



HIC Annual Report 2013

Global network for habitat rights and social justice



Housing and Land Rights

Gender Equality

Right to the City

Social Production of Habitat



Contents

Message from the President (p. 1)

The Coalition (p. 2)

HIC in the World (p. 2)

HIC's faces (p. 3)

Welcome to our new Members 2013! (p. 4)

Structures' Reports (p. 5-19)

Global Activities (p. 20-23)

Financial Statement (p 24)

HIC's Allies (p. 25-26)

Message from the President

2013 has been a very important year for HIC; a year full of internal and external challenges and changes. It began with a participatory process to update our Constitution and the intense process of selecting a new General Secretary, followed by mass demonstrations for the rights related to habitat and the right to the city in Brazil and Turkey, and strengthening the coordination and partnerships with other networks and social movements to influence the global agenda.

Denouncing, resisting but also *proposing and experimenting* are common verbs for organizations affiliated to the Coalition worldwide and in this path we are not alone. The defense of territory, collective management of the common goods, deepening of democracy and the construction of another economy are beliefs that we share with many voices, who are outraged and concerned about the present and future of life on this planet. The World Social Forum, despite criticism and self-criticism, remains a prominent space for dialogue and networking.

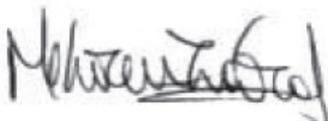
Our struggles for land, housing, the city and habitat have much to contribute to the formulation and implementation of new paradigms of coexistence between human beings and nature. Security of tenure, the social function of property and social production of habitat are some strategic principles that we have been promoting, defending and implementing for many decades. They are a clear counterpoint to policies that tend to favor individual private property, speculation and production of large-scale real estate developments that create lucrative profits for a few companies but do not address the need to access and enjoy a place to live in peace and dignity.

The next two years will be critical to show the strength of civil society in the international debate. The open process for the formulation of the new Sustainable Development Goals (also known as the Post-2015 Agenda) and the preparations for the 3rd United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), to be held in 2016, pose strong debate and dispute, which undoubtedly will require mobilization, pressure and negotiation actions in local and national contexts.

HIC Members and Allies are aware of the scope and limitations of actions at different scales. They are well aware of the tensions faced during their daily work and the ability to raise reflections and experiences to enhance deeper and long-term transformations. We cannot choose or leave tasks undone; therefore, we need to better coordinate our efforts.

This report provides witness and guidance in that search. We thank those who made this possible and trust that it inspires us to move forward.

Sincerely,



Lorena Zárate
HIC President



The Coalition

Habitat International Coalition (HIC) is the global network dedicated to action for the recognition, defense and full implementation of the right of everyone to a secure place in which to live in peace and dignity, in all countries.

Specifically, HIC acts as an international collective of civil society organizations, social movements and individuals that mobilizes and advocates in defense, promotion and enforceability of the human rights of homeless, evicted, displaced, landless and inadequately housed people and communities, including those under occupation, in urban and rural areas. HIC seeks to empower people and communities to improve their conditions based on the principles, norms and standards of human rights, diversity, gender equality, social production and environmental sustainability. HIC promotes public awareness about habitat issues and serves as a platform for the formulation of programs, policies and strategies for constituent social movements and civil society organizations working to promote the human rights to housing, land, and the city, and acts as their representative to public, national, regional and international bodies and forums.

The Association aims to attain these objectives by means of:

- (a) Mobilizing and advocating, independently or in co-operation, with other civil society entities, grassroots and popular organizations, social movements, independent institutions, academic networks, and activist platforms;
- (b) Organizing forums, seminars and conferences, lectures, public hearings, and exchange visits;
- (c) Publishing statements, reports, newsletters, and other studies and informative materials;
- (d) Conducting research and fact-finding missions to document violations and positive experiences;
- (e) Supporting and strengthening networks and promoting information exchanges among its Members and other civil society entities;
- (f) Conducting training, human rights education and other activities to build capabilities of constituent Members and affiliates; and
- (g) Any other activities compatible with these objectives.

HIC in the World

The Coalition has 346 Members (of which 35 have the right to vote) and 62 Friends. In addition 1,590 organizations and individuals form the HIC social base. The table below presents the geographic distribution of HIC Members, Friends and the Social Base:

Region	Members	Members with right to vote	Friends	Social Base
Anglophone / Lusophone Africa	37	3	4	137
Francophone Africa	31	5	3	89
Asia	36	0	11	175
Europe	54	5	16	357
Latin America and the Caribbean	123	19	12	559
Middle East/North Africa	37	1	4	157
North America	28	2	12	116
Subtotal	346	35	62	1,590

All figures shown are as of December 31, 2013.

HIC's faces

The HIC General Assembly is composed of all Members who are eligible to attend General Assembly meetings and participate in elections. The General Assembly meeting in 2013 was held in Tunis, Tunisia.

HIC Wisdom Keepers



Enrique Ortiz
Mexico



Diana Lee
Kenya



Barry Pinsky
Canada



Davinder Lamba
Kenya



Tabitha Siwale
Tanzania



Eike Schuetz
Germany



Han van Putten
(1922-2009)
The Netherlands

HIC Board Members



Lorena Zárate
President
FOSOVI - Mexico



Vanesa Valiño
Europe
Observatori-DESC -
Spain



Dito Barbosa
Latin America
UMM SP - Brazil



Rajaa' Kassab
Middle East/ North
Africa
RWFAR - Morocco



Michael Shapcott
North America
Wellesley Institute -
Canada



Carmen González
Latin America
FUPROVI - Costa Rica



Pauline Yao
Francophone Africa
FCIEX - Ivory Coast



Abdul Hamid
Anglophone Africa
YMA - Kenya



Michael Kane
Associated Member
NAHT - USA

HIC Board Alternates



Jesús López
Europe
Asociación AI-Gea -
Spain



María Carla Rodríguez
Latin America
MOI - Argentina



Yahia Khawaldeh
Middle East/ North
Africa
DQLCC - Jordan



Félix Yanes
Latin America
CMMLK - Cuba

HIC Regional Structures Staffs



Davinder Lamba
Anglophone Africa
Nairobi



Shivani Chaudry
South Asia
Delhi



Joseph Schechla
HIC-HLRN
Cairo



Yasser Abdel Qader
HIC-HLRN
Cairo



Maria Silvia Emanuelli
Latin America
Mexico



Ahmed Mansour
HIC-HLRN
Cairo



Emily Mattheisen
HIC-HLRN
Cairo



Rabie Wahba
Middle East/ North
Africa
Cairo

HIC General Secretariat in Santiago - Chile



Ana Sugranyes



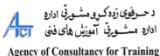
Isabel Pascual



Marie Bailloux

Welcome to our new Members 2013!

During 2013, HIC received 38 new applications for membership (from 24 organizations and 14 individuals), and 125 new subscribers to HIC News. Of the complete applications (with full institutional documents for Members' applications or personal CV for Friends' applications) received for membership, HIC approved 11 new organizations as Members and 5 new individuals as Friends.

Logo	Member Name	Acronym	Country
	Agency of Consultancy for Training	ACT	Afghanistan
	Fundación Arquitectura de Servicio y Acción Social Organización Técnica de Apoyo	EDAS-OTA	Argentina
	Proyecto Habitar	Habitar Argentina	Argentina
	Association Solidarité pour le Droit au Logement	A.S.P.DRO.L	Burkina Faso
	Observatorio de la Reconstrucción	OR	Chile
	Abibimman Foundation	AF	Ghana
	Cooperación Comunitaria CC ONG México A.C.	Cooperación Comunitaria	Mexico
	Asociación Arquitectura y Compromiso Social	ACS	Spain
	Urban Movements-Istanbul (Kent hareketleri)	UM-KH	Turkey
	Uganda Social Housing Development Foundation	USHDF	Uganda
	Zimbabwe People's Land Rights Movement	ZPLRM	Zimbabwe

Structures' Reports

HIC is composed of a variety of organizations sharing a common mission and is enriched by a variety of realities, methods and cultures. The interconnection of such a vast diversity poses a challenge when trying to establish coordinated activities within the Coalition; but this diversity is what strengthens our actions as a whole.

HIC President Report

In 2013 Lorena was involved in multiple internal and external tasks and activities to advance the construction of a strong Coalition, fortify social processes and actors related to habitat, and influence public policies at local, national and international levels.

In coordination with the Board and Members of HIC, she participated throughout the drafting process of the new HIC Constitution. To facilitate greater participation, various mechanisms were utilized including online means and Board and General Assembly meetings of HIC in Tunisia.

In Tunis important HIC matters were discussed, including strategies and global projects, political alliances and convergences, the involvement of HIC at the World Social Forum, and relations with the UN bodies, with a special focus on the preparations towards the third Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) in 2016. The outcomes, monitoring, and implementation of the recommendations of the HIC evaluation were also discussed.

The selection of the new Secretary General of HIC, Álvaro Puertas, was carried out between March and September with full support from the HIC president and outgoing General Secretary, Ana Sugranyes. This process required numerous meetings with the Board and regional office coordinators, as well as analyses of applications and candidates' interviews. Since October, Lorena has supported the transition process of the Secretariat and collaborated with the new team, which will formally take office in January 2014.

In her role as President, Lorena promoted and organized meetings, as well as training and coordination activities with HIC Members and Allies in Argentina, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, South Korea, Ecuador, Morocco, Mexico and Sweden. She also provided a written contribution for an event in the Philippines.

