



3RD URBAN PEACE DIALOGUES

For the third consecutive year, the City Diplomacy Lab is working to bring cities' peace advocacy and engagement to the UNECE Forum of Mayors.

Concept note

September 3rd, 2024

BACKGROUND

Since World War II, cities have become the central scene of all kinds of armed violence, witnessing most of the loss of life and destruction. It is unsurprising that elected officials from some of the most concerned cities gradually emerged as vocal advocates for peace.

The 2024 edition of the Urban Peace Dialogues aims to convene mayors and representatives of so-called “cities of remembrance” to the Forum of Mayors. The proposed event consists of a moderated discussion to facilitate the panelists' formulation of a clear, consistent, and united message for peace. Thus, they will be invited to discuss not only the destructive impact of armed violence their cities suffered but also the constructive impact of resilience, reconstruction, and reconciliation.

The event is organized in partnership with Mayors for Peace Europe, the US Permanent Mission in Geneva, and the Cities of Remembrance network.

The event is in continuity with the previous [2022](#) and [2023](#) editions of the Urban Peace Dialogues at the Forum of Mayors.

TENTATIVE PROGRAM

As a side event to the 2024 Forum of Mayors, the event will be a **roundtable at the Palais des Nations**. The event will be streamed live and recorded for subsequent dissemination.

Date: September 30, 2024, 8:15 – 9:30 a.m. CET

Place: Palais des Nations, Geneva

Panelists: Mayors and representatives from cities that sustained massive life losses and destruction in the past. A tentative list includes Dortmund, Dunkerque, Granollers, London, Marzabotto, Medellín, and Osijek.

Moderator: Dr. Lorenzo Kihlgren Grandi, Founding Director, City Diplomacy Lab

Language: English

Dr. Lorenzo Kihlgren Grandi is available for more information and to discuss any aspect of the proposal: lk2894@columbia.edu – +33 (0) 7 82 12 22 22.



2023 Urban Peace Dialogues

ABOUT THE CITY DIPLOMACY LAB

Launched in September 2021 in the framework of Columbia University, the City Diplomacy Lab fosters dialogue and partnership between scholars and practitioners to identify, discuss, and disseminate solutions to the great challenges of the present, which are global in nature and primarily urban in impact. Over the past several months, the City Diplomacy Lab has established itself as a global leader in four major areas of city diplomacy: peace, equality (particularly gender-related), climate action, and migration.

The Lab's work has been officially recognized by the United Nations Regional Commission for Europe (UNECE) and awarded the designation of *Center of Excellence on City Diplomacy and Sustainable Urban Development*.

In addition to the UN, the Lab engages on a daily basis with multiple municipalities around the world, city networks, universities, national agencies, and other international organizations.

For more information about the Lab, please visit <https://www.citydiplomacylab.net/>.

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