

25th Conference of the International Observatory on Participatory Democracy (OIDP)

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

OIDP General Assembly

Date: 23 September 2026

Time: 14.00 - 16.00

Venue: Plenary Room

Background and Context

The OIDP General Assembly is a key moment of the year when representatives of local and regional governments that are members of the network meet to discuss the program and actions to be carried out during the year. It is held every year as part of the Annual Conference and is chaired by the mayor of the host city – who assumes the OIDP Presidency – along with the Co-Presidencies and the General Secretariat. All cities, entities, and individuals that are part of the network are invited to participate, both as members (local and regional governments) and as collaborators.

The meeting will feature key political discussions, and present the main milestones of the Conference, review and approve the key documents of the General Assembly, and vote on the candidacies for the OIDP leadership bodies and host of the 2028 OIDP Conference.

Draft Agenda

1. Opening segment: Democracy in Times of Crisis

- **Opening of the General Assembly** – Mayor of Krakow, Secretary General of OIDP, Secretary General of UCLG
- **Celebrating 25 Years of OIDP** – UCLG and OIDP

2. Statutory Session of the General Assembly

Strategic Priorities

- High-level interventions around the strategic priorities of our network.

Key Documents

- Adoption of the [Kraków Final Declaration](#)
- Presentation of the [Management Report 2025](#)

Outlook: Presentation of the 2027 OIDP Conference

- Presentation by the Host City: Niterói

Renewal of OIDP Leadership and Governance Bodies

- **Call to Strengthening the OIDP Network**
- Election of the Host City for the 2028 OIDP Conference
- Election of the Youth Council
- Election of the Gender and Diversity Advisory Committee
- Election of the Advisory Committee
- Election of the Regional Offices
- Election of the Promoter Members

3. Political Dialogue: The Future of Participatory Democracy (3-minute interventions)

- Short political conversation with city representatives, inspired by the Conference theme and outcomes.
- Adoption of the [Work Plan 2027](#)

Guiding questions for the political dialogue:

- *How can local governments rebuild trust in democracy?*
- *What democratic innovations should become permanent public institutions?*
- *How can cities cooperate internationally to defend participatory democracy?*
- *What should OIDP prioritize during the next four years?*

4. Closing Segment: Commitments and Way Forward

- Closing Remarks and Next Steps

ANNEX

- [Leadership Renewal 2026](#)

List of nominations:

- **Election of the Host City for the 2028 OIDP Conference**

Until the official deadline of the call (07/09), we have not received any official applications.

- **Election of the Youth Council**

Current members:

- Maria Eduarda Guedes
- Maximilian Ochango Ambeba [*Candidate for continuation in post*]
- Melissa Santamaria Acosta
- Sitcheu Fani Alliant Chany [*Candidate for continuation in post*]
- Nathalia Harcar Muniz
- Abdul Wadood Afghan

Applications:

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

- **Election of the Gender and Diversity Advisory Committee**

Applications:

- Khadidiatou Diop Diouf [*Chair, as Co-president of the OIDP for gender equality 2026-2028*]
- Ayşe Göç Yalçinkaya
- Genezaret Hernández
- Anneke Polkamp
- David Rabuor
- Amira Khammassi
- Nelly Ouassenan
- Gretel Galeano
- Cintia Hayipanteli

● Election of the Advisory Committee

Current members:

- Giovanni Allegretti [*Candidate for continuation in post*]
- Silvia Cervellini [*Candidate for continuation in post*]
- Nelson Dias [*Candidate for continuation in post*]
- Diana Dajer [*Candidate for continuation in post*]
- Bachir Kanoute

Applications:

- Ilyas Adam Hasan

● Election of the Regional Offices

Current offices:

- OIDP Afrique
- OIDP Argentina/South America

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

● Election of the Promoter Members

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)

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)