











PACT OF FRIENDSHIP



We, the President and the Mayor, and their Representatives,

Being the freely elected representatives of our fellow-citizens,

Certain that we act on behalf of the sincere wishes and real needs of our populations,

Aware that our civilisations and people found their origins in our ancient free local communities, that the spirit of liberty was first recorded in the freedom won by them, and later, in the local self-governments they were able to found,

Considering that history shall continue in a wider world, but that this world will be truly humane only in so far as men and women live freely in free cities,

Convinced of the necessity of respecting the principle of subsidiary,

Affirming our value of respecting human rights, which we hold as inviolable and inalienable,

Recognizing that the growing interdependence of different national societies necessitates an international democratic order and the foundation for a real peace,

Convinced that the ties that bind the towns of our continent constitute a fundamental element upon the path towards developing European citizenship and thus promote a Europe of human dimensions

DO TAKE, ON THIS DAY, A SOLEMN OATH

According to the relationships established between our countries,

To maintain permanent ties between our organisations in order to promote the dialogue,

To exchange our experiences and to implement all joint activities which may foster mutual improvement in all domains that fall within our competences,

To encourage and support exchanges between our fellow citizens in order to ensure, through greater mutual understanding and efficient cooperation, the true spirit of European brotherhood for our common destiny,

To act according to the rules of hospitality, with respect for our diversities, in an atmosphere of trust and in a spirit of solidarity,

To guarantee for all people the possibility of participating in the exchanges between our communities without discrimination of any form,

To promote the universal values of liberty, democracy, equality and the rule of Law, through our exchanges and cooperation, To focus our efforts using all the means at our disposal to support the success of this essential undertaking for peace, progress and prosperity, which is:

