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**Human Rights Contingency Plan**

Emergency response to the COVID19 situation



Direction of Citizenship Rights Services

Human Rights Resource Center

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## 1. Presentation

In an unprecedented moment of challenge like the present, this Human Rights Contingency Plan aims to be a map of action to integrate the human rights-based approach in all actions derived from the management of the emergency caused by the health crisis of the COVID-19 as well as in its recuperation.

The COVID-19 pandemic has opened up a challenge to the right to health and life. The [International Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights](https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/cescr.aspx) recognizes that everyone has the right "to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health" and governments are under obligation to take effective measures to address "the prevention, treatment and control of epidemic, endemic, occupational and other diseases".

The measures taken to combat COVID-19 have a profound impact on the fundamental rights of all people, but international law recalls that all measures taken to protect the population that limit rights and freedoms must be lawful, necessary and proportionate. That is why international bodies for the protection and guarantee of human rights, such as the [United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/media.aspx?IsMediaPage=true), have already warned that although the difficulties in responding to the health emergency, this "is not a blank cheque for ignoring human rights obligations".

The current situation reminds us that public health and human rights are not two options from which to choose, but that both are necessary. The response to the pandemic is a challenge that must not forget that the protection of public health has to go hand in hand with the protection of and respect for human rights. In this context, it is essential to claim the right to human security (security of basic needs, access to housing, food, health or work, among others) as a response to the emergency and its recovery.

In this line, the Barcelona City Council has been giving more centrality to human rights in public policies in recent years, which has led to the adoption in 2016 of the government measure "Barcelona, city of rights", which has as a subtitle "Actions for prevention and guarantee of citizen's rights and actions to include the human rights approach to public policies". This measure creates its own model of city, the Barcelona model, which must work with an inclusive viewpoint, from diversity and a feminist viewpoint based on the respect, protection and guarantee of human rights to make sustainable human and social development possible.

The role of the cities in the protection of human rights has been one of the work nails of the Direction of Services of Citizenship Rights. We understand that human rights are not something abstract and out of context, but that they must be thought of and promoted within the framework of the territory where they are exercised, in this case, the city and its neighbourhoods. In this sense, the fight against discrimination, the defence of public goods such as supplies, housing or the environment, as well as social movements in defence of civil or political rights, are some of the areas where human rights projects and initiatives have been built in the city of Barcelona.

From the Directorate of Services of Citizenship Rights we bet to design public policies that respond to the emergency from a human rights-based approach, that is, setting the prevention and guarantee of human rights as well as the most vulnerable groups in the center.

## 2. Human rights under tension

#### Affectation of rights

The response to the pandemic by governments has established measures to contain the propagation of the virus that have brought about profound changes in the daily lives of the population and affected the exercise of fundamental rights. The impact has gone far beyond the field of health and the consequences generated by measures of physical distance, interruption of education and work or restrictions on freedom of movement must be taken into account. In this sense, the right to health, the right to life, but also the right to free movement, the right to freedom and security or the right to assembly and association, among others, have been tense. In the meantime, it has been seen in the increase of digital surveillance policies and the risks that it can entail for the right to privacy.

The situation of lockdown has also had an unequal impact on access to information, making the digital divide visible among the population. This problem has become especially evident in the right to education, which has led to an unequal response in terms of students' access to the school year.

At the economic level, there are many consequences such as the increase in unemployment in various sectors, the reduction of salaries, layoffs and the impact on income that this entails for many people, especially women, single-parent families and people in situations of poverty. The case of migrants who work in an unregulated manner, in precarious conditions and in informal sectors (such as household workers) and who cannot benefit from the aid that the public administration is offering is particularly alarming. This situation has consequences on labour rights but also on access to the most basic needs, such as food, basic services (also marked by the interruption of canteen services in educational centres, for example) or access to housing.

The emergency situation has therefore highlighted and aggravated inequalities, the urgency of ensuring the right to housing, access to basic services, the digital divide or the lack of resources for the provision of public services, among others.

At the global level, government responses to the crisis have included generalized restrictions on rights such as freedom of movement, expression and assembly. In this regard, in Spain there has been an increase in the number of complaints made under the Citizen Security Law or cases of institutional violence by agents of the National Police Corps, who are allegedly accused of using the law in an unauthorised manner within the framework of the State of Alert. Human rights organizations have demanded a guarantee that the actions of the security forces are governed by the principle of legality and respect for fundamental rights. In the meantime, this situation has been aggravated in the case of arrests on the basis of ethnic profiling.