In connection with these trips, Lorena participated in related events facing local and national authorities, such as the 3rd World Human Rights City Forum and a working meeting on the Right to the City in South Korea (Gwangju, Sewon City and Seoul, thanks to a former Member of the HIC Board, Na Hyowoo); 4th World Summit of the network United Cities

and Local Governments (UCLG) in Morocco; the 45th Congress of the Canadian Housing and Renewal Association in Ottawa, where a former Member of the Board of HIC, Nicholas Volk, won an international award in recognition of his outstanding career; Dialogues for Urban Reform in the City of Mexico; and Verification Mission on housing rights and evictions in Ecuador. She also traveled to Colombia to organize HIC activities for the World Urban Forum 7.

At the same time, Lorena conducted lectures at educational institutions in various countries: Liceo Victor Mercante and Olga Vazquez Social Center; Comunidad María Auxiliadora; Canadian universities in Carleton, Ottawa and Toronto (where she earned a scholarship as a Distinguished Visitor in Urban Planning) and the Wellesley Institute; Casa Grande University; the Universities of Stockholm and Uppsala; Korean national universities, Hanyang and Seoul Multiversity. She presented the work of the Coalition, experiences and proposals for the right to housing, social production and habitat management, as well as the right to the city.

Throughout 2013, she worked in close collaboration with the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Adequate Housing, as well as member of the AITEC publication editorial Board of "Take Back the Land! The Social Function of Land and Housing, Resistances & Alternatives" (Passerelle Collection) edited by Charlotte Mathivet and other authors from the Coalition. It was presented at the VII World Urban Forum in Medellin in 2014. She was also responsible for proofreading and contributing to the "Manual for Judges on the Protection of the Peasant's Rights", coordinated by Maria Silvia Emanuelli and Rodrigo Gutierrez.

Lorena closely accompanied the development, negotiation and implementation of regional and international projects, in coordination with various HIC Offices and Members. She participated in the preparation and follow-up of the International Workshop and Forum on the Right to the City, held in Mexico City in October. Lorena is currently working on the preparation of a proposal to strengthen a global platform with multiple stakeholders for the right to the city.

HIC in Latin America

During the year, HIC-AL, in coordination with Members and Allies in the region and in constant communication with the other structures of the Coalition, continued implementing advanced work on the issue of Right to Housing, the Social Production of Habitat (SPH), the Right to the City and to Water, and on evictions.

First, we continued the support and advisory services for *el Movimiento Mexicano de Afectados por las Presas y en Defensa de los Ríos (MAPDER - The Mexican Movement of Those Affected by Dams and in Defence of Rivers)*, which in 2013 celebrated 10 years of existence. This anniversary was stained by the murder of one of its Members, still unpunished. In this framework and in monitoring the results of the pre-hearing "*Presas, Derechos de los Pueblos e Impunidad*" (Dams, Rights of Peoples and Impunity), HIC-AL, together with other actors, took the development of an Action Protocol for Judges on development projects and Human Rights, coordinated by the National Supreme Court of Justice (SCJ).



As part of the significant partnership with the *Movimiento Urbano Popular de la Convención Nacional Democrática (MUP-CND - Urban Popular Movement for the National Democratic Convention)*, held the 7th round of internships between urban and rural movements in Mexico and Central America, among other activities related to the legally binding instruments of the Mexico City Charter for the Right to the City and its dispersion in different areas of the country. This time, the activity focused on an overall assessment of the previous exchanges. The aim was to understand the impact and the benefits of their work with participating social movements. 35 individuals from 12 organizations in Mexico, Guatemala and El

Salvador, including some HIC members, participated in the internship exchanges.. They also attended numerous meetings and consultations convened by the new federal administration, in order to influence public policy, as well as maintain and strengthen the progress made in the field of SPH.

On this issue, Enrique Ortiz's publication, "*Producción Social de la Vivienda y el Hábitat: Bases conceptuales y su correlación con los Procesos Habitacionales*". (Social Production of Housing and Habitat: Conceptual Bases and Their Correlation with the Housing Process), was presented in different spaces. Relating to the Human Right to Water, in addition to participating in workshops and events, the dispute that began five years ago in order to provide water to 100 low-income families continues, which may draw attention of the Supreme Court.

This year, relevant processes for HIC were reactivated internationally, such as the recognition of the Right to the City. Complying with a decision taken at a HIC-AL Members' meeting (World Urban Forum VI, Naples 2012), a working group was formed to discuss the content of a regional project on this topic. Finally, with the support of FORD Brazil and in collaboration with POLIS, HIC-AL developed the project "*Avanzando hacia la implementación del derecho a la ciudad en América Latina y en el Plano Internacional*" (Advancing towards the implementation of the Right to the City in Latin America and the International Level). Through the project arose: 1) the preparation of research on the current situation of the Right to the City in Africa, Latin America and Europe, whose results will come out in late 2014; 2) the convening of an International Workshop in Mexico City in October with the participation of Members of HIC, Allies and counterpart organizations support by Ford Foundation, that drive the right to the city in different regions. The objective was to update and deepen the process of regional and international debate on the content and strategies of this right, as well as to advance its recognition and implementation on different scales; 3) the participation in an international follow-up activity that the Forum for National Urban Reform in Brazil and other civil society actors organized to take place from November 12 to 14 2014 in São Paulo.

Finally, HIC-AL, along with the "*Coordinadora Latinoamericana de Organizaciones del Campo*

(CLOC)" (Latin American Coordination of Rural Organizations), La Via Campesina, FIAN International and Red Iberoamericana de Jueces (REDIJ) (Ibero-American Network of Judges), launched the "*Manual para juezas y jueces sobre la protección de los derechos de las campesinas y campesinos*" (manual for judges on the protection of the rights of farmers), coordinated by Maria Sivia Emanuelli

and Rodrigo Gutierrez. This effort is part of La Via Campesina and FIAN's work on the process of drafting the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and other people working in rural areas*, which is currently being developed within the United Nations Human Rights Council. The declaration presents aspects that coincide with the World Charter for the Right to the City.

International Workshop: Moving Towards the Implementation of the Right to the City in Latin America and Worldwide

The workshop, coordinated by POLIS and the National Forum for Urban Reform in Brazil, was held in Mexico City on October 17th and 18th, 2013. Attended by 42 people from 16 countries, its aim was to update and expand the regional and international discussion process on the content and strategies of the Right to the City. It was also held to globally re-energize the process, as well as to advance the recognition and implementation of this Right on various scales. This will be carried out mainly through the formation of a platform related to this Right. It will be capable of influencing the new International Urban Agenda to be built in the process of the Conference on Human Settlements - Habitat III (2016), a commitment that will be re-established in the International Meeting on the Right to the City, to be held from November 12-14, 2014 in São Paulo, Brazil.

After a introduction by Lorena Zárate and Silvia Emanuelli and presentation of the participants, Enrique Ortiz shared the process of the Charter of Mexico City for the Right to the City. Then the space opened up for the presentation of the progress of three investigations in Africa, Latin America and Europe on the implementation and enforcement of the Right to the City in these continents. Joseph Schechla (HIC-HLRN) presented the status of this Right in Cairo and Jerusalem. Eva García Chueca, a member of the Committee on Social Inclusion, The Global Network of Cities, Local, and Regional Governments (UCLG) first gave a general presentation on Europe and further focused on Spain and Italy. Irene Guimareas from POLIS led the lecture on Latin America. After a regional overview, she detailed the situation in Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico and Venezuela.

At the end, the participants divided into working groups and, based on the analysis, conceptual debate and enriching presentations, defined strategies related to two key questions: "Why it is the Right to the City relevant?" and "What are the existing obstacles and possibilities for local and national implementation?"

The second day, after the presentation of the findings from each group, four more groups were formed in order to advance the proposed activities, themes, actors and scenarios. These were based on the priorities of research and training, incidence, communication, and coordination and alliances. In the final plenary, they discussed their findings and reached a consensus on the formation of two working groups, one responsible for reviewing the contents of the World Charter for the Right to the City, and another dedicated to the promotion of strategies and dissemination of the Right's contents.

HIC in South Asia

Housing and Land Rights Network, HIC-South Asia (HLRN-SA) is recognized as one of the leading organizations in the region. It works to promote Human Rights to Adequate Housing and Land through engagement at various levels.

In 2013, HLRN-SA worked with the national and state government to adopt a Human Rights approach to housing and land in India, as well as to implement the 'Housing Rights continuum', which develops practical solutions to address different stages of the housing crisis.

As Executive Committee member of *Shahri Adhikar Manch: Begharon Ke Saath* (SAM:BKS – Urban Rights Forum for the Homeless), co-convenor of the *National Forum for Housing Rights (NFHR)*, and of the *Government of India Task Force on Land Reforms*, the Director of HLRN-SA helped the organization to contribute to key developments related to homelessness, forced evictions, Land Rights and disasters in India. As a result of the work done by the Task Force on Land Reforms, the Indian government drafted a national land reform policy that was shared publicly. In September 2013, the Indian government passed a new law to address land acquisition, compensation and rehabilitation. HLRN-SA was involved in the process that led to the promulgation of this law. This included *inter alia*, submitting comments on the draft act and rules, and sharing information on HLRN tools with the government.

