



# European Capital of Democracy Barcelona 2023/24

PROGRAMME YEAR  
REPORT

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# Contents:

- Introductory words... 4
- About the European Capital of Democracy... 8
- Participatory processes... 12
- Highlight events... 17
- Dimensions of Democracy... 35
- Programme Year in Barcelona... 37
- Diversity of formats... 60
- Expressions of Democracy... 61
- Facts & Figures... 64
- Programme Year Team... 73
- Partners, supporters, contributors, and friends.. 77



**Jaume Collboni,  
Mayor of Barcelona**

It is an honour for Barcelona to have been chosen as the first European Capital of Democracy. Throughout the year, we have witnessed the powerful desire of citizens across Europe to collaborate, build, strengthen, re-imagine and innovate in order to create more robust and resilient democratic systems. Our city has hosted numerous events, exchanges, and initiatives that have fostered dialogue, promoted inclusion, and empowered citizens to take an active role in shaping their futures.

As we look back, we can be proud of the involvement of the diverse range of institutions, entities and initiatives that worked in Barcelona for the lasting impact of democracy in our city and beyond.

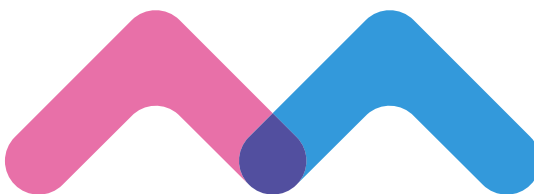


From community-led projects to global conversations on democracy, Barcelona has evidenced the importance of open, transparent and participatory governance.

I would like to thank all the entities, participants, and partners who made this possible. Together, we have created a space for reflection and action, paving the way for future cities to carry the torch of democratic innovation.

Barcelona remains committed to the defence of democracy, and I am confident that the momentum we have built this year will inspire many more. We encourage the future Capitals of Democracy to follow the path opened by the city of Barcelona and enrich this key initiative.

Thank you.





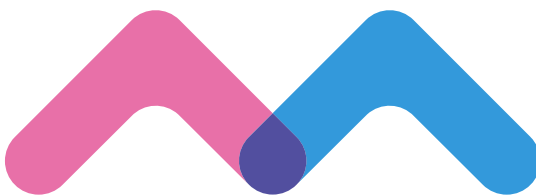
## Helfried Carl, founder of European Capital of Democracy

Democracy delivers—and over the past year, Barcelona proved this again and again: As the first European Capital of Democracy, the city empowered its citizens, introduced new ways of civic participation, and recognized the efforts of courageous politicians who actively engaged with civil society. Being the European Capital of Democracy is more than a title; it's a unique opportunity to foster constructive discourse, share best practices across Europe, and highlight democratic achievements.



Each year, cities compete to become the European Capital of Democracy, with thousands of citizen jurors from all over Europe playing a key role in the selection process. By creating the European Capital of Democracy initiative, we aimed to demonstrate that democracy is resilient and adaptable in the face of global challenges. The European City Network, open to all cities who have applied, has proven to be a vibrant platform for cities to learn from each other how to get ever closer to their citizens.

As Vienna takes over the baton for the coming Democracy Year, and the selection process for the European Capital of Democracy '26 is still open, Barcelona serves as an inspiration for cities all over Europe to push the boundaries of democratic innovation, ensuring that democracy continues to evolve and thrive across Europe.





# About the European Capital of Democracy

Cities are incubators for democracy. They are best placed to safeguard and develop our self-government, protect the rule of law, and uphold human rights. To identify, address and interlink these spearheads of democratic innovation, we have launched the European Capital of Democracy initiative in 2021. By joining forces for democracy, these Cities share their expertise and their most innovative best practices in democracy promotion at the municipal level.





Each year, a new city is selected by over 4,000 Europeans (the members of the Citizens' Jury). Barcelona is the first ever European Capital of Democracy 2023/24, followed by the City of Vienna in 2024/25. The title-holding city becomes the central stage for strengthening and innovating democracy in Europe. All applicant cities join the European City Network to share their expertise and their most innovative best practices in democracy promotion at the municipal level.

The title-holding European Capital of Democracy hosts a year-long programme to celebrate democracy, showcase best practices and to address the central debates of our times. The aim is to establish a highly visible space where European citizens come together, get involved, experience new forms of democracy in action as well as draw inspiration from a wide range of formats designed to bring democracy forward and rebuild trust.

Together with citizens, institutions, civil society and businesses, the city curates and implements a variety of activities. Festivals, conferences, workshops, artistic interventions, participatory and deliberative processes– the city turns into a buzzing and engaging space, essential for our democratic future.



Being selected as European Capital of Democracy brings a wide range of benefits, such as an enhanced international reputation as a centre of democratic innovation and the opportunity to co-host prestigious flagship events like the Innovation in Politics Awards and the ACT NOW Mayors' Conference.

In order to compete for the title of European Capital of Democracy and to convince the Experts' and the Citizens' Jury, Cities have to submit a strong mission statement, a convincing selection of three proven and innovative Democracy Projects, and three pitches for new projects in the pipeline, to be presented and advanced further during the Democracy Year.



# ECoD Barcelona team

The Programme Year 2023/24 was planned by a joint team of five persons from Barcelona City Council and the Metropolitan Strategic Plan of Barcelona (PEMB), in close collaboration with ECoD NPO and supported by local democracy expert Alexander as special envoy.

Barcelona unveiled its year-long programme as the European Capital of Democracy at the City Council's Saló de Cent in the presence of Mayor Jaume Collboni and with a significant address by Dubravka Šuica, Vice-President of the European Commission, who underscored the programme's importance and its alignment with democratic values, noting that cities like Barcelona are hotbeds of innovation. .

