



HOUSING FOR ALL ?

FROM IDEALS TO REALITY

Elena Szolgayová

*Director General, DG Housing Policy and Urban Development,
Ministry of Transport and Construction, Slovakia*

Chair, UNECE Committee on Housing and Land Management

Affordable Housing in 21 Century

21 June 2019, Prague



GLOBAL AGREEMENTS

- **Agenda 2030 - SDG (UN) 2015**
- **Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing 2015**
- **Urban Agenda for the EU - 2016**
- **New Urban Agenda – HABITAT III 2016**



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



CITIES IN THE CENTRE OF INTEREST



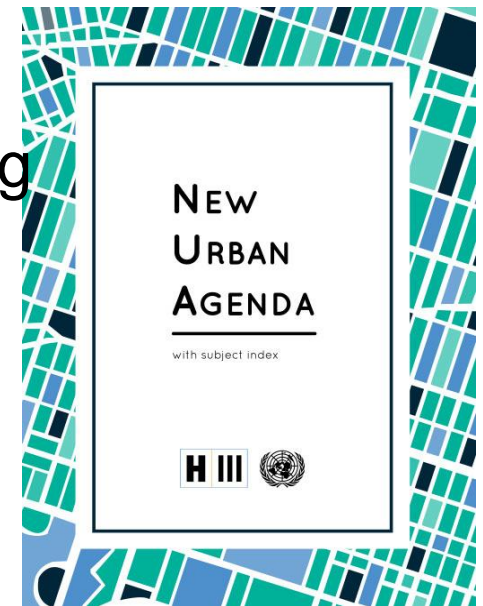
Goal 11: Making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

<http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals>



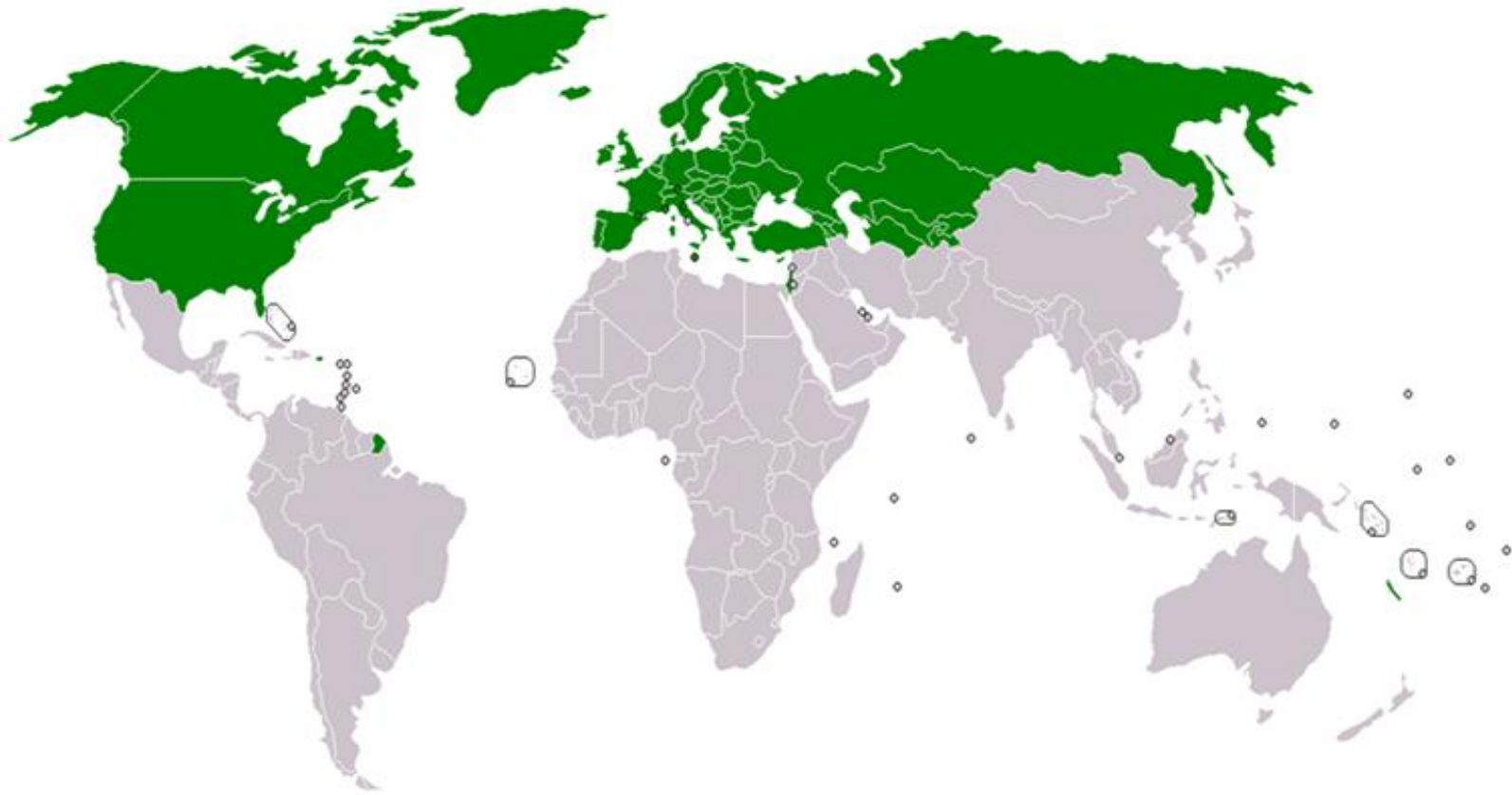
NEW URBAN AGENDA

- The New Urban Agenda –
- Cities
 - engines of prosperity
 - centres of cultural and social well-being
 - inclusive and resilient
 - respectful to environment
 - able to cope with climate change
 - providing affordable housing for all
 - achieving SDGs



