

**DECLARATION OF THE BOARD OF THE EUROPEAN COVENANT OF MAYORS**  
**THE COVENANT OF MAYORS AS AN INSTRUMENT OF CLIMATE AND ENERGY POLICIES IN EUROPE AND BEYOND**

The Paris agreement has paved the way to a wide mobilisation of stakeholders who stand alongside their National Governments to meet the long-term goal of keeping the increase in global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels.

The Covenant of Mayors, representing more than 7,400 cities and 230, 000 citizens, is the one EU instrument that supports this momentum in Europe. In addition, the ambitious policies Covenant of Mayors signatories are implementing in sectors not covered by the ETS can play a key role in delivering the Clean Energy Package in Europe's cities and regions.

Along with other local and regional leaders, we have involved citizens and local stakeholders in the design of our climate and energy policies, have committed to going beyond the 2020 and 2030 EU objectives and are already showing concrete results on the ground. Our experience in collaborative climate and energy governance should serve as an example to Member States when drafting their National Climate and Energy Plan, in order to jointly shape future energy and climate policies. That would, in addition, help restore trust and faith of citizens in the European project.

Together with the European Commission, we would like to showcase, in the context of the UNFCCC facilitative dialogue on enhancing ambition and support, foreseen at COP24 in Katowice, the exemplary role of the European Union in championing a shared governance between different levels of governments to tackle climate change and accelerate the energy transition. To prepare for that, we would suggest to organise, in the first quarter of 2018, a Ceremony of the Covenant of Mayors, under your leadership and with representatives of Member States.

With our peers constituting the Board of the Global Covenant of Mayors, we stand ready to enlarge the Covenant community around the globe. We commit to supporting the internationalisation of the Covenant of Mayors, as well as ensuring that this unique political movement provides the right incentives and tools for cities and towns, whatever their economic, social and societal context, to developing low-carbon, resilient and more liveable communities.

Brussels, 20 June 2017



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Mayor of Ghent

Eckart Würzner  
Mayor of Heidelberg

Mercè Conesa i Pagès  
President of the Province of  
Barcelona, Mayor of Sant Cugat del  
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Christophe Najdovski  
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