On behalf of SAM:BKS, HLRN-SA helped organize the *Public Hearing on Violence against Homeless Women in Delhi*. The jury, consisting of former judges and the former UN Special Rapporteur on adequate housing, condemned acts of violence against homeless women and proposed recommendations to ensure their safety and Rights. HLRN-SA also assisted with cases in the High Court of Delhi on homelessness and forced evictions.

HLRN-SA's commitment to developing Human Rights tools to monitor the Human Right to adequate Housing was demonstrated in its work done on the HLRN 'Eviction Impact Assessment' (EViA) tool. The report of the findings of an EvIA carried out in Kandhamal, Odisha, was published with Centre for Sustainable Use of Natural and Social Resources (CSNR) and launched in Bhubaneswar in May 2013. The report advocates for improved compensation for the victim-survivors of the Kandhamal violence. It

was also submitted in a case for improved rehabilitation to the Supreme Court of India.

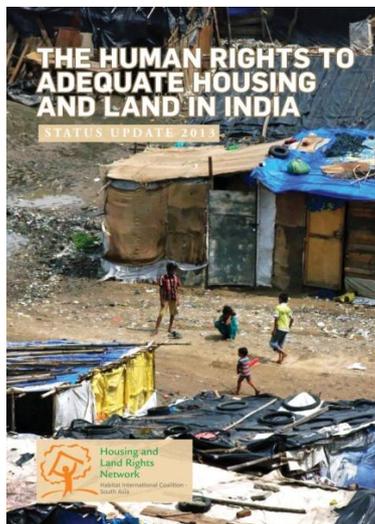
HLRN-SA values Human Rights education at multiple levels. It utilizes skill sharing between Housing and Land Rights activists and grassroots communities. During 2013, HLRN-SA organized three inter-city exchange visits between homeless activists working in Chennai, Delhi and Mumbai, and conducted Human Rights workshops for the homeless. It also co-hosted a workshop on UN Special Procedures to help organizations understand and use UN mechanisms to advocate for Human Rights in India.

In the aftermath of a severe cyclone (Phailin) in Odisha, HLRN-SA compiled Guidelines for Protecting Human Rights in Post-disaster Response for the state and central government. The compilation was shared with groups working in the Philippines on rehabilitation efforts after Typhoon Haiyan.

One of HLRN-SA's priorities is the development of education tools for community awareness and action. Towards this goal, HLRN-SA published a Handbook in Hindi and Tamil on how to address forced evictions. The handbooks informed communities on laws that protect their Rights, available tools and strategies to prevent forced evictions and seek restitution, as well as details of relevant actors. This enabled displaced communities and those faced with forced evictions to assert their Rights and lead their struggle.

HLRN-SA, in collaboration with partners, completed two studies of large resettlement sites in Chennai and New Delhi. These reports are part of a larger comparative study aimed at developing Human Rights standards for rehabilitation.

At the international level, HLRN-SA worked with the UN Special Rapporteur on adequate housing on the security of tenure guidelines and participated in Vienna +20, the Universal Periodic Review, the Food and Agriculture Organization, and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.



In 2013, HLRN-SA published the following materials:

- Handbook in Hindi: What to Do In the Event of a Forced Eviction
- Handbook in Tamil: What to Do In the Event of a Forced Eviction
- Governance by Denial: Fact-finding Report on Forced Evictions in Bangalore
- Reaffirming Justiciability: Judgements on the Human Right to Adequate Housing from the High Court of Delhi
- Unjust Compensation: An Assessment of Damage and Loss of Private Property during the Anti-Christian Violence in Kandhamal (Using the HLRN Eviction Impact Assessment Tool)

Forced Eviction in Ejjipura/ Koramangala, Bangalore

From 18–21 January 2013, Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), a civic body responsible for providing infrastructure and services in the city of Bangalore, demolished 1,200 homes and evicted over 5,000 people living in economically weaker section (EWS) quarters in Ejjipura/ Koramangala, Bangalore. The demolition affected around 1,200 women and 2,000 children. The residents were given no prior notice of the demolition, neither were they provided with any time to collect their belongings before the bulldozers demolished their homes. The demolition was carried out in the presence of a large police force that allegedly used force against the residents. Rosemary, a sixty-year-old woman, one of the thousands rendered homeless by the BBMP's demolition drive, died after spending nearly three days out in the open.

Given reports of prevalent Human Rights violations, HLRN-SA in collaboration with People's Union for Civil Liberties, Karnataka, carried out a fact-finding mission in February 2013. The mission concluded that the demolition was unlawful and violated BBMP's own resolutions as well as state, national, and international law. It also reveals a strong collusion between the state government and the private builder responsible for developing the site.

HLRN also filed a complaint with the National Human Rights Commission on the eviction.

HIC in Europe

The Right to Housing in Europe: a brief overview

Legal Preamble: a variety of situations

At a European level, the Right to Housing is inscribed in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union (Article 34), which affirms the Right to social assistance and housing assistance. This Right is also contained in the Revised European Social Charter (particularly Article 31) which establishes an effective Right to Housing through the objectives of access to housing, affordability, and fight against homelessness.

The legal framework of the Right to Housing varies according to each country, wether

they have ratified or not the Revised Social Charter, Article 31, the additional protocol that provides a system for collective complaints, and whether this Right is endorsed in the Constitution. For example, in Bulgaria, the Right to Housing is not inscribed in the Constitution. The European Social Charter was ratified, but not Article 31.

In addition, some civil society actors use their Rights to advance Housing Rights in their countries, such as Article 16 of the Charter on protection of the family. Finally, some countries have developed the saying "enforceable Right to Housing", i.e. "we can argue in front of

others." Clearly, any homeless person can demand the government to provide them a home as soon as possible, or assert the Right to Housing in court. This is the case in France and Scotland.



Contrasting situations across regions of Europe

Europe can be divided into four areas with relatively similar situations:

Countries of Southern Europe (Greece, Portugal, Spain, Italy and Cyprus): these countries suffered the brunt of the United States' crisis of subprime mortgages and had to manage its consequences (high unemployment, large number of empty houses, problems related to mortgage loans, etc.) European aid to these countries were made through the so-called "troika", composed of the European Commission, the European Central Bank, and the International Monetary Fund, which led to a strong interference of the Troika in their governments. Large social movements are taking action, such as the PAH in Spain (Platform Affected by Mortgage), whose demands include in kind payment, stopping evictions by "provisional measures" that could be taken to the European Court of Justice, and allocate the empty houses for social rental.

Northern European countries (Sweden, Norway, Finland, Iceland, etc.): these countries, accustomed to a high level of social protection, were hit by unexpected issues like unemployment, reduced social housing, racial discrimination and urban isolation. There is a 13% poverty rate in Finland, including many

children, and more than 5,000 homeless people in Denmark. In Iceland, 28% of mortgages exceed the market value of housing, and Norway developed an unprecedented real estate bubble. Civil society demands investments in housing construction and renovation, as well as recognition of other types of tenure (cooperatives).

Countries of Western Europe (France, Germany, Austria, Belgium, etc.): the crisis led to a withdrawal of subsidies to housing and public housing (social) by public authorities. It created a larger class of working poor who can not afford housing. The European Union continues to encourage the real estate market at the expense of potential aid towards public policies. Civil society demands - among other things - to sustain a commitment of the states and flexibility of the rules to promote the social production of habitat.

Countries of the former Eastern Bloc (Hungary, Poland, Bulgaria, etc.): these countries have inherited buildings from communism era, homes purchased under co-ownership (condominiums). This means poor quality housing that can be hazardous, and greatly reduced the number of houses for rent. The criminalization of social movements for the Right to Housing is a reality in some countries. Civil society, which often struggles to organize collectively, claimed the possibility of creating a stock for rental housing (social) and supporting building rehabilitation.

Active networks for the Right to Housing

International networks for the Right to Housing (International Alliance of Inhabitants (IAI), Habitat International Coalition (HIC), NO VOX, Habitat for Humanity (HFH), Amnesty International) are relatively active in Europe. The diversity of languages, mentalities and pragmatic approaches of demands are boundaries for global action. Some European networks take a stand against the European Commission, such as FEANTSA (the European Federation of National Organisations Working with the homelessness) and CECODHAS (EU Investment Plan and the Affordable Housing Sector). Finally, a new network of social movements emerged: "European Action for Housing Right and Right to the City."

HIC in North America

Growing income inequality and poverty; private ownership and rental housing markets that are increasingly out of reach for low, moderate and middle-income households; uncertain and shrinking support for social housing; deep and persistent homelessness; lack of formal recognition of the Human Right to adequate Housing and insufficient structures to support the realization of the Right to Housing and the Right to the City: These are some of the many dimensions of the habitat struggles throughout North America. In many parts of North America, there is growing attention to campaigns to end “chronic” homelessness. While many of these initiatives have helped a segment of the homeless population to move into some form of housing, the larger homeless population and the even larger group of North Americans who are precariously housed face deteriorating conditions and support. There continue to be important victories by civil society groups from time to time in the courts and with some governments, but these wins come in a context of general decline. The three important priorities for the work of HIC in North America in the coming year are: support and strengthen Housing and Housing Rights work in Canada and the United States; strengthen the links between North America and the rest of the world to share good practices and inspire our NA work; and continue to seek to build the membership base for HIC.

