indicator toolkit: A new tool for monitoring implementation of the Charter

III. Good practices from Belgium and Austria

IV. Actions to be taken



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

A Charter for Europe's local and regional governments to commit themselves to use their powers and partnerships to achieve greater for their people

I the under signed (name of signatory)
holding the office of
in (name of local / regional government)

by this my signature confirm that the above mentioned authority has formally agreed to adhere to the European Charter for Equality of Women and Men in Local Life, and to comply with its provisions, and that I am duly authorized to act on its behalf in this matter.

Signed
Dated

I agree to send a signed and completed copy of this form to the Council of European Municipalities and Regions as promoter of the Charter, at the following address :

The Secretary General
Council of European Municipalities and Regions
11 rue de la Woluwe
1200 Brussels

What is the Charter ?

- Elaborated by CEMR in collaboration with its member associations
- Financed by the European Commission
- Launched in 2006
- Document that local and regional authorities are invited to sign to make a public commitment for equality
- More than 1,725 signatories in 35 countries in Europe. Among them 6 signatories from Lithuania: Kaunas, Kelme, Klaipėda, Panevėžys, Vilnius and Visaginas
- Translated into 28 languages

What does it include?

The Charter consists of the following parts:

- **Part 1:** Presenting **basic rights and values** on equality of women and men
- **Part 2:** **Guidelines** on how to implement the Charter and its commitments at the local level
- **Part 3:** **30 articles** covering different **areas of competences** of local and regional authorities and examples on how to implement gender equality in each respective area.

Gender Mainstreaming into municipal activities



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



Article 2 – Political Representation: Recognition of principle of balanced representation on all elected and public decision-making bodies.

“The Signatory commits itself to take all reasonable measures to encourage women to register to vote, to exercise their individual voting rights and to be a candidate for public office...”



Article 9 – Gender Assessment: Reviewing existing policies, procedures, practices and patterns and volumes of usage, in order to assess whether they disclose any **unfair discrimination**, whether they are based on **gender stereotypes**, and whether they adequately take into account any specific needs of women and men

“The Signatory undertakes, in relation to each of its areas of competence, to undertake gender assessments...”

Charter indicator toolkit

- **76 indicators** linked to each of the **30 articles** of the European Charter for Equality
- Toolkit translated into **22 languages**

Type of indicators

- **Horizontal indicators:** covering cross-cutting issues that are relevant for the Charter in general
- **Core** and **Optional indicators:** indicators that measure the implementation of the Charter by article

3 categories of indicators:

- **Structural** (e.g. formal commitment) – action plan
- **Process** (e.g. actions implemented) – ex. trainings
- **Outcome** (e.g. share of women and men) – share of women/men elected

Relevant indicators

Example: Political Role (Article 2)

- Are there *quotas* to increase the number of underrepresented sex in appointed or elected positions in the local authority?
- Are there *specific actions to encourage women to participate* in local elections?
- What is the *current share* of women and men in elected positions in the local authority?
- What is the *current share* of women and men in appointed (political) positions in the local authority?

Example: Gender Assessment (Article 9)

- Are *specific actions undertaken* by the local authority to ensure that *gender-specific needs* are integrated at each step of the policy cycle ?
- To what extent is *gender budgeting* applied?
- Is *sex-disaggregated data* available at local level in all areas covered by the Charter?
- Is *gender equality training provided* to local authorities? What about to elected representatives?

Resources

- Observatory website:
www.charter-equality.eu
- Step-by-step guide on how to elaborate an *Action plan*
- Examples of *good practices*
- *'Atlas of signatories'* – a search engine and tool for municipalities and regions to exchange experiences
- Gender equality **news and information**
- **Toolkit of indicators and training material**
indicators.charter-equality.eu
- **Contact information** for National Coordinators



What actions you can take ?

- ✓ Visit the Observatory website
- ✓ Sign the Charter
- ✓ Draft and implement equality action plans
- ✓ Share gender equality related information on the Observatory
- ✓ Participate in the online training webinar on how to use the indicator toolkit **31st October** (English)

What you can do to promote the Charter:

- ✓ Contact the national association in your country for further information
- ✓ Organise annual regional exchanges of municipalities working on gender equality

Thank you!



www.charter-equality.eu



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#LocalEquality



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