



Declaration of London 22 October 2004

Resolution

We call on the members of the European Parliament to ensure that legislative arrangements are made to implement the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child at national and local levels and that practical action is taken to ensure young people's participation in all matters concerning their physical and social environment.

The Co-ordinating Committee of the European Network for Child-Friendly Cities (ENCFC) following proceedings at the Second European 'Child in the City Conference' in London, and representing 23 countries in the European Union and elsewhere, states that the fulfilment of the rights of children and young people in regard to their physical and social environment should have a high priority in policy-making, planning and participation processes.

Considering

- That children and young people as citizens have democratic rights to participate in governmental processes but still lack adequate opportunities of influencing processes and circumstances impacting upon their lives,
 - That children living in urban areas today have increasingly less access to space, that there is a continuous reduction of their independent mobility particularly in big cities and that they experience less safety in their living environments,
 - That spaces for children to play and possibilities of socialising are declining,
- and
- That scientific results indicate that this can lead to social, mental and physical problems in later age.

We therefore encourage the EU member states to join their efforts in creating better environments for children and young people and in working actively in support of this goal together with the ENCFC network and other bodies dedicated to this goal.