

Time4All Abstract

The Time4All consortium considers time as a value and as a new component of European citizenship. The European Local Time Network was created in 2008 by several European municipalities and has a legacy on organizing good practices exchanges. In October 2021, the members of the Network renewed and updated their commitment, aiming to build a *new narrative for time policies, more citizen-oriented, while promoting equality, health, sustainability and productivity, that could be more engaging for the younger generation in particular.*

In fact, a better time organization can improve citizens health, equality, productivity, and civil participation. This is the reason why time policies need to be promoted and reinforced. A need that has been significantly increased during the post-pandemic period which has shown the importance of time organization and care for a more sustainable and equalitarian life, and which has transformed the relation between work and time.

The Time4All project aims at enhancing active citizenship involvement through local time policies, as implemented by several European cities in Italy, Spain, France and, to a lesser extent, Belgium and Germany. These policies promote health and well-being for everyday life, gender and social equality, as well as social cohesion with the aim of improving the current welfare state. Moreover, local time policies are a tool to spread out solidarity in times of crisis through the involvement of citizens in search of new ways to organize our societies.

Time is not only a quantitative resource, but also a **political issue and can be conceptualised as a right for all citizens**, a cultural medium contributing to social well-being and social cohesion and helping to reinforce the importance of citizens having time to engage on civic and community activities. This is particularly true for women, who suffer disproportionately the effects of time poverty, a lack of time for personal and social matters, creating a gender gap regarding time uses, (as stated in the [EU Gender Equality strategy 2020 - 2025](#)).

The importance and potential benefits of urban and regional time policies were already recognized by the Council of Europe's [Congress of Local and Regional Authorities on its meeting in October 2010](#). Time policies involve inhabitants in the diagnosis of the temporal problems and thus associate them in the voluntary and autonomous search for solutions, with the collaboration and support of the local councils. Such reconciliation policies are per se participatory and transnational because they need to be shared with the inhabitants and to be part of cross-boundaries best practice-exchange. The Time4All project will promote *exchanges between citizens and municipalities from different European countries to reinforce mutual understanding and friendship between European citizens, creating common narratives on a better time organisation based on the European values, and to support local governance by exchanging good practices and lessons learned on time policies.*

To reach these goals the project intends to dynamize and enlarge, via different thematic activities and using virtual and face to face meetings, the [Local and Regional Governments Time Network](#).

Besides enlarging the network and exchanging good practices, the project's main activities include the organization of training activities (European Summer Time School) to promote Time Policies in a post-covid era, and the conceptualization and implementation of an awareness campaign on the "Right to Time for all citizens", coordinated amongst the members of the Network and in line with the [Barcelona's Declaration on Time Policies](#), signed in 2021 by more than 100 world-wide organizations and municipalities committed to the Right To Time.

Finally, in order to foster a long-term vision and strengthen the EU and local decision-making process, the Time4All intends to refine and expand the Time (Local) Agreement(s) methodology, to involve citizens on defining and implementing time policies, and organize exchanges and dissemination of good practices

amongst public authorities and civil society organizations, which has been successfully implemented in several Spanish cities for more than 10 years.