

SHARING CITIES DECLARATION: CITIES' COMMON PRINCIPLES AND COMMITMENTS FOR CITY SOVEREIGNTY REGARDING THE PLATFORM ECONOMY

Sharing Cities Summit, 12th-15th NOV 2018

The Sharing Cities Summit Mayors and Deputy Mayors gathered from leading cities all around the world to discussed at the Sharing Cities Summit Barcelona 2018 how the continuous growth of platform economies impacts on the life and economic development of the cities, as well as what innovative measures can be taken to meet the challenges and opportunities cities face.

Models of platform economy based on collaboration and sharing foster an atmosphere of vibrancy, innovation and economic prosperity for citizens and cities by creating opportunities for individuals and communities to interact, support and benefit from mutual engagements in shared interests. At the same time, some cases and models of platform economy are challenging cities' sovereignty. As a result of previous summits in Amsterdam 2016 and NYC 2017, and the formal agreements of the Barcelona Summit in November 2018, 42 cities attending concurred on the following common Declaration of principles and commitments of the cities to take advantage of these opportunities and to face the challenges.

PLATFORM MODELS DIFFERENTIATION

Principle #1. To distinguish between the different models of digital platforms regarding their functioning and impacts, in order to design public policies according to these differentiations.

Distinguish digital platforms and platform activity which are not built on truly collaborative models, from platform models that are collaborative and constitute opportunities for the city's economic activity. The set of qualities that characterise collaborative platforms and determine differences between platforms are: to host predominantly peer-to-peer relationships; to be based on fair economic models and retributions; to favor participative community governance; openness and transparency of its technology and data; inclusion by providing equal services to the different segments of the city inhabitants avoiding any discrimination; and responsibility towards negative impact.

LABOUR

Principle #2. Empower people to have opportunities to earn or increase their income through new work agreements and adapted fiscality without contributing to social precariousness or constituting an administrative burden.

Principle #3. Ensure fair, legally compliant and timely compensation. Provide fair working conditions and access to benefits and rights for workers (earnings maximization, minimum or regulated wages, income security, wage predictability, protection against arbitrary behaviour, rejection of excessive workplace surveillance, right to log off, collective bargaining).

INCLUSION

Principle #4. To prevent discrimination and bias by supporting fair and equal access to work for people of all incomes, genders and backgrounds.



PUBLIC PROTECTION

Principle #5. Ensure and support health, safety and security standards along with effective institutional mechanisms in order to protect them.



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Principle #6. To promote sustainable practices less oriented on the marketization and commodification of goods than on shared infrastructure, to share within the framework of a circular economy, to foster and promote the development of these activities in order to reduce emissions and waste. All of it taking into account the rebound effect it might generate, and on the basis of more efficient use of resources.



DATA SOVEREIGNTY & CITIZENS' DIGITAL RIGHTS

Principle #7. To protect citizens' digital rights through the implementation of Technological Sovereignty policies and ethical digital standards (include the rights of privacy, security, information self-determination and neutrality, giving citizens a choice about what happens to their digital identity, who uses their data online, and for which purposes). To promote policies in order that the personal data is controlled by citizens themselves, and are protected from being misused, collected or shared without explicit consent. To guarantee that digital platforms enable algorithmic accountability and the portability of users' data, digital identity and reputations. To ensure that cities are able to access a privacy-preserving manner relevant data from firms operating in their territories (such as information about transportation, safety, labour, and all potential public interest information). To favor that city data should be managed as a common good to solve urban challenges.



CITY SOVEREIGNTY

Principle #8. Guarantee respect for the legal jurisdictions of cities given the potential disruption from the digital platforms.

- Establish negotiation frameworks between cities and platforms to ensure respect for legality and local regulations.
- Ensure transparency in operations and transactions in relation to data transfer from the platform.
- Work together among cities to encourage changes in regulatory and framework policies in the digital sphere, in order to facilitate compatible economic activity and protect users' rights, as well as defending the habitability of the urban sphere.
- Promote digital protocols in order to guarantee compliance with the regulations of each city.
- Suitability of a owner and user registration number to trace any activity in the digital sphere.
- Sharing inspection instruments, mechanisms and techniques between cities.
- Making digital platforms liable for their infringements, and responsible to respect the local law and regulations.
- Require that platforms ask for permission before operating in a city. To agree with the city on the appropriate way to operate in each given context and in strict accordance to neighbourhood composition, economic conditions and community needs.



ECONOMIC PROMOTION

Principle #9. To promote the development of local collaborative economic ecosystems and particularly small and medium enterprises (SME), based on positive impact in cities –as described in the first principle– through entrepreneurship support programs, participative tools, funding or other promotion tools.



GENERAL INTEREST

Principle #10. To preserve the Right to the City and Urban Commons, strengthen communities, to protect General Interest, public space, and basic human rights, such as access to affordable and adequate housing. In addition to the 10 Principles of the Declaration, the cities agreed on the creation of a task force structure to support the development of concrete actions of collaboration during 2018-2019 between cities connected. It is a plan of concrete actions facilitating that the Principles of the Declaration are preserved by cities. Barcelona assumes the compromise to establish a coordination office at Barcelona.

CITIES

Amsterdam, Athens, Atlanta, Barcelona, Bethlehem, Bologna, Bordeaux, Buenos Aires, Gothenburg, Grenoble, Kobe, Corunna, Lisbon, Madrid, Milan, Montreal, Montreuil, Muscat, New York, Paris, Reykjavik, San Francisco, Santiago de Compostela, Sao Paulo, Seoul, Taipei, Turin, Toronto, Umea, Valencia, Vienna and Vitoria-Gasteiz.

Other cities attending the Summit and in process of validation of the Declaration that might join: The Hague, Bristol, Eindhoven, Malmö, Praga, Rijswijk, Ghent, Melbourne, Singapore and Stockholm.

Barcelona, 13th November 2018

More information www.sharingcitiesaction.net