

Shareable, sustainable and connected

The Curitiba Manifesto on the cities of the future

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Curitiba's futuristic 'tube' station system for buses.

The complexity of cities with rampant urbanization and its resulting exponential growth of urban people raise serious questions about the human living conditions, in a context of diminishing resources.

In 2019, our planet counts 7.8 billion inhabitants and, for the first time in human History, more than 50% of them live in cities (in Europe, it goes up to 77%).

In 2030, with 8.3 billion people, estimations are that more than 5 billion will live in urban areas. Meanwhile, 12% of the world's population lives today in the 28 largest cities of the world.

This irreversible urban tropism poses the fundamental question of a new future for humanity in cities.

One of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals set by the United Nations in 2015 aims at making "cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable" (SDG 11). [4]

In Habitat III, held in Quito, focused on social inclusion and the "right to the city and cities for all", especially access to basic necessities and participatory democracy to allow inclusive cities for the future. [5]

The Venice Declaration sets out the challenges of social, urban and technological innovation in terms

The Manifesto 'For an Inclusive City' included in this Paper was elaborated by Jean-Max Trouillet, as a commentary on the final conclusions of the annual meeting for the 'Inclusive Cities for Sustainable Families' project [1] members, held in Curitiba (Brazil) last November.

The meeting gathered experts of 15 cities in three continents, together with other 34 observers, to discuss about the main indicators for each point of the Venice Declaration [2], on which the project is based.

The results and some general conclusions were presented during the last day, during a conference on 'Family and Social Innovation', to more than 400 local experts, policymakers and representatives of civil society organizations. [3]

Jean-Max Trouillet, président du comité directeur du réseau des politiques sociales européennes ELISAN, 'Pour une ville inclusive' (Curitiba, 29th November 2019).

Following the Venice Declaration *

Following the philosophy of the Venice Declaration, the city of Marseille (France) has started a very important project not only by the construction and redevelopment of suburbs, but also by wide spreading and decentralizing public services as new models of urban mobility. I mention Marseille because it has been an active member of our network, and has made a decisive contribution in making the Venice Declaration a reality.

Another important signal came from the City of São Paulo, where indications have already been given for the implementation of the Declaration in all social sectors. The objective is, through its ten points, to give an answer to the need of making urban settlements “inclusive, safe, durable and sustainable”.

The milestones of the Declaration are particularly addressed to the family, as central environment of development for all human beings: the city of the future must rediscover its true soul: a place of law, a delimited physical space, and also a space of relationships, feelings and identity. We can focus on this objective if we are able to defend the concept of family and bring it back to the center of welfare, urban and architectural policies.

The signatories meet in this occasion to present their annual report in order to implement the Declaration, whose discussion point this year was housing. We are aware that one of the pillars of the city outlined by the Agenda 2030 is the right to housing, which is also recognized by a series of international treaties. The first point states that the organization of cities should include all family situations and social groups, and a flexible and environmentally sustainable planning.

Regarding this, in Veneto we have tried to give shape and substance to a strategy of making cities accessible, developing a series of initiatives that I will try to summarize here: first of all, the Fondo Veneto Casa, promoted and signed by the Veneto Region, the CR Padua and Rovigo Foundation, the Venice Foundation and other banks. The aim is to support and finance social housing projects in Veneto, developing innovative ideas in the world of cooperation and public construction. Furthermore, construction of housing rented at low rates and dedicated specifically to the third sector and the elderly, has been developed by sharing common services and testing multigenerational houses, in which elderly live together with young people helping each other.

* From the speech by H.E. Roberto Ciambetti, president of the Veneto Regional Council (Italy) at the conference on 'Family and Social Innovation' (Curitiba, 29th November 2019).

of city governance: housing, new technologies, education, health and safety, air quality, public transport, accessibility, leisure and tourism and vulnerable families are the major indicators of inclusive cities for sustainable families.

Cities are the future of Humanity, a solution and a problem at the same time.

It is therefore necessary to outline the model of an inclusive city, the city of tomorrow that places the citizen at the center of its concerns and that becomes responsive to the many challenges of the urban future.

The pillars of an inclusive city are three.

An inclusive city is a shareable city

Therefore, it makes human being to play a pivotal role in all its projects.

Creativity and imagination of citizens should be the first resource, the main energy that becomes is inexhaustible and endlessly renewable, from one generation to another.

Citizens, users, political and socio-economic actors, municipal staff, all of them should interact, based on the share of information and a co-construction process. This new form of governance is needed to test and implement genuine ways of citizen participation, including the voice of the most deprived. This co-construction will make it possible the establishment of new methods to meet urban challenges, thanks to a cross-sectoral partnership: public and private, citizens and associations working together to set up collaborative, open-ended strategies to find innovative and non-discriminating responses for the urban future.