In the USA, HIC Member groups have participated in struggles to advance this

agenda. The *National Alliance of HUD Tenants* (NAHT), a national tenants union representing low income people living in apartments subsidized by the US Government's Housing Agency (HUD), continued to push back against the neoliberal austerity advanced by right wing elements in the US Congress. In Massachusetts, NAHT's local affiliate, Massachusetts Alliance of HUD Tenants - MAHT, followed up on approval of the "Budget for All" referendum passed 3 to 1 by Massachusetts voters in 2012, demanding that Washington officials reject austerity budgets to invest in jobs, restore social spending, tax the 1%, end the US war in Afghanistan and redirect military spending to domestic needs. MAHT and its coalition partners from peace, labor and community groups in the Budget for All Coalition organized 10 Boston rallies and actions protesting steep budget cuts that hit poor people and government workers in the spring. HUD workers joined tenants in protests at the state Republican Party headquarters when Republicans in the US Congress forced a government shutdown in October, and MAHT secured a commitment from Boston's new Mayor to seek local funds from the city budget to avoid cuts that threatened to throw 500 families out on the street. Because of these and similar struggles nationwide, the Congress restored most of the 2013 cuts in January 2014, allowing about 180,000 low income HUD tenants to stay in their homes.

HIC in Middle East and North Africa

The year 2013 represented the fourteenth in HLRN's programming and service delivery to specialized civil society organizations and social movements that promote Human Rights-based problem solving in the field of habitat and human settlements in Middle East/North Africa.

During 2013, HIC-MENA has maintained the planned mobilization activities to build the platform of popular struggles with local communities, Human Rights organizations and technical professionals (architects and planners) to culminate in the Alliance of Urban Reform and Right to Adequate Housing in Egypt as a model for the region.

HIC-MENA has focused more on the role of the effective international stakeholders such as the UN-HABITAT, World Bank, UNDP and GIZ in the process of urbanization, critically assessing the nature and extent to which they control the future of Housing Rights and urban development in the region. This focus of analysis came as a by-product of the Land Forum (LF) in its advanced phase of providing the space for debate over the Human Rights dimensions of land. LF has grounded and directed HLRN research and advocacy, resulting in a publication that embodies and documents this platform under the Arabic title [الأرض ومن عليها](#) (*The Land and It's People*). HLRN will be issuing the English version in 2014. This

is in complement to HLRN's quarterly [Land Times/أحوال الأرض](#).

The path to transitional justice also has formed one of the underlying themes that HIC-MENA has emphasized in activities and interventions for asserting remedy for those people affected by violations made through the continuous uprising that is still simmering among the peoples of the region. The context of national dialogue in Yemen has posed the most appropriate opportunity for HLRN to apply its tools and techniques in the many land disputes pending there. Much HLRN in 2013 has been spent monitoring that process and preparing for future work on its "Yemen Land Remedies" project, which HLRN is going to implement in 2014–15.

HLRN's MENA Program achieved new development of some central organizations in the region, such as the Arab Organization for Human Rights to include a more focus on ESC Rights, particularly HRAH and the Right to Water. Also with FIAN, the Arab Group for the Protection of Nature, La Via Campesina and others, HLRN continued cooperation and advocacy on MENA regional land issues and engaged regional partners in the development and monitoring of the FAO Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Forests and Fisheries and the related Agenda for Action for addressing Food Security in Protracted Crises.

The MENA Program also continued to advise and provide technical support to NGOs, especially to nascent groups and organizations facing HRAH and Land Rights violations. This is in addition to formal training events that have benefitted 135 trainees over 68 hours in 2013, including partners in big regional and national organizations, such as Arab Organization for Human Rights (AOHR) and Amnesty International.

HLRN's Cairo Coordination Office has cooperated with new HIC Members in Egypt, Palestine and Sudan to support local Housing and Land Right struggles. In Egypt, this included cooperation with partners such as the Egyptian Center for Civil and Legislative Reform to apply quantification methods to address the costs, losses and damages of communities affected by development and displacement.

Advocacy in the UN Human Rights System is a core activity of HLRN also with HIC Members in the region. This year saw HLRN and partners providing both joint parallel reports and direct participation in the review of Egypt before the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural

Rights and the UN Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review of Yemen.

HLRN's monitoring function also has led to a series of activities such as training and also products, papers and articles in 2013, including this year's World Habitat Day report from the VDB, *Put a Number on it!*, focusing on the use and potential applications of quantification methods in documenting and reporting Housing and Land Rights violations.

The HLRN Urgent Action system contained 29 cases in MENA: 19 in Israel/Palestine, six in Egypt, one in Iraq, one in Sudan, one in Turkey and one directed at Kuwait.¹



¹ Kuwait Development Fund, for financing forced evictions in Pakistan.

Right to Housing Violations in Morocco in 2013

• Housing rights in the law

The Moroccan constitution adopted (July 2011) under the pressure of the people in the context of the "Arab Spring" states that "the State, public institutions and local authorities are working to mobilize all available resources to provide equal access for citizens to conditions that allow them to enjoy," a number of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, which includes "Adequate Housing" (Chapter 31). However, this chapter does not represent any obligation of the State to respect, protect and promote the fundamental Right to Adequate Housing.

Moreover, the legal repository contains many laws relating to Housing. However, the Right to Housing in its various forms is not guaranteed, and it is impossible to go to court to obtain reparations for forced evictions or demolitions.

• Figures and indicators

Available data shows that the sectors of housing and urban development have structural problems, despite all the programs and initiatives. The housing deficit, according to the corresponding Minister, is approximately 1,674,500 units in neighborhoods with unplanned (unregulated) settlements, slum neighborhoods, and dilapidated housing. This is in addition to the increasing needs resulting from population growth.

Of the 170,000 housing units that were planned to be built by the Ministry of Housing and urban policy against slum neighborhoods, only 12,300 units were completed in 2013.

Regarding the program "Cities Without Slums" that was targeted for 13 cities, only Oujdam met the conditions.

Moreover, the social housing program (public/private institutions and real state agencies) that benefits low-income households does not cover the country's large deficit, nor does it limit the production of slums.

• Violations of the Right to Housing, Land, facilities and services: death, repression, and persecution

- Fatal accident caused by a fall in sewage pit (Mohammedia)
- Persecution of trade unionists and activists prosecuted after protests and sit-ins organized to expose corruption and embezzlement in cases of relocation (Essaouira)
- Imprisonment and fines of seven activists protesting the conversion of a public square to a construction plot (Sidi Ifni)
- Violent crackdown on a sitting against the theft of common land (Kser Sidi Abdellah and Abou province of Taroudant).
- Arrests and police violence against marginalized people in rural areas Kouzemt Sidi Yacoub and Ouaoula for protesting peacefully for their right to basic services.

Despite the legal arsenal, there is still no guarantee, due to the growing demand for housing and accumulation of deficits, compounded by speculation of communal and public lands by real estate mobs.

The State constantly punishes defenders fighting for the protection of victims whose Rights to Adequate Housing were violated.

Housing and Land Rights Network (HIC-HLRN)

HLRN, dedicated to operationalizing the Human Rights to adequate Housing and Land, continued its work in 2013 to connect HIC Members, local movements, and organizations to global Human Rights processes, through representation, capacity building, monitoring and reporting with many constituencies from rural to urban areas, migrants, refugees, small farmers and food producers, and people under occupation, among others. In doing so, HLRN works to support Member activities, maintain strategic alliances, create relevant knowledge, build capacity, and engage in lobbying and advocacy.

During 2013, HLRN participated in several events and forums that provided opportunity to bring Member concerns to other networks and processes. As part of the World Social Forum in Tunisia, HLRN organized its [4th MENA Land Forum](#) that convened experts and social movement activists from the MENA region, francophone Africa and Latin America, to share their struggles over land and natural resources in the MENA region and develop research and advocacy priorities. At the FAO Committee on World Food Security, HIC-HLRN participated in the annual civil society mechanism forum, representing the urban food and nutrition security constituency within civil society and advocating application of the Human Rights framework. HIC-HLRN also participated in the International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty, representing the Urban Poor constituency, to coordinate strategic contributions through entry points in UN processes over the next year. Also within the context of FAO and other Rome-based agencies, HIC-HLRN continued activities with the Civil Society Mechanism, especially contributing to the new Agenda for Action to end food insecurity on protracted crises.

HLRN officers and Members participated in planning and convening the Vienna +20 CSO Conference on Human Rights, including coordination of its Migration and Displacement Working Group. The CSO Conference, with over 140 organizations participating, reviewed developments in global Human Rights since the 1993 Vienna Declaration and Plan of Action, and posing recommendations for states to ensure the progressive development of the global Human Rights Agenda toward a third World Conference in 2018, and beyond.

HLRN supported and participated in several studies and publications throughout the year

that highlighted the Human Rights framework in policy analysis and advocacy toward needed reforms at the country level. HLRN assisted the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Adequate Housing develop guidelines on security of tenure, as well as the HIC Member publication [Take Back the Land!](#) (released at the 2014 World Urban Forum). Additionally, HLRN contributed to the annual “Right to Food and Nutrition Watch,” with articles outlining the damaging effects of land grabbing in South Sudan and the trade policies affecting the fisherfolk in occupied Western Sahara.

HLRN continued its casework, applying the “Loss Matrix” toward quantifying the consequences of Housing and Land Rights violations within the international criteria of reparations for victims of gross violations such as forced eviction. Implementing this method in the form of an adaptable Eviction Impact Assessment (EvIA) tool, HLRN worked through Members and alliances in Egypt, Kenya and India (see HLRN South Asia report). In Kenya the EvIA tool was applied in a landmark Nairobi High Court case toward equitable remedy for the [Muthurwa Estate](#) evicted in the first litigation to apply the EvIA under Kenya’s new Constitution (2010).

