

INTERNATIONAL OBSERVATORY ON

PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY

10 YEARS SHARING EXPERIENCES



O I D P

THE MOST WIDESPREAD NETWORK OF PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY

The **International Observatory on Participatory Democracy (OIDP)** is a network of over 500 of the world's towns and cities, associations, organisations and research centres interested in learning about, exchanging impressions and applying participatory democracy experiences at a local scale, for the purpose of extending democratic practices in municipal governments.

10 YEARS OF EXPERIENCES

The network was created in 2001 within the framework of the Decentralised Cooperation Projects of the European Union's URB-AL Programme. Since 2006 the OIDP has been working in collaboration with the **World Organisation of United Cities and Local Governments**, at the present time contributing to the provision of innovative knowledge at the service of local government in the field of participatory democracy. The OIDP Technical Secretariat is currently under the auspices of the **Barcelona City Council**, a widely acknowledged international reference in terms of the exchange of participatory democracy experiences aimed at promoting cooperation between local governments throughout the world.

The OIDP is a worldwide centre of reference for the **production of knowledge** (the R&D of Participatory Democracy).

The OIDP is consolidated as a **space for the exchange of useful experiences.**

The OIDP contributes, through all of this production, to the **enrichment of the public policies** of municipal governments.



A NETWORK OF 547 TOWNS AND CITIES IN 52 COUNTRIES

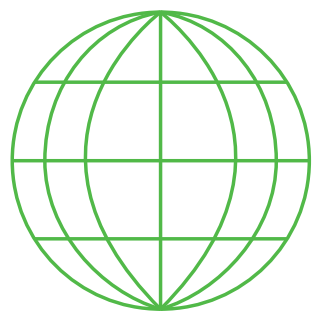
Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, France, Guatemala, Haiti, Holland, Honduras, Italy, Lebanon, Liberia, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Puerto Rico, Senegal, Spain, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Tanzania, Togo, Turkey, United Kingdom, Uruguay and Venezuela.

310 LOCAL GOVERNMENTS
**237 UNIVERSITIES, RESEARCH
CENTRES AND ASSOCIATIONS**

A NETWORK OF SHARED COMMITMENTS
TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT
BARCELONA
LATIN AMERICA REGIONAL OFFICE
PORTO ALEGRE
ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
12 CITY ORGANISERS

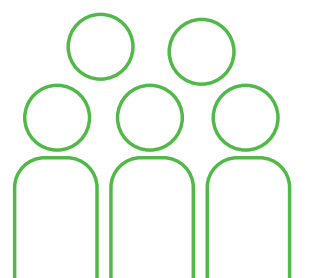
WEB
www.oidp.net

HOW WE PRODUCE AND IMPROVE KNOWLEDGE IN THE FIELD OF PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY AT A LOCAL LEVEL



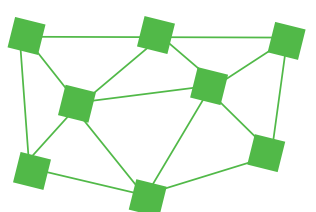
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Every year since its foundation, the Presidency of the network has been held for a 12 month period by one of the OIDP local government members which, assuming the responsibility for making progress in the debate on participatory democracy and sharing experiences and knowledge in this field, then organises an **international conference**.



WORK GROUP

On the basis of collective reflection with regard to a specific area, the aim is also to promote instruments that will allow local governments to strengthen democracy and boost the exercise of active citizenship in discussion and decision making on, as well as the implementation of, public policies.



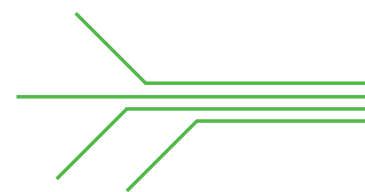
DIVERSIFICATION AND DECENTRALIZATION

Diversifying the composition of the network's members in order to reach out to all of the regions in the world, decentralising the structure.



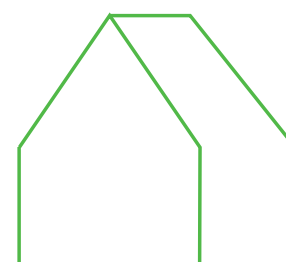
DISTINCTION

The OIDP also promotes the Distinction for “**Best Practice in Citizens’ Participation**”, the purpose of which is to recognize innovative experiences and ideas in the area of participative democracy that encourage the participation and involvement of citizens in processes of elaborating and implementing public policies.



SYNERGIES

Establishing **synergies** with other international organisations and the academic world.



LOCAL SPHERE

Reactivating the network of **Local Observatories on Participatory Democracy**.



WEB UPDATE

Improving the web so that its members can contribute to the collective production of knowledge.



HOW TO JOIN

In order to become a OIDP member all you have to do is fill out the application form, which you can find in the section “HOW TO JOIN” on our website.

For further information please contact:

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www.oidp.net

Co-sponsor



Ajuntament
de Barcelona

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