A shareable city is therefore a city that:

- stimulates citizen participation aimed at the co-construction of urban policies;
- mobilizes innovative actors and interdisciplinary researchers;
- opens up the space for listening to the families and allows them to have a voice;
- supports and strengthens the culture of innovation in all sectors;
- recognizes the capacity to propose and participate in governance decisions to everyone, without discrimination;
- ensures equitable development socially effective, a reduction in social inequalities and access to health, housing and work;

- creates opportunities for all, access to education and continuous training;
- develops intergenerational relations;
- improves access to essential services: housing, health, culture, sport, leisure, etc.

An inclusive city is a sustainable city

The main implications of it will be:

- implement the energy transition while building smart networks and systems;
- develop the territory to the service of the sustainable city, without weakening an environment already considerably affected;
- strengthen the place of environment in the city;
- make mobility accessible to all and eco-friendly;
- recycle and consume more responsibly;
- be every day more resilient.

An inclusive city is a connected city

The following aspects should be taken into account for it:

- create digital opportunities for everyone and make sure they have access to them;
- fight against the digital divide;
- develop a digital media infrastructure;

Why Paraná? *

Paraná is a state in Southern Brazil, next to Paraguay and Argentina. Besides the Iguazu Falls, it is well-known along the world because of its capital, Curitiba. With a population of approximately 1,800,000 people, Curitiba is the eighth most populous city in Brazil, and the largest in the country's Southern Region.

Curitiba is a culturally rich city which gathers a great number of venues, events and artists. The local creative industries support the tourism industry, generate innovation clusters and promote sustainable growth and development.

Curitiba has diversified its economic development through strategic investments in the creative industries and has also engaged a broad network of stakeholders in building one of the most dynamic and modern design scenarios in Brazil.

Recognizing design as an agent for urban transformation, relying on the engagement of all sectors and celebrating the accomplishments of its territory, Curitiba is reinventing itself and aims to improve the quality of life of its citizens through numerous creative economy initiatives.

Since the 1970s, Curitiba has become a national and international benchmark in innovation and urban culture. The city links the frenetic pace of a metropolis with concerns for the environment, the preservation of cultural heritage and the expansion of citizenship. Curitiba is also among the cities with the highest quality of life ratings in the country. Curitiba's urban planning model combines land use and road systems and public transportation (TOD), allowing for a more humane, innovative and inclusive city centered on human beings.

* Source: UNESCO Creative Cities Network.



Curitiba boasts more than 50 sq. meters of green space per person.



The experts and some authorities at the Palácio Iguaçú, after the annual meeting for the 'Inclusive Cities for Sustainable Families' project members.

- design and offer new services of general interest
- make data and information accessible to all.

The century of cities

The 21st century will be the century of cities. Intellectuals, scientists and researchers recall the transition from the Anthropocene Era to the Urbanocene Era.

The future of mankind is closely linked to the future of cities, metropolises and densely populated conurbations.

In 2020, the planet will have 15 billion connected devices that will produce an extraordinary impact on human relations, as well as economic and political models.

Thanks to these new models and to innovations in all fields, inclusive cities can find new opportunities to reduce inequalities while pursuing a more harmonious, more ecological and more resilient development for the future.

An inclusive city offers to all its residents and families, without discrimination, the same good living conditions and positive prospects for the future. Whatever the geographic, ethnic, social, cultural

origins, whatever the level of professionalization, purchasing power and social status, everyone must be able to express their needs and the challenges they face.

According to this historic evolution, governance and the way to do politics in cities, metropolises and densely populated conurbations must change.

Solidarity, participation, and moreover, co-construction are the new pillars of urban democracy together with commitment, civic identity, and the cultural and economic dimensions.

At this time of climate change, energy transition, new mobilities, circular economy, and pollution, innovation, inclusion and resilience should be the driving forces of the city in the 21st century.

Scientific progress and technology offer awesome tools for social progress if they are well managed and well shared in the economic, cultural and ecological fields, in order to ensure a development that has the person as its center.

These values of cohesion, solidarity, co-construction and living well together are beyond all ideologies.

With their universal dimensions, inclusive cities are the best assets to face any type of contradiction or crisis in an urban future that remains uncertain, as part of a constantly changing world.

[1] More information about the project available at: <http://www.familyperspective.org/ffpo/ffpo-icsf-en.php>.

[2] Available at: <http://www.familyperspective.org/icsf/VeniceChart.pdf>.

[3] More information about the meeting at: <http://www.familyperspective.org/act/act-0056-en.php>.

[4] Cf. <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/development-agenda/>.

[5] Cf. <http://habitat3.org>.