UNECE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND LAND MANAGEMENT (CHLM)

56 member States in Europe, Central Asia and North America





GENEVA UN CHARTER ON SUSTAINABLE HOUSING

Endorsed

at the 66th Session of the UNECE, April 2015

Main purpose

Ensure the access to decent, affordable
and healthy housing in the ECE region





FOUR PRINCIPLES



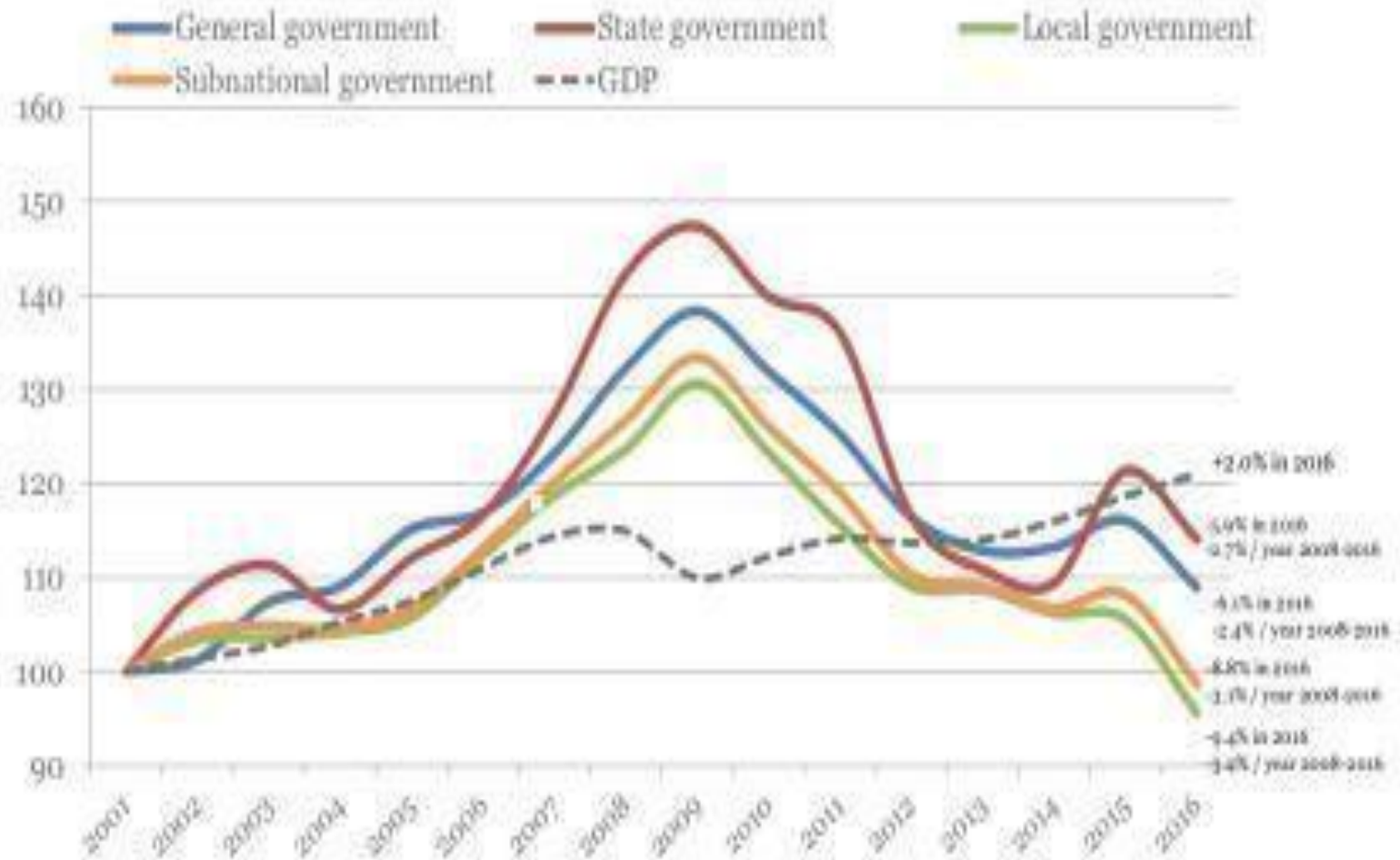
URBAN AGENDA FOR THE EU

- new form of **cooperation** between Member States, Cities, the EC and other stakeholders
- UAEU formalized in the **Pact of Amsterdam**
- **aim:** To give cities and regions a better position in European regulation and policy making
- three **goals:**
 - 1) Better regulation
 - 2) Better funding
 - 3) Better knowledge sharing
- delivery **mechanism:** Thematic Partnerships

CHALLENGES IN THE EU AFFORDABILITY GAP

- **81.5 million Europeans ‘overburdened’ by housing costs.**
- **Housing costs - much heavier burden for the people under the poverty threshold (41%) than for people above the threshold (18,6 %).**
- **The lack of investment in affordable housing amounts to around 57 billion EUR per year.**
- **Increasingly difficult for those who enter the housing market (48% of young adults live with their parents).**

Change in public investment in the EU28 from 2001-2016 (real terms)



A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide consists of a vertical stack of overlapping squares in various shades of blue and purple, creating a stepped effect. At the top of the slide, there is a horizontal bar with a gradient from light to dark grey.

Well, what now?