



ABOUT THE M.C.A. CITIZENS' CIRCLES

Basic guide

1) WHAT IS A CITIZENS CIRCLE?

Conceived as open and permanent places for dialogue between citizens, they exchange ideas (through workshops, round table discussions), and collectively elaborate and assess proposals aiming to contribute to the emergence of new economic, social, cultural and environmental policies.

2) WHO CAN BECOME A MEMBER OF A CITIZENS' CIRCLE?

All citizens can take part in these circles on the condition that they agree with the principles of the Founding Charter and commit to abide by them by signing it on the M.C.A. website (www.acimedit.net)

3) HOW TO CREATE A CIRCLE OF CITIZENS?

Any person or group of persons that want to create a circle must first contact the M.C.A. Secretariat.

Ensuing, the process is very simple: it's sufficient that all members of the circle read the future Constituent Charter and join it, signing on the website (www.acimedit.net). To validate the formation of the circle, a complete list of members, with their information, have to be sent to the M.C.A. Secretariat. A circle must have at least three members.

4) HOW DO THE CIRCLES WORK?

The circles of citizens organize themselves autonomously. That is to say that they choose their activities' programs, their topics and their meeting places. Their practices have to be consistent with the principles of the Founding Charter.

The circle can count on the support of the Regional Coordination and the Secretariat for its accurate functioning.

Each circle designates a referee, who will look after the connections and articulation with the Mediterranean Coordination and other circles concerning meetings and activities, a reporter will produce a report about discussions and he will deliver at M.C.A. the regional coordination (or the Secretariat, if the circle is independent of any regional centre).

Every circle, to improve its visibility, is free to create its own website, Facebook or Twitter account and to communicate its activities and proposals on it.

The circles also hold varying functions depending on the initiative:

- visibility of and information on the initiative;
- suggestion of themes to be discussed in the assemblies;
- logistical support for the assemblies;
- source of participants for the assemblies.



5) CIRCLES' FUNDING

Circles meetings' costs are supported by the regional coordination (or the Secretariat, if the circle is independent of any regional coordination), within the limits set by the budget prepared by M.C.A. coordination. In the interest of financial transparency, all costs must be justified.

The circles can also seek funding to the regional coordination (or to the Secretariat) for the participation of its members in activities directly related to the M.C.A. objectives.

Citizens' circles are also encouraged to seek their own funding sources to increase their autonomy and their activities.

6) LISTS OF THE M.C.A. CIRCLES

6.1. Circles constituted (1st July 2012)

- Circle of Casablanca (Morocco) - Contact: Sana Benbelli (sanaebenbelli@hotmail.com)
- Circle of Damas (Syria) - Contact: Hassan Abbas (h.abd.abbas@gmail.com)
- Circle of Istanbul (Turkey) - Contact: Aylin Unver Noi (aylinnoi@yahoo.com)
- Circle of Oran (Algeria) - Contact: Fatma Boufenik (boufenik_fatma@yahoo.fr)
- Circle of Naples (Italy) - Contact: Maria Donzelli (mdonzelli@unior.it)
- Circle of Podgorica (Montenegro) - Contact: Zorka Burzanovic (cfimn@t-com.me)
- Circle of Rome (Italy) - Contact : Stefano Ciampicacigli (stefano.ciampicacigli@fastwebnet.it)
- Circle of Thessaly (Greece) - Contact: Nikolaos Poutsiakas (nikospoutsiakas@yahoo.gr)
- Circle of Tirana (Albania) - Contact: Nevilla Xhindi (nevila.xhindi@uet.edu.al), Adrian Civici (adriancivici@gmail.com)
- Circle of Tunis (Tunisia) - Contact: Ahmed Driss (ahmdriss@gmail.com)
- Circle of Valence (Spain) - Contact: Lola Bañon (lola.banon@uv.es)
- Circle of Zagreb (Croatia) - Contact: Marija Vukelic (marija@bonomgroup.com)

6.2. Circles being constituted (target by 31st December 2012)

- Circle of Beirut (Lebanon)
- Circle of Chyprus
- Circle of Corsica (France)
- Circle of Egypt
- Circle EMUNI - Portorož (Slovenia)
- Circle of Florence (Italy)
- Circle of Madrid (Spain)
- Circle of Malta
- Circle of Marseille (France)