

Best Practices

Charter for living together

Quality of life and living together well are values to be promoted in our municipalities. Each generation has its place and everyone is welcome. A local charter for living together well can be drawn up to support the implementation of these values, living together and mutual understanding.

Ideally, the content of the charter is gathered as part of a participatory process during which various advisory committees, municipal department managers and a panel of citizens and people working in the municipality are questioned about living together. The charter brings together the ideas of all these people on the art and manner of successfully living together in the community. Everyone must be able to feel at ease in the municipality, and to achieve this, everyone must contribute to living together in a respectful community.

Only together can we build the society we want to live in.

Every resident and worker is invited to sign this charter. A person's signature symbolises their commitment to contributing to living together in peace. The charter can be offered for signature at various events, particularly those that open up a meeting space.

Objectives

- Promoting mutual respect
- Encouraging solidarity
- Strengthening social cohesion
- Fighting discrimination
- Encouraging dialogue and communication
- Establishing shared rules for life
- Raising awareness of civic values
- Preventing and managing conflict
- Promoting sustainable development



Methods

- Contact the various advisory committees in the municipality to inform them about the project.
- Draw up a questionnaire to which the committees can respond on what they feel is important to ensure good community living.
- Analyse the responses to the questionnaire.
- Contact a research company to draw up a survey open to the public.
- Put the survey online.
- Analyse the public's responses.
- Group the responses by theme.
- Draw up the Charter for Living Together.
- Translate the Charter into several languages
- Present the Charter to the public.
- Promote the Charter (Stands + themed activities)

Budget

- Possible costs for carrying out a public survey.
- Charter layout costs (flyer and roll-ups).
- Printing of the Charter (paper version) and distribution (to all letterboxes).
- Production of roll-ups for signatures.
- Possible costs for gadgets (souvenirs) to give to signatories.

Materials

- Office equipment (felt-tip pens etc. for signing the charter)
- Computers (for drawing up the charter)
- Possible souvenir gadget for signatories

Periodicity

1 time to draw up the Charter

Thereafter: bring the Charter to life through regular thematic activities



Evaluation indicators

- Number of signatures (roll-ups)
- Reactions of citizens to the Charter for Living Together

Practical advice - DO's

- Plan in detail
- Draw up a budget
- Simple registration process
- Regular communication
- Gather feedback

Practical advice - DONT's

- Lack of planning
- Cost overruns

Contact person/Possible partners

- Municipal advisory committees

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Additional information

The Charter for Living Together in Dudelange: <https://www.dudelange.lu/index.php/charte-vivre-ensemble/>