In its global monitoring of Housing and Land Rights violations, HLRN maintained its on-line Violations Database (VDB) tool, developed to record cases and patterns of eviction, dispossession, demolition and privatization with the input and participation of HIC Members and the concerned public. HLRN’s annual Habitat Day report on VDB cases addressed theme of [the quantification of Housing and Land Rights violations](#).

HLRN continued to engage in dialogue with, and draw attention to the obligations of all state actors, including municipal authorities, to implement Human Right in the local context. HLRN joined the global meetings of the Forum of Local Authorities of the Periphery (FALP) and United Cities for Local Governance (UCLG) to address Human Rights issues affecting cities under globalization and through the exchange of experience implementing the “Right to the City.”

HLRN has also been active in reporting processes in the UN Human Rights System throughout the year. Under the second phase of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), HLRN

submitted joint reports for the review of Chile, Egypt, Yemen and Ethiopia, analyzing the conditions affecting the Human Rights to housing, land, water and development, among others.

In its *glocal* advocacy, HLRN followed up its Member-initiated Urgent Action cases in Angola, Nepal, Nigeria and Japan throughout 2013. These, as well as over 100 others in

HLRN's Urgent Action database remain unremedied.

These and other activities are detailed in the HLRN global [Urgent Action website](http://www.hlrn.org/cases.php#.VAuWj2ccQg4) at: <http://www.hlrn.org/cases.php#.VAuWj2ccQg4>

Put a Number on It. Quantifying Costs, Losses and Damages from the Violation of Housing and Land Rights

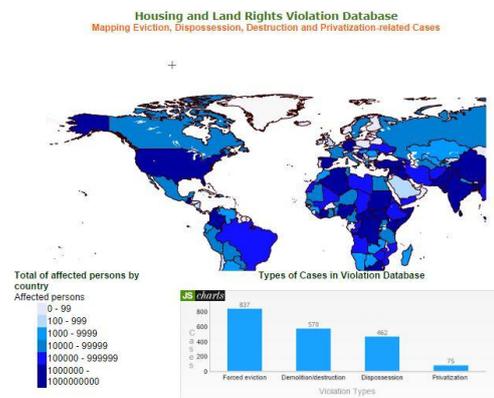
The World Habitat Day 2013 Report from HLRN's Violation Database

In telling a story, or making any point, we often rely on numbers. In argumentation, numbers lend credibility and suggest analytical precision. Numbers often speak louder than words, because they convey important measurements and values that otherwise may not be visible to the mind's eye.

Searching the entries in the Violation Database (VDB) over the four-year period of the World Habitat Day 2013 review, that 2010–2013 search contained 257 major entries from all regions. Many of these are multiple violations such as those arising from Ethiopia's "Villagization" program, which dispossessed and evicted at least 45,000 people during the period. Among the most dramatic multiple violation cases was the ongoing War within Syria. However, Palestine remains the country with the greatest number of individual entries (62 entries), including several multiple-violation entries and the Israeli Occupation Forces' (IOF) destruction of two entire villages within 24 hours: al-Za'ayyim and Khamlet Makhul on 23–24 September 2013. Around the world, all four categories of violations captured in the VDB show at least 26,913,946 persons were victimized since the beginning of 2010.

In addition to a global review, HLRN's VDB report focused on four exemplary cases in which available quantification data filled in the outlines of these violations. The cost of reconstructing the one-third of Syrian homes destroyed since 11 March 2011 until Habitat Day 2013 ranged from \$36.5 billion to \$68 billion. The first quantification of the impact of Israel "withholding" Palestine's Area C (59% of West Bank, not including occupied Jerusalem) set the current loss to the indigenous Palestinian economy at about US\$3.4 billion. In the case of sectarian violence at Kandhamal, Odisha (India), HLRN's own findings showed in 2012 how the state government undercounted fully and partially damaged houses by 284, and its compensation scheme met the average material losses of €2,231.43 per family with package of only €239.58–598.94, depending on the degree of destruction, in addition to uncompensated contents and other costs, losses and damages.

Finally, the quantitative survey of potential losses, costs and damages helped the residents of Muthurwa Estates in Nairobi to pursue economic justice through the Kenyan courts for their eviction and displacement. The conclusion of all four examples show the importance of knowing the real costs of violations, which the VDB and HLRN's cost-counting tools promote toward remedies, reparations and deterrence of abusive practices against people's habitat.



From forced eviction to population transfer

Forced eviction and population transfer are two practices prohibited in international law. They form two divergent points on a wide spectrum of violations of Human Rights. Forced eviction is categorized as a “gross violation of Human Rights, in particular the Right to Housing.”¹ Population transfer, usually larger in scale and involving some measure of discrimination and demographic manipulation, is defined as both a crime against humanity and a war crime.² Across this range of violations, HIC-HLRN monitors, documents and reports on such cases in cooperation with Member organizations through its Violation Database, country assessments, reports to the UN Human Rights System, fact-finding mission reports, Urgent Actions, thematic publications, *HLRN News* and the periodical *Land Times/أحوال الأرض*. Through its regional programs in Middle East/North Africa and South Asia, HLRN has covered the range of such violations and crimes as they happen, as well as the persistent consequence of historic practices.

In 2013, for example, HIC-HLRN’s Cairo office partnered with HIC Member Badil Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights in a historic conference dedicated to the subject of population transfer in the case of Palestine. HLRN Coordinator Joseph Schechla contributed the segment that explained the evolution of the criminalization, prosecution and current impunity for the crime of population transfer. While culminating in a focus on a particular case in MENA, the message has relevance to HIC Members and partners in every region (available at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cclDJemOm8M>).

1. UN Commission on Human Rights, resolution 1993/77, 10 March 1993, at: <http://www.hlrn.org/img/documents/ECN4199377%20en.pdf>.

2. Articles 7 and 8, respectively, Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, 17 July 1998, at: http://www.hlrn.org/img/documents/rome_statute.pdf.

General Secretariat

For the General Secretariat (GS), 2013 has been a year full of challenges, decisions, and a great deal of effort to manage the normal functioning of the global network, to implement the recommendations of the external evaluation from the previous year, to update the original charter of HIC, and to complete the transitional stage of the Secretariat.

These accomplishments were made possible through the efforts of three individuals: Ana, Marie, Isabel, and the support from Shelley during the first half of the year, as well as many forms of collaboration from the various structures of the Coalition, Misereor and the SUR Corporation - the legal shelter of the GS in Chile.

The year began with two major assignments: the preparation of HIC global meetings for the World Social Forum in Tunisia, and the coordination of four versions of revision proposals in three languages of the Constitution. The General Assembly debated the proposal and 33 Member organizations of

the Coalition analyzed in detail, and then approved them.



May marked the initial materialization of the transition of GS from Santiago to Cairo. This occurred after the decision reached by the Board during the Tunis meeting in March. This was done in order to regroup the operational base of the Coalition, to further strengthen the network in the Arab world, as well as to facilitate coordination with a geographical centrality.

When called to bid to take the new GS, six persons were presented from four different regions. The Board conducted the selection process between July and August, thus

releasing a systematic method for international meetings online. Since then, HIC Board meets at least once a month. The selection of Álvaro Puertas, who was based in Chile, favored a process of intense training: for three months, the outgoing and incoming Secretary worked together and planned all the details of the move. In this introductory phase, Alvaro and Isabel participated in the Workshop on the Right to the City, organized by HIC-AL and the Ford Foundation in Mexico City.

Parallel to this, legal and administrative procedures for the registration of the new constitution of the new SG and bank accounts in the Netherlands were performed.

In this transition phase, another major challenge was overcome: the continuation of redesigning the website, with its complex databases in a continuum between Santiago and Cairo. In this way, the Member Space was reviewed, adapting to demands for greater visibility of different forms of membership contribution to the whole work of the Coalition.

Along with these specific tasks for the year 2013, the GS continued their usual tasks of global coordination, support of the electoral process for the North America representative, support of the re-articulation of HIC in

Francophone Africa, management of HIC representation to the United Nations related to its ECOSOC consultative status, and membership management.

The GS continues its communication work, sharing experiences, knowledge, and cooperation among HIC Members, its Allies and the general public. With special care, the GS continues to implement a coordination plan between the Reference Centers in order to strengthen the identity, visibility, sustainability, and organization between all regional and operational structures of the Coalition, with a common portal of entry and management system for HIC different websites.

Another effort made in 2013 was the preparation of a draft of the new By-Law, suitable to the amendments to the Constitution presented to the General Assembly in Medellin.

As in previous years, the GS has supported social movements fighting for the Right to adequate Housing, by counseling, building capacities and being involved in the Universal Periodic Review-Chile 2013.

With great satisfaction and after ten years in Santiago, the team managed to sustain the necessary coordination to continue working from Cairo.

New design in the Member Space!

The HIC Member Space has been redesigned. This space was created to facilitate exchanges between Members and provides an opportunity to actively participate in advancing the Coalition's mission, struggles and initiatives. This space is accessible to Members and structures with access codes.

The Member Space has the following sections:

1. Home: where you will be able to consult information about our ongoing global activities, as well as see what other Members have recently contributed to the Coalition.

