# Local democracy and citizen participation Pact for democracy in Strasbourg



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# **Summary**

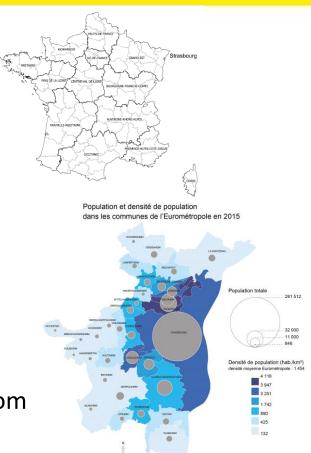
- 1. Preamble: the city of Strasbourg, some contextual elements
- 2. Origin of the pact for democracy in Strasbourg
- 3. Citizen summit process
- 4. Current citizen participation in Strasbourg
- 5. Conclusion



## 1. Preamble: contextual elements

## The city of Strasbourg,

- Cross-border municipality of 277,270 inhabitants
- Eurometropolis, cooperation of 33 municipalities
- Headquarters of many European institutions
- Administered by a City Council and a Mayor elected for six years (2014-2020)
- Local citizen participation in France strengthened from the 1990s with decentralization
- In Strasbourg:
  - A Deputy Mayor in charge of local democracy and consultation policy
  - Territorial directions in connection with thematic directions
  - A Citizen participation department



## 2. Origin of the pact for democracy in Strasbourg

- End of 2016, a new political impulse
- A shared observation that the local democracy instances need to evolve
- Launch of the citizen summit initiative in April 2017 to give a new dynamic to citizen participation
- Co-construction of a new pact for democracy in Strasbourg, adopted in City Council by an absolute majority on 16 April 2018

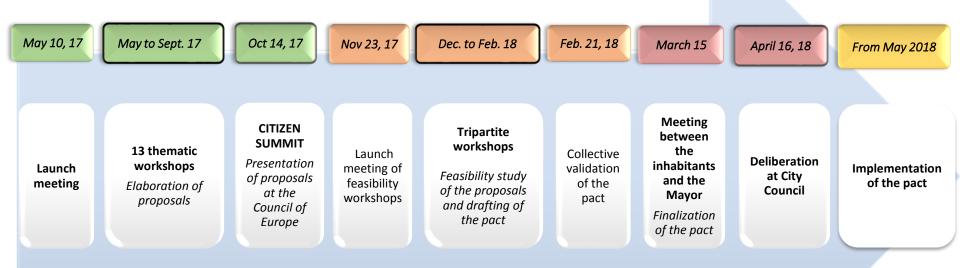
## 2. Origin of the pact for democracy in Strasbourg

The objectives of the citizen summit, based on identified needs, are to:

- Develop a culture of citizen participation of elected representatives, residents and agents and work in a logic of co-construction,
- Allow greater participation of residents in the decision process,
- Mobilize more widely to diversify audiences,
- Encourage and give visibility to citizen initiatives,
- Foster a more transparent dialogue with the City in a climate of trust and respect.

## 3. Citizen summit process

## The main stages of the citizen summit



Tripartite continuous evaluation process



**Ethics committee** Guaranteeing respect of the Pact

## 4. Current citizen participation

**Council of citizen participation** 

Designates two citizens

#### "Historical" instances of local democracy

Eurométropole Development Council

Advice of the social and solidarity economy

**Youth Council** 

Council of foreign residents

Neighborhood **Councils** 

Citizen councils

**Territorial** partner workshops

**Evaluation Group** 

The ambassadors

#### New groups and devices

Participatory budget

Citizen petitions

Citizens' initiative workshops

**Reporting malfunctions** in the public space

Coming soon: the **mapping of citizen** initiatives and third places

## The participation procedures of the City

Article 1 of the pact for local democracy guarantees citizens of Strasbourg the right to:

- information
- consultation
- concertation
- co-construction On different themes, scales, shapes

#### **New spaces**

 The digital platform for citizen participation Participer.strasbourg.eu

The "Pact'Mobile"

In addition to existing spaces: the Shadok, the Lieu d'Europe.

The Digital Users Committee

#### **Events** and highlights around democracy

- European Week of Local Democracy
- The World Forum for Democracy
- The European Youth Event



**Participatory** 

budget group

Zero endocrine disrupting

workshop

## 5. Conclusion

→ A system under construction seeking to promote the diversity of scales, formats, approaches

## Some identified "key points"

- A right to experiment
- Clear and shared goals and "framework"
- Involvement of the stakeholders and political portage
- Training, positioning, of the different actors to work in co-construction
- Internal and external communication, the flow of information, the transversality
- Time and means

## Need of adaptation to the context

- Legal
- Budgetary
- Territorial and skills
- Policies

#### Perspectives are to:

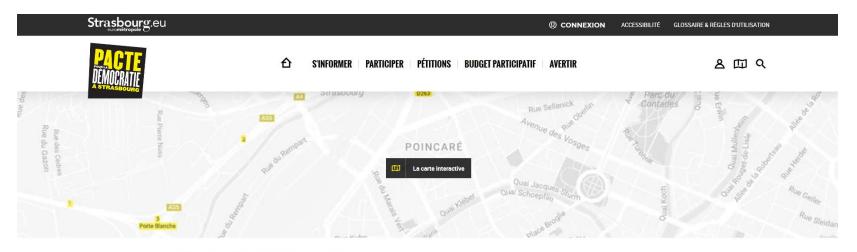
- Complete the commitments of the pact
- Pursue the structuration of links and interactions
- Develop transversality and a culture of participation
- Maintain a dynamic of openness, deepen and expand participation
- Evaluate to improve and readjust





## Thank you for your attention

## www.participer.strasbourg.eu



## **PARTICIPER!**

La participation citoyenne à Strasbourg, c'est à la fois des initiatives citoyennes, une dynamique associative, des instances de démocratie locale & surtout des démarches de concertation. Depuis avril 2017, la Ville de Strasbourg a initié avec les citoyens la démarche du sommet citoyen. L'objectif de cette plateforme ? Co-construire ensemble la Ville sur la base du nouveau pacte pour la démocratie locale.

LE PACTE