To enrich the perspective on the annual program and related activities, an Advisory Committee has been formed that has met three times throughout the year, bringing together 22 institutions, relevant individuals, and associations like the Government of Catalonia, universities, or the Barcelona City and Youth Councils.



# Participatory Projects



# Manifesta Metropolitan Assembly

The Assembly is a metropolitan-scale deliberative citizen process that aimed to address the following questions:

- How can we create spaces in the metropolitan region that have a positive impact on culture?
- How can we do this while adopting a lifestyle that is more environmentally respectful?

It consists of 60 individuals chosen by lottery through prior registration and is linked to the Manifesta Biennial with the participation of 12 cities in the metropolitan region of Barcelona.

The objective of the Manifest Metropolitan Assembly was to explore and experiment with new spaces of governance and democratic processes in the development of cultural policies, as well as to foster collaboration on a regional scale.

Profiles of participants included independent artists and/or cultural managers, individuals from local social, cultural, and/or environmental organizations that are not exclusively from any of the 12 cities selected for the process, such as Badalona, Barcelona, Cornellà de Llobregat, El Prat de Llobregat, Granollers, L'Hospitalet de Llobregat, Mataró, Sabadell, Sant Adrià de Besòs, Santa Coloma de Gramenet, Sant Cugat del Vallès, and Terrassa.

This project is part of the European Capital of Democracy 2023-2024 and is organized by Manifesta 15 Barcelona in collaboration with the Barcelona Metropolitan Strategic Plan (PEMB).

# Assemblea Metropolitana Manifesta 15

MANIFESTA15  
Barcelona  
2024



Capital Europea  
de la Democràcia



Ajuntament de  
Barcelona



Pla Estratègic  
Metropolità  
de Barcelona

# Volem Decidir!

This was the first participatory process of the European Capital of Democracy which was aimed at boys and girls from 8 to 17 years in the city of Barcelona.

Proposals were collected around the questions:

- What topics do we want to participate in?
- How do we want to participate?

From January to June 2024, boys and girls had to decide which topics they considered to be priority and how they wanted to participate in the affairs of the city. The result had to be the creation of new forms and innovative participation spaces for children and adolescents who have been proposed during the process and enjoy greater support.

It was possible to participate in the process from primary and secondary schools, from childhood and adolescent facilities such as daycare centers, playhouses and open centres, and from leisure entities such as playgrounds or groups. It was also possible to participate through Decidim Barcelona which enabled the full participation of children from the age of 8.

Boys and girls who have participated in the workshops were able to present and debate their proposals in Ágoras located in public spaces in the city, in order to jointly debate with other centers or entities the proposals presented and reach a consensus.

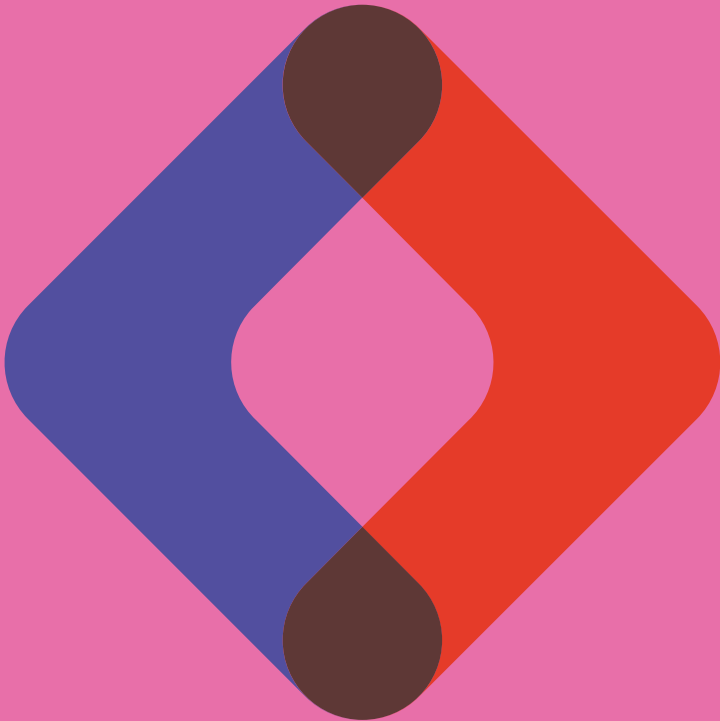
From Decidim Barcelona all children and adolescents aged 8 to 17 could submit proposals, give their support and vote for the proposals they liked best.

The most voted proposals were presented to the City Council and its political representatives so that they can be put into practice. Finally, a committee made up of boys and girls participating in the process monitored the implementation of the proposals that the City Council undertook to carry out.





# Highlight Events



# The Innovation in Politics Awards 2024

Each year, The Innovation in Politics Awards highlight the most forward-thinking political projects across Europe, evaluated by a citizen jury of over 1,000 European citizens. In 2024, the Awards ceremony took place in Barcelona under the auspices of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Ms Marija Pejčinović Burić, and with the support of local partners, including The City of Barcelona, Generalitat de Catalunya and Diputació Barcelona.

The event brought together over 400 guests from 42 countries, including the Vice-President of the European Commission for Democracy and Demography, Ms. Dubravka Šuica, alongside government officials, politicians, ambassadors, and representatives from civil society and the private sector. Side events such as the Women's Brunch and Democracy Breakfast organised by the European Partnership for Democracy fostered further dialogue and networking among attendees.

During the event, finalists and guests exchanged innovative ideas on democracy, technology, education, local development, and more. Out of 334 projects from 26 countries, 314 met the awards criteria and were evaluated by the citizen jury. Of these, 70 finalists—ten per category—were recognized as trailblazers of innovation, with one project in each category winning the award. Notably, two initiatives from Barcelona City Council, B-MINCOME and Cooperative Housing, were recognized in the Social Cohesion and Local Development categories, respectively.

The Innovation in Politics Awards not only recognise outstanding projects but also promote cross-border collaboration and the exchange of best practices, encouraging innovative approaches to today's pressing challenges. Looking ahead, the next Innovation in Politics Awards ceremony will be held in Vienna, the European Capital of Democracy for 2024-2025, in autumn 2025.



Two projects by the Barcelona City Council, B-MINCOME and Housing Cooperatives, are finalists. B-MINCOME, which combines financial support with socio-labor inclusion to reduce poverty, is a finalist in the Local Development category.

Housing Cooperatives, a partnership with Sostre Cívic to promote cooperative housing under a leasehold model, is a finalist in the Social Cohesion category.



Ronny Zuckermann,  
Founder and President  
at the Innovation in  
Politics Institute

This is the 7th edition of the Innovation in Politics Awards and our core mission remains the same. While we are surrounded by people who believe in hate and aggression instead of co-existence and working together, the Awards showcase courage and optimism – and the outstanding people from politics and society who lead by example

# Truth, Lies & Democracy

Truth, Lies & Democracy in Barcelona brought together six teams of European developers at the Canòdrom to create video games in defense of democracy and to combat disinformation.

Three local teams and three European teams participated for three days, from May 17 to 19, at the Canòdrom - Ateneu d'Innovació Digital i Democràtica, to develop video games and interactive proposals focused on fake news and disinformation. In its first edition held within the framework of the European Capital of Democracy, Truth Lies and Democracy gathered renowned professionals from the industries of games, technology, politics, and communication to offer talks and mentoring.

The initiative aims to educate players about the mechanisms of democratic decision-making, disinformation, fake news, privacy, and the impact of new technologies on society. Fake news represents a threat to democracy by undermining faith in elections, fostering distrust, minimizing confidence in journalism, and eroding trust in the government.

# Fun facts



4,900 game studios in Europe



200 game distributors



The project highlights the role of games in promoting European values and democracy. It positions video games as a medium for new generations to express how democracies must adapt to evolving cultural and political changes.

The inaugural edition of Truth, Lies & Democracy took place at the Canòdrom - Ateneu d'Innovació Digital i Democràtica, with the participation of three Spanish teams and three international teams traveling from France, Austria, and Denmark to join the pilot programme.



The event began on Friday, May 17, with an opening ceremony featuring a lecture by Ned Howey (co-founder of Tectonica) on the prevalence of fake news, its historicity, the ways in which the concept has expanded, how malicious misinformation spreads, and how we currently communicate and inform ourselves. Howey delved into the crisis of trust society is experiencing and how fake news capitalizes on this to thrive. Afterwards, the mentors introduced themselves, shared their experience in the fields of video games and journalism, and explored how video games and disinformation can be linked.

The closing of the event was led by the teams who took the stage to present the projects they intended to work on during the event.

Saturday morning began with individual mentoring sessions for each group led by Cristina Figueras (Verificat) and Claudia Ocaranza (Maldita.es), who provided their experience in the field of communication and fake news from two complementary approaches: research and education.

From there, the teams started working on the development of their video games, engaging in conversations and exchanges with the other mentors from the video game industry, which allowed them to refine details and resolve doubts in areas such as narrative, programming, production, and game design.







Participants included Andres Zardain (producer at Nimble Giant), Olga Fedorova and Marc Palomar (programmers at Gameloft), Oscar García Pañela (Academic Director of ENTI-UB, Serious Games Lab, and consultant partner at Cookie Box), Violeta Moldes (2D artist and narrative designer, PhD candidate at UPF), and Lasse Lopfe (independent developer and professor at CITM).



Evelyn Mantoiu,  
Research & Data  
Officer,  
European Partnership  
for Democracy

The European Capital of Democracy was the perfect environment to bring together policy-makers, academics, and practitioners to discuss the challenges our democracies face and the opportunities democratic innovations provide for revitalising democracy, when done well.

# Decidim Fest

Decidim Fest is the international meeting of the Decidim platform and its entire community.

The Decidim platform already has two million users and is used in more than thirty countries around the world. This edition took place at the Canòdrom on October 18, 19 and 20 and was dedicated to democratic challenges and the limits of artificial intelligence applied to citizen participation.



This event addressed crucial questions about AI, such as its collective origin and regulation, and how it can be used to advance democracy and the common good. Decidim Fest is a global meeting point for the community that promotes free and democratic technology, contributing to a more democratic digital age.



# ALDA Festival & General Assembly 2024

In the ever-changing landscape of local democracy, active citizenship, and global cooperation, ALDA emerged as a dynamic force. Through participative methodologies and decentralized cooperation, ALDA empowered local communities across Europe and beyond. Its mission to build bridges between local authorities and communities fostered dialogue and collaboration that transcended borders, positioning ALDA as a local facilitator with a global impact.

The ALDA Festival and General Assembly 2024, held from May 13 to 15 in Barcelona, Spain, marked a significant milestone in ALDA's journey. Aligned with the Barcelona European Capital of Democracy (ECoD) initiative.



Over the course of the three-day event, attendees engaged with key topics such as citizen participation, migration, gender equality, human rights, and youth involvement, all tied to ALDA's thematic hubs. The event also brought an international focus, covering regions like the Mediterranean, Africa, the Western Balkans, and Europe. Highlights included meetings with Barcelona students, thematic workshops, international events, and a captivating photo exhibition from Sarajevo.

Building on the success of the 2023 edition, which had drawn over 200 participants, the 2024 ALDA Festival and General Assembly further reinforced ALDA's commitment to creating a lasting global impact through local initiatives.

# The 2024 Biennial of Thought

The fourth edition of the Biennial of Thought took place from October 8 to 13 under the topic "The Day After Everything." The event, organized by the Barcelona Institute of Culture, featured prominent figures from literature, science, sociology, and anthropology.

Among the participants were Herta Müller, Nobel Prize in Literature 2009; Wajdi Mouawad, Canadian playwright and writer of Lebanese origin; Zadie Smith, British writer and essayist; Oyèrónké Oyèwùmi, Nigerian feminist scholar specializing in African studies; Jason Hickel, economist and anthropologist; Perejaume, Catalan artist and poet; Begoña Román, philosopher and researcher, and Las hijas de Felipe, a duo of doctors in Baroque literature. The curation of the fourth edition of the Biennial of Thought was composed of Xavier Fina, Mar Rosàs, Raül Garrigasait, CCCB, and the European Capital of Democracy Barcelona team.





# Closing Ceremony of the Programme Year 2023-2024 in Barcelona

The closing event marking the end of Barcelona's time as European Capital of Democracy took place within the Smart City Expo World Congress, showcasing a year of remarkable progress of democratic innovation in Europe. Over a 14-month period, Barcelona engaged 20,000 people through a diverse programme of 100 activities that spotlighted new democratic practices and public participation, leaving a lasting impact on democratic innovation across Europe.





During the closing, a panel titled "Ethics and Good Governance in 21st Century Europe" brought together esteemed experts. David Velázquez Vioque, former magistrate and Director of the Master in Compliance at ESADE Law School; Begoña Román Maestre, philosopher and ethics professor at the University of Barcelona, and President of the Ethics Committee of Social Services of Catalonia; and moderator Gemma Calvet i Barot, lawyer, consultant in transparency and good governance, engaged in a dialogue about the ethical dimensions of modern democratic governance.

The ceremony featured speeches by Lluís Rabell, City Councillor for the Neighborhood Plan, Education, Elderly People, and Participation at Barcelona City Council; Arnau Monterde, Director of Participation and Democratic Innovation at Barcelona City Council; André Sobczak, Secretary General of Eurocities; and Helfried Carl, founder of the European Capital of Democracy Initiative. A central moment of the event was the formal handover of the Capital of Democracy title to Vienna, represented by Jürgen Czernohorszky, Executive City Councillor for Climate, Environment, Democracy, and Personnel in Vienna.



Copyright David Habermann

The declaration signed between Barcelona and Vienna affirmed both cities' commitment to advancing democratic values, transparency, and citizen participation across Europe. This declaration highlighted the role of cities as hubs for democratic engagement and underscored the ongoing collaboration among European cities to support democratic resilience and innovation, setting a benchmark for future Capital of Democracy initiatives.

# Dimensions of Democracy

We take a broad view of democracy, and a “Democracy Project” is any initiative with encompasses one or more of the Dimensions of Democracy:



**Community:** Initiatives that celebrate cultural diversity, foster social cohesion, and protect local democracy through forward-thinking policies and long-term planning.

**Participation:** Projects that empower residents by providing them with tools to actively engage in decision-making processes.





**Technology:** Recognizing the transformative role of technology in the future of democracy. Digitalization brings both opportunities and challenges that must be thoughtfully addressed.

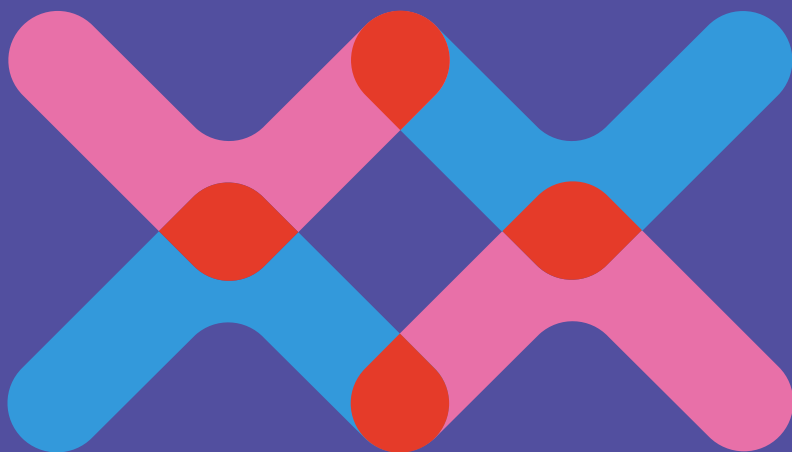
**Empowerment:** Strengthening democracy through education, training, and capacity-building for residents, public servants, and civil society. These projects help cities build strong partnerships with civil society, academia, and other key stakeholders.



**Sustainability:** Initiatives that drive international dialogue on climate change through democratic engagement, ensuring the process is people-driven, not technocratic.



# Programme Year in Barcelona



As the inaugural European Capital of Democracy, Barcelona has hosted a vibrant array of events, conferences, and activities dedicated not only to democratic innovation and citizen engagement but also to enriching culture, education, and the use of public space. In total, over 100 initiatives and gatherings contributed to this dynamic Programme Year. Here, we highlight a selection of these events. While many covered multiple dimensions of democracy, we've organized them into five key focus areas based on their primary topics:

**Community**

**Participation**

**Sustainability**

**Technology**

**Empowerment**

# Programme Presentation

Organised by The City of Barcelona on September 14 2023



## Opening: European challenges of democracy

Organised by The City of Barcelona on October 5 2023



## European Mayors' Summit: Strengthening democracy and the role of cities in the European Union

Organised by the City of Barcelona and Eurocities on November 7-8 2023



## **Conference on public ethics: The role of the network of ethics committees as a boost to public ethics (Barcelona)**

Organised by the Government of Catalonia on November 20 2023



## **Conference on the traceability of public decisions**

Organised by the Government of Catalonia on December 11 2023



## **II Conference Thinking Global Digital Justice**

Organised by Oxfam Intermón and the Global Justice Department of Barcelona City Council on December 11 - 12 2023





## **Mediterranean Women Leading the Way: Hubs, Funding and a Comparative Advantage**

Organised by 22@ Network, Friedrich Naumann Foundation, and Euthenia Community on February 27 2024



## **European Elections 2024: the moment of truth for Europe?**

Organised by Palumba on April 30 2024



## **Metropolitan Assembly Manifesta**

Organised by Manifesta 15 between January 30 - May 23n 2023



# Enhancing Human Rights in Cities with the Right to Vote: The 2024 European Parliament Elections

Organised by Human Rights Cities Network & Global Parliament of Mayors on May 6 2024



## Open Gov Week 2024

Organised by Open Government Partnership (OGP) between May 27 and 31 2024



Erika Stael von Holstein,  
Chief Executive,  
Re-Imagine Europa

Uniting Future4Citizens' Dialogues under the ECoD programme is a timely response to the challenges facing our democratic systems. We look forward to continuing to support this initiative and celebrate the strength of democracy remembering that a vibrant democratic discourse is not just idealistic but a practical strategy for groundbreaking change.

## Pulse of Democracy: The Emotional Impact

Organised by Canòdrom - Ateneu d'Innovació Digital I Democràtica on September 27 2024



## Screening of the documentary "Saber Sumud Palestine" and discussion on Nonviolent Resistance

Organised by Casal de Barri Pou de la Figuera on June 19 2024



Running our 5th anniversary youth conference in Barcelona, the inaugural European Capital of Democracy, added unique strength and inspiration.

Urban Strandberg,  
Managing Director & Co-Founder, International Youth Think Tank

## Democracy brunch 'Widening The Lens: A Snapshot of Democratic Innovation Worldwide'

Organised by the European Partnership for Democracy & ECoD NPO on May 3 2024



## Europe Day Celebration

Organised by Fundació Catalunya Europa on May 9 2024



## Cities Fortifying Democracy Forum

Organised by Canòdrom - Ateneu d'Innovació Digital I Democràtica on June 17 - 18 2024





## Workshops on co-creation of community projects

Organised by 3in Social & YESS on September 19 2024



## Democracy Lab (INCITE-DEM)

Organised by Incite-Dem & Eco-Union on October 30 - 31 2024



Domenico Di Siena,  
City Learning Manager,  
Democratic Society

This event is a key step for Democratic Society in creating a community of practice that bridges local experiences with European discussions. It helps us engage new audiences in programs like Demotec, focused on activating Participatory Budgeting.

## Future4Citizens Dialogues

Organised by Re-Imagine Europe on October 19 2023



## The Metropolitan Dialogue of Barcelona

Organised by Pla Estratègic Metropolità de Barcelona and Bable on November 6 2023



## Europe and Democracy: What Future Should We Shape?

Organised by JEF Catalunya on November 7 - 8 2023



## Barcamp on the problem of representativeness and complexity in our democracies

Organised by Fundación Konrad Adenauer on 13 - 14 November 2023



## Award Ceremony for the Participate in School Award 2022

Organised by the Government of Catalonia between November 17 and December 15 - 2023



Dunja Ganser, Senior Consultant, European Capital of Democracy

By engaging a global audience in meaningful reflections on democracy, Expressions of Democracy advances the mission of European Capital of Democracy's Art of Democracy initiative, encouraging vibrant participation in democratic discourse through the universal language of art.

## IYTT\*s fifth annual International Youth Conference

Organised by the International Youth Think Tank on November 20 - 23 2023



## Open call for grants for projects and activities

Organised by the City of Barcelona on January 8 - 25 2024



## Barcelona Regional Selection Conference of The European Youth Parliament España 2024

Organised by the European Youth Parliament Espana on March 15 - 17 2024





## Young people's participation in European democratic processes

Organised by the European Parliament Office in Barcelona on April 11 2024



## 360° Democracy Fest

Organised by the Democratic Society on April 18 2024



## Solemn constitution of the City Children's Council and presentation of proposals from Volem Decidir! to the Mayor of Barcelona

Organised by the City of Barcelona on November 21 - June 06 2024



## Presentation of the book 'Reclaiming participatory governance'

Organised by University of Birmingham, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona on June 6 2024



## Democracy Lab

Organised by Eurocities & Nets4Dem on September 17 - 19 2024



## Citizen participation days

Organised by Participem I Decidim on September 19 - October 04 2024



## How democratically elected politicians get away with autocratizing their countries: A look at Spanish voters

Organised by Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Democracy of the Future & Goethe Institut Barcelona on October 1 2024



## The 2024 Biennial of Thought

Organised by Barcelona Institute of Culture on October 10 - 11 2024



## Youth Debates for Democracy

Organised by Sant Gabriel School in Barcelona on October 28 - 30 2024



# Forum on Deliberation, Creativity, and Democracy

Organised by FIDE, deliberativa, Platoniq, raons, Red Delib, Foro sobre Deliberacion Creatividad y Democracia on October 15 - 18 2024



Laura Thomas,  
European City  
Network Manager,  
European Capital of  
Democracy

35 representatives from 14 cities across 10 countries in our European City Network came together to exchange on the topic of Digital Transformation and Democracy in Barcelona at the beginning of the Programme Year. We learnt about the impressive way in which the City of Barcelona is harnessing data to enhance democracy.



# European City Network Meeting

Organised by City of Barcelona & ECoD NPO on October 17 - 19 2023



# Public code & technologies: Upcoming digital and democratic challenges for Europe

Organised by the City of Barcelona on November 8 2023



# Saving Civics in the Digital Age

Organised by ACTE, Osoigo & Tectonica on November 22 2023



# European Global Democracy Coalition Forum

Organised by Political Watch on March 12 2024



## IV Cycle of debates in the key of education: education in the face of post-truth in the digital age

Organised by Municipal Education Council of Barcelona, Vocational Training Council of Barcelona, and the Rosa Sensat Teachers Association on March 7 - April 11 2024



Sharing experience of participatory activities among European Democratic Cities teaches all of us about new tools and inspires to implement new initiatives. Together we can do better for building democracy both on local and international level.

Katarzyna Ziemann, Director of the Department of Community Development, Gdańsk

## Open Government Week 2024

Organised by Government of Catalonia on June 10 - 14 2024



## European debates: the challenge of a Europe for all. Social perspectives and from the ESS

Organised by Nou Barris Viver Cooperatiu on June 18 - September 21 2024



## Right to Digital Play V

Organised by Culture Department of the Generalitat of Catalonia & ArsGames on September 16 - December 09 2023



## 4D European Conference, democratic digitization and digital rights

Organised by Xnet and Fundació.cat on October 9 2024



## Round table: hate speech on social media

Organised by Fembloc on October 31 2024

**Desactivant l'odi:  
Combatem les  
discriminacions en el  
món digital**

amb **És País Valencià, cuellilargo,  
Fembloc i Proyecto UNA**



## Truth, Lies & Democracy Game Jam

Organised by ECoD NPO, City of Barcelona & PEMB on May 17 - 19 2024





# Policies and technologies for participatory democracy

Organised by City of Barcelona on April 11 2024



Paul Costello,  
Senior Manager,  
German Marshall  
Fund Cities | Berlin

It was invaluable for GMF Cities to organize our Cities Fortifying Democracy Forum in Barcelona within the context of the European Capital of Democracy year of programming. Hosting the transatlantic local democracy leaders, including city officials, experts, and civil society representatives at the Canòdrom infused the convening with the inspiring past, present, and future of local democracy in Barcelona. It will undoubtedly continue to be of great value to have our work embedded in and contributing to the European Capital of Democracy work and network in the future.

# Fixing the Future 2023

Organised by Abacaus & Habilis on October 12 - 14 2023



# The Metropolitan Dialogue of Barcelona

Organised by Metropolitan Strategic Plan of Barcelona & Bable on November 6 2023



# Catalan Citizens' Assembly on Climate

Organised by the Government of Catalonia on November 18 - February 10 2024



# Design for a Human Future

Organised by Barcelona Design Center on October 16 - 29 2023



## Presentation ceremony of the 1st edition of the Metropolitan Commitment Awards

Organised by Pal Estrategic Metropolitande Barcelona on December 12 2023



Holding the IYC as a part of the ECoD is a positive action in a functional youth inclusion and a prime example for other stakeholders.

Valeriia Andriienko, Participant / Ukrainian Youth Fellow



# Expressions of Democracy



Expressions of Democracy harnesses the power of art to inspire civic engagement and foster open dialogue around the values of democracy. As Barcelona closes its historic term as the first-ever European Capital of Democracy, this participatory art initiative is taking place at the Smart City Expo World Congress in November 2024.

The artistic interventions invite attendees to interact, respond, and engage. The dynamic involvement encourages visitors to think deeply about democracy and take part in discussions that break down traditional silos.

### **Artistic Interventions**



#### **Aldo Giannotti: Contract & Sculpture**

Aldo Giannotti's two-part work asks you to take matters in your own hands in a humorous yet profound way. His drawings invite us to reclaim responsibility for the communities we live in and challenge conventional notions of equality.



## Oliver Hangl: Alphabet of Democracy

Oliver Hangl asks the public to help create an Alphabet of Democracy by assigning democracy-related ideas or principles to each letter. This collaborative effort to “spell out” democracy highlights the building blocks of democratic values, much like letters that form words and meanings, reflecting the essential principles of a resilient and participatory society.

Expressions of Democracy showcases two thought-provoking projects by celebrated contemporary artists. Each work embodies democratic values through sensory, interactive, and visually striking displays, offering participants a fresh perspective on civic engagement, shared responsibility, and community resilience.

Held within the Smart City Expo World Congress, and supported by Federal Ministry for Arts, Culture, the Civil Service and Sport (BMKOES), the art bridges thematic divisions, fostering connections among participants from urban planning, tech innovation, civic activism, and public policy.

# Facts and Figures







**100  
Initiatives**



**20.000 +  
Participants**

**2  
Participatory  
Processes**



# 150+ Publications

LA VANGUARDIA

GALARDÓN INTERNACIONAL

## Barcelona, distinguida como capital europea de la democracia

• La capital catalana compite con Braga y Bruselas por este reconocimiento, la primera vez que se otorga



### Notícies

Totes | Ambiental | Comunitari | Cultural | Social | Internacional | Projectes | Jurídic | Informàtic | Formació | Econòmic

INFORMÀTIC

## Barcelona, Capital Europea de la Democràcia per projectes



betevé

18,6 °C ☁

## Barcelona presenta el programa d'actes que farà com a Capital Europea de la Democràcia

Se celebraran més de 40 esdeveniments centrats en "la innovació democràtica, la participació ciutadana, la cultura, l'educació i l'espai públic"

Redacció 14 de setembre del 2023



el més vist

23 d'octubre del 2024  
Canvi d'hora l'octubre 2024:



Quan canviarem l'horari d'estiu per l'horari d'hivern?

ahir a les 17:28  
Mor una persona electrocutada al bany d'un domicili d'Horta-

## Info Barcelona

URBAN TRANSFORMATIONS HOUSING SERVICE INFORMATION EMPLOYMENT AND JOBS CULTURE AND LEISURE MORE ▾

Start / Childhood / What are children asking for to improve their well-being?

> See the news on the website Childhood

### What are children asking for to improve their well-being?

Some 450 children from ten city schools presented a set of eleven demands this morning, set out in the Children's Agenda to improve children's well-being in the city and accompanied with ideas about what the City Council can do to achieve them. The Deputy Mayor for Social Rights, Maria Eugènia Goyal, pledged to study them and respond to them in the spring next year. All the demands and proposals will be taken into account in the review of the Barcelona Childhood Plan 2021-2030.



# METADATA

El digital de tecnologia en català

## Barcelona impulsa una 'game jam' per combatre la desinformació a la xarxa

Els projectes escollits tindran un espai d'exposició a l'IndieDevDay 2024 i rebran mentoratge per part d'ArsGames i GameBCN

Opinions



**Ha arribat l'hora de pensar què direm**

**Albert Juanico**  
Consultor en comunicació especialitzat en el sector dels 'esports' i la tecnologia



**De la vida social a l'èxit professional: els beneficis de participar en la comunitat**

**Anna Canal**  
Enginyera de telecomunicacions i membre de la junta de Young IT Girls

Categories: Cultura digital

Redacció Dijous, 1 de febrer de 2024 | 14:12h



Wien-News Radio Wien Fernsehen Studio Wien Volksgruppen Ganz Österreich



POLITIK

## Wien ist nächste Demokratiehauptstadt



Wien übernimmt im Herbst den Titel von Barcelona und wird Schauplatz eines Demokratiejahrs.

W24 Dienstag, 25. Februar 2024  
Verfasst am 20.02.2024 von W24 Redaktion



### Weitere News

**Kulturtipps: repair geht ins Finale, Modellbau-Messe und Komposition**

25.10.2024, 18:51 Uhr

Buscar Q

aldia.cat

aldia.cat / catalunya

Publicat 13/04/2024 14:13

## Comencen les àgores de 'Volem Decidir!' per fomentar la participació dels joves a Barcelona



Anunci difós per Google

- Opcions d'anunci
- Envieu suggeriments

Anunci difós per Google

- Opcions d'anunci

RàdioSabadell

ACTUALITAT ESPORTS PROGRAMES RSPODCASTS

94.6FM

### PODCAST



#### AL MATÍ

Arnau Monterde (Capital Europea de la Democràcia): "Sabadell és un dels punts de referència de la regió metropolitana"



14 meses por solo 2,15€/mes SUSCRIBETE



3. Ni Varnuteo ni Morro fi: si quieres tomar el aperitivo en Barcelona hay que ir a este bar, según Ferran Adrià

4. Más de 120 horas escondidas en los

Avui destaquem: 48h Open House | vaga busos | embassaments | trànsit Maquinista | amiant metro

en directe

betevé

13.6 °C

# Adolescents

13 de setembre del 2024



el més vist

23 d'octubre del 2024

Canvi d'hora l'octubre 2024: Quan canviarem l'horari d'estiu per l'horari d'hivern?

25 d'octubre del 2024

Vaga d'autobusos urbans i interurbans a Barcelona el 28 d'octubre: aquests són els

Canòdrom

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L'Ateneu d'Innovació Digital i Democràtica

THE ASSEMBLY

ESCOLA CANÒDROM

CANÒDROM OBERT

← Back to list

## Deactivating Hate: Combating discrimination in the digital world

Official meeting

25/07/2024 10:43

0 comments



31

October

18:30 - 20:00

m4Social

Fora Alternativa del Centre Social de Catalunya

Sobre m4Social

Àrees d'actuació

Actualitat

Recursos

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Español

Barcelona, Capital Europea de la Democràcia: "És important que tot el talent i la voluntat per treballar per la democràcia no sigui un esdeveniment aïllat"

12 agost 2024

Temps de lectura 5 minuts

Barcelona és des de l'octubre de 2023 la Capital Europea de la Democràcia, i durant un any organitza un seguit d'activitats per visibilitzar experiències d'èxit i fomentar la democràcia participativa i inclusiva. En parlem amb l'Àngela Precht Gandarillas, coordinadora general de la

Altres notícies relacionades

m4Social participa en





**1000+ Posts**  
**400+ Followers**



Follower count: As of October 30, 2024, the account had 400 + followers.

Post frequency: On average, 73 tweets were posted per month.

Hashtag: #DemocràciaBCN was used consistently to increase visibility and engagement.



Capital Europe de la Democràcia - B: @ECOD\_Bar · 26 de set. de 2023

CONFERÈNCIA INAUGURAL de la Capital Europe de la #DemocràciaBCN:

La #democràcia a debat. Reptes europeus i global  
5 octubre - 17.30 h  
@cececebe (Sala Auditori)  
Amb: @daniInnerarity i @VivianeRedingEU  
Places limitades: [capitalofdemocracy.barcelona/c](https://capitalofdemocracy.barcelona/c)



1,7 Thousand

Capital Europe de la Democràcia - B: @ECOD\_Bar · 26 de set. de 2023  
INSCRIPCIONS OBERTES  
Polítiques i tecnologies per a la #democràcia participativa. Mirades globals de la plataforma @decidim.org, la qualitat democràtica i la inclusió  
11/04 - 10 h  
@CanadromBCN  
info: [capitalofdemocracy.barcelona/conferences/po...](https://capitalofdemocracy.barcelona/conferences/po...)



Capital Europe de la Democràcia - B: @ECOD\_Bar · 30 de set. de 2023

Avui tenim la primera reunió amb el comitè assessor!

Organ que representa a institucions i entitats de Barcelona per aconseguir i enriqueix la mirada sobre el programa anual de #ECOD i les activitats relacionades.

Moltes gràcies a tothom!

na (PEMB) i 9 usuaris més

18 1,7m

Decidim @decidim\_org · 29 de set. de 2023

na (PEMB) i 9 usuaris més

1,9 Thousand

1,9 Thousand

2,3 Thousand



1,1 Thousand

Reflexions i experiències entorn dels reptes digitals de la #democràcia participativa a partir de tres experiències internacionals articulades a través de la plataforma @decidim.org @DecidimBrasil i @NYCCEC.



Platamón Foundation i 9 usuaris més

2 14 25 13m

erences/De...  
re al @CanadromBCN.



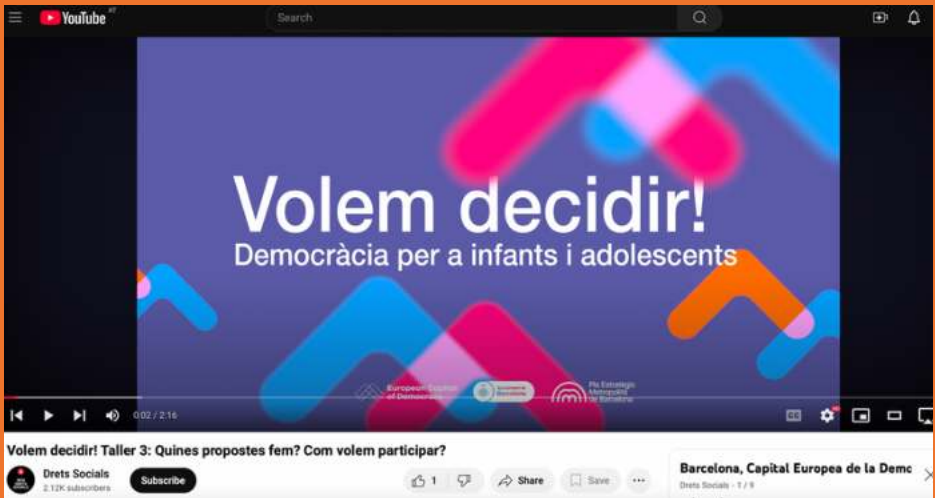
Tu i 9 usuaris més

27 40 6m

8 Thousand



It has not been opened a dedicated YouTube channel, but ECoD Barcelona has used the channel of the City Council's Social Rights Department and a playlist on the PEMB channel, which served mainly as a repository for some events.



**Newsletter**

**315 Subscribers**

**18 Newsletters sent**

**5,800 unique website visitors**



# Programme Year Team





The European Capital of Democracy has connected Barcelona with democratic experimentation and innovation. Through events such as Decidim Fest, the Democracy Lab or the 'Truth, Lies & Democracy' gamejam, we have addressed issues such as the democratic challenges of AI, democratic participation in digital policies or strategies to deal with missinformation.

Arnau Monterde, Director of Participation and Democratic Innovation. Social Rights, Health, Cooperation, and Community Management. Barcelona City Council



This project has given me the opportunity to discover people, networks, institutions and projects working for a better future. And, above all, it has made me feel proud of the city I chose to live in

Ángela Precht, General Coordinator. European Capital of Democracy Barcelona 2023/24



Being part of the European Capital of Democracy initiative has given me the opportunity to work in a diverse, international group, where we exchange and learn from different approaches and perspectives. It has been a valuable experience of collaboration and learning

Toñi Sánchez, Technician at the Directorate of Participation and Innovation for Democracy



Working on the European Capital of Democracy Barcelona programme has been an invaluable opportunity to connect and build networks with local changemakers who are actively driving positive impact

Laura Cabiscol, Production Coordinator. European Capital of Democracy Barcelona 2023/24



The European Capital of Democracy has enriched my communication approach, highlighting the need for clear and direct dialogue that fosters citizen participation in democratic processes, as seen in the Metropolitan Assembly Manifesta and the participatory process for children and youth, Volem Decidir!

Bego F. Simón, Communication Coordinator. European Capital of Democracy Barcelona 2023/24



Barcelona's success as the European Capital of Democracy reflects the city's vibrant spirit of participation, where the pulse of the people shapes the future of the city and beyond.

Alexander Heichlinger, European Capital of Democracy  
Barcelona Envoy



Diversity strengthens democracy! The Programme Year in Barcelona showcased how a rich array of activities, formats, themes, processes, and organizers can connect diverse individuals to democratic ideals, collectively advancing the cause of democracy.

Mathis Dippon, Programme Manager, European Capital of  
Democracy



Barcelona shows that sustainable social innovation and just transition can only be achieved using participatory processes. Closed political and administrative structures must be opened, hard-to-reach target groups and those with special needs approached actively and in a proactive manner. Necessary tools and techniques should be made available widely and equally.

Stefan Sindelar,  
CEO of the  
European Capital of  
Democracy NPO

# Partners, supporters contributors, and friends



MANIFESTA

CCCB Centre de Cultura  
Contemporània  
de Barcelona



SMARTCITY  
EXPO WORLD CONGRESS



RE-  
IMAGINE  
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Canòdrom  
ATENELI D'INNOVACIÓ DIGITAL I DEMOCRÀTICA

INTERNATIONAL  
YOUTH  
THINK TANK





EUROPEAN YOUTH PARLIAMENT  
ESPAÑA, SPAIN



Bundesministerium  
Kunst, Kultur,  
öffentlicher Dienst und Sport



totsjunts.eu  
per la democràcia



Ateneu  
Barcelonès



INNOVATION  
IN POLITICS  
AWARDS 2024



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NIMBLE  
GIANT  
ENTERTAINMENT







