CALL FOR ACTION FROM EUROPEAN NETWORKS STRUGGLING FOR URBAN AND HOUSING RIGHTS AT ESF ATHENS MAY 2006

The movements of the European Network struggling for housing and urban rights - Habitat International Coalition, International Alliance of Inhabitants, No Vox and the Greek Initiative for the Right to the City - are calling for all social organisations to adopt housing as a key social issue and to join us in united mobilisations at local level around 2nd October 2006 (World Habitat Day).

We demand that governments and public institutions in Europe:

- 1. Implement the right to decent, sustainable housing for all, without discrimination, and that this right has legal enforcement;
- 2. Defend and develop:
- public and not for profit housing sectors, which are democratically controlled;
- public space and public urban planning;
- public services such as water, public transport and energy.
- 3. Regulate the real estate market and rental housing to put a stop to speculation, privatisation and high costs;
- 4. Halt forced evictions and the destruction of popular neighborhoods and shanty towns against which we reaffirm the rights of inhabitants to resist.

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