

## DECLARATION OF CONIL DE LA FRONTERA

17th February 2017

More and more local governments are betting on participatory democracy. On new ways of public management that include citizenship in the decision making, in the management of proximity services, in the design and planning of development strategies and local public policies. New innovative practices through which we can build more habitable cities, egalitarian, sustainable and inclusive. Municipalities with transparent institutions, accessible and permeable to the needs and desires of the citizens.



The local administration has a great power for the development of democratizing practices, as evidenced by the experimentation trajectory accumulated by our municipalities. Betting on participatory democracy has a high social impact, influencing the territorial structure and social cohesion.

Andalusia has several examples of democratic innovation from local scope and it has been a pioneer territory in setting participatory budgets, a concrete experience that is expanding, being more and more habitual. Declaration of Antequera, constitutive document of the National Networks of Participatory Budgets, was promoted from our land and it is still a reference in declaration of principles for a new governability.

Experiences on participatory democracy have multiplied in Andalusia, with diversity of methodologies and approaches, but sharing the same objective of giving a response to the increasing social demand for a change in the relation between institutions and citizenship. We observe important changes in matter of transparency, citizen participation and inclusion of digital mechanisms of information, control and participation.

A shared commitment to participatory democracy must entail the creation of spaces for meetings between the actors who promote it: local governments, universities, civil society organizations and citizens.

Therefore, we are committed to guarantee communication mechanisms that promote participatory democracy and participatory budgets, so that we can advance an Andalusian agenda of mutual support, promotion and visibility of democratic innovation.