In the context of the alarming situation regarding human rights, it must be taken into account that the impact is not homogeneous, but rather that it is the most vulnerable groups who suffer the most. This fact is concerning as it affects the exercise of rights, particularly the issues related to equal treatment and the principle of non-discrimination.

In this sense, it is necessary to focus on how rights are affected in certain groups such as women and children (especially those living in situations of gender-based violence), LGBT+ people, elderly people, people with disabilities, migrants, refugees or asylum seekers, the homeless, the Roma population or people at risk of poverty. The situation has also affected people in institutional settings such as detention centres, prisons, reception centres, psychiatric centres or orphanages.

#### Discrimination

The pandemic and the resulting situation has led to an increase in racism and xenophobia towards communities of certain ethnic or national origin. Although the majority has been directed at people of (perceived) Chinese or Asian origin, many other groups have also been affected.

There are few official data, due to the situation of underreporting in many of the cases, but civil society organizations have warned that this situation has included verbal attacks, harassment, physical assaults, online hate speech and discrimination. Thus, members of the [Board of Organisations for the Assistance of Victims of Discrimination](https://ajuntament.barcelona.cat/oficina-no-discriminacio/en/discrimination-observatory) in Barcelona, have collected situations that are occurring in the framework of the current crisis; discrimination and rights violations have been observed towards people of Asian and Chinese origin (perceived), Roma and migrants, and homeless people, both by security forces and by citizens, in situations where these people have had to break the confinement to ensure their own survival.

Special attention has been paid to the increase in the number of violations of rights within homes and neighbourhood communities, towards LGBT groups, migrants and people of different origins, and also in terms of gender violence and child abuse, which, given the situation of confinement, are not only increasing but also becoming invisible, since it is more difficult to detect them.

Regarding the organizations that work with people with disabilities, both physical and intellectual, they point out that the established "safety" protocols have not taken into account these people, both in terms of their needs (such as the impossibility of maintaining safety distances for many people with physical disabilities, or the vital need of some people with intellectual disabilities to go out to the streets) and in terms of understanding the protocols (claiming one more blow the need to make accessible all the contents that are published about the current crisis).

## 3. The need to focus the response on protecting and guaranteeing human rights

#### An international demand

Various international human rights bodies and entities call on governments to ensure that contingency plans respect the exercise of human rights and take into account the most vulnerable groups.

The [Commissioner for Human Rights at the Council of Europe](https://www.coe.int/en/web/commissioner/-/we-must-respect-human-rights-and-stand-united-against-the-coronavirus-pandemic) (Dunja Mijatović) or the [UN High Commissioner for Human Rights](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=25785&LangID=E) (Michelle Bachelet) have reminded states of the need to face the global challenge we are experiencing with global responses and a strong commitment to the defence of human rights. In the meantime, they have recalled the need to do so with measures that do not lead to discrimination, are proportional to the objectives pursued and with positive measures to meet the specific needs of groups at particularly high risk.

In this regard, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) has published a [guide](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Events/EmergencyMeasures_COVID19.pdf) with measures to be taken to guarantee human rights. There have also been continuous calls for States to protect economic and social rights as the pandemic is exposing the impact of inequalities. It has thus been demanded that public health systems must be strengthened and that this be done without excluding anyone, while economic and social measures must be promoted to minimize the increase in inequalities and protect the most vulnerable groups.

As to civil and political rights, it has been constantly reminded that the emergency situation is not a blank cheque to omit human rights obligations. In this regard, it is reminded to States that emergency measures must be necessary and proportionate and require fair and humane implementation. Furthermore, the need to increase access to information and accurate statistics is stressed. There is also concern expressed about the justification, in some countries, for repressive changes in ordinary legislation and the imposition of restrictions on freedom of the media and freedom of expression. As such, a United Nations expert has warned about the impact of restrictions on the [right to freedom of assembly and association](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=25792&LangID=E).

From the same office, it is pointed out that at the moment of response, effective and humane policies must be designed that take into account five points:

1. Reduce the impact of the epidemic on women and vulnerable groups. Taking into account people in detention centres (also psychiatric centres and orphanages), people with disabilities, indigenous peoples and minorities, migrants, refugees and internally displaced persons, people in conflict areas and large people.
2. Measures to absorb economic and social shocks and minimize the expansion of inequalities: ensuring income security, protection of livelihoods and access to essential goods and services (such as the right to housing)
3. The protection of health workers (considering that 70% are women) and their adequate remuneration must be a primary concern.
4. There is no place for discrimination.
5. Need for participation of national human rights institutions, civil society activists and human rights defenders.

