

August 20th, 2023

Dears Mayors of the IOPD

We are pleased to inform you that the **22nd Conference of the International Observatory of the Participatory Democracy (IOPD)** will take place **from 6 to 8 November 2023 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.**

Participatory democracy is a fundamental instrument to ensure the legitimacy of political decisions and actions, as well as to build more diverse, inclusive societies capable of promoting a better quality of life for all. Citizens must be able to access and participate in decision-making processes on an equal footing and through effective control and participatory mechanisms.

Under the theme "**Participatory Democracy for Diverse, Inclusive and Transparent Cities**", the 22nd IOPD Conference will include lectures, roundtables, debates and immersive activities, highlighting the cities' role in building inclusive, equitable and resilient societies.

With the aim of discussing the construction of truly representative democracies, ensuring popular sovereignty and enabling public debate, we would like to invite you as well as the specialized officers of your city to attend.

We look forward to welcoming you to the city of Rio de Janeiro for this relevant event, where we will debate and reflect together on democratic innovations to ensure no one is left behind.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact us at oidp.rio2023@gmail.com.

Yours sincerely,



Eduardo Paes
Mayor
City of Rio de Janeiro
2023 IOPD Chair