2. Member Profile: informs the Coalition of where, how, why, with whom and for what you, as a HIC Member, work. In order to access all of the services available on the Member Space, members need to fill out their *Member Profile* as a first step. As soon as this step is completed, you can gain access to the entire Member Space features.

3. Your activities: you may disseminate and share your activities and events in this section, as well as publish your current efforts.

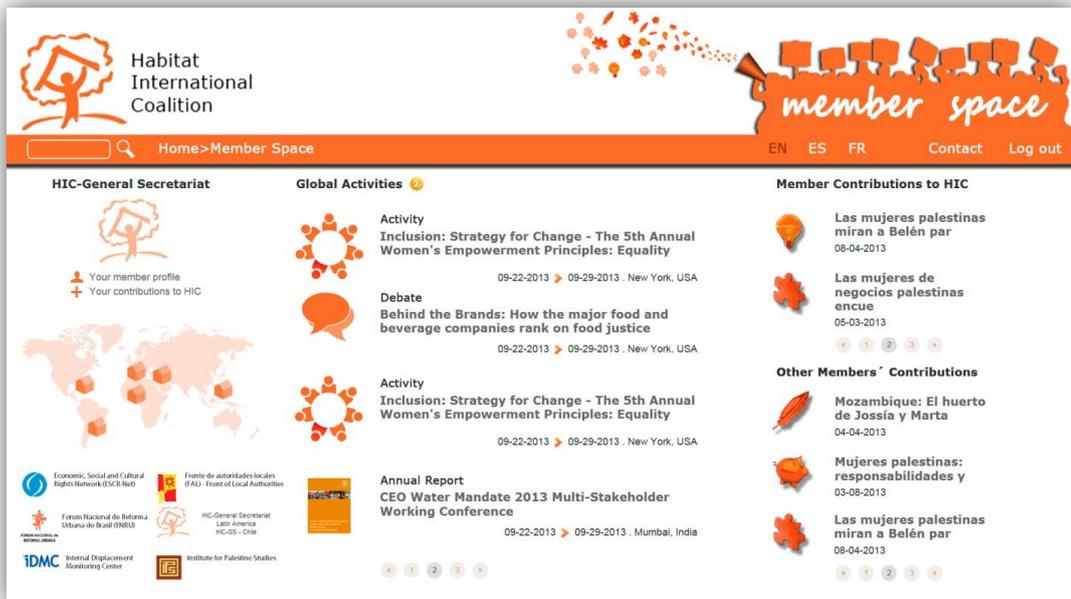
4. Member Contributions: allows you to record and share your contributions to the Coalition.

5. Global Activities: provides all info about ongoing and future events promoted by the Coalition.

6. Urgent Action Appeals: a link to the HIC-HLRN tool to report violations of the Housing and Land Rights.

7. HICademy: A tool that systematizes and shares knowledge produced within the Coalition in an effort to further strengthen the mission of HIC in the struggle for Habitat Rights, guaranteeing social justice for all.

8. HIC in the World: is the Members' Directory which shares some of the information provided in the Members' Profiles for the purpose of connecting Members that wish to share their experiences and work together.



HIC Member Space Image

Art-HIC-ulation Follow-up

This year, the working group "Art-HIC-ulation" continued working on the coordination plan of the Reference Centers to strengthen the entire Coalition. The objective of this working group is to produce a joint strategy for identity, visibility, sustainability and the reinforcement of mutual coordination among HIC Reference Centers. This strategy, more specifically, is an operational work plan between the different websites, with a portal and a common management system for all.

A joint portal will expand the presence and visibility of HIC, enable the Coalition to present content, themes and features both generally and specifically for all regions and Reference Centers. and create harmony and improve communication among the membership, Reference Centers, Allies and the general public.



New HIC portal image

10 years of the Secretariat General (SG) of HIC in Santiago

Initially, in January 2004, several friends said that the management of this Secretariat was a "hot potato"; others felt that it was not worth trying to put this potato in the oven. Since then, the GS operational level reestablished its effective coordination of the Coalition, resembling the days of the Secretariat in Mexico City during the 90s.

Both internal and external factors made this work possible.



First, a special thanks to Misereor who provided the necessary resources to work comfortably in a cohesive team, accompanying social processes for the fulfillment of the Human Right to Housing and Land. We also acknowledge the support of various agencies and organizations, including Rooftops and its Young Professional Internships Program; EED, InWEnt, Cordaid, FPH, ACCD and Selavip.

In Chile, the Secretariat recognizes the unconditional support of the SUR Corporation, a HIC member since the 1980's, which, for ten years, facilitated the operation of the GS, operating as a program of SUR, without having to set up, and then take down administrative and legal platforms. No longer are the times of multiplying legal figures of HIC in different parts of the world.

With these two major supporters, the GS management model maintained a low profile, based on a philosophy of "creative poverty". The model effectively reconstructed membership coordination, ensured the transparency of the regional representative system, and developed strategies with partner organizations. It convened thirteen HIC global meetings, managed resources to regional and global projects, published essential reports, and supported two global external evaluations. The model facilitated a participatory process of HIC constitutional review, promoting visibility of the Coalition through its website, as well as supports the struggle for the Right to Housing in Chile.

During these ten years, depending on schedules, resources, and requirements, the team size in the GS has grown from three to eight staff and practitioners. In order of duration on the team, individuals of various nationalities, as well as Chileans, have participated in this exciting journey: Ana, Marcelo, Marie, Shelley, Andrea, Charlotte, Juan, Isabel and Neta; with the support of Gladys, Ermelinda, Pedro, Javier, Crissy, Carlos, Pato, Fenha, Julio, Yves, Daniel, Katja, Kristin, Vassiliki and Álvaro, the head of the succession.

The continued support of HIC Board members, especially the three Presidents of the current term, Enrique, Davinder, and Lorena, made the work of the GS possible. A special mention goes to Joe and Silvia, as well as Han and Peter, HIC representatives in the Netherlands, considered the legal bastion of HIC.

One of the main achievements of the management of GS in Santiago has been what we call the "Art-HIC-ulation" process, the necessary coordination between the different HIC Offices in Delhi, Cairo and Mexico, whose main scope is to situate the new Secretariat in close coordination with HIC- HLRN and HIC-MENA. In this sense, all the necessary conditions for the Coalition to achieve its overall mission are provided

HIC - HIC - HIC - HURAH

Global Activities

What is Security of Tenure and how to strengthen it?

Security of tenure is understood as a set of relationships with respect to Housing and Land, established through statutory or customary law or informal or hybrid arrangements, that enables one to live in one's home in security, peace and dignity. It is an integral part of the Right to adequate Housing and a necessary ingredient for the enjoyment of many other civil, cultural, economic, political and social Rights. All persons should possess a degree of security of tenure that guarantees legal protection against forced eviction, harassment and other threats.

(A/HRC/25/54, p. 4)

Since September of 2012, a central part of the HIC international advocacy work is in close collaboration with the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Adequate Housing, Raquel Rolnik, as well as the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. The topics specifically include the security of tenure as a central component for the Right to adequate Housing.

Based on a process that included State responses to specific questions on the issue, regional consultations from various stakeholders, and feedback from civil society organizations, the Rapporteur produced three reports. These were submitted to the UN Human Rights Council .

The first report on (A/HRC/22/46, December 2012) characterized the global tenure insecurity crisis, manifesting itself in many forms and contexts—forced evictions, displacement resulting from development, natural disasters, conflicts and land grabbing—and evident in the millions of urban dwellers living under insecure tenure arrangements. She examined the wide range of existing tenure arrangements, and the prevalent focus in policy and practice on one form of tenure: individual freehold.

The second report (A/68/289, August 2013) provided a deeper analysis of two main options for public policy in the field: rental housing and collective ownership. In this context, the Rapporteur made a strong appeal to modify the current paradigm, which includes policies from funding homes to the adoption of a Human Rights-centered approach.

Finally, in her third and final report on this issue (A/HRC/25/54, December 2013), Mrs Rolnik included a set of **Guiding Principles** to assist States and other relevant actors in addressing the current tenure insecurity crisis. Underlying these guiding principles is a presumption that individuals and communities occupying land or property to fulfil their Right to adequate

Housing, and who have no other adequate option, have legitimate tenure Rights that should be secured and protected. The concept of legitimate tenure Rights extends beyond mainstream notions of private ownership and includes multiple tenure forms deriving from a variety of tenure systems.

Specifically, the UN Special Rapporteur recommended:

1. Strengthening diverse tenure forms (possession Rights; use Rights; rental; freehold; and collective arrangements).
2. Improving security of tenure (conduct citywide assessments, mapping and adopt or revise legislation, regulations, policies and public budgets).
3. Prioritizing in situ solutions (respecting International Human Rights Law and protecting public health and safety and the environment).
4. Promoting the social function of property (in particular adopting measures to combat speculation and underutilization of private land, housing and buildings).
5. Combating discrimination on the basis of tenure (guaranteeing access to basic services and facilities; full exercise of civil and political Rights to all forms of tenure).
6. Promoting women's security of tenure (guaranteeing their Rights independent of their relationships with male household or community Members).
7. Respecting security of tenure in business activities.
8. Strengthening security of tenure in development cooperation.
9. Empowering the urban poor and holding States accountable.
10. Ensuring access to justice

Aware of the importance to strengthen and continue this effort, HIC and other organizations

support the dissemination and discussion of these issues. Specifically, these recent publications are directly related: *The housing, between right and the commodity; the types of property in Latin America*, by We Effect. Also, *The Land is Ours: for the social function of land*

HIC-Constitution

A decision to amend the HIC Constitution was made during the General Assembly meeting in Naples on 2 September 2012. A committee was formed to produce a first draft of proposed amendments, which were discussed and presented for approval by the GA during its meeting on 28 March in Tunis. The General Assembly decided to maintain an open voting process from 28 March to 28 April by electronic means. Finally these amendments to the HIC Constitution were approved by HIC Members on April 30, 2013.