On the other hand, the time of recovery (when the emergency phase has been overcome) must also be taken into account:

1. To ensure that all people, including the most vulnerable, benefit from development
2. To build more inclusive and sustainable economies, and to shape societies that are more resilient to crises (Agenda 2030).
3. Protecting the environment, ensuring biodiversity to protect human health and well-being.

The pandemic has exposed deep inequalities that need inclusive responses. Along these lines, the OHCRH has published guides with recommendations for measures for specific vulnerable groups such as [LGTBI people](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/LGBT/LGBTIpeople.pdf) or [migrants](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Migration/OHCHRGuidance_COVID19_Migrants.pdf), who continue to suffer disproportionately (in stigmatization, exclusion, detention, etc.) from the effects of the pandemic.

In addition, United Nations special rapporteurs have also made statements to express the need to address the needs and rights of more vulnerable groups such as [persons with disabilities](https://www.ohchr.org/SP/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=25725&LangID=S), warnings against [religious hatred and intolerance](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=25814&LangID=E), or to guarantee [racial equity and equality](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=25776&LangID=E). In the same vein, the Council of Europe's Commissioner for Human Rights has warned of the need to guarantee equal protection and care for the Roma population.

#### The response from a human rights-based approach

All measures that are in line with fundamental rights obligations and that consider the impact on certain groups will be the most sustainable and effective measures in the long term. The focus on human rights implies the design of public policies that ensure that human rights are respected, protected and guaranteed, that are aligned with human rights standards, and that have equality and non-discrimination at their core. A response designed from this approach makes it possible to go to the root of social inequalities and work to change power relations. It also reinforces the legal, political and social enforceability of human rights.

At the heart of any response, support for the most vulnerable groups must be central. To do this, responses must be designed to cover basic needs and to do so with and for groups in a situation of vulnerability; they must also activate measures against discrimination, exclusion and tackling inequalities.

Positions in defence of human rights are often accused of being too abstract and generalist, of not landing on concrete measures and actions the great principles and declarations. For example, recognizing the right to equality and non-discrimination may seem easy, but making it effective and guaranteeing its enjoyment is not. At a time like the present, we must reaffirm that inequalities, whether social, economic, political, cultural or of any other kind, are not inevitable and we cannot assume them as such or normalize them. Understanding inequalities as a consequence of a violation of human rights challenges us directly as an administration and allows us to make a reading and analysis of reality in terms of responsibilities, whether individual or collective.

For this reason, it is essential to talk about the law in the city in order to recognize the role of local administrations as guarantees of human rights. In this sense, the effects of the emergency have the greatest impact on cities, and it is the city, understood as a collective space of encounter, which has to respond to many of the challenges and do so by reclaiming its role in the defense of human rights, without this being to the detriment of the action of other administrations (state and supra-state).

The role of local authorities in the prevention, protection and guarantee of human rights in the city must be vindicated. Therefore, defining Barcelona as a city of rights implies making the aspiration to live in a city where the human rights of all its citizens are respected, guaranteed and protected a reality. That is why the response to the emergency must be designed in public policies that make effective the content of the European Charter for the Safeguarding of Human Rights in the City, as a basic normative text and reference for specifying the rights of citizens.

The right in the city and the European Charter for the Safeguarding of Human Rights in the City are instruments to claim the need to promote public policies based on human rights to confront the inequalities and discriminations present in society as well as realities such as poverty, unemployment and lack of access to housing, among others. Thus, the protection and guarantee of human rights must be placed at the centre of the response to the emergency and its future recovery. This implies recognizing all those rights affected, analyzing the differentiated impact on the most vulnerable groups and designing public policies that can respond.

We understand citizenship to be absolutely dissociated from the concept of nationality or legal residence. Talking about citizenship rights means talking about the rights of everyone who lives in Barcelona, regardless of their administrative situation or their passport. Furthermore, it means working on the local, specific aspect of rights, with special emphasis on those in which the municipal administration has the most competence, but without forgetting that all rights are the competence of the City Council.

## 4. Actions of the Barcelona City Council

During the crisis caused by the COVID-19 and the period of deconfinement, Barcelona City Council has taken action to help citizens, with special attention to the most vulnerable people.

