



UCLG CONGRESS
WORLD SUMMIT OF LOCAL
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New Generation
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[Violence Prevention in Practice: Showcasing Global Innovation at the Subnational Level]

Dialogue

Date and time: Tuesday, 23 June 2026, 11:00–12:30

Duration: 90 minutes

Lead organizer (Name / Institution): Peace in Our Cities

Co-organizers: Open Society Foundations, Mercociudades

Background

This session will highlight city-led interventions that prevent and reduce violence, aligned with the Social Covenant Letter on Violence and Conflict Prevention. Drawing from initiatives supported by Peace in Our Cities, Open Society Foundations, and Mercociudades, speakers will present practical approaches addressing diverse forms of violence, including gender-based violence, youth recruitment into organized crime (online and offline), disappearances and youth vulnerability, and counter-narratives to “tough on crime” policies. Featuring representatives from cities across the world, the session will center practitioner insights on what works, why, and how approaches can be adapted across contexts. The format combines short presentations with moderated dialogue, enabling peer exchange, reflection, and network-building among local leaders, practitioners, and partners.

Objectives / Expected outcomes

- **Showcase city-led innovation:** Highlight practical, replicable violence prevention approaches from cities across different regional contexts, centering practitioner knowledge on what works and why.
- **Strengthen the evidence-base for balanced, legitimate, and human-centered prevention policies:** Equip local leaders with peer-validated examples and arguments to advocate for prevention-centered,



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rights-based approaches to address gender-based violence, online and offline recruitment of young men, organized crime, and more.

- **Foster peer exchange and collaboration:** Create space for local government officials, civil society representatives, and international partners to connect, share lessons, and identify opportunities for cooperation on violence prevention.

Agenda

Opening remarks:

- Binaifer Nowrojee, President Open Society Foundations (TBC)

Moderator:

- Flavia Carbonari, Secretariat Member, Peace in Our Cities

Panelists:

- Carol Althaller, Executive Director, Instituto Update
- Paulo Gutierrez, Technical Secretary for Citizen Security, Guadalajara, Mexico
- Alderman Abdrahman Labsir 7th Alderman of the City of Mechelen, Belgium
- Rahma Ramadhan, Program Manager, Centre for Human Rights and Policy Studies

Closing Remarks:

- Rodrigo Neves, Mayor of Niterói, Brazil, and Mercociudades current President