The main **objectives** of the proposed changes to the HIC Constitution (1997) were the following:

(i) strengthen HIC democratic procedures and transparency, formalizing changes that appeared in HIC practice during the last decade and still appear in the outer and inner contexts of the Coalition;

(ii) facilitate the involvement of HIC members through more flexible ways of organizing the work:

(iii) implement the main agreements that were made during the evaluation process (2012).

The **specific objectives** are the following:

(i) Provide the necessary organizational framework to allow HIC to continue and consolidate its role and functions to influence public policies, to provide theoretical and conceptual support to social movements and thematic actions, and to act as a platform for

The World Social Forum in Tunis

The World Social Forum (WSF) is an annual meeting of civil society organizations, first held in Brazil in 2001, which offers a self-conscious effort to develop an alternative future through the championing of counter-hegemonic globalization. Some consider the World Social Forum to be a physical manifestation of global civil society, as it brings together non-governmental organizations, advocacy campaigns as well as formal and informal social movements seeking international solidarity. The World Social Forum prefers to define itself as an opened space – plural, diverse, non-governmental and non-partisan – that

and housing, resistance and alternatives, by AITEC. Electronic versions of both documents are now available on the HIC website. Its contents and proposals was presented and discussed during the VII World Social Forum (Medellin, April 2014).

debate and for the development of shared values and collective action; to promote a Rights-based approach through the development of instruments and methods.

(ii) Be realistic and work with what we have (instead of an unattainable abstraction which is very difficult to manage); the following are some examples of tasks needed to be undertaken towards this end: (a) a slow but necessary process of merging duplicated functions among HIC and HLRN; (b) the consolidation of the Board and a simplification of the representative distribution of Board positions according to regional structures only and not thematic structures/committees; (c) Inviting Reference Centers' coordinators to participate in the Board meetings; (d) encourage Board representatives to formulate working groups for short-term issues and which do not require complex organizing; (e) dismantle complex entities like the Executive Committee which have not been working well for many years;

(iii) Review the use of the concept “membership organization” and find a more flexible organizational reference that corresponds to HIC's current reality with changing internal and external dynamics.

(iv) Support the transition of the General Secretariat by alleviating it of various management and administrative tasks.

The text of the Constitution in English is registered in The Netherlands.

stimulates the decentralized debate, reflection, proposals building, experiences exchange and alliances among movements and organizations engaged in concrete actions towards a more solidarity, democratic and fair world....a permanent space and process to build alternatives to neoliberalism. WSFs are also an opportunity to network between existing global and regional networks and groups looking for new partners to exchange, campaign, inform and show solidarity with the most vulnerable, excluded and oppressed. The WSF has no leaders. All the events are “self-organized”. The

structure of debate and activism is part of an “open space”.

The Arab Spring, initiated in Tunis in 2011, continued to inspire movements for resistance and alternatives across the world. This is why Tunis was chosen as the site for the first post-revolutionary edition of the World Social Forum, this event was organized under the theme “People’s Dignity”. With the participation of more than 50,000 participants from NGOs and people’s organizations from around the World, more than 4,000 organizations from 127 countries were represented.

HIC actively participated in the Opening Rally that took place on March 26 and covered almost 4 km, mainly dominated by the feminists’ movements. The Coalition was also present in the Closure march realized in solidarity with the Palestinian people living under occupation and in commemoration with the International Land day on March 30th. The 41 HIC Members, Board Members and Team staffs marched with banners and distributed promotion material to the Rally participants.

Being a space to democratically debate ideas, deepen reflection, develop proposals, share experiences and connect social movements, networks, NGOs and other civil society organizations which oppose neoliberalism, the domination of capital over the world and any type of imperialism, one of the developments this year was the convening of 29 like-minded thematic “convergence assemblies.”

Among them, the World Assembly of Inhabitants (WAI) co-organized by international networks and inhabitants organizations, such as

4th Land Forum

The Habitat International Coalition’s Housing and Land Rights Network organized its 4th Land Forum for the Middle East/North Africa, in Tunis, 26–28 March 2013, under the title: “From Broken Promises to People’s Solutions.”

This Land Forum convened experts and social movement activists to share their timely struggles over land and natural resources in Iran, Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia and Western Sahara, as well as the land struggles of the Amazigh, Kurdish and Nubian peoples, addressing:

- Constitutional reform and transitional justice
- Gender dimensions of land
- Conflict, occupation and war
- Environment and water
- Indigenous peoples across MENA
- Struggles in agriculture and food sovereignty
- Urban Land and the Right to Housing.

the IAI, HIC, La Via Campesina and No-Vox, with the support of local social organizations. This event was a key stage in the process of bringing together the various struggles for the Right to Housing, City, Land and common goods as a follow up of WAI Dakar 2011 and of a year filled with opportunities for inhabitants to have their voices heard on a global level. It ended with the publication of a statement called “Declaration of the World Assembly of Inhabitants”. The WAI proposed common actions, such as an International Tribunal on Evictions at Geneva, in October 2013 and a global campaign on the social function of land, the city and housing. The Assembly expressed supported for the efforts of the peoples of the MENA region, as expressed in the HIC-HLRN Land Forum IV, to engage new perspectives on the management of urban and rural land and natural resources.



- Lessons from international social movements
 - Civic participation in global policy making
- The Land Forum also brought together participants from among HIC Member organizations in sub-Saharan Africa, Europe, North America and Latin America, as well as fellow networks, such as La Via Campesina. In a final session, the MENA participants confirmed the conviction of previous Land Forums: that civil society across the region faces a great challenge to articulate alternatives to current concepts of the state, state land and citizenship. The Land Forum’s strategy of knowledge creation and fundamental policy reform remains rooted in the body of established Human Rights norms. However, this approach also must correct the assumptions of colonial laws and policies, including the Ottoman legacy, which continue to dispossess the land and other natural resources of

communities and peoples. Land Forum participants committed to put these principles into operation in pursuit of change inspired by the Arab Spring.



Needed alternatives include a fundamental transformation of the state to respect, protect and fulfill the indivisible bundle of Human Rights to ensure the self-determination of all peoples and nondiscrimination institutionalized through equal citizenship, gender equality and diversity. This vision applies the state's obligation to ensure the Human Right to adequate Housing, including equitable access to land, water and other productive resources. Civil oversight of the state must ensure that it uphold these Rights through the effective rule of law, progressive realization of Rights, dedicating the maximum of available resources and

international cooperation, including the states' extraterritorial obligations to uphold Human Rights that relate to land and natural resources vis-à-vis all external actors.

The Land Forum participants resolved to form a Social Land Watch through HLRN to channel current and future civil efforts in the region, develop and apply research methods, and operationalize concepts of the state's duty to uphold the social function of property, social production of habitat and the "Right to the City." Through Social Land Watch activities, the region's civil society will pursue civic capacity building and accelerate knowledge creation through research, exchanges of experience and expertise with counterparts and social movements in other regions, civic education and development of appropriate programs and strategies, policy analysis and alternative planning. Future knowledge-creation efforts by the region's civil society will seek to develop and apply needed methodologies and indicators to convey the urgent human need for fundamental reforms in land-use and general development policies in our countries in transition.

World Food Security

The UN Committee on World Food Security (CFS) has placed itself as a key body where global decision and policy making on issues of food and nutrition security are held. After a reform process in 2009, the CFS has worked to become a space that promotes multistakeholder and inclusive dialogue, with a dedicated mechanism for civil society engagement. The Civil Society Mechanism (CSM) is the largest international mechanism of civil society organizations (CSOs) seeking to influence agriculture, food security and nutrition policies and actions at national, regional and global levels. The CFS provides a platform to engage with governments, UN agencies, private sector and civil society. Each policy area has a dedicated working group within civil society that collects inputs from regional and global constituencies of food producers and food insecure communities, creating a unique space that seeks to place civil society on equal footing with other actors

Habitat International Coalition coordinates the urban food and nutrition constituency within the CSM, currently through Davinder Lamba, HIC president emeritus based in Nairobi, Kenya, and Emily Mattheisen, based at the HIC-HLRN office in Cairo, Egypt. HIC representatives work within this mechanism to ensure that the concerns and needs of urban populations are streamlined in CFS decisions and dialogue. During 2013, and into the 2014, HIC was involved with various policy working groups including nutrition, monitoring and evaluation, and food loss and waste, and continues to be very active in the ongoing negotiations on the Agenda for Action for Food Insecurity in Protracted Crises.

The CFS is held annually in October, but the work is ongoing throughout the year. HIC members are invited to contribute to working groups relevant to their local and regional efforts. HIC representatives will be in contact with members over the next year to work towards greater urban-based participation within the CSM and CFS processes.