On page 6 of this document, the five actions that the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) proposed to take into account in the response from public institutions were set out:

1. Reduce the impact of the epidemic on women and vulnerable groups
2. Measures to absorb economic and social shocks and minimize the expansion of inequalities
3. Zero tolerance for discrimination
4. Ensuring a coordinated response with organised civil society

Below are some of the measures taken by the Barcelona City Council in line with these objectives. All of them can be consulted on the website of the campaign [#Ensensortirem](https://www.barcelona.cat/covid19/en) (we will pull through) that has been launched to ensure access to information on the current situation as well as to provide information on the measures taken by the City Council, health advice and a channel of communication with children and young people, the "Estimat Diari”.

#### Reduce the impact of the epidemic on women and vulnerable groups

**Women in situations of male violence**

One of the main actions has been the social support measures towards vulnerable groups. In this regard, in view of the possible increase in cases of male violence, services aimed at women have been strengthened, such as care services, emergency accommodation, practical advice on prevention and detection, telephone services for men and legal advice for women.

**Elderly and dependent people**

The Teleassistance Service has been reinforced with the aim of contacting 3,000 users every day, most of whom are elderly and dependent people, to provide information, advice and resolve doubts about the coronavirus. Recommendations are also given for organizing time and carrying out activities and exercises during the days of home confinement. On the other hand, the Radars project has continued to follow up and accompany the elderly who live in solitary confinement with the collaboration of the local community.

Measures have also been activated to attend to the elderly who live in residences. How has been the transfer of people with symptoms of COVID-19 is done as quickly as possible or the distribution of electronic tablets to facilitate communication.

**Migrant persons**

The Immigrant, Migrant and Refugee Assistance Service (SAIER) has continued to attend, during special hours, to social and legal emergencies.

**Persons with disabilities**

The Public Attention Service (SABE) of the Municipal Institute for People with Disabilities (IMPD), the services of Employment Advice and Accompaniment, Legal Advice or the Municipal Personal Assistance Service have been maintained by telematic means.

**People in vulnerable situations**

The municipal meal programmes (Meals at Home, Meals in Community, the social canteens and now also the facilities for homeless people) have been strengthened to ensure a balanced and healthy diet for vulnerable people who for various reasons may have some kind of nutritional deficit. A wallet card has also been distributed to guarantee the provision of social service during the coronavirus confinement to some thirty thousand students entitled to a canteen grant.

During the state of alarm caused by COVID-19, the city has new social service centres on duty that attend to social emergencies in a face-to-face and direct manner. The Home Assistance Service (SAD) and the Barcelona Centre for Emergency and Social Services (CUESB) have also been maintained.

700 places have been added to the 2,200 places already available in the city to deal with the situation caused by the coronavirus. Specifically, 7 new accommodation facilities have been set up. Also, a facility with 15 places has been set up to accommodate large, very fragile people, without Covid-19 symptoms, who cannot stay at home. In all these places, it is necessary to add the 200 tourist flats for vulnerable people thanks to the agreement with tourist housing operators.

In addition, to cover the basic needs of hygiene and food, three extraordinary feeding and shower and clothing devices have been opened with the capacity to offer around 160 daily hygiene services.

**Household workers and priests**

The group of domestic workers is structurally suffering from a great deal of violation of rights and a high degree of precariousness. Although their work is essential, in the current situation they may find themselves even more unprotected. The space "Barcelona Cuida" has a telephone and e-mail service to inform and advise household workers and care-giving families in the context of the health crisis caused by the Covid-19.

#### Measures to absorb economic and social shocks and minimize the expansion of inequalities

In this section we list all those measures taken to ensure income security, protection of livelihoods and access to essential goods and services.

**Right to housing**

Emergency housing services are maintained to guarantee response to urgent situations that may arise, as well as the protection of people in vulnerable situations. Thus, the Service of Intervention in the Loss of Housing and Occupation; the Service of Prevention, Intervention and Mediation in Public Housing, and the urgent repairs of houses in the public park are kept active. All evictions in the city have also been suspended, at the request, among others, of Mayoress Ada Colau.

In addition, Barcelona City Council will not collect rental fees for the public park's housing and commercial premises during the months of April, May, June and July. This measure will benefit around 10,000 families. As of August, the fees will be pro-rated over 36 months and reduced, if necessary, to adapt them to the new economic conditions of each user family.

