

# Peace Begins Here: Local Solutions for Conflict

Local, regional governments and their associations leading dialogues for peace, in the framework of UCLG World Council 2024

Organized by the City of The Hague and the Association of Netherlands Municipalities (VNG), the morning programme of the 3rd Municipal Peace Talks will unite stakeholders to explore the vital role of local governments in promoting peace and dialogue. This event coincides with The Hague's 125th anniversary of the 1899 Peace Conference, reaffirming the city's legacy as a global hub for peace and justice.

## Objectives

- Local peacebuilding solutions for a diverse set of conflict-related challenges faced by local governments
- Facilitating local to local dialogue which addresses the humanitarian aspect of peacebuilding and leads to concrete action within UCLG

## 10:00 – 11.00 Opening

### Moderator

- Ikenna Azuike, presenter and broadcaster

### Speakers

- Jan van Zanen, Mayor of The Hague, Member of the UCLG Executive Presidency
- Bheke Stofile, President of South African Local Government Association (SALGA), Co-President of UCLG
- Representative from the Permanent Court of Arbitration (TBC)

## 11:00 - 12:00 Break-out sessions

### 1. *Prevention of Radicalisation and Polarisation*

### Moderator

- Octavi de la Varga, Strategic International Projects Advisor at Diputació de Barcelona (Spain)

### Speakers

- Werner Van Herle, Head of Security and Prevention Department of Mechelen (Belgium)
- Lawrence Eghosa, District Director of Laak, The Hague (The Netherlands)
- Ton Rombouts, Chairman of the Dutch National Fund for Peace, Freedom and Veterans, and Chairman of the VNG Fund for Emergency Aid, Reconstruction and Peacebuilding (The Netherlands)
- Fabiana Goyeneche, International Relations and Cooperation Department of Montevideo (Uruguay)

## 2. *Urban Violence*

### Moderator

- Paulo Moraes, Executive Secretary of Citizen Security of Recife (Brazil)

### Speakers

- Rose Mbone, Founder of The Legend Kenya
- Martin Bisp, CEO of Empire Fighting Chance (England)
- Felipe Llamas Sánchez, partner PHARE Global Territories (Spain)
- Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi, Secretary-General of UCLG Asia-Pacific

## 3. *Disputes Between Communities*

### Moderator

- Dion van den Berg, PAX for peace (The Netherlands)

### Speakers

- Shamier Madhar, Youth Imam (The Netherlands)
- Awraham Soetendorp, Rabbi (The Netherlands)
- Martine Bokenge Nge, General Inspector of the Territories (Democratic Republic Congo) (TBC)
- Segla Lihoussou, Executive Director of National Association for Beninese Communes (Benin)

## 4. *Migration*

### Moderator

- Bo Altena, Project Manager of VNG International (The Netherlands)

### Speakers

- Amany Shalha, Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (The Netherlands)
- Wilson Sanya, Mayor of Koboko (Uganda)
- Representative of South African Local Government Association (SALGA)
- Andualem Tenaw Habtie, Director General Ethiopian Cities Association (Ethiopia) (TBC)

**12:00 - 12:30 Plenary conclusion**