



LIVING TOGETHER  
IN CULTURALLY  
DIVERSE SOCIETIES:  
respect, dialogue,  
interaction



European  
Local  
Democracy  
Week

10 - 16  
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The Congress  
  
Le Congrès

COUNCIL OF EUROPE  
  
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

What is the main theme of the 2016 edition?



The theme of the ELDW in 2016 is “Living together in culturally diverse societies: respect, dialogue, interaction”.

## RESPECT

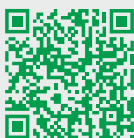
Living together in culturally diverse societies starts with the first step, which is **mutual respect**. Respect for each other’s culture, religion and traditions, on the common basis which unites us all: universal human rights. Respect for each other’s rights and differences.

## DIALOGUE

The second step is **dialogue**. People who live together in the same city should have the opportunity to exchange their experiences with a view to making the best possible use of our cultural diversity. Education for human rights and democratic citizenship plays a crucial role in this respect.

## INTERACTION

The third step is **interaction**. Local and regional authorities should find common paths and areas of action to involve diverse groups within their communities, in order to build together a more tolerant society. Examples of best practice should be identified and promoted throughout Europe.



### Contact

 [democracy.week@coe.int](mailto:democracy.week@coe.int)

 [www.coe.int/demoweeek](http://www.coe.int/demoweeek)

ENG

*The European Local Democracy Week (ELDW) is an initiative of the Council of Europe and its Congress, launched in 2007. The Congress, a political assembly composed of elected officials from local and regional authorities from the 47 Council of Europe member states, is responsible for the coordination of this pan-European initiative.*