

“We compromise to work in our towns and cities”

The children part of the Council for Childhood and Youth Participation in the municipalities of Alcalá de Guadaira, Alcázar de San Juan, Avilés, Belmonte de Miranda, Carbajosa de la Sagra, Carrión de los Céspedes, Castrillón, El Saucejo, Guadalajara, Humanes, Iznajar, La Puebla de Alfidén, Leganés, Madrid, Málaga, Mollerusa, Pola de Laviana, Pola de Siero, Puerto Real, Quart de Poblet, Salas, San Fernando de Henares, Santa Eulalia del Rio, Segovia, Tineo y Vera who met, worked and played together in Malaga on 9th, 10th and 1th November, declare that:

We compromise to work in and for our communities, municipalities, towns and cities to benefit any person that lives in them, without any discrimination because of their physical differences, religion and race.

We would like a better communication with our parents to gain a bigger confidence that we could all benefit from. We would also like adults to trust us more.

We ask our politicians to truly listen to us and to take our opinion and ideas into account, both for small and for important things. We want to be a reality, not only an image.

We also ask them to collaborate with this crisis situation by lowering their salaries and spending more on issues that we find more important, such as health and education. We ask them to talk with words that we can understand.

We want the Childhood Councils to be promoted and to grow, rather than disappear, since they promote respect, coexistence and equity. They also show the reality we live in, and because we like to participate and to be listened to. We could be taken into account in order to decide what the money destined to childhood is spent on.

Social networks are a reality we daily live in, but we see ourselves legally out of them because of our age. Our parents know them worse than we do due to lack of information and education, and they sometimes don't implement the necessary filters to protect us. We would like networks to be reliable and safe.



We propose children and adults to have more information and education on ICT's to make proper use of them. We also believe that they are a good tool for studying and to do our homework at appropriate times, but not for too long because we prefer playing and meeting real people.

During our work these days we have written a letter to all of those people working on our education, because we are worried about the cuts that are taking place. We feel this situation in a bigger stress among our teachers; we see there are more of us per class, that there are less working materials, school trips, cleanness, heating and psychologists in schools and high schools, less grants, and even we ourselves are more nervous. Families could contribute to our learning process by contributing with things related to the subject we are being taught.

We ask you to think about us when taking decisions that affect our present and our future. We would also like to see work on a very important subject we suffer from: bullying. Bullying inside and outside schools derives from differences such as physical appearance, race, religion or others. In order to solve it, we think that a mediator should exist, and that mediator could be us. Some teachers don't realise, and others ignore it.

We like to enjoy our free time and to play, although sometimes we don't have time for it for all the things we do; we would like to be listened to when taking these decisions, we would like there to be more spaces to play, for them to be for free, for there to be activities for all without any discrimination and that help us with our education.

We would like to collaborate in the designing of spaces and activities that are proposed to us and we compromise to collaborate in their care, respecting all the people that share them with us.

Children and teenagers from the Spanish Councils

Second State Conference of Childhood and Youth Participation Councils

Málaga, 11th November 2012