Financial Statement

HIC Financial Statements 2013: HIC-AL, MENA, SA, HLRN and HIC-GS ⁽¹⁾

Expressed in US Dollars

Year 2013	HIC-AL ⁽²⁾	MENA	SA	HLRN	HIC-GS	Total	Income expressed in percentage
Income	210,148	247,706	371,902	117,159	182,184	1,129,099	
Beginning Balance 2013	9,639	39,834	124,000	-15,139	22,922	181,256	16.1%
Donor Agencies ^(3 a, b, c, d, e)	200,509	190,670	233,168	103,770	142,559	870,676	77.1%
HIC Membership fees	--	--	--	--	2,880	2,880	0.3%
Solidarity, special contributions	--	17,202	14,734	28,528	13,823	74,287	6.6%
							100.0%
Expenditure	175,269	231,886	211,311	107,961	162,442	888,869	
Staff Costs ⁽⁴⁾	84,542	80,000	82,310	60,635	88,686	396,173	44.6%
Projects, activities ⁽⁵⁾	69,594	147,599	129,001	45,567	60,361	452,122	50.9%
Administration Costs ⁽⁶⁾	17,994	0	0	0	7,814	25,808	2.9%
Audit ⁽⁷⁾	3,139	4,287	0	1,759	5,581	14,766	1.7%
							100.0%
Restricted cash on hand ⁽⁸⁾	34,879	15,820	160,591	9,198	19,742	240,230	

Notes:

(1) Financial Statements are reported from five structures that have infrastructure dedicated to the Coalition purpose: Latin America (HIC-AL), Middle East (MENA); South-Asian (SA); Housing and Land Rights Network (HLRN) and the General Secretariat (HIC-GS).

HIC-AL office in Mexico works in three dimensions: (i) HIC networking and advocacy in Latin American, (ii) Support to HIC Presidency, and (iii)

(2) Mexican advocacy and networking. The HIC-AL accounting includes the three dimensions. 35% of the reported amounts corresponds to the national Mexican activities.

(3a) Main contributions to HIC-LA: Misereor USD 113,957 (*); Rosa Luxemburg stiftung USD 37,296; UUSC USD 8,000; MZF USD 13,056; Fundación Ford-Polis USD 25,000. * includes funds received in advance to be expent in 2014.

(3b) Main contributions to HIC-MENA: ICCO USD 54,040

(3c) Main contributions to HIC-SA: Tata Foundation USD 233,168

(3d) Main contribution to HIC-HLRN: Misereor USD 103,770

(3e) Main contribution to HIC-GS: Misereor USD 142,559 for the operation of the Secretariat.

(4) The staff costs cover administrative and professional staff, whose duties are not related to a specific project but to the operation and administration throughout the HIC structure.

(5) The costs of projects and activities include fees, travels, associated events, per diem, publication and promotion (web sites).

(6) Administrative costs related to rent and office supplies (including telephone, ASDL and security), bank charges and fixed assets for the office (e.g. computer hardware and software).

(7) Audit: (i) HIC-AL, the auditor is SPC, Contadores y Abogados, S.C., México DF; (ii) MENA, SA and HLRN, the auditor is Waleed al-Batawy & Assoc., Cairo, Egypt; (iii) HIC-GS, the auditor is Canales Asociados Limitada, Santiago, Chile.

(8) In the five cases, the restricted cash on hand represents funds committed to ongoing operations, projects and contracts.

HIC's Allies

HIC following international institutions in 2013

	Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR)		Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD)		Committee on Global Food Security (CFS)		Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)
	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)		Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)		Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)		UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC)
	UN-Habitat - Global Land Tools Network (GLTN)		United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)		United Nations Department of Public Information – NGO Branch (UN DPI NGO)		United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)		United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-Habitat)				

HIC's Funders

	Ford Foundation		Inter Church Organisation for Development Cooperatio		Misereor		Missionszentrale der Franziskaner
	Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung		The Fund for Global Human Rights		Unitarian Universalist Service Committee		Wellspring Advisors

HIC's International Allies

	Amnesty International		Association of International Dalit Solidarity		Bank Information Center		Center for Economic and Social Rights
	Communitas Coalition		Congrès Mondial Amazigh		Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH		Displacement Research and Action Network, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
	Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Network		Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance		Extraterritorial Obligations Consortium		Fédération Internationale des Droit de l'Homme
	Food First Information and Action Network		Fórum Mundial de Autoridades Locais de Periphéria		Foro de Autoridades Locales por la Inclusión Social y la Democracia Participativa		France Libertés - Fondation Danielle Mitterrand
	Friends of the Earth		Habitat for Humanity		Huairou Commission		Instituto Pólis
	International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives		Internal Displacement Monitoring Center		International Accountability Project		International Alliance of Inhabitants
	International Budget Partnership		International Commission of Jurists		International Food Security & Nutrition Civil Society Mechanism		International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty

 International Rivers	 La Via Campesina	 Mercociudades	 No-Vox
 Overseas development Institute	 Oxfam	 People's Health Movement	 Right to Food and Nutrition Watch
 Russell Tribunal on Palestine	 Slum Dwellers International	 Transnational Institute	 United Cities and Local Governments
 WITNESS	 World Bank Inspection Panel	 World Social Forum	

HIC's regional and national partners

 Africa and Middle East Refugee Assistance	 ADAPT Appropriate Development, Architectural and Planning Technologies	 Arab Group for the Protection of Nature	 Arab NGO Network for Development
 Asian Commission for Human Rights	 ALOP Asociación Latinoamericana de Organizaciones de Promoción	 Association Tunisienne des Femmes Démocrates	 Center of Arab Woman for Training and Research
 Center for Migration and Refugee Studies, American University in Cairo	 Center for Minority Rights and Development	 Coalición de Organizaciones Mexicanas por el Derecho al Agua	 Coordinadora Latinoamericana de Organizaciones del Campo
 Council of Canadians	 DIGNITY DANISH INSTITUTE AGAINST TORTURE Dignity Danish Institute against Torture	 ECE SR Egyptian Center for Economic and Social Rights	 EURC Egypt's Urban Research Collective
 Espacio de Coordinación de Organizaciones Civiles sobre DESC	 Fórum Nacional de Reforma Urbana do Brasil	 Forum tunisien pour les droits économiques et sociaux	 Kenya Human Rights Commission
 Movimiento mexicano de Afectados por las Presas y en Defensa de Ríos	 Movimiento Urbano Popular de la Convención Nacional Democrática	 Nairobi People Settlements Network	 National IDPs Network
 New Woman Foundation/New Woman Research Center (Egypt)	 Palestinian National Committee For the Register of Damage	 Plataforma de Afectados por la Hipoteca	 Plataforma Interamericana Derechos Humanos, Democracia y Desarrollo
 Red Iberoamericana de Jueces	 Red Mujer y Hábitat de América Latina	 Refugees Studies Centre, Oxford University	 Secretaria Latinoamericana de Vivienda Popular
 Social and Economic Rights Action Centre	 SERI Social and Economic Rights Institute of South Africa	 Stop the Wall Campaign	 Tadamun (Egypt)
 Takween Integrated Community Development (Egypt) We Effect	 Union Générale Tunisienne de Travail	 Urban Reform Coalition (Egypt)	 Urgence Palestine
 Western Sahara Resources Watch	 WSRW		



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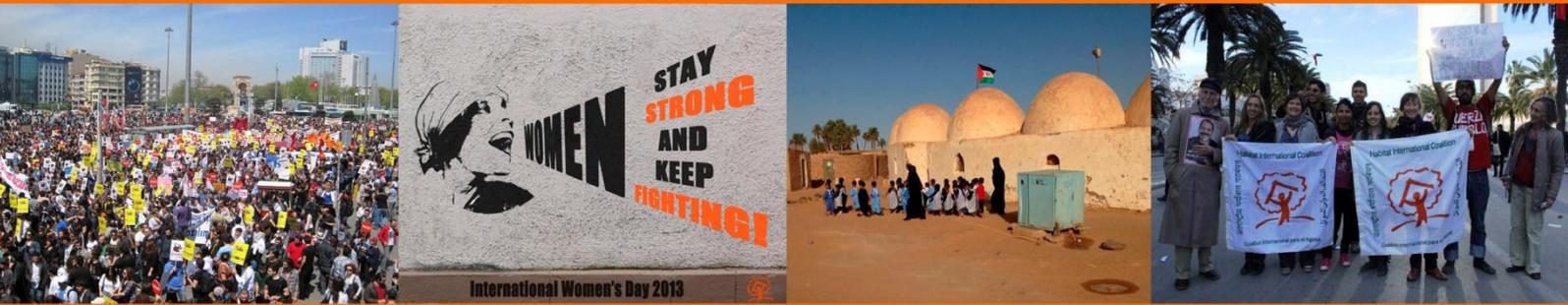
Social networks

Facebook
www.facebook.com/habitatinternationalcoalition

Twitter
[@habitat_intl](https://twitter.com/habitat_intl)

HIC video channel
[www.youtube.com: Habitat International Coalition](http://www.youtube.com/Habitat International Coalition)

HIC photo gallery
www.flickr.com/photos/126777733@N05/



Habitat International Coalition

For more information on HIC and its centers of reference, please refer to the following websites:

Habitat International Coalition

www.hic-net.org

HIC-Latin America

www.hic-al.org

HIC-South Asia

www.hic-sarp.org

HIC-Middle East and North Africa

www.hic-mena.org

HIC-Housing and Land Rights Network

www.hlrn.org

