



La CNL, an union on inhabitants and consumers sides



CNL is the first national housing union in France. Its main mission is to defend tenants. CNL is militantly in favour of right to housing for all. **CNL is also a consumers association acknowledged by French State.**

CNL has ■ **80 000 members** (one membership per household) ■ **4 400 local branches** all over France ■ **800 tenants representatives sitting in social housing companies' boards.** During the last elections in 2006, **42% of social rental tenants voted for CNL organizers.**

Main fields of activities

LEGAL SECTOR

- Legal advisory panels are organized by the local structures.
- CNL has seats in local housing mediation committees.
- CNL is allowed to represent tenants in the courts of justice.

EXTRA RENT COSTS CONTROL ACTIVITIES

- Extra rent costs control activities.
- At local level, CNL structures control extra rent costs (shared water, heating, etc.). Thanks to these actions, many tenants have got money back from their landlords.
- CNL also negotiates and checks over the refurbishing/renovation processes.

MAJOR INTERLOCUTOR

With four other organizations, CNL has been recognized as an official tenants representative. Consequently, it is regularly invited for attending the meetings of official bodies dedicated to housing, urbanism and consumers' issues.

INFORMATION SECTOR

- A magazine for members, Logement et Famille (10 issues per year).
- Legal brochures and various folders.



Campaigning activities

CNL claims for:

- more financial means dedicated to social housing,
- reducing extra rent costs,
- improving tenants participation.

THE NATIONAL DAY OF INHABITANTS' RIGHTS

was launched by CNL in 2009 as a French version of the International Tenants Day. It takes place every first Monday of October. It's a unique initiative in France. During this special day, CNL advocates organize convivial meetings with all the residents of their neighbourhoods and in towns.

CNL creates public awareness by meeting and discussing with the residents about:

- daily problems in their housing estates,
- effectiveness of public transport,
- local public services.

Also, these meetings will result in strategies on how to take actions together.



CNL demands are

- a rent freeze in all rental sectors;
- increasing housing benefits for needy households by 25 % and taking in account all the extra rent costs in the benefits calculation;
- stopping evictions, seizure of people's homes, water/gas/ power cuts;
- the construction of 180, 000 affordable units per year in the social housing sector;
- the creation of a real public Housing and Habitat service and for a government that commits itself to improve the housing situation;
- the protection and the improvement of tenants' status in social housing.



A long and proud history

CNL is the heir of various unions appeared at the end of the nineteenth century in the main industrial cities.

1916 UCL hold its first constituent congress. UCL became the organization also for housing in the many colonies under the name l'Union Confédérale des Locataires de France et des Colonies.

1946 L'Union Confédérale des Locataires de France et des Colonies broadened its missions by taking in account domestic energy issues like water, gas and electricity and became the Confédération Nationale des Locataires, des usagers de l'eau, du gaz et de l'électricité.

1964 The organization became a member of the International Union of Tenants, IUT.

1973 The association reached a new stage by opening its doors to households involved in access-to-ownership and, as a result, changed its name into Confédération Nationale du Logement (CNL).

1980 CNL is acknowledged by French State as a consumers' association.

More information on www.lacnl.com



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