

15 SEPTEMBER 2026 - INTERNATIONAL DEMOCRACY DAY

OIDP PREPARATORY MEETING FOR THE 2026 GENERAL ASSEMBLY



OIDP
25th CONFERENCE
INTERNATIONAL
OBSERVATORY
ON PARTICIPATORY
DEMOCRACY
SEPTEMBER 21-23
KRAKÓW 2026



**International
Observatory
on Participatory
Democracy**



UCLG

United Cities
and Local Governments

www.oidp.net

[@oidp_org](https://twitter.com/oidp_org)

AGENDA

1. Opening and welcome

- OIDP Secretary General – City of Barcelona
- OIDP Co-Presidency – City of Córdoba

2. Presentation of the 25th OIDP Conference

- Welcome from the City of Kraków
- Main programme highlights
- Practical information

3. Celebrating 25 Years of OIDP

- Presentation of the 25th Anniversary video of OIDP

4. General Assembly documents

- Draft of the Kraków Final Declaration
- Management Report 2025
- Work Plan 2027

5. Leadership renewal: Presentation of candidates

- Host City for the 2028 OIDP Conference
- OIDP Leadership:
 - Youth Council
 - Gender and Diversity Advisory Committee
 - Advisory Committee
 - Regional Offices
 - Promoter Members

6. Looking ahead and save the date: 26th OIDP Conference

- Presentation by the host: Niterói

7. Open floor: questions and discussion

OPENING & WELCOME

OIDP SECRETARY GENERAL

CITY OF BARCELONA



OIDP CO-PRESIDENCY

CITY OF CÓRDOBA



**Municipalidad
de Córdoba**

25th OIDP CONFERENCE

OIDP PRESIDENCY

CITY OF KRAKOW



OIDP
25th CONFERENCE
INTERNATIONAL
OBSERVATORY
ON PARTICIPATORY
DEMOCRACY
SEPTEMBER 21-23
KRAKÓW 2026



Mateusz Ploskonka

*Deputy Director of the Department of Dialogue, Consultation
and Citizen Contact of the Municipality of Krakow*



Wojciech Firek

*Secretary of the Scientific Committee
of the OIDP Conference Kraków 2026*





Schedule

21.09.2026 22.09.2026 23.09.2026

DAY ONE – 21.09.2026

09:30	Welcome Desk and Morning Coffee			
10:00	Opening Ceremony – Plenary Room The official opening and speeches by Conference Patrons and Partners. - Bronisław Kratoch (Mayor of City of Kraków) - Carola Spurnarsson (Vice-President of UCLG, Councilor of City of Oslo) - Pedro Iglesias (Secretary General of ODP, Commissioner of Citizen Participation (Barcelona)) - Jarosław Domański (Vice-Rector for International Relations of the Jagiellonian University) - Bogumiła Karawaska (Director of Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Chair of the Conference of Rectors of Polish Academic Schools) - Adela Opatowska (Deputy Director of the National Freedom Institute – Centre for Civil Society Development) - Wojciech Piasek (Secretary of the Scientific Committee of the ODP Conference Kraków 2026)			
11:00	Opening Discussion – Plenary Room Democratic Resilience and Renewal: Reimagining Participation from Local Communities to Global Governance - Stefan Ojeda (OIDP Advisory Committee) - Dorothea Klein-Dugan (OECD) - Jan Jakub Wygniatki (Shipyard Foundation) - Aleksandra Kaudal (Xavier School of Economics) moderated by Paulina Proszowska (Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań)			
12:30	Conference Photo and Lunch Break – Foyer			
13:30	Panel 1 🗳️ Plenary Room Turning Rights into Action: Local Pathways to Democratic Renewal - Stefan Asadi (City of Vienna) - Monika Chabior (City of Odessa) - Adam Putański (City of Łódź) - Teresa Urbanowicz (City of Budapest, 4th District, Józsefváros) - Faouad Jamil (Kata Eilat) moderated by Adrián Durán (OIDP, UCLG)	Panel 2 🗳️ Room 4.A From Participation to Influence: Community Empowerment, Democratic Innovation and Resilient Governance - Annick Botombo (Westminster City Council) - Vasili Georgiades (CIS Partnership Network) - Rogier Voort (Regier Municipality) - Sergejusz Murzynowski (Transparency International Lithuania) - Origena Ringa (National Youth Council of Malawi) - Art Nilsdotter (University of Milan) moderated by Monika Proszowska-Vigier (Jagiellonian University)	Panel 3 🗳️ Room 4.B Participatory Budgeting in Practice: Achievements, Challenges, and Innovations - Kyrie Knight (Participatory Budgeting Project) and Allison White (City of Los Angeles) - Isabel Sator-Raga (Federal University of Santa Catarina) - Quobach Kaya (Varto Municipality) - Luisa Zdzienicka (University of Wrocław) - Fidel González Peral (Barcelona City Council) and Alicia Muñoz Marjano (Barcelona City Council) moderated by Maria Morawiec-Ryba (Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin)	Project Showcase 1 (Online) 🗳️ Room 4.C - Sanja Moncheva (Council of Europe) Technical break: 5 min Workshop 1 🗳️ Room 4.C Roots of Renewal: Democratic Fabric as Everyday Infrastructures for Systemic Transitions - Jonathan Reyes (Democratic Society) - Anthony Ancharawala (Democratic Society)
14:00				
15:00	Coffee Break – Foyer			

25th OIDP CONFERENCE

“Hope and Renewal in the Face of a Global Crisis of Democracy: The Future of Participatory Democracy from Local to International Governance”
Kraków, Poland, 21-23 September 2026

The programme brings together:

- 20 Panels
- 10 Workshops
- 8 Project Showcases
- 2 Plenary Discussions
- OIDP Award Ceremony
- OIDP General Assembly



25th ODP CONFERENCE

ODP AWARD "BEST PRACTICE IN CITIZEN PARTICIPATION"



20th AWARD
BEST PRACTICE
IN CITIZEN
PARTICIPATION

Alcira Gigena · Amman · Atasehir · Auckland · Bağcılar · Bağlar · Balıkesir · Barcelona · Bargny · Beşiktaş · Bilbao · Bogotá DC · Bordeaux · Brno · Bucaramanga · Bursa · Büyükşehirmece · Cagliari · Çanakkale · Çekmeköy · Cergy · Cesis · Chía · Chihuahua · City of Makassar · Colombia y municipios · Colonia Caroya · Commune des Lacs 1 · Comunidad Foral de Navarra · Conselho Municipal de Saúde de Niterói · Constanta County · Contagem · Córdoba · Corregidora · Cuenca Cundinamarca · Dabrowa Gornicza · Davao City · Departamento de Rocha · Departamento del Valle del Cauca · Dhankuta · Diyarbakır · Durham · Eskisehir · Esplugues de Llobregat · Eurométropole de Strasbourg · Eyüpsultan · Foça · Fortaleza · General Pico · Gobierno de Aragón · Granada · Gwanak-gu · Igabi · Ile-de-France · Isfahan · Istanbul · Italy and Italian municipalities · Jalisco · Kermanshah · Kibaale District · Kocaeli · Kouaoua · Kouga and Oudtshoorn · Lamu County · Leandro N. Alem · Lisboa · Lomas de Zamora · Lublin · Luján de Cuyo · Lyon · Małopolska Voivodeship · Maltepe · Manisa · Maringá · Mendoza · Mercedes · Montevideo · Mudanya · Muş · Nablus · New Taipei City · Niğde · Nigeria · Nilüfer · Niterói · North Central Nigeria · Notsé / Commune de Haho 1 · Nowon-gu, Seoul · Osasco · Osmangazi · Padua · Association of Palestinian Local Authorities (APLA) · Panamá · Paraná · Parnamirim · Parshuram · Perez · Posadas · Provincia de Manabí · Provincia del Azuay · Punjab · Quintana Roo · Ramallah · Reconquista · Región de Valparaíso · Río Cuarto · Rosario · Rouen · Sacaba · Salta · Salvador · San Antonio · San Luis Potosí · San Martín · San Pedro Garza García · Santiago de Cali · Santiago del Estero · Santos · São Paulo · Sri Lanka · State of Goiás · Talas · Taoyuan City · Táplánszentkereszt · Tehran · Temuco · Terrassa · Trancas · Trogir · Üsküdar · Valongo · Vienna · Ville de Strasbourg · Vitória da Conquista · Yerba Buena · Zapopan ·

25th ODP CONFERENCE



20th ODP Award

41 countries of origin

136 local and regional governments

188 applications

176 eligible nominations

Submissions according to category

86 Building More Democratic and Peaceful Communities

37 Urban Management and Public Space

29 Gender and Care

17 Ecological Transition and Environment

19 Civic Tech

Submissions according to the size of the municipality or region

20 proposals < 50 000 habitants

44 proposals 50 k < 250 k

57 proposals 250 k < 1 M

41 proposals > 1 M habitants

26 proposals Supralocal, regional, provincial governments

53 practices with more than 5 years of implementation

SDG1 - 3 SDG2 - 1 SDG3 - 35 SDG4 - 43 SDG5 - 25 SDG6 - 4 SDG7 - 0 SDG8 - 11 SDG9 - 10

SDG10 - 66 SDG11 - 109 SDG12 - 6 SDG13 - 19 SDG14 - 0 SDG15 - 11 SDG16 - 107 SDG17 - 61

A jury of 35 experts

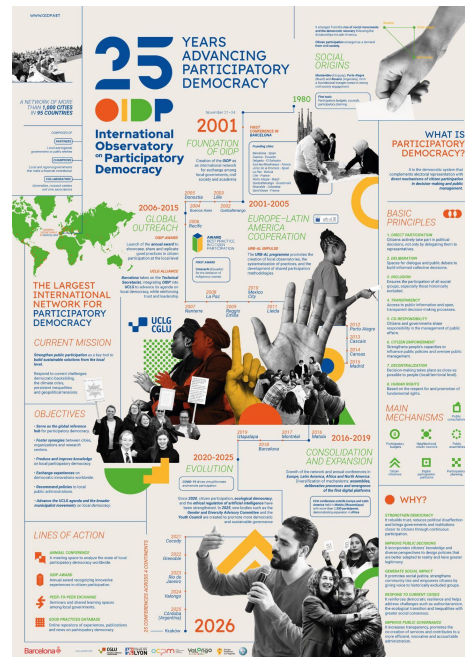
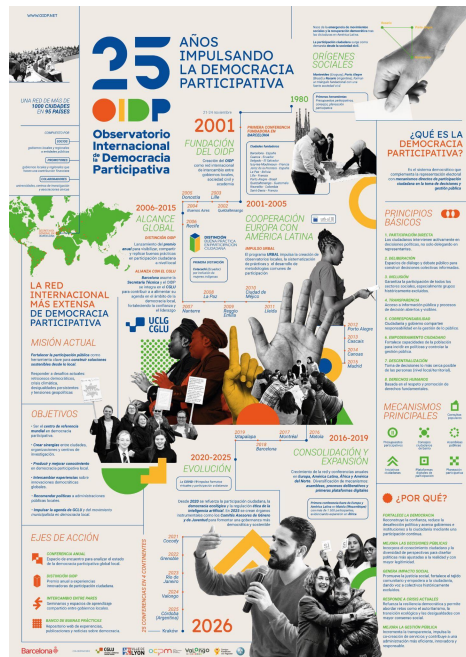
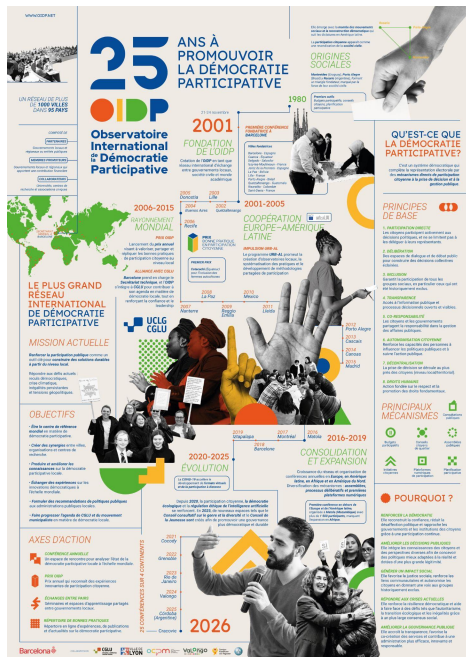
1 800 people participated in the online voting



20th AWARD
BEST PRACTICE
IN CITIZEN
PARTICIPATION



25 YEARS OF PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY



25 YEARS OF PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY



GENERAL ASSEMBLY DOCUMENTS

Draft of the Kraków Final Declaration



Final Declaration of the 25th Conference of the International Observatory on Participatory Democracy (OIDP) Kraków 2026

21–23 September 2026, Kraków, Poland

*Hope and Renewal in The Face of a Global Crisis of Democracy:
The Future of Participatory Democracy from Local to International Governance*

We, the Participants of the 25th Conference of the International Observatory on Participatory Democracy (OIDP), representing local, and regional governments, civil society organisations, citizens' movements, academic institutions, international organisations, and public administrations from around the world, gathered in Kraków, Poland on 21-23 September 2026,

- recognising that democratic societies are currently facing unprecedented challenges, including declining public trust in institutions, increasing political and social polarisation, the consequences of armed conflicts and geopolitical instability, migration pressures, widening inequalities, the climate crisis, and growing threats arising from disinformation, and the irresponsible use of new technologies;
- believing that a citizen participation strengthens representative democracy by fostering trust, transparency, political accountability, and social inclusion;
- recalling the fundamental human rights and freedoms and principles of democratic governance, and the Sustainable Development Goals that should underpin the work of democratic institutions worldwide;
- emphasising the crucial role of local and regional governments as the level of governance closest to citizens and as laboratories of democratic innovation, where new forms of citizen participation and deliberation can be developed and tested;
- referring to the 25 years of OIDP's work in promoting participatory democracy, strengthening international cooperation, facilitating the exchange of knowledge and good practices, and supporting cities, regions, and communities in developing innovative forms of public participation;

hereby adopt this Declaration and call upon local, regional, and national governments, as well as international organisations, and all relevant stakeholders to actively implement its provisions to the fullest extent possible.

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email OIDP2026@um.krakow.pl



ENG

Work Plan 2027



OIDP Work Plan for 2027

The International Observatory of Participatory Democracy (OIDP) is a network of local and regional governments, research centers, and civil society organizations working to defend, promote, and improve local democracy. OIDP has been collaborating with UCLG since 2006 and forms part of its ecosystem as a consultation mechanism of the international organization. This work plan proposes to strengthen this relationship by more clearly framing OIDP's action within the network and aligning its strategies.

UCLG is the largest network of cities and local governments in the world. Its mission is to represent these voices in the global context, with its core principles being proximity, decentralization, and political leadership. OIDP should be the group that drives reflection on democratic renewal and the defense of democratic values within the framework of the global organization.

The framework of the Local Social Covenant and *Outcome Document* of Tangier, adopted at the UCLG Congress, and the final declarations of Rio de Janeiro, Valongo, Córdoba and Kraków should serve as our reference guides for 2027 and the coming years.

In this work plan, we aim to define strategic priorities, thematic priorities, and action axes, as well as specify tasks and a provisional activity calendar. The work plan should be implemented by the OIDP Steering Committee, the Technical Secretariat, and the rest of the network members.

Context

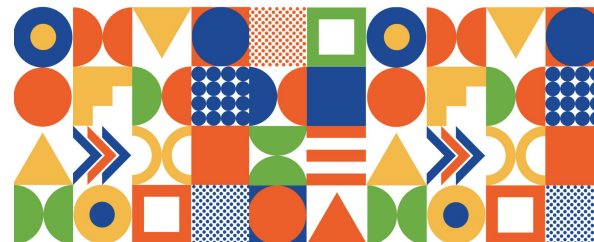
The year 2027 will be a decisive year for the International Observatory of Participatory Democracy (OIDP), as its **26th International Conference** and the **21st edition of the OIDP Award for "Best Practice in Citizen Participation."** will take place together with an important instance of UCLG: its annual **Executive Bureau**. This convergence will significantly strengthen the political representation and outreach of the OIDP Conference, bringing together a broader range of local and regional leaders, institutions, and key stakeholders.

The joint framework will also create new opportunities to deepen synergies between OIDP and UCLG, reinforcing a shared commitment to democratic governance, citizen engagement, and the role of local governments as drivers of inclusive decision-making. By connecting the **OIDP's expertise and network on participatory democracy** with **UCLG's global political reach and convening capacity**, the 2027 edition will provide a stronger platform for exchange, advocacy, and collective action.

www.oidp.net

Management Report 2025

Management Report 2025



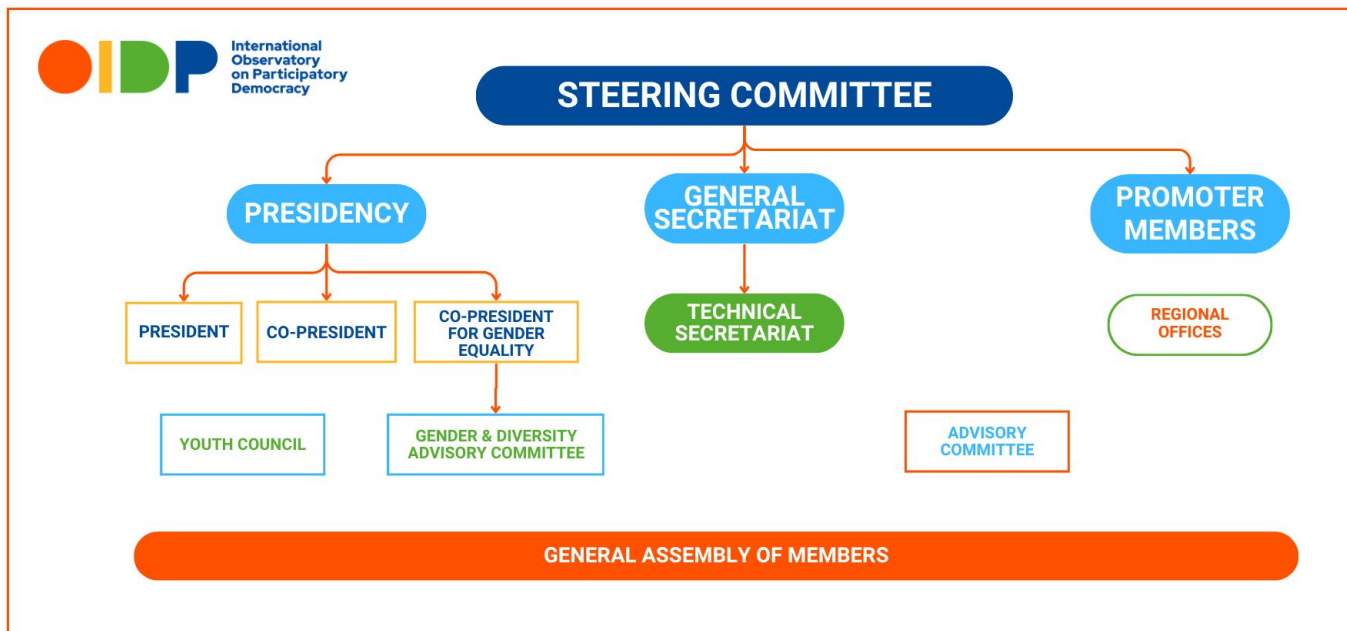
LEADERSHIP RENEWAL: HOST CITY 2028

Until the official deadline of the call (07/09), we have not received any official applications. However, several cities have expressed interest in submitting a candidacy.

We welcome interested cities to contact us by the General Assembly in Kraków, on 23rd of September.



LEADERSHIP RENEWAL: OIDP STRUCTURE



LEADERSHIP RENEWAL: YOUTH COUNCIL

A structured space for youth participation that includes the voices and perspectives of young people in the network. It is composed of young leaders, elected representatives who promote youth participation, activists, and members of youth organizations. Its objective is to foster a more intergenerational, inclusive, and innovative local democracy.

CURRENT MEMBERS

- Maria Eduarda Guedes
- Maximilian Ochango Ambeba
- Melissa Santamaria Acosta
- Sitcheu Fani Alliant Chany
- Nathalia Harcar Muniz
- Abdul Wadood Afghan

CANDIDACY APPLICATIONS

- Ogundele Raphael Kehinde
- Mabi Raymond Danzabé
- Abigail Roque Miranda
- Jose Manuel Guzmán Valverde
- Kilonzo Mutie
- Damien Batif

LEADERSHIP RENEWAL: GENDER & DIVERSITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

It accompanies the Co-Presidency for Gender Equality in strengthening this area and promoting the full participation of women and diverse gender identities in local decision-making. Its work focuses on incorporating gender perspectives and intersectional approaches into the ODP's policies, actions, and strategies. It is composed of leaders committed to gender inclusion, including women's rights defenders, academics, experts, and community representatives.

CANDIDACY APPLICATIONS

- Khadidiatou Diop Diouf (Chair)
- Ayşe Göç Yalçinkaya
- Genezaret Hernández
- Anneke Polkamp
- David Rabuor
- Amira Khammassi
- Nelly Ouassenan
- Gretel Galeano
- Cintia Hayipanteli

LEADERSHIP RENEWAL: ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Advisory Committee's mission is to support and strengthen the work of the ODP, providing rigor and perspective from scientific, intellectual, and practical debates on participatory democracy and the municipalist movement. It is made up of a group of experts from different fields—academia, associations, consulting, and institutional practice—with extensive experience in participatory and deliberative democracy. Its members come from diverse geographical and socio-political contexts and participate in this space on a voluntary and unpaid basis.

CURRENT MEMBERS

- Giovanni Allegretti
- Silvia Cervellini
- Nelson Dias
- Diana Dajer
- Bachir Kanoute

CANDIDACY APPLICATIONS

- Ilyas Adam Hasan

LEADERSHIP RENEWAL: REGIONAL OFFICES

They represent the OIDP in specific geographical regions. Their mission is to expand the network, promote regional alliances, and strengthen the OIDP's territorial presence. Their mandate is renewable.

CURRENT MEMBERS

- OIDP Afrique
- OIDP Argentina/South America

CANDIDACY APPLICATIONS

- City of Krakow, Eastern Europe Office
- David Rabuor (CAHED), East Africa Office
- Salma Abdillahi (CSHRD), Hub for the Horn of Africa
- Sharif Mostafa Helal (JMBD), Bangladesh Office

LEADERSHIP RENEWAL: PROMOTING MEMBERS

Promoter Members are local or regional governments that actively contribute to the leadership and activities of the ODP. Promoter Members are expected to provide financial or in-kind support, such as translations, reports, conference organisation, or technical/administrative assistance.

CURRENT MEMBERS

- the city of Grenoble (France)
- the city of Montreal (Canada)
- the city of Valongo (Portugal)
- the city of Lyon (France)
- the city of São Paulo (Brazil)
- the city of Khombole (Senegal)
- the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (Sweden)

CANDIDACY APPLICATIONS

- the city of Tehran (Iran)
- Rede de Autarquias Participativas (Portugal)
- Observatoire National de Lutte Contre la Corruption (Haiti)
- Asociación Civil Parque Lady Olave F.C. (Peru)

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 26TH OIDP CONFERENCE



Niterói, Brazil





Open floor



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