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## PARTICIPATION IN OUR CITIES – PRESENT AND FUTURE

*At the international conference "Co-Governance: co-responsibility in the cities" (17-20 January 2019, Castel Gandolfo – Rome, Italy) over 60 speakers from around the world and a hundred local administrators will gather for three days to exchange projects and to network a style of governance and coexistence that is both shared and interdependent.*

**Where are cities going today? Is it still true that cities are made for people and not vice versa?** Infrastructure and advanced technologies are not enough to make a city a *smart* city. In recent years, public administrations have learned a great lesson: **the starting point for building an intelligent city is its people.**

All this and much more will be discussed from 17 to 20 January next at Castel Gandolfo (Rome) at the conference "**Co-Governance: co-responsibility in the cities**". 400 local administrators from around the world, economists, politicians, architects, experts in civil technologies and in artificial intelligence will consider in depth models of participatory governance of cities.

Through focus talks, workshops for the analysis of best practice and through intercultural working groups - participants will explore the relevance of participation in the today's context of interdependence. ([Qui il programma dell'evento](#))

As an exercise of involvement for macro areas – looking at the culture of citizenship, networks of cooperation between cities, multi-stakeholder innovation, etc – we will invite contributions from the participants to produce a strategic document to give continuity to the work.

**More than 60 experts and prominent personalities** will share their expertise in the fields of administration, economics, politics, communication, architecture and the environment.

Among the speakers: Pasquale Ferrara, Ambassador of Italy to Algiers (Algeria), Stefano Manservigi, Director General for Cooperation and Development of the European Commission (Brussels-Belgium), Fadi Cheadé, former managing director of ICANN (Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers), Ghassan Muheiberm, member of the Lebanese Parliament and president of the "Parliamentarians against Corruption" organization, Dieudonne Upira Sunguma (DR Congo), member of the PGA Executive Committee (Parliamentarians for Global Action).

"Cities today are the place of politics and of the direct participation of citizens. This can concretely give rise to a community of solidarity," explains **Mario Bruno, Mayor of Alghero, Italy**, who will be present at the conference. "It is important that cities, which are places of diversity and inclusion, are put online. I think it is a sign of hope to get together between the cities of the world." There will be an exchange of experiences and good practices to create a new future for the cities of the world. "We need to invite the new generations to participate in such a serious discussion..." said **Dr. Jeong-Woo Kil, a member of the political movement for unity in Korea and a former member of the Korean National Assembly**. "They can't be excluded, especially when we talk about the sustainable future of cities." At the conference we will try to create a pact of co-responsibility between citizens and administrators, politicians and technicians, to solve the problems of cities. "The golden rule - the principle of treating others as you would like others to treat you could be the best reminder to build the pact," added Dr Kil.

Co-governance is organized by the New Humanity Movement, the Political Movement for Unity and the Association Cities for Fraternity.

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