

REPORT OF THE SESSION “What does the next democratic paradigm look like for cities?”

22nd IOPD Conference Rio de Janeiro, 6 - 8 November 2023

This form should be filled out in English. Please send it to oidp.rio2023@gmail.com and info@oidp.net after the Conference. We ask you to send it before Friday 10 November.

TITLE	What does the next democratic paradigm look like for cities?
Participating Institutions	DemocracyNext OECD
Lists of the speakers	Name: Ieva Cesnulaityte Position and Affiliation: DemocracyNext Founding Head of Research and Learning Name: James MacDonald-Nelson Position and Affiliation: DemocracyNext Project Lead on Urban Planning Name: Mauricio Mejia Position and Affiliation: OECD Policy Analyst Name: Position and Affiliation: Name: Position and Affiliation:

<p>Summary of the session</p> <p><i>Please share in a maximum of 500 words a summary of the session: what was the discussion, the experiences presented and the most important messages that were shared during the session.</i></p>	<p>There is another democratic future beyond broken electoral politics or autocracy. Current governance institutions around the world fail to reflect society's diversity, creating division and binaries, and concentrating power in the hands of a few. In a context of multiple crises and the climate emergency, they do not allow us to adequately weigh trade-offs and make difficult decisions together, or to consider nature, the planet, and future generations.</p> <p>New permanent deliberative institutions with rotating citizen representatives selected by lottery could be at the heart of our democracies - new institutions that harness society's diversity and collective intelligence, give people control over their lives, strengthen trust, and help us find common ground. They should be based on the principles of Citizens' Assemblies - a democratic model that has been tested, implemented and refined close to 600 times, as documented by the OECD. In these Assemblies, governments convene groups of everyday people selected by lottery and who are broadly representative of society. Assemblies are empowered to learn, deliberate, build consensus, and develop recommendations that consider the complexities required for solving multifaceted public issues, such as equality measures, big infrastructure projects, environmental questions and more.</p> <p>Cities across the world are at the forefront of building this new democratic future. Latest OECD data indicates that 63 per cent of all Citizens' Assemblies take place in cities, and most of them on issues of Urban Planning.</p>
<p>Conclusions</p> <p><i>In a single sentence, state the element that stands out in your session.</i></p>	<p>Cities across the world are at the forefront of building a new democratic future, where everyday people have a meaningful say in decision that affect their lives, with Citizens' Assemblies at the heart of it.</p>
<p>Recommendations for IOPD</p> <p><i>Share with IOPD your priorities and recommendations in order to advance in the topic of your session</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the use of Citizens' Assemblies on a local level. • Consider Urban Planning as a potential area where citizen deliberation should be applied as a priority.