

# HOUSING DISCRIMINATION AND SPATIAL SEGREGATION

Public consultation with local and regional governments



FRIDAY, 14 MAY 2021  
15:00-17:00 CEST

## AGENDA

### Opening Remarks

- Special Rapporteur to the right to adequate housing, Mr. **Balakrishnan Rajagopal**

### Panel Discussions

Moderation: Secretary General of UCLG, Ms. **Emilia Sáiz**

#### PANEL 1: Local Strategies to Address Housing Discrimination

- Sub Secretary **Jaime Morales**, City of Mexico, Mexico
- City Counselor **Agathe Fort**, Villeurbanne, France
- Housing Director of Buenos Aires (tbc), Argentina

1. *What forms of housing discrimination are key challenges in your localities? What communities are most affected? (for example racial and ethnic minorities, LGBTQ communities, people with disabilities, single-parent family, unemployed people, etc)*
2. *What policies or other administrative measures have been advanced to address these forms of discrimination? Do these apply to both private market actors and to public housing programs/policies?*
3. *What would be necessary to scale up the measures and policies advanced?*

#### PANEL 2: Segregation, local planning, housing and zoning policy

- City Councilor **Lydia Edwards** of Boston, United States of America
- City Councilor **Corinne Cadays** Delhome, City of La Courneuve, France
- Housing Director **Sebastian Moreno**, City of Montevideo, Uruguay
- Housing Director, City of Barcelona, Spain

1. *What forms of spatial segregation affect your cities?*
2. *What types of planning, housing, land or zoning policies or measures have been advanced to address segregation and spatial inequalities? (for example zoning reform, integral neighborhood upgrading initiatives, public housing initiatives)*
3. *What would be necessary to scale up the measures and policies advanced?*

### Closing Remarks

## REGISTRATION

Please register by **14 May 2021** at the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZllcOmspjsvGtcc93lSCzTP5nLy0X1DVPLY>

For this meeting interpretation into French and Spanish is available.



## OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this public consultation is to collect input and recommendations from representatives of regional and local Governments in preparation for the Rapporteur's next report to the General Assembly which will focus on the issues racial, caste, gender and other discrimination in relation to the right to adequate housing, including spatial inequalities and segregation in urban, rural and urban-rural environments

*Additional webinars have been held by the UN Special Rapporteur with State representatives, civil society organizations, lawyers, non-discrimination bodies, national and regional human rights institutions and representatives of the judiciary during April and May 2021.*

## BACKGROUND

Discrimination, based on race, caste, gender, ethnicity, income status and other forms of discrimination, remains one of the biggest barriers to the equal enjoyment of the right to adequate housing across the globe. The impact on affected communities takes hold not only at a household level but also drives patterns of segregation that shape inequalities at community and city-wide scales, inequities that ultimately infringe the equal enjoyment of several human rights in our cities and territories.

In light of the urgency of these issues, the next thematic reports of the Special Rapporteur on the right to adequate housing to the General Assembly in 2021 and to the Human Rights Council in 2022 will focus on the issue of discrimination in relation to the right to adequate housing, including the impact of spatial segregation in urban or rural-urban environments on the enjoyment of human rights.

Spatial segregation can be understood as the imposed or preferred separation of groups of people in a particular territory by lines of race, caste, ethnicity, language, religion or income status. Spatial, including residential segregation can have different forms depending on the territorial, cultural or historical context and is often characterized by forms of economic and social exclusion, inequity and spatial disparity in access to infrastructure, services and livelihood opportunities.

The main objective of the two interrelated reports will be to identify contemporary and historical forms of discrimination and segregation that affect the right to adequate housing, to highlight good practices in the prevention of discrimination and segregation and to provide guidance to States, local and regional Governments on how they can ensure their human rights obligations in relation to non-discrimination and the right to adequate housing. The reports will contain short, medium and long-term recommendations to States, local and regional Governments and other actors for eliminating housing discrimination and addressing spatial segregation and its adverse human rights impacts.

Regional and Local Governments and other actors are as well strongly encouraged to submit information in writing. More information, including a questionnaire in [English](#) | [Français](#) | [Español](#) | [العربية](#) to assist collecting information is available [here](#).

**DEADLINE FOR WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR HIS REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IS 14 MAY 2021.**

## KEY TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED

- *Is housing discrimination and segregation an issue in your region, city or community? What factors drive spatial and residential segregation?*
- *What policies and measures have regional and local Governments undertaken to address housing discrimination and spatial segregation? What best practices can be identified at local or regional level?*
- *What are the principal challenges or barriers for regional and local Governments addressing housing discrimination and spatial segregation?*