



Council of European Municipalities and Regions
European Section of United Cities and Local Governments

To the attention of the Members of the CEMR Policy Committee

To the attention of the Members of CEMR Executive Bureau

To the Secretaries General and Directors of the national associations and associate members

Brussels, 16 February 2018

Re: Invitation to the 2018 CEMR Conference – Diversity, Equality and Inclusion

Dear Members,
Dear Colleagues,

In a world where social challenges are increasingly urgent, complex and intertwined, and where core values such as equality, diversity and inclusion are making advances, while also being challenged, it is time to join our efforts and build communities that value everyone.

The Council of European Municipalities and Regions' **conference in Bilbao, from 11 to 13 June 2018**, will be the opportunity to exchange with representatives from the most inspiring cities, towns and regions and explore how mayors, local and regional leaders from Europe and beyond operate on the ground to make equality, diversity and inclusion a reality.

Co-organised by the City of Bilbao and the Association of Basque Municipalities (EUDEL), the 2018 CEMR conference will be the place to discover how to cultivate and promote these core values and develop attractive, inclusive communities that enhance the well-being and quality of life of all citizens.

The programme, available on the [conference's website](#), has been designed to cover a broad range of topics, from security in public spaces – online and in town – to local alliances for labour market inclusion, and will stimulate vital discussions between distinguished guests, politicians and experts. The sessions are composed of input from CEMR members, over 90 proposals were received from 20 countries. This great engagement demonstrates that it is a conference *by* and *for* our members.

We hope that the programme attracts your interest and that you will attend the conference. Furthermore, we would like to invite you to promote the conference among your members and to disseminate the information broadly in your country and within your networks.

Registration is open and we draw your attention that you can benefit from the **early bird registration fee** until **5 March 2018**. If you have further questions, please contact Jaimie Just (jaimie.just@ccre-cemr.org - +32 2 500 05 49), CEMR Policy Officer – Gender Equality and Diversity.

We look forward to welcoming you in Bilbao for CEMR's 2018 conference.

Yours sincerely,

Stefano BONACCINI
CEMR President
President of Emilia-Romagna Region

Juan María ABURTO
Mayor of Bilbao

Imanol LANDA
EUDEL President

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