The City Council also maintains the aid for families living in apartments in the Barcelona Rentals Exchange. The tenants of this program who suffer a reduction in income as a result of the coronavirus crisis will have to notify the Municipal Housing Institute of Barcelona (IMHAB), which will activate aid so that they can pay their rent. In addition, information is also provided on the processing of aid activities by the State Government for the payment of rent and mortgage or non-mortgage loans.

The Mayor of Barcelona, Ada Colau, has proposed to the President of the State Government, Pedro Sánchez, a State Pact for the Right to Housing. In a letter sent to the President of the Government, she has requested that he lead a strategy to align all public administrations and coordinate them with the objective of advancing towards a new model of housing policies, aimed at protecting and guaranteeing this fundamental right.

In addition, a modification of the Law on Budgetary Stability and Financial Sustainability has been requested to allow local councils to use the surplus they have accumulated to alleviate the effects of the COVID-19 crisis.

The letter is accompanied by a working document with proposals for this new strategy, inspired by the municipal experience:

* Extend the suspension of evictions for six more months, which would be added to the other six initially planned, and extend the rental contracts for six more months.
* Favour the construction of affordable housing with a reduction in VAT on social housing developments.
* Favour that the administrations can buy housing below market prices.
* Condition the purchases of housing by large holders with the obligation to allocate part of these homes to affordable rentals.

**Energy rights**

The services of the Energy Advice Points (EAPs) are maintained telematically, to guarantee the energy rights of citizens during the deconfinement process.

**Rights in education**

Through the Education Consortium, tablets connected to the network have been distributed so that students in vulnerable situations can have access to online education. On the other hand, the Èxit programme has been maintained to promote equal educational opportunities.

**Rights of immigrants**

The Barcelona Municipal Immigration Council (CMIB) has promoted a declaration in defence of the rights of immigrants in the context of the health crisis caused by the COVID-19. More than two hundred and sixty neighbourhood and citizens' organisations in Barcelona and Catalonia have signed up to this statement, including the City Council, the highest consultative and participatory body of the associative network in municipal policy.

The declaration calls for the regularisation of health care workers without work permits in Spain, as well as the recognition of training qualifications in the fields of health and social care and, as a whole, the protection of the rights of immigrants, who have an essential presence in areas such as cures and housework, delivery, cleaning and supermarkets.

**Digital rights**

The Coalition of Cities for Digital Rights, created by the City Councils of Barcelona, New York and Amsterdam, and with more than fifty global cities as members, is promoting a common declaration on the guarantee of digital rights in the use of technologies to face the crisis caused by the COVID-19. Although it is important to recognize the instrumental role that digital technologies can play in containing and resolving the current crisis, it is also necessary to ensure that their application does not endanger the digital rights of citizens.

#### Protecting health workers

In this area, the initiative "We care for those who care for us" has been promoted, providing free resources to compensate and diminish the stress that professionals in the frontline sectors of citizen care are experiencing during this period of the fight against COVID-19.

This campaign is specifically aimed at people working in the health sector, social services, the care and cleaning sector, security forces, supermarkets, pharmacies and transport, among others. "We care for those who care for us" has a series of videos at its disposal with advice from sports and health professionals on relaxing physical activities, compensatory physiotherapy exercises and nutritional recommendations.

#### Zero tolerance to discrimination

During the period of coronavirus lockdown, the Office for Non-Discrimination (OND) continues to provide telephone and telematic support to persons suffering from any type of discrimination and legal advice on how to report such situations. In addition, the OND has continued to promote coordination with the Board of Organisations for the Assistance of Victims of Discrimination, which currently comprises 18 entities.

#### Ensuring a coordinated response with organized civil society and human rights structures

With this objective in mind, the Barcelona Agreement has been launched, which aims to constitute a great city pact that will reinvigorate Barcelona from all spheres and in conjunction with economic, social, cultural and educational agents, and with the seven political groups represented in the Council.

## 5. Actions from the Directorate of Citizenship Rights Services

The Direction of Services of Citizenship Rights is working to develop the government measure "Barcelona, city of rights" that aims to include the human rights-based approach to public policies, and to design and deploy human rights policies based on three thematic priorities:

development of law in the city and citizenship rights

the fight against the hate speech and discrimination

working for full citizenship

These three priorities are the core of the actions undertaken by this Direction. That is why, during the response to the emergency, actions have been promoted to work in this line:

#### Development of Right to the City and Human Rights in the City

The promotion of human rights at the local level is one of the key objectives of this programme. In order to make the human right to the city and the rights of citizenship effective, both internal actions of planning of concrete human rights policies and external actions of awareness raising, training and support to human rights organizations are promoted.

**Awareness-raising activities**

Two virtual activities have been promoted from the Human Rights Resource Centre:

* Training for social and human rights organizations "[How to talk about Human Rights in times of COVID19?](https://ajuntament.barcelona.cat/dretsidiversitat/ca/noticia/com-parlem-dels-ddhh-durant-la-covid-19_945486)" given by Israel Butler from the European organization Civil Liberties Union for Europe
* [Debate: Health and technology, a human rights perspective](https://ajuntament.barcelona.cat/dretsidiversitat/ca/noticia/salut-i-tecnologia-una-mirada-des-dels-drets-humans_949031)

It also contributed to UNESCO's [international webinar](https://en.unesco.org/events/inclusion-time-covid-19-international-webinar-addressing-racism-discrimination-and-exclusion) on racism, discrimination and exclusion during COVID-19, together with the European city network ECCAR and the Coalition of African Cities against Racism and Discrimination.

On the other hand, [several news](https://ajuntament.barcelona.cat/dretsidiversitat/ca/noticies) items have been produced on the importance of basing the response to the health emergency on human rights as well as an article on anti-gypsyism during the state of alarm, an article on the rights of people with disabilities in the framework of the pandemic or on domestic workers and precarious work.

**Human rights-based approach**

Declarations and reports published by international protection and guarantee mechanisms have been followed up and disseminated at the working group level by the Direction to ensure a human rights-based approach in documents and in the field of municipal action.

#### Combating hate speech and discrimination

**Office for Non-Discrimination (OND)**

During the period of confinement for the coronavirus, the Office for Non-Discrimination (OND) continues to provide telephone and telematic support to people who suffer any kind of discrimination and legal advice on how to report these situations.

**Discrimination Observatory**

The [report on discrimination 2019](https://ajuntament.barcelona.cat/oficina-no-discriminacio/en/discrimination-observatory) was presented with a debate focused on discrimination in times of COVID-19 with representatives of the Table of Entities with a Service for Victims of Discrimination. Within the framework of the debate, a dissemination campaign was promoted with the main data and in which different entities participated.

**Now more than ever, #StopRacisme**

This [campaign](https://ajuntament.barcelona.cat/dretsidiversitat/ca/noticia/ara-mes-que-mai-stopracisme_931439) was launched on 21 March, the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. The objective was to make visible that the situation generated by COVID-19 has awakened all kinds of actions of mutual support towards the most vulnerable people. While these actions have been the majority during these last days, there have also been intolerant and xenophobic expressions framed in the current situation. The campaign gives voice to six activists who, in the framework of the crisis by COVID-19, contribute their vision on how racism and xenophobia have been translated into the current situation. The campaign has been shared on UNESCO's website and can be [consulted here](https://en.unesco.org/news/stopracism-barcelonas-anti-racism-campaign-midst-covid19).

#### Working towards full citizenship

**Barcelona Municipal Immigration Council**

More than two hundred and sixty neighbourhood and citizens' organisations in Barcelona and Catalonia, including the City Council, the highest consultative and participatory body of the associative fabric in municipal policy, have signed the [declaration of the Barcelona Municipal Immigration Council (CMIB)](https://ajuntament.barcelona.cat/consell-municipal-immigracio/ca/noticia/comunicat-del-cmib-enfront-lemergencia-per-la-covid-19_935767) in defence of the rights of immigrants in the context of the health crisis caused by COVID-19.

The CMIB's manifesto, published at the beginning of April, calls for the regularisation of health care personnel without work permits, as well as the standardisation of training qualifications in the health or social health fields and, as a whole, the protection of the rights of immigrants, who have an essential presence in areas such as care and household work, deliveries, cleaning and supermarkets.

Many of the immigrants are also part of particularly vulnerable groups, because they are homeless, in a situation of asylum-seeking or in prostitution, among others.

**Campaign for registration in all municipalities in Catalonia: No census, no rights**

#PadróSónDrets has been the motto of the [campaign](https://ajuntament.barcelona.cat/dretsidiversitat/ca/noticia/crida-dentitats-locals-i-de-pais-a-establir-politiques-dempadronament-actiu-als-municipis-de-catalunya_943510) that has aimed to make visible the crisis situation generated by the COVID-19, which is having a strong impact both socially and economically, especially towards the most vulnerable groups, such as people who cannot prove that they live in the city where they live (either because they are homeless, such as people in a situation of sensellarisme, or because they are in a situation